

# THE LUBBER'S LINE

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November-December 2023

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Photos provided by members



## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Cdr Richard A. Butler, JN

*The boating season here on Chesapeake Bay is all but over. Terry and I will be preparing Eau De Vie for winter lay-up over the next few weeks.*

*Friends will be helping each other winterize five to ten boats at North Point Marina over that same time period. One popular custom is "Sail Day", when the owners of five to ten boats will band together to remove and fold sails from their vessels. Two to four pairs of hands make this activity a lot easier and you'd be surprised how many boats can be "desailed" in a day by a group working together.*

*Once all of the boats are put up for the winter months, those not heading South will have to find something else to do with ourselves until Spring. There will be the ABCW Socials and the Holiday Party where I hope to see many of you (more in the Administrative report). The Social Committee has been working hard to put some variety into the venues and presentations for our socials, including the availability of adult beverages at our November Social. And I promise to keep any official meeting activities that may come up to the minimum necessary. A number of us will also continue to meet for lunch at Seasons Pizza in Talleyville on Wednesday afternoons where we are finding it necessary to pull several tables together in order to all sit together.*

*And Randy Williamson and Bill Zimmerman have already started classes in Marine Electrical Systems and Sailing. Before we know it, it will be time again to recommission our vessels for the start of another season and start to take photographs for next year's Photo Contest.*

*My congratulations to Joan Barber for earning her Educational Proficiency Certificate. More information on that can be found in the Education report on page 4.*

*Our Marketing Committee efforts have resulted in several new members joining our club over the summer. Please give a warm welcome to Jeff Capaldi, Kenneth Ede, Rollyn Trueblood, Connie Mitchell and Sheri Trueblood if you see them at one of our activities.*

*On behalf of the entire ABC-Wilmington club leadership I wish everyone a fun, relaxing, joy filled and safe holiday season and end to 2023.*





## Administrative Department

*P/C Carol J. Hanson, AP*

### Fall and Winter Socials, Always Fun and Informative, Great Camaraderie!

Many thanks to Linda Hastings and John Goon, long time members of ABCW and residents of Cokesbury Village Continuing Care Community, who once again hosted us for our **November Social**. Our presenters, new members of ABCW Ralph Onesti and Gretchen Raichle, shared their interesting and entertaining ten-year experience of what it's like to be the pilot, captain, and steward of the historic Tugboat, *Jupiter*, built in 1902. A most enjoyable evening!



Photo provided by Carol Hanson

**The Holiday Social will be graciously hosted by Leslie Brower and Bruce Wyngaard** at their lovely home in Middletown, Delaware! Scheduled for Sunday, 3 December at 1500 hours, participants are asked to bring their own beverages as well as a wrapped gift in the \$15 to \$20 range, for the always fun Holiday Gift Exchange. A light fare of sandwiches will be provided.

Members of your Social Committee have been busy planning additional winter Socials. The **January and February Socials will be held on Zoom**. We enjoy seeing our boating club friends from out of state who otherwise would not be able to join in! We plan to hold the **Change of Watch**, Sunday, 10 March at 1200 hours, at North East River Yacht Club. Stay tuned for more information.

### Save The Date for 2024 Cruise

Anyone looking forward to next June and making vacation plans will be happy to know that the Executive Committee has identified the 2024 Cruise Committee members and fixed the dates for the cruise. Bruce Wyngaard, Leslie Brower, John Schleicher, and Colleen Schleicher have agreed to be on the committee again and the dates will be **Saturday, 1 June through Sunday, 9 June** (this is a change from the 2023-2024 Yearbook). The action to announce the committee and the dates early were both significant feedback from 2023 cruisers. You have been heard.



