



May 2019

Our 50th Year!

Volume 50, No. 3

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IN MEMORIAM

P/C Martin D. Becker, SN

Crossed the Bar, March 25, 2019

"To live in the hearts of those we leave behind is not to die."

- Obituary on Page 4 -

Commander's Message

Cdr Laurie Reilly, S



Dear members of Great Blue Hill:

We swore in new members, Michelle Buras and Chris Summers, both of Medfield MA at our last general meeting. Welcome!

My year as Commander has been very fruitful. Recognizing that USPS needs to grow and modernize, National began a change with marketing the USPS as America's Boating Club. As a progressive squadron, Great Blue Hill squadron embraced the logo and began to think about how to attract students and membership.

Our hard-working education committee started with offering seminars before National even truly recommended it, and with great success. We also have come up with a budget for the squadron that should assist us in remaining soluble.

The best has been engaging membership to revitalize the squadron to include not just education and civic commitment but to also begin to build upon ideas of more social activities to add to the camaraderie that boaters are known for.

A year is a short time for anyone to make a difference in an organization, but we have accomplished a lot, based on others beginnings.

Thank you all for your support and contributions to the squadron and me. I am proud to have been a contributor to the leadership of Great Blue Hill Sail & Power Squadron and wish incoming Commander Joseph Frawley a wonderful year ahead. What better way to end but with the 50th Anniversary of GREAT BLUE HILL SAIL & POWER SQUADRON!!

See you all soon,

Commander *Laurie A. Reilly, S*





Administrative Officer’s Message

Lt/C Bette O’Connor, S



Dear Members of Great Blue Hill:

The time to move one chair to the left is fast approaching with the torch of leadership being passed on to Joe Frawley as our new Commander. Those who have sat in these various positions A/O, E/O and Commander have set a high bar for our performance as your leaders. The members have given great responsibility to each of us to ensure the Squadron continues to bloom and grow. As we discovered at the Town Meeting at our last meeting the members have provided us lots of ideas to ponder and implement. I truly look forward to help effect some of the changes the members responded to affirmatively.

If you have a special event these coming months such as a birthday, anniversary or just a special day on the horizon cease the moment to celebrate. See you all at the COW and to celebrate the 50th anniversary of GBH.

Best regards,
Bette

**Great Blue Hill Sail & Power Squadron
SPRING - SUMMER 2019 CALENDAR**

GBH Change of Watch & 50th Anniversary, Brookmeadow CC, Canton	4	May
GBH Dinner Meeting, Dedham	9	May
GBH Executive Board Meeting, Westwood CoA	6	June
Touch a Boat Day, Hingham Harbor	1	June
USPS Governing Board Mtg. Louisville, Ky	8-15	September



Gatos del Mar by Maya O'Conner, C (cat)

The human took down the greenhouse and I am now locked up until November until a new one goes up. My winter was uneventful. While nippy on the other side of the wrap my days were spent up on the fly bridge taking siestas in the sun. Come 4pm as the sun temps drop I return to the main area of the boat. My toys are still up on the bridge and ping pong balls line the rails. I did learn how to come down the ladder from the bridge. Biggest lesson learned was the importance of coming when called or the fur baby will be locked out. Don't fret my life was not at risk, I was warm yet did not like the experience. Guess I need to watch for the UPA flag.

Last week I had a little too much catnip. I looked out the port window and I shook my head in disbelief - there was my human paddling the center console down the fairway looking like Washington crossing the Delaware.

Currently the beast and little beast are in a holding pattern for departure on May 1st. The mechanic has the vessel fine tuned to travel across the harbor. Engines starting in the Spring are certainly a sign a move is in my future. I will miss all my canine buds who visit in the winter. My boat is known as the biscuit boat. Time for me to go fill out and file a float plan and adorn my life jacket.

Maya



About the author - Maya is a seven year old tuxedo who lives year round on the waters of Boston Harbor with her captain Bette O'Conner.

Pictures from our March Dinner Meeting

Commander Laurie Reilly Swears in New Members:
Michelle Buras and Chris Summers





P/C Marty Becker, SN
Crossed the Bar - March 25, 2019

BECKER, Dr. Martin D. Age 84, passed peacefully Monday, March 25, 2019, after a brief illness. Martin spent his final days in his Westwood, MA home surrounded by loving family and serenaded by the classical music he loved since his childhood. Martin was a well-respected physician, specializing in plastic and reconstructive surgery, in a career that spanned 35 years. He was on the staff of both Norwood Hospital and Sturdy Memorial in Attleboro, and ran a successful practice in Norwood. He served as President of the medical staff of Norwood Hospital in 1978, and remained an active participant in staff meetings after his retirement. Martin was an accomplished sailor and spent many days cruising the waters off Boston, Martha's Vineyard, and Maine on Nose Job III. As a 50-year member of the Great Blue Hill Chapter of the U.S. Power Squadron, Martin was responsible for teaching a sailing course to dozens of students. A student of opera and classical music, Martin found much pleasure listening to live and recorded concerts, and practicing piano. He was a voracious reader of history, and loved sharing what he learned on many subjects. He and his wife Gail traveled internationally in his retirement, and enjoyed many winters in Barbados, and summers on Martha's Vineyard. Martin was a 1952 graduate of Revere High School, Boston College (1956), and Tufts Medical School (1960). After completing his education, Martin served in the U.S. Air Force as Chief of Plastic Surgery at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. He is survived by Gail, his devoted and loving wife of 58 years, daughter Anne Becker of Newport, RI, daughter Lee Becker Salamone and her husband David of Springfield, VA, son Al Becker and his wife Shannon of Norwood, MA, and daughter Sharon Becker of New York City. He was Grandpa to Lilly and Marty Salamone, and Pop Pop to CeCe and Coley Becker. A Memorial Service for Martin will be held Sunday, March 31, at 11 a.m., at Folsom Funeral Home in WESTWOOD. Visiting Hours will precede the Service, beginning at 10 a.m. In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorial donations be sent to the Martha's Vineyard Chamber Music Society at P.O. Box 4189, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568, or the [American Cancer Society](http://www.americancancersociety.org) at 1324 Belmont St., Brockton, MA 02301. Folsom Funeral Home www.folsomfuneral.com





