



Great Blue Hill



March 2023

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Commander's Message

Cdr. David F. Albanese, P



Hello fellow members of GBH!

As we approach the Spring all eyes turn to the water as we know that boating season is on the horizon. We just had a very successful showing at the Boat Show with our members staffing the D34 booth. We raffled off a Yeti cooler and thanks to Scott Wadland's tracking of the QR codes on the raffle entries, GBH has 32 leads to pursue for potential new members. Also, thanks to P/C Joe Frawley for organizing the boat show booth, once again. We had a few hundred people scan our QR code which brought them to the district website. There was a lot of interest in our courses.

As we approach our Annual Meeting in March, the Nominating Committee is working to find members to fill Bridge and other positions for the upcoming year. We have many well qualified members who would be excellent officers. If you're interested, make your wishes known. We have so many Past Commanders in our ranks that we could use some new blood to step up to the positions....so that we can add even more folks to our list of Past Commanders! Our club is blessed with lots of talent which is how we've been so successful.

Finally, for those of you that use Facebook, don't forget to "like" our page, "Great Blue Hill Sail and Power Squadron." We've got more and more folks who are posting. It's a great way to stay in touch with our members and to pass helpful information back and forth. Yours truly actually went live and posted a video from the Boat Show! See you all at our March meeting.

Fair winds and following seas,

Cmdr David Albanese, P

Executive Officer's Message

Lt/C James Andersen, N



Hello All,

What do AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB and GILLIGAN's ISLAND have in common?...

OK, you'll have to wait a bit to get more on the survivors of the SS Minnow later. As I am writing this I am in the middle of attending the America's Boating Club National Convention down in sunny Orlando, Florida. As most of you who know me know, I've never been a big fan of National and so I was not sure what to expect as I arrived and started attending various meetings and presentations.



For those of you who have been as skeptical as I've been, **you will be in for a very pleasant surprise.** I was incredibly impressed with the quality (and quantity) of the content that was presented at this meeting. I am coming away with a great deal of hope for our future as an organization, and our boating club here at Great Blue Hill.

Here's a little teaser...[America's Boating Channel](#) is coming to a TV near you in April. If you have a Roku or Apple TV smart television, as most of us do, National is about to launch the first in the country, 24/7 all-boating TV channel dedicating to everything boating. **And when it launches you will be able to look back and reminisce about whether your dream date was Ginger, MaryAnne, the Professor or Gilligan!!** Sorry but you will have to wait on this one.

Seriously though, what I have learned is too much to lay out in this short letter, but more on what is going on at National at a future dinner meeting. Stay tuned. Overall I was thrilled to be here and am very much looking forward to the future of our overall organization and Great Blue Hill itself.

Summer of 2023 – there is a lot in store for us this summer. As many of you know, weather prevented us from getting together for last summer's rendezvous on Martha's Vineyard. So we



decided to duplicate it again this summer.

Save the date, Wednesday, August 16, 2023 in Oak Bluffs on the Vineyard for the annual **Grand Illumination Night.**

There will also be other reasons to attend this year's summer rendezvous event, including one of the greatest fireworks displays I've ever

seen, and, of course, attending the annual Old Country Fair complete with cow milking contests and Richardson's famous racing pigs!

Continued on next page ...

Executive Officer's Message ... *Continued*

We also are planning a summer **backyard barbeque at the O'Malley's** in July (date to be announced). I hope to be the featured burger flipper on the grill again this year. And don't forget to bring your bathing suits. They have a great back yard pool.

We hope to do more this summer as well. If you are interested in helping out in planning for other events, as well as next year's events, please let me know. We would love your ideas and involvement.

Rideau Canal Cruise in Canada in September – Remember the great time we all had on the Maine Windjammer Cruise last year? Well capping off the summer's events will be a cruise down the Rideau Canal in Canada in September. One of our fellow America's Boating Clubs in Ohio has generously reached out to District 34 inviting us to their summer cruise on the Rideau. They've arranged for and reserved 8 boats from Le Boat, known as one of the best chartering companies in Europe and now in Canada. We've already filled one of those boats with 8 people from District 34.



They've also arranged for discounted pricing for members of the America's Boating Club.

Joe Kelliher will be sending out a separate announcement on this cruise soon. I remember the Maine Windjammer cruise very fondly, and Donna and I are looking forward to this upcoming cruise as well. Why don't you join us in having another great place for us to enjoy each others' camaraderie?

March 2023 Dinner Event - Let's not forget our upcoming dinner event in March, featuring our good friend George Hagerty, who will be presenting a fascinating story of the classic wooden Friendship Sloop, *Echo*, and his trusty sidekick dinghy named *Ping*. I've been very fortunate to sail with George on his beautiful piece of nautical eye candy. This will be a don't-miss event for us this year.

