

The *BEACON*

Boating in Colorado and the Mountain West



Volume 49 Number 4

Heartland - District 30

April 2024



BODIE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE, NC

Traveling southbound on NC Highway 12 through Kitty Hawk and Nags Head, you'll reach Cape Hatteras National Seashore. At the entrance of this protected area is Bodie Island Lighthouse. Today's structure is the third lighthouse to stand on this site.

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From the Commander

Now that Spring is officially here, we are tempted to dust off our summer fun items and make plans for future adventures. We recently visited Mission Bay in San Diego with Landon our grandson, during spring break. Upon landing at San Diego International Airport and taking a short Lyft ride to our destination, we were greeted by wonderful staff at Paradise Point Resort and Spa, (no this is not an advertisement). It's situated on an island in Mission Bay with a local marina and many small water craft. Of course, the first thing we did after having breakfast was to find out what was required to operate and rent one of them. To my amazement, anybody could operate them as long as you were willing to pay the \$150 per hour rental charge. The attendant said that you can figure out how they operate in a short amount of time and could hire a captain to teach you how to operate the craft in less than an hour! I asked if you needed any certification and he indicated nope. We then strolled back to our bungalow thinking that we may want to stay clear of the bay, especially during high demand in the summer months because of the cavalier attitude toward safety.

Which brings me to my main point: boater safety and education. May 18th



is the beginning of National Safe Boating Week, which is just around the corner and a reminder to "Wear It" campaign. It's also a great time to take an ABC safety course in anticipation of boating safely at your favorite summer destination, like Mission Bay San Diego. At least you'll know what to expect on water even though the other vessel occupants may not. Please read further in the Beacon about upcoming events on Boaters Education, Blessing of the Fleets and many more upcoming activities.

On another subject, Bryan Faulkner, our Planning Chair, has organized two breakout sessions with some of our Executive Committee (ExCom) team to understand why we have been so successful at doing what we do as a club. Bryan has elicited the assistance of two new Planning Committee members, Bob Cutter, our

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The Beacon

An official publication of America's Boating Club - Colorado



Club Events 2024

Date	Time	Event	Location	Notes
4/25/2024 Thursday	7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Membership Meeting Crawford Meeting Room 1, 2nd floor. Meeting ID: 827 9146 8348 (Zoom)	Broomfield Community Ctr, 280 Spader Way, Broomfield 80020 + Zoom	<u>The Life and Adventures of Anne Hammond</u> : Photos and Narrative About Anne's Remarkable Adventure from Panama to Fiji. (See page 5)
5/2/2024 Thursday	7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Executive Committee Meeting	Zoom Link - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88272915407	<i>Meetings are open to all members. All meetings are virtual using Zoom.</i>
5/18/2024 - 5/24/2024	Daily	National Water Safety Kickoff	Chatfield Reservoir Littleton	Activities with USCGAX and CPW are in planning. Blessing the Fleet!
5/18/2024 Saturday	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Charter Party	Home of Bob /Sue Hicks on Gaynor Lake, 10450 Moorings Road, Longmont.	Boating, great lunch, social, club history reviews
5/25/2024 Saturday	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Water Safety Week: Blessing the Fleet; seminar; free VSC	Littleton, Chatfield Reservoir	A joint event with CPW and USCGX
8/1/2024 Thursday	7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Executive Committee Meeting	Zoom Link - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88272915407	<i>Meetings are open to all members.</i>
September 7, 2024 Saturday	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Annual Haul-Out Party	Ranch Homestead of Rick Gulick on Hwy 7 west of Lyons.	Watch for details: music, food, social, hiking?
October 18 - 20, 2024 Friday - Sunday	Friday pm - Sunday am	D30 Fall Conference	The Resort: Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri	A great event for all members. Call (573) 693-9988 for reservations. Watch for special events.
10/24/2024 Thursday	7:00 pm - 8:30 pm	October Membership Meeting	Broomfield Community Ctr, 280 Spader Way, Broomfield 80020 + Zoom	Canal Boating with Rick Gulick, Kay Francis, and Norm Brown
12/14/2024 Saturday	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Holiday Celebration and Club Dinner	Westview Church, 6710 Arapaho Road, Boulder, CO 80303	Main dishes provided; bring a dish to pass



For Boaters - By Boaters

Growing Our Membership in 2024

After 8 weeks since coming on board as your ABC-CO Membership Chair I wanted to provide you with an update on where we stand today and, perhaps, the most important action we can take going forward to grow our membership and our club!