Photo provided by John Schleicher



2023 Photo Contest Winners, Congratulations!!!



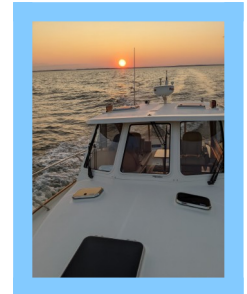
Boats Category



Terry Butler



Terry Butler



Jeff Capaldi

People Category



Kathleen Hauty

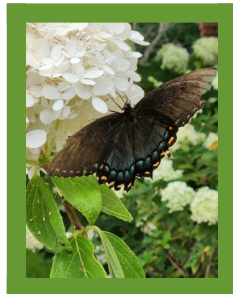


Laura Hepting

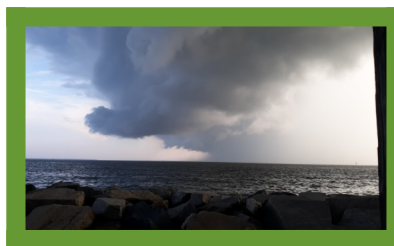


Beverly Wilson

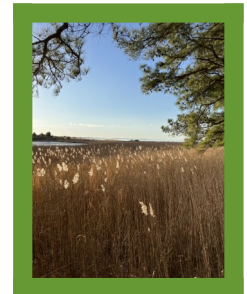
Scenic/Wildlife Category



Laura Hepting

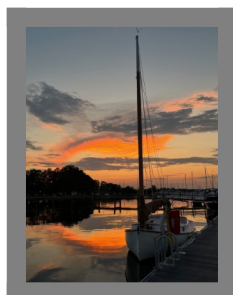


Laura Hepting

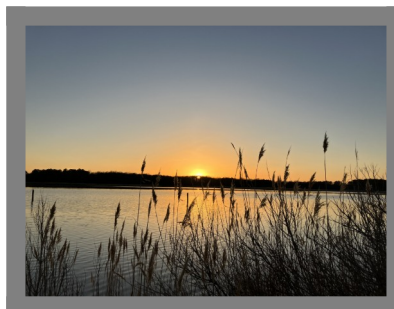


Joan Barber

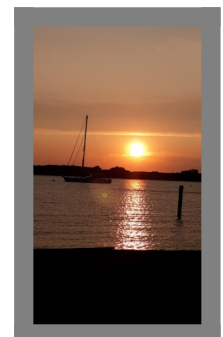
Sunrise/Sunset Category



Peter Weintraub



Joan Barber



Laura Hepting



# Education Department

*Lt/C William E. Barber, AP*

I am very pleased to report that we have had a great turnout for our two fall courses. Thirteen members signed up for the “Marine Electrical Systems” course that is being taught by Randy Williamson. This includes two auditors who have taken this course before but wanted a refresher. Classes started on 26 September. In addition, twelve members are taking the “Sail” course. This course also includes two auditors that wanted a refresher. Sail classes started 12 October and are being taught by Bill Zimmerman. Many thanks to both Randy and Bill for the significant time and effort they both put into preparing and presenting these classes every week for eight to ten weeks!



Photo provided by Carol Hanson

Finally, congratulations to Joan Barber for achieving her Educational Proficiency Award! This award is given to those members that have completed advanced grades through Advanced Piloting (Advanced Marine Navigation) plus three additional elective courses. In Joan’s case, her electives included Weather, Cruise Planning and Engine Maintenance.



Photo provided by Joan Barber



## District & National News

### America’s Boating Club Regional and National Activities

The Mid-Atlantic Region of ABC held its Fall Educational Conference once again at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum Heights, Maryland on 3-5 November. Club Education Officer Bill Barber and Commander Richard Butler attended in order to learn more about new initiatives and courses being developed at the Regional and National levels.

The 2024 Mid-Atlantic Spring Conference will be at the Holiday Inn – Ocean City in (as you may have guessed) Ocean City, MD 20-24 March 2024. They will be offering classes for officers as well as those with other club jobs and duties.



## Secretary's Department

*Lt/C Chris A. Atkinson, AP*

### Yearbook Quiz Winner: Betty Ingram

**Congratulations to Betty Ingram, P! She won the Yearbook Quiz and received a lovely new ABC cap. Well done! Thanks to the others that completed the quiz; and for those that did check out the Yearbook.**

Remember to give me any updates to the Yearbook – we want it to be as accurate as possible. I also wish to thank Beth Stevenson, our Merit Mark Chair! She is working hard on this year's submittal; we will let everyone know how many merit marks were awarded early next year.



Photo provided by Carol Hanson

### Vessel Safety Check Recap

We have had another good year of getting out and spreading the word of safety. The club's Vessel Safety crew checked a total of fifty-five boats. I want to give thanks to our Inspectors for this year's work: JT Walton and Gail Weintraub, with JT leading the way again with 40 completed. Vessel Safety Checks are an important and straightforward way to spread the word of safety on the water for new and veteran boaters alike. When getting ready for the 2024 boating season please consider getting your boat inspected as part of your spring commissioning.

- Lt John Bailey, AP



Photo provided by George Reiner, John Bailey



## Member News

### End of Season Delight: Visiting the *Sultana* Downrigging Festival by Boat

Submitted by George Reiner

For the last two years, Vicky and I ended our season with an excursion up the Chester River to anchor at the *Sultana* Downrigging Festival in Chestertown, MD. This is a great event allowing you to sail among these majestic symbols of a bygone era as they glide smoothly through the water.

This year the weekend was expected to be stunning... temps in the high 70s low wind, so no real sailing, but a nice calm motoring up the Chester River to Chestertown. While not quite peak foliage in this area, there was still an incredible amount of color in the leaves in places along the river.

Because of the weather, we took Friday off and arrived in the area just in time to see these tall ships returning north to the Chestertown Marina. We found our way past them and selected a spot to anchor just south of the marina.