Loss of a good and dear friend – as most of you know, we all lost a very dear friend, Bob Lincoln, who recently crossed the bar. I fondly remember rafting up with Bob and Leslie Lincoln in Narragansett Bay last summer, and I still cannot believe he is gone. It is a humble reminder that life is fragile and we should all remember not take our many Great Blue Hill friendships for granted. One of the ways we can honor Bob is to help his wife, Leslie, who sadly must part with their beautifully well maintained Cape Dory sailingboat. If there is any interest in wanting to buy it, or if you know of anyone who might be interested, please spread the word and let me know if you need any additional information. I'll be happy to help you connect with Leslie.

Until next time, I wish you all fair winds and calm seas.

Warm regards,

Jim Andersen, N, XO

Administrative Officer's Message

Lt/C Donald Jackson, N



Hello all,

Everyone had a great time at the January 12th dinner-meeting. Many folks offered fond remembrances of recently deceased member Bob Lincoln. Meteorologist Bob Thompson gave a terrific presentation about terrible weather.

We have two more dinner-meetings coming up:

Thursday March 9, 2023. This is the "Annual Meeting" with election of officers. After dinner, a brief business meeting and an election, our own George Hagerty will present the exciting story of historic Friendship sloops.

Thursday May 11, 2023. New this year, the Change-of-Watch and the Awards Banquet will be combined into a single dinner-meeting event.

It's official! We will have a longer winter. This news is straight from America's most beloved groundhog meteorologist, Punxsutawney Phil. He rose from his burrow on Gobbler's Knob and saw his shadow. Bummer! Six more weeks of winter! We all should beat back those winter blues by going to the March 9th dinner-meeting!

Respectfully submitted,

Don Jackson, N, AO



Great Blue Hill Sail & Power Squadron SPRING 2023 CALENDAR

GBH Membership Dinner Meeting - Conrad's, Norwood	9	March	2023
GBH Executive Committee Meeting - Westwood COA	6	April	2023
GBH Membership Dinner Meeting - Conrad's, Norwood	4	May	2023
GBH Executive Committee Meeting - Westwood COA	1	June	2023



GREAT BLUE HILL
SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

Attention on Deck! NOW HEAR THIS!
GBH's March Dinner Meeting is coming up!

Learn from GBH's Own George Hagerty about....

**Friendship Sloops: a brief history of their origin, purpose,
manufacture and development.**



Date: Thursday, March 9, 2023

Time: Cocktails at 1830 (6:30pm), Dinner at 1915 (big hand is on the 7...)

Place: Conrad's Restaurant, 728 Washington St., Norwood, MA 02062

Price \$27pp.

Please make your reservation at least by Monday evening, March 6th.

To purchase and receive tickets on-line Click: [HERE](#)

Or arrange to pay at the door by contacting Admin. Officer [Don Jackson](#).

by email chrisdon1@verizon.net

by phone (leave a voicemail or text) [508-245-2826](tel:508-245-2826).

THAT IS ALL.

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Great Blue Hill on FaceBook
by Scott Wadland



GREAT BLUE HILL
SAIL & POWER SQUADRON



*Did you know that the Great Blue Hill Sail &
Power Squadron is on Facebook?*

GBH Facebook Page

Serves as the official presence of the squadron on Facebook. Includes official announcements from the bridge, news from other groups, events, etc.

<https://www.facebook.com/ABCGreatBlueHill>

Click the link above and click the "Like" button to keep up with new content!

GBH Facebook Group

Interact with other members by sharing boating photos, making requests for help, offering advice, advertising social events, posting safety information, etc.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2360708250847265>

Click the link above and click the "Join group" button to connect with fellow GBH members!

Long ignored, **Jump Start Program** will now give the District's new members free training on their boats!

by Joe Kelliher, District Commander

One of ABClub's best recruitment tools is the Jump Start Program. Poorly understood and under-utilized, this program answered one of the greatest needs of our America's Boating Course (ABC) and seminar students- *Can someone come on my boat and teach me how to use it?*

District 34 is re-vitalizing this program starting now!

So, what has changed? One of the program's perceived weaknesses was the lack of clear on-the-boat guidelines for JS Instructors. Now a new training program, designed by Dick Moore and Bob Sweet of the Buzzard's Bay Club, will give volunteers a clear "lesson plan" enabling them to teach with confidence.

Then the District sought volunteers who owned no boat. Rising marina, mechanics and fuel bills have led some members to sell or donate their craft. Becoming a volunteer allows them to provide a vital service to new boaters, earns them a merit mark and keeps them on the water! All but one of our volunteers are currently boat-less.

Aimed at new/inexperienced owners of 15' – 25' runabouts with outboard motors, we will later expand the program to assist those who are moving up to single and twin inboard engines. For Great Blue Hill this it can be a powerful recruitment tool.

