AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

of Daytona Beach

BEACHCOMBER

Formerly known as DAYTONA BEACH SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

A Unit of United States Power Squadrons Sail & Power Boating

MAY 2026

MAY	**4: VSCs Freedom Boat Club Boondocks**
	11: McKenna's Fundraiser 5-8, Executive Committee, 8 p.m.
	16: VSCs at Island, Lunch at Off the Hook
	21: Squadron Dinner Mtg., Red Lobster, Daytona, 6:15
	25: (Tentative) Tomoka River Grille Boat Trip TBA
JUNE	**11: Executive Committee, HRYC, 7 p.m.**
	13: (Tentative) Conch House, St. Augustine Boat Trip (TBA)
	18: Summer Casual Dinner (TBA)
	26-28 Jacksonville Southern Cruise
JULY	**9: Executive Committee, HRYC, 7 p.m.**
AUGUST	**13: Executive Committee, HRYC, 7 p.m.**
SEPTEMBER	**10: Executive Committee, HRYC, 7 p.m.**
	17: Squadron Dinner Mtg., Red Lobster, Daytona, 6:15
OCTOBER	**8: Executive Committee, HRYC, 7 p.m.**
	15: Squadron Dinner Mtg., Red Lobster, Daytona, 6:15
	16-17: D23 Fall Conference, Cocoa

In this issue:

- Calendar
- Bridge and Committees
- Officers' Reports
- Activities
- Member Birthdays

THE BRIDGE

Commander:

P/D/C Jeffrey Wise, SN	(386)299-4536	jeffreywise63@gmail.com

Executive Officer:

OPEN

Administrative Officer:

P/C Don Roman, AP	(386) 453-6456	andanteroman@mac.com

Education Officers:

P/C William C. Benny, SN-CN	(386) 871-8087	aikido09@hotmail.com
P/C Don Roman, AP	(386) 453-6456	andanteroman@mac.com
Tom Leitzel, P	(704) 591-6558	regalboat@aol.com

Secretary:

Lt/C Sharon Neitzey	(386) 290-1243	sneitzey@aol.com

Treasurer:

Lt/C Luc Labreche	(407) 761-2468	llabreche28@gmail.com

We have our new Bridge Officers and Committee Members for the new year. Let's give them all the help and support we can to build our squadron and fulfill our goals & expectations. We need YOU! Reach out and offer help when you can.

Executive & General Committees

Executive Committee
Gary Foster, P
Kathleen Foster, S
Christine Zahornacky
Greg Zahornacky, P
Tom Leitzel. P
P/C Paul Martines, JN

Finance/Audit Committee
Cdr Jeff Wise, SN
P/C Cheryl W. Martines, A

Nominating Committee
P/C Don Roman, AP
Cdr Jeff Wise, SN
P/C Paul Martines, JN

Rules Committee
P/C Paul S. Martines, JN
Cdr Jeff Wise, SN

Executive Department

Boat Show Committee
P/C Don Roman, AP
Cdr Jeff Wise, SN

Boating Safety Committee
P/C Don Roman, AP

Vessel Safety Check Committee
P/C Don Roman, AP

Commander's Department

Chaplain
Lt /C Gary Foster, P

Flag Lieutenant
P/C Don Roman, AP

Merit Mark Committee
Cdr Paul S. Martines, JN

Public Relations Committee
P/C Don Roman, AP

Administrative Department

Meetings/Programs Committee
P/C Don Roman, AP

Membership Committee
Cdr. Paul S. Martines, JN

Operations Training
PC Will Benny, SN

Boating Activities Commitee
Cdr Jeff Wise, SN

Port Captain
Cdr Jeff Wise, SN

Educational Department

Assistant Education Officers
P/C Don Roman, AP
Tom Leitzel, P

Elective Courses
P/C Will Benny, SN-CN
P/C Don Roman, AP
P/D/C Tim Henke, SN-CN

Secretary's Department

Information Technology Committee
D/Lt/C Sharon Neitzey
Christine Zahornacky

Public Contact
P/C Don Roman, AP

Ship's Store Committee Cdr Paul S. Martines, JN

Webmaster Committee
Lt/C Sharon Neitzey
P/C Don Roman, AP
Christine Zahornacky

Historian
P/C Paul S. Martines, JN

Website:

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abcdaytonabeach@gmail.com

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COMMANDER
Jeff Wise, SN

Greetings from the Bridge. Well, we are underway with a new year of adventure. We had a nice dinner meeting at Red Lobster with Captain Ashley informing us of all the services she can provide to help you hone your boating skills. We also had the Ship Store at the meeting (thanks, P/C Paul Martines) so you could pick up new shirts, hats, flags, or any other logo-ed items you wished. Although we do have some inventory of items, we still need to put together an order for some sizes we do not have. Please give some thought to anything you would like to order: extra shirt, hat, jacket, or anything you would like to have logoed, so we can get the best price for having them done together.

The District Picnic at Herschel King Park in Palm Coast was a good time. The weather was beautiful; we had pleasant company as we enjoyed music and games and boat rides. For $5 and a covered dish, it was a deal that you couldn't beat. Thanks to all who attended and helped make it happen, especially Paul and Elmer for the cooking of the hot dogs and the belly buster burgers, and Commander Mark and the District Bridge that put it together.

We started doing Vessel Safety Checks for Freedom Boat Club again on Monday, April 27th. Thank you to Tom, John and Mitch who came out to the Halifax Harbor location and helped me inspect 14 boats and continue to develop a working relationship with Freedom again. We have scheduled to visit the Boondock's location on Monday May 4th for the next round of inspections.

On May 16th we will be underway to the island to do our first inspections for National Safe Boating Week. Please contact me if you can help as an examiner or public relations person to line up inspections and inform the public who we are. I can take 6 to 7 on my boat and anyone is welcome to bring your boats to meet us. We will wrap up inspections by 11:30 to go to Off the Hook at Ponce Inlet for