Today, we have full members, down from over 100 people just a couple of years ago. In last month's Beacon you heard about the creation of a new Planning Committee, headed up by Bryan Faulkner. This new group, in conjunction with the Executive Committee, has agreed to a goal of getting to a total of 100 members by the end of 2024.

This goal is achievable. In addition to our current 75 members, there are 80 USPS University members who live within 200 miles of Boulder. They have taken classes and have certificates but are not members of our club. There are also 13 cyber squadron members who are paid up members of America's Boating Club, live in Colorado, but for some reason are not members of ABC - Colorado. Add in a couple of unattached members and you can see we have a path to get to 100 before year-end.

Obviously, we do not want to stop at 100 members! We need to aspire to be the premier boating organization in Colorado and beyond. There is great potential. As I shared with Grant Brown, River Outfitter Licensing Program Coordinator, at Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife, according to the US Department of Transportation, there are 70,000-80,000 watercraft/boats registered in Colorado! We have boaters! We just need to get them in our club "boat"!

We have some work to do to make the club attractive and one that boaters want to join. There are challenges. One big challenge is the vast geographic area our club covers. We also have many positive attributes which we can build on. As many of you know our club has been

recognized at the national level for the excellence in education. Big thanks to Vince Comella, Ron Schwiesow, Larry Stoddard and many others who have been instructors over the years. Learning and the opportunity to gain knowledge from others attracts members. We can build on that. Three new members, Taylor Groenewe, Jeremy Frett and Mike Leuzze are

all taking classes with the club. Interacting with people who are passionate about boats and boating and joining them in things like flotilla charters is also important to provide the "hands on" training and experience. For example, Jeremy, as a new member jumped aboard one of the boats on the club's 10-day Baja trip in January and by all accounts a good time was had by all.

We have lots of work to do. We heard from the District 30 representatives, at the end of February, about the dramatic shrinkage in membership in all the ABC clubs across the USA during the last 20+ years. We need to do our bit to reverse this trend. We need to get younger folks involved. The average age of our current membership is well over 60! The Planning Committee will no doubt have some great ideas and actions to get us started. The Executive Team understands that growing our club is a priority. However, it will take all of us, working together to grow and build a vibrant organization that helps people of all ages have fun and enjoy many types of boating and water sports, across Colorado, safely.

Bob Cutter, Membership Chair



Bob Cutter, P
Membership Chair
Membership@abc-co.org or
robertjcutter@aol.com



Membership Report for April, 2024 (Start of Month)

	20	21	22	23	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Members	87	100	102	73	73	75	75									
Households	57	63	65	47	47	49	49									
New Mbrs					0	2	1									
Lost Mbrs					0	0	1									
Pending					2	1	0									
Overdue						3	1									

(Continued from page 1)

Membership Chair and Gregor Henze, our Executive Officer, to help with understanding what was discussed at these two meetings and how this may help us as a club. They will be meeting in the coming weeks and report back to our ExCom team with their findings. This effort will guide us to make strategic decisions about drawing new membership to our club. Stay tuned!

Lastly, we as seasoned mariners have a great deal of knowledge that can be shared with the community. Think about how you can help with this new generation of

young eager mariners. Their future enjoyment of their on-water adventures relies on our shared experiences. Please let us know how we can help you to help our boating community. We are always in need of dedicated instructors for full-length courses as well as short seminars of 1 to 2 hours in length. If you are interested in a rewarding experience, please let us know and we'll help you make it happen.

Happy sailing and cruising the waters of our dreams!

Arnie Strasser, Cdr, JN



For Boaters - By Boaters

The Transpacific Adventures of Anne Hammond, SN

April 25, 2024 - Thursday
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Broomfield Community Center
Crawford 1 Room (Upstairs)

In 2023, former ABC-CO Commander, Anne Hammond saw an opportunity to realize her life dream: to cross the Pacific Ocean by boat. Anne, a seasoned sailor, a Senior Navigator, did not have trouble finding a sailing vessel located in Panama in which an additional experienced crew member would be helpful.

In this seminar, Anne tells her story about the sail from Panama to Fiji. This month!