To be eligible a boat-owner student (1) takes our ABC class (or equivalent), (2) joins their local ABClub and (3) requests a free VSC (vessel safety check) for their boat. Then a JS Instructor will call and set up a free 3-hour learning session on their boat. Because everyone is a member and the learning takes place on the student's boat, no CG Captains license is required. And USPS insurance will be primary, offering full coverage for both members and the boat during the training event.

Our teachers soon receive details so that they can say "Join our Club and this spring you can receive FREE on water instruction on your boat!" It's a powerful incentive to membership!

Along with Dick Moore from Buzzards Bay, 6 Jump Start Instructors give us coverage from the lower Cape to the North Shore:

Dave Atwood	Cape Cod	South Yarmouth
Laurie Reilly	GBH	Braintree
Chip Wayne	GBH	Braintree
Chris Summers	GBH	Medfield
Frank Marobella	Nobscot	Wayland
Ridge White	GBH	Marblehead

You can help: Tell fellow boaters *ABClub members now can receive free instruction on their boats!!*

If you are interested in becoming a Jump Start Instructor or just want more information contact:

D34 Commander Joe Kelliher at 508-446-7957 or jrkell120@yahoo.com

spring start-up checklist

The following are general guidelines. Check your owner's manual for manufacturer's recommendations or procedures specific to your boat.

FUEL SYSTEM

- ☐ Inspect hoses, connections and tank surfaces for leaks or damage
- ☐ Replace components as needed
- ☐ Verify all fittings and clamps are properly secured
- ☐ Ensure the engine, exhaust, and ventilation systems are functioning properly

BELTS, CABLES & HOSES

- ☐ Check for cracks and brittle areas
- ☐ Ensure belts fit tightly and are not worn
- ☐ Inspect the outer jacket of control cables for cracks or swells, which may indicate a problem

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

- ☐ Inspect all electrical connections for cleanliness and tightness; corrosion may indicate an unsafe condition
- ☐ Remove terminals and clean with a wire brush; clean cable ends
- ☐ Change battery and ensure it can hold a charge
- ☐ Electrical systems should be inspected by a qualified technician regularly

FLUID LEVELS

- ☐ Check engine oil, power steering, power trim reservoirs and coolant levels
- ☐ Change engine oil, oil filter and drive lubricants if these tasks were not done prior to winterizing



PROPELLERS & HULLS

- ☐ Inspect propellers for dings, pitting, cracks and distortion
- ☐ Make sure propeller is secured properly; replace bearings if needed
- ☐ Check hull for blisters, distortions and cracks
- ☐ Clean the hull, deck and topsides
- ☐ Ensure the drain plug is securely in place prior to every launch

SAFETY GEAR

- ☐ Inspect life jackets to ensure they are in good condition; make sure there is one for each potential passenger
- ☐ Check that fire extinguishers are fully charged, properly stowed and are the correct class for your vessel
- ☐ Take advantage of any safety inspections offered by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), USCG Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadron





Great Blue Hill Sail and Power Squadron



BOAT HANDLING COURSE AND SEMINAR SERIES

Increase your competence, build your confidence, and have more fun on the water!
For both sail and power boaters, take the classes that are important to you.

BOAT HANDLING COURSE- USPS Members can take any of the following for \$25 each. Earn your Seamanship (S) rating by taking all 6 classes and passing the exam on Monday 4/20. Register for all 6 for only \$99! Non-member prices are \$35 per night or \$149 for the 6 nights. In Person classes are at the Westwood Council on Aging, 60 Nahatan Street, Westwood, MA.

Registration [CLICK HERE](#):

OR cut and paste this URL into your web browser <https://buytickets.at/greatbluehillsailandpowersquadron/830508>

Mon. Mar 06 – 7 to 9 pm, Rules of the Road- Avoid collisions and other hazards! Know the rules of the road; know what to do when you share the water with other boats. **Instructor: Capt. Jeff Gardiner**

Mon. Mar 13 - 7 to 9 pm, Docking with confidence- Docking can be one of the most stressful tasks you can perform. Look like a pro. Protect your boat, your passengers, and yourself with the docking/undocking skills you need. **Instructor: Dave Albanese**

Mon. Mar 20 - 7 to 9 pm, Boating with Confidence- Gain confidence, knowledge, and skills that you need for a variety of boat-handling situations. Learn about basic operations; trimming your boat; operating on plane; handling seas and waves; dealing with bars, rivers, rivers, and bends; and other situations you will encounter along your cruise. **Instructor: Capt. Jeff Gardiner**

Mon. Mar 27 - 7 to 9 pm, Anchoring- Whether it's for fishing, swimming, a lunch break, or an overnight stop, one of the real pleasures in boating is "hanging on the hook" in some quiet spot. Know how to anchor in a variety of situations, weather, or seabed and be prepared to adjust for changing conditions. **Instructor: Joe Kelliher**