Lots of foam - free!!

by P/C Joe Kelliher, AP

As many of you know, my partner and I are retiring this spring and closing Westwood Furniture. In our warehouse we have 3 dozen sofa and chair cushion cores. This is the block of foam with a Dacron fiber wrap that is inside most cushions. I have used two under my mast in the winter. You might think of other uses. We would like to give them away. If anyone has a use for one or a dozen, come get them!

The store's number is 781 326 3220.



CLASSIFIED ADS

Mercury 3.3 HP Outboard – Lightweight (28 lbs.), two-stroke, short shaft with F/N shifting. Barely used with recent service. Includes extras: custom stand with casters, service & parts manuals, fabric cover, 50:1 oil, etc. \$599. John Gedaminski, 603-938-2685, j32080@yahoo.com (5/19)

Mooring Ball - TaylorMade 24" Includes collar and short length of chain. Will deliver to anywhere in eastern MA. \$75 or best offer. George Kyte, 978-475-9432, gbkyte@verizon.net (9/17)

Cost of an Ad is \$15 for up to 40 words. No pictures. Include description, condition, price and contact info. Please send your Ads (with your check payable to "GBH Sail & Power Squadron") to the editor, Jeff Gardiner, 398 Central Ave., Needham, MA 02494.



Great Blue Hill T-Shirts Available! Get Yours Now!

The summer is almost here and new members and your crew might like a memory shirt of a day or a week out on your boat.

Contact Helen McHowell-O'Malley to reserve your size and type.

We still have some Beefy Tees in pink and gray also micro fiber, which are very comfortable in most climates.

\$18 each Or, 2 for \$30.

Helen will have them at the Dinner Meeting in May.



Please call Helen at 781-828-4524 or Email @ helenshairstyle@aol.com



WARNING TO GPS USERS

The Department of Homeland Security has issued a warning that older GPS devices may no longer be accurate after April 6th. This has to do with how GPS uses timestamps from satellite signals to calculate positions. About every 20 years, the timestamps get reset. April 6th will be the second time of a reset. The first happened in 1999. Devices with a poorly implemented GPS time-to-UTC conversion algorithm may no longer be accurate unless they get a patch from the manufacturer. The Department of Homeland Security recommends that owners and operators contact the manufacturers of their GPS devices to make sure they have the proper updates installed and are ready for the reset.



[Take Action Now](#)

April 16, 2019

Dear BoatU.S. Member:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is asking for [comments](#) on a proposal to allow the sale of gasoline containing 15% ethanol (E15) year-round. It has been [proven](#) that E15 damages marine engines and this change could greatly increase the risk for mis-fueling. Tell the EPA to withdraw this rule and do more to protect your engine from inadvertently using this damaging product.

[Take Action Now](#)

BoatU.S. has long had concerns over potential consumer misfueling with E15. Most recreational boaters refuel their vessels at roadside gas stations where pump-labeling requirements are minimal. Just one small E15 orange warning label is the only protection currently in place for marine and other off-road engines. Without additional safeguards against putting E15 into your boat, BoatU.S. believes the risk of misfueling will increase and, with it, instances of expensive repairs to boat engines and fuel systems. Using E15, even inadvertently, may void many marine engine warranties.

The push for the summertime sale of E15 and adding more ethanol into the nation's fuel supply is a result of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). The RFS is the 2005 law that requires the blending of biofuels such as corn-ethanol into our gasoline. To meet this government mandate, in 2010 the EPA permitted E15 into the marketplace, but only for automobiles made after 2000. It is specifically prohibited to use E15 in marine and many other engines such as snowmobiles, chainsaws and motorcycles. The expanded sale of E15 could make it more difficult to find the fuels that are safe for your boat's engine such as ethanol free and E10.

Please take a few moments to urge the EPA to withdraw this proposal, do more to protect your boat's engine and ensure that an adequate supply of fuel suitable for your boat is available. We have pre-filled a message but feel free to change this to reflect your own experiences and concerns.

[Take Action Now!](#)

Thank you for being a BoatU.S. Member!

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What is a Vessel Safety Check (VSC) ?

It is an opportunity to have your vessel's safety equipment examined by a certified Vessel Examiner of the United States Power Squadrons.

If your vessel is properly equipped, you will be awarded the current Vessel Safety Check Decal to display on your vessel. This is the same Safety Check Decal issued by the U.S. Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Display of the Decal does **NOT** guarantee that you will not be boarded. But, it will show that your boat has passed a recent Safety Examination.

Provided you do not remove any equipment, you'll have peace of mind knowing you have the required equipment in an emergency and know where it's located in the event you need it or are inspected by boating law enforcement.

If your boat does not pass the Safety Examination you will be given a list of the equipment that needs to be improved and also discount coupons to West Marine for Safety Equipment you may need. There are **NO** fines, or penalties, or reports to any other agency of your examination not passing.



For more information Contact:

Capt. Jeff Gardiner, AP
Vessel Examiner
Phone: 617-416-2388
Email: jeffg@erols.com

Carole Falcone
Vessel Examiner
Phone: 781-769-7279
Email: cafalcone@verizon.net

or go to:

www.safetyseal.net

***“Boat Smart from the start
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Thank You to our Generous Sponsors for 2018 - 2019!

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s/v Avanelle G.

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