Once they returned to the dock on Friday evening, we prepared some steaks and salad to enjoy as we watched the sunset and full moon rise on opposite sides of the river. As darkness approached, we were treated to the illumination of the ships' rigging. At 8:00 PM we discovered that we were anchored right opposite the launch point for the evening fireworks at Wilmer Park and viewed the fireworks from our ringside spot.

As evening wore on, we found ourselves amid a veritable constellation of anchor lights.

Saturday morning, we watched as the ships paraded past our anchorage and then hauled anchor and followed them for a bit before returning south on the Chester River and eventually back to Rock Hall, MD.



*All photos were taken by an iPhone 15 Pro Max, handheld.*

# Boating Safety

## Brief Your Crew

Before heading out for a day on the water, be sure to brief your crew. Talk to your passengers about your boat and make sure you have someone on board who knows how to operate it should you become incapacitated. A crew briefing can make running your boat easier and your guests feel safer.

Here are some things you should consider covering:

- **Where to find life jackets, a first-aid kit, visual distress signals and fire extinguishers.** Be sure to offer life jackets to your guests and encourage everyone to wear them. Additionally, point out the best places to sit on board and remind them to spread out and not all sit or stand on one side of the boat.
- **How to operate the VHF marine radio in case of an emergency.** Most people know that radios are “push to talk,” but in an emergency, they forget to “release to listen.”
- **How you will handle docking procedures and what help you expect when you get to your destination.** You don’t want to be unprepared for docking. Although everyone wants to help, they may not know the best way to do so. Covering this ahead of time helps avoid last-minute confusion and mishaps.
- **While you’re at it, discuss the route so they understand what they will see along the way.** Visitors may not be familiar with local waters. Helping them appreciate what they are about to experience sets the stage for a fun day.

Finally, always have someone on board who can be your **partner in command**. This person should be able to operate your boat and get everyone home safely (or to a designated access point where help is available) if you become incapacitated. Taking time to brief your crew will help everyone stay safe and have more fun on the water.

—Thomas E. Dawson of America’s Boating Club Cape Coral

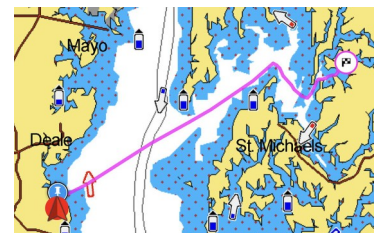


Photo provided by Carol Hanson, George Reiner



## Let's Celebrate the November & December Birthdays

### November

Dana Doheny	Nov. 27
Susan Williamson	Nov. 30

*"No spring nor summer's beauty  
hath such grace, As I have seen in  
one Autumnal face."*

—John Donne



#### Ask ChatGPT Personality of people born in November

- Determined and Ambitious
- Mysterious and Intuitive
- Passionate and Creative
- Independent and Resilient
- Sensitive and Emotional
- Charismatic and Secretive

### December

Donald Gorman	Dec. 02
Vicky Lai	Dec. 04
John Koval	Dec. 13
Katherine Minshall	Dec. 16
David Sharpless	Dec. 16
Chris Atkinson	Dec. 19
Betty Ingram	Dec. 19
Justin Doheny	Dec. 29

*"I heard a bird sing, In the dark of  
December, A magical thing, And  
sweet to remember."*

—Oliver Herford



#### Ask ChatGPT Personality of people born in December

- Optimistic and Enthusiastic
- Sociable and Adventurous
- Generous and Honest
- Independent and Humorous
- Empathetic and Compassionate
- Creative and Imaginative

# Calendar of Events November/December 2023

<http://abc-wilmington.com/>



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## November Events

**2 Nov 1800**  
 ABC Wilmington Social  
 Cokesbury Village, Hockessin, DE

**2-5 Nov**  
 Mid-Atlantic Region Fall Education Conference  
 Linthicum, MD

**8 NOV 1900**  
 ABC Wilmington Executive Committee Meeting  
 Via Zoom

\*All members are welcome to attend  
 - email [admin@abc-wilmington.com](mailto:admin@abc-wilmington.com) to get a Zoom invite!



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## December Events

**3 DEC 1500**  
 ABC Wilmington Holiday Social  
 P/C Bruce Wyngaard and Leslie Brower, Hosts

**15 Dec**  
 Deadline for January/February Lubber's Line Material

Photos downloaded from [www.pexels.com](http://www.pexels.com) (free photos)



**Join us for weekly luncheons**

Each Wednesday @ 1200  
 Seasons Pizza 3901 Concord Pike  
 Wilmington, DE 19803



Visit us on the web at: <http://abc-wilmington.com/>

The Lubber's Line is a publication of America's Boating Club® Wilmington published the first week of January, March, May, August, and November.