Come for the Boating Education, Fun and Friendship

The ABC-CO Annual Charter Party: On the Water at Gaynor Lake

- Water craft available
- Great foods
- Remembrances
- ABC History
- Boating Friends
- Swimming?

Join at the palatial home of Bob and Sue Hicks -
Gaynor Lake

10450 Moorings Road

Longmont, CO 80504

[Click Here for Map Link](#)

Saturday, May 18, 2024

10:00 am - 3:00 pm



Our Original Charter



RSVP to Kathy Zarini, SAO

(303)748-1984 or kathyzarini@yahoo.com

Bring a Dish to Share - Tell Kathy What
you Are Planning!



For Boaters - By Boaters

Meet the District 30 - Heartland Officers



District Commander Kent
Simpson, AP



DXO Tracy Simpson,
AP



DAO Bill Buffum



DEO Terry Elia, JN



The D30 fall district meeting is held from Friday, October 18 to Sunday, October 20.

The location will be [The Resort at the Lake of the Ozarks, Lake Ozark, Missouri](#). This facility has just been totally remodeled.

This information will be detailed in the forthcoming Winter Issue of the [D30 Midwestern Pilot](#).

Make your reservations NOW! (573) 693-9988.

Please plan to attend!



Asst DEO Vincent
Comella



D30 Secretary
Bill Johnson



D30 Treasurer
Ken Danley

Come for the Boating Education, Fun and Friendship

Boating Recipes by Valerie



Historians claim the diet of the ancient Egyptians, the workers who built the pyramids, consisted primarily of stone ground whole grain bread, onions, and beer. I imagine the onions were more of the leek or green onion variety. On a

recent sailing charter, I developed a new appreciation for onions, the round yellow and white ones. I noticed, early in the trip, crew member Bob looking hopefully around the table. I asked him what was missing, and he requested some sliced onions. After that, I tried to have a plate of sliced Bermuda onions on the table with every meal and soon enough I joined him in adding them to salads, sandwiches or just a side to whatever meal was served. The aggressive sharpness and crisp texture of the onions were welcome with almost any main dish. The craving for fresh raw vegetables on long cruises is undeniable but can be difficult to satisfy.

The following recipe can fill in when fresh salads are merely a dream and scurvy threatens. These ingredients have the advantage of having a long shelf life or are in cans. But if your canned supplies are dwindling; or you need to build a pyramid, be like Bob. Eat onions.

Asparagus Vinaigrette *

One to two 14-ounce cans of asparagus, chilled if possible

4 tablespoons olive oil

1 ½ tablespoons lemon juice

Salt and pepper

1 tablespoon pimento if available

1 tablespoon onion or scallion minced

1 teaspoon pitted green olives, minced

1 tablespoon parsley, minced

Mix all ingredients except asparagus. Arrange asparagus on individual plates and pour vinaigrette over each. **Enjoy the onions!**

*From "Cooking on your Knees" by Beverly Fuller



Watch for Valerie's
Recipes Each and
Every Month.

Boating Safety Notes

National Safe Boating Week is 18-24 May 2024. This is an opportunity to start the boating season off right with an emphasis on having fun and boating safely.

The theme of the national Safe Boating Campaign is "Wear It"; as you can see from the graphic. More info is available at

<https://safeboatingcampaign.com/>.

Blessing the Fleet, Chatfield Reservoir

**25 May 2024,
10:00 - 3:00 pm**

The Colorado Blessing of the Fleet is an informal event that is scheduled for May 25, 2024, at Littleton's Chatfield Reservoir. This is a part of National Boating Safety Week. America's Boating Club – Colorado plans to be there to offer our services to the public.

ABC-CO is collaborating with the Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife, and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to make this year's event special.

In addition to a planned Blessing of the Fleet event, ABC-CO will offer free boat safety checks at dockside or on a trailer from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm on Saturday, May 25th. This service is advisory and is without penalty for safety deficiencies. The intention is to



ensure that Colorado boats and other watercraft are safe, and the owners are aware of safety requirements.

In addition, ABC-CO members are asked to join in an on-the-water boating event. Bring your boat and a picnic lunch. Food is available on site if you prefer.

If there is sufficient interest and our instructor is available, ABC-CO hopes to offer a 2-hour seminar on Knots and Line Handling. This is tentatively scheduled for 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Saturday.

Disclaimer: These details are being discussed at this time so there may be changes. See the May issue of *The Beacon* for final plans.