Mon. Apr 3 - 7 to 9 pm, Emergencies on Board- No one wants to think about it, but emergencies happen on boats. Be prepared for a variety of boating mishaps, medical emergencies, and other crises! **Instructor: Laurie Reilly, RN**

Mon. Apr 10 - 7 to 9 pm, Knots and Line Handling- Learn how to secure your boat to docks, piers, and other boats; handle rescue and repair situations; manage running rigging; anchor securely; and tow other vessels or people. Full 6 session exam at end of class. **Instructor: Joe Kelliher**

We look forward to seeing you all at the seminars! Feel free to invite your friends and family.

If you have any questions please feel free to call me at 781-248-5759 or by email at james.andersenjr@protonmail.com

Fair winds and following seas, Jim Andersen N, XO

IS YOUR BOAT READY FOR SPRING?

Get Your Coast Guard Vessel Safety Check (VSC)

It is a FREE Service of the Americas Boating Club to have your vessel's safety equipment examined by a U.S. Coast Guard 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 WILL NOT guarantee you will not be boarded, but it will show that your boat has passed a current Safety Examination.

You will also 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 the Safety Equipment you may need.

There are **NO** fines, or penalties, or reports to any other agency of your examination not passing.

Would you like to sponsor a Vessel Safety Check Day at your Marina or Yacht Club? Please contact any of the VSE listed below.

To get your free Vessel Safety Check - Contact:

Capt. Jeff Gardiner
Vessel Examiner

Phone: 617-416-2388

Email:

jeffg@erols.com

Carole Falcone
Vessel Examiner

Phone: 781-769-7279

Email:

cafalcone@verizon.net

Joe Frawley
Vessel Examiner

Phone: 617 212-0103

Email:

jfrawley928@gmail.com

or go to:

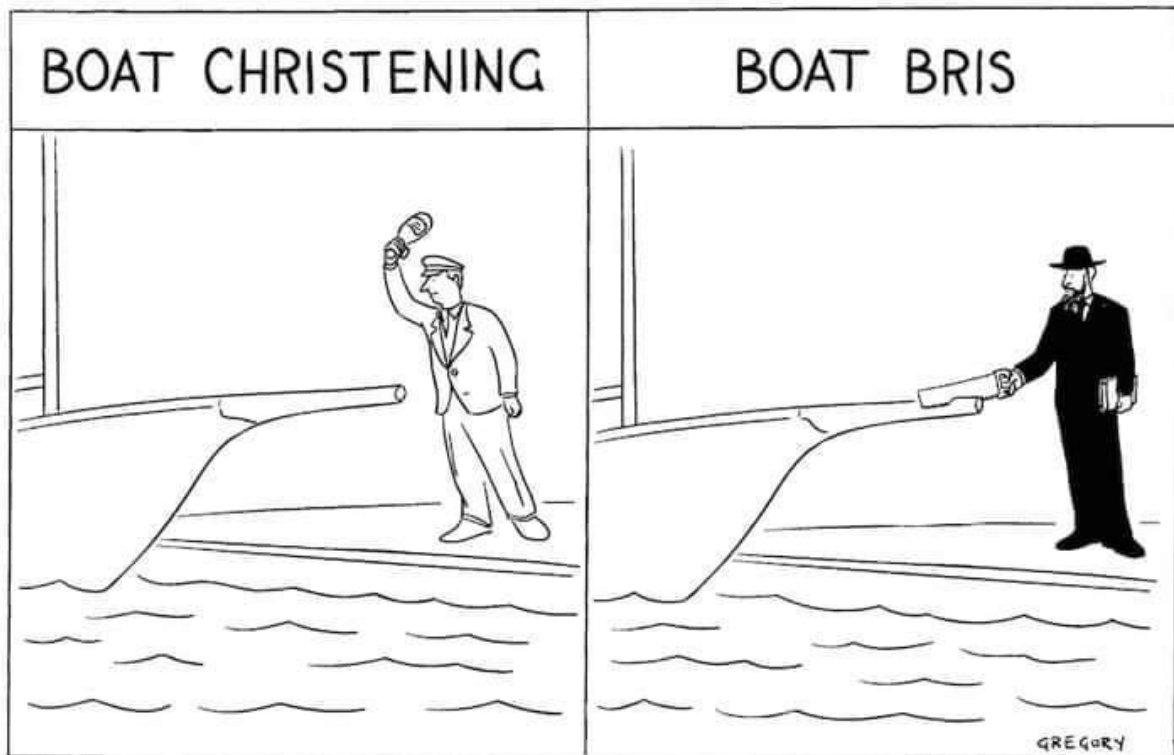
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Bad Nautical Joke of the day!



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