WEAR IT

A program of the National Safe Boating Council



For Boaters - By Boaters

An Educational TidBit

By Vince Comella



Safe Boating Through Education

A cornerstone of America's Boating Club is boating safety. Our America's Boating Course is not just for teenagers. It is a comprehensive course that covers a wide variety of topics and is suitable for every Colorado boater.

America's Boating Course is certified by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators class and is offered by America's Boating Club - Colorado. The course covers all of the Colorado state requirements and goes beyond that because we want to educate the boater. An educated boater is a safer boater. Course topics include:

- Boat types and suitable uses
- Safety equipment and how to use it
- Navigation rules
- Navigation aids
- Emergencies on board and how to deal with them
- Trailer
- Water sport safety.

This class provides an excellent foundation for more advanced courses offered by America's Boating Club. It is a great refresher course even if you have previously taken some boating classes. Some insurance companies offer a discount for owners who complete this course. This could be the best \$35 you will ever invest. The special rate for Sea Scouts is zero but there may be a \$20 charge for the textbook. See page 14.

Happy boating,

Vince

Current 2024 Courses

Note: All courses are being offered virtually on-line via the ZOOM app.

Marine Electrical Systems: The class started on February 21 and will be finishing around April 17th. Vince Comella is the instructor.

New Class Offerings

America's Boating Course: America's Boating Course is intended for new boaters and is required by the State of Colorado for anyone 14 to 18 years of age who plans to operating a motorized boat. A new class will be offered by Ron Schwiesow starting on May 6th. You can sign up online or contact Ron for more information.

Marine Navigation: Marine Navigation is a new course offering. It replaces the Piloting class and will introduce electronic navigation techniques using OpenCPN. Please contact Vince Comella if you have interest in this class.

New Class Offerings

America's Boating Club National is working on several new and updated classes.

- **Offshore Navigation.** Available in Beta phase
- **Cruising Under Power and Sail.** Available in Beta phase.
- **Boating On Rivers, Lakes and Locks.** Close to completion.
- **Celestial Navigation.** Close to completion.

Keep an eye out for these new class offerings.

How to Register for a Class

Online classes are difficult to find on the ABC National website. If you have interest in a current class offering or any questions about a class please contact me directly: Vince Comella at Education@ABC-CO.org

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Boating Education Requirements in Colorado

According to the Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPW) and the State of Colorado, anyone operating a motorboat, which includes personal watercraft (PWC or "Jet Ski"), in Colorado must be at least 16 years old.

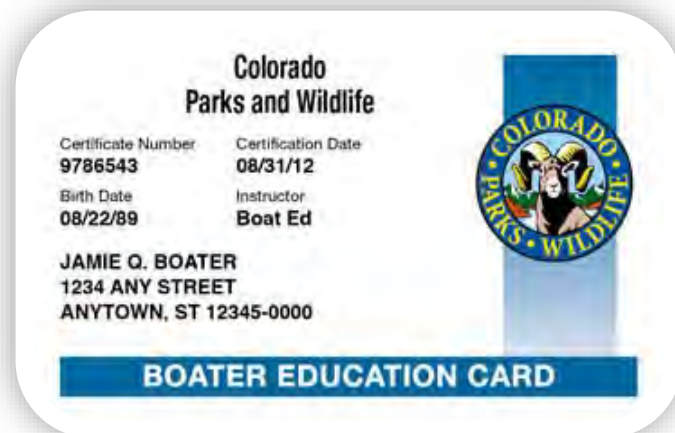
- **Effective on June 1, 2024, that required age increases to 18 years of age.**
- **Persons ages 14 through 17 may operate a motorboat if they have successfully completed an approved boating safety course.**

Approved courses are provided by America's Boating Club - Colorado, the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

The ABC-CO course begins on **Monday, May 6th** from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. There are 6 weekly sessions. The course is taught by senior instructor Ron Schwiesow and will be delivered using on-line technology. For information and registration, call Ron at (303) 447-9880.

Courses offered by the **US Coast Guard Auxiliary** may be found at <https://cgaux.org/boatinged/>.

Courses taught by the Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife may be found at <https://www.registered.com/programs/colorado/132-colorado-boating-safely-course>.



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Your Input Is Imperative

The list of classes we can offer is extensive. In addition to the typical 8 week courses there are a number of short seminars that we can provide.

Please reach out to let me know the courses or seminars you would like us to put on the calendar.

We need to hear from you so we can prepare courses that best suit your needs.

Contact Vince Comella at Education@ABC-CO.org if you have any questions or would like to inquire about course offerings.

Round up your boating buddies and friends and take the course together and get ready for safe boating! In fact, you can save money by taking a course with a friend or family member by sharing textbooks.

All Available Courses through America's Boating Club - Colorado

America's Boating Course (ABC)

Advanced Courses

Boat Handling
Marine Navigation*
Advanced Piloting
Junior Navigation
Navigation

Elective Courses

Cruising & Cruise Planning
Engine Maintenance
Instructor Development
Marine Electrical Systems
Marine Communications
Electronic Navigation
Radar for Boaters
Sail
Weather

Seminars**

Anchoring With Assurance
Confidence In Docking and Undocking
Emergencies On Board
Knots and Line Handling
Rules of the Road
How to Use a Chart
Tides and Currents
Trailer Your Boat
Using GPS
Using VHF and VHF-DSC Marine Radio

- *Marine Navigation is an updated version of Piloting*
- *** Seminars are short one-day, two hour classes*



For Boaters - By Boaters

The Annual Charter Party is Approaching Mark Your Calendars for May 18th

Springtime in the Rockies is a chance for early season kayaking. On March 19, Bob and Sue Hicks, and Denisse Allaire, took advantage of beautiful weather and water on Gaynor Lake to do some kayaking. The Charter Party on May 18th will be your chance to kayak on Gaynor Lake, and enjoy the beautiful backdrop of the Rockies.

Anne Hammond, SN



Come for the Boating Education, Fun and Friendship

Life After La Paz and the Sea of Cortez: Where from Here?



Elsewhere in Mexico?



For Boaters - By Boaters

About the Sea Scouts



Sea Scouts are units (ships) of Boy Scouts of America, which includes young men and women ages 14 to 20.

For over 100 years Sea Scouting has promoted better citizenship and improved members' boating skills through instruction and practice in water safety, boating skills, outdoor, social, service experiences, and

knowledge of our maritime heritage.

Because of the close ties between Sea Scouts and America's Boating Club members, there is an articulated relationship that benefits all. At the ABC national level, there is an MOU (memo of understanding) that frames our relationship. To support this bond, ABC-CO in 2022 passed the following motion:

Sea Scout Education – Proposed by Larry Stoddard with a second by Carol Kolesnikoff—

Motion:

In that ABC-CO recognizes that it has a civic obligation under the terms of the MOU signed between BSA and USPS in 2018 to provide educational courses to the Sea Scout community at reduced cost as determined by the Squadron or Club, the following pricing shall be offered to all members of Sea Scout ships:

A. Sea Scouts shall be offered all courses for the cost of student materials. These costs typically cover all books, charts and any other materials required by the student to complete the course.

Allocated costs (Zoom, equipment, postage etc.) for classes will continue to be assessed on a per enrolled student basis with the Sea Scout costs paid from the ABC

-CO operating budget.

Additionally, Instructor costs will be similarly allocated with Sea Scout costs paid from the operating budget.

B. If donated student materials (i.e. course books etc.) are available they will be offered to Sea Scout students on a first come first served basis in order to further minimize their out of pocket expenses.

C. The EXCOM will monitor the costs of this program via regular budget reports and adjust the pricing strategy as required.

Discussion:

Sea Scouts and ABC-CO are both civic organizations which promote safe boating.

Providing our courses to the Sea Scout community will increase our exposure in the community overall, help to provide a cadre of younger educated boaters promoting overall boater safety, potentially provide a pool of younger individuals to help our other civic programs (VSC, OTW training, Quick Start) as volunteers, and, by exposing individuals and their families to our organization, may provide opportunities for membership growth.

The costs are minimal and given our current financial situation can be accommodated.

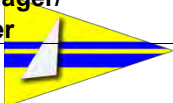
Monitoring our costs by the EXCOM will ensure the financial impacts to ABC-CO are properly managed. By allocating costs to all students, as is our current practice, and covering Sea Scout costs out of budget, other students in any given class will not be adversely affected by having Sea Scout students in their classes.

Motion passed unanimously.

This policy remains in effect today. April 8, 2024

Officers and Contacts for 2024

Executive Committee		
Commander	Cdr Arnie Strasser, JN	Commander@ABC-CO.ORG
Executive Officer	Gregor Henze, S	
Administrative Officer	Kathy Zarini, S	
Assist. Admin. Officer	Valerie Buffum	
Educational Officer	Vince Comella	Education@ABC-CO.ORG
Asst. Educational Officer	Ron Schwiesow, JN	VSC@ABC-CO.ORG
Secretary	Chris Pierce, JN	
Treasurer/Property Manager	Todd Berryman, AP	
Asst. Treasurer	Bob Hicks, P	
Members at Large	Bryan Faulkner Mike Cranna Jennifer Balkcom, S	
Elected Committee Chairs and Members		
Auditing Chair	Mary Anne Strasser, P	
Auditing Member	Al Hoveland, P	
Auditing Member	Bryan Faulkner	
Nominating Committee Chair	Bill Buffum	
Nominating Member	Todd Berryman, AP	
Nominating Member	Harry Hammond, SN	
Rules Committee Chair	Rick Gulick	
Rules Member	Norm Brown, SN	
Rules Member	Ron Combs, P	
Appointed Members		
The Beacon, Editor	Bill Buffum	Editor@ABC-CO.ORG
Web Master	Brian Jones, AP/Amy Ives	Webmaster@ABC-CO.ORG
Bryan Faulkner	Planning Committee Chair	
Membership/Roster Chair	Bob Cutter, P	Membership@ABC-CO.ORG
Public Contact	Bob Cutter, P	
Merit Marks Chair	Lynn Johnson, S	
MM Member	Bill Buffum	
MM Member	Open	
Vessel Safety Check Chair	Ron Schwiesow, JN	VSC@ABC-CO.ORG
Property Manager/ Quartermaster	Bob Hicks, P	



For Boaters - By Boaters

How can I get a Copy of the ABC-CO Membership List?

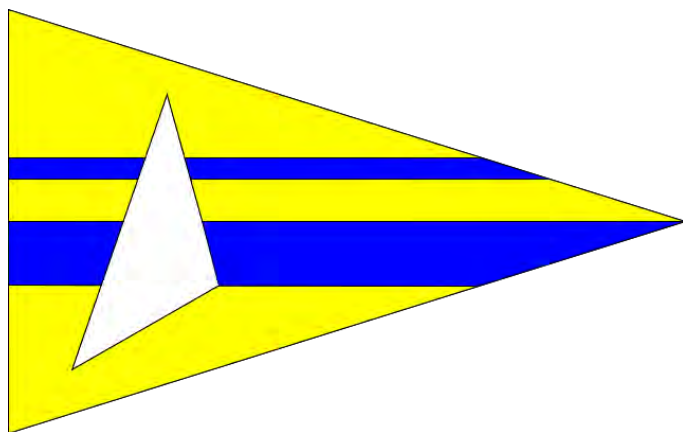
To download a copy of the ABC-CO Membership Roster, you must be a club member in good standing.

1. Using your browser, go to the home page of ABC-CO. That address is ABC-CO.ORG
2. Click on "Links" which is near to the top of the club's homepage.
3. Scroll down past the photos until you see ABC National Websites. On the right side column look for "Roster Tool (Login Required)"
4. When you click on this link, you will be prompted for your ABC membership number and password. Follow the instructions if you do not remember your login ID or password.
5. Yes. This is a hassle, but necessary for security.
6. Click on the third line down to get a complete list of all members. Please do not share this list with non-members.

National Safe Boating Week: May 18-24, 2024

First Inflatable Life Jacket (1928)

While inflatable life jackets have found prominence in recreational boating in only the past 15 years or so, they have been around for far longer. Peter Markus invented the inflatable in 1928, which was used by Air Force pilots who nicknamed it the "Mae West" because of how it looked inflated.



Heraldry of the Burgee Design for America's Boating Club - Colorado

Our burgee flies two horizontal blue stripes with a stylized, white sail rising from the broad lower stripe and extending through the upper narrow stripe. This is all displayed on a yellow field. The sail represents the individual member and his or her boat and dream, be it power or sail. The broad stripe suggests the land-locked waters on which we cruise near home, and the narrow stripe symbolizes distant waters yet to be sailed. The yellow field reflects our sun-drenched Colorado landscape and is the color of the yellow disk in the center of our state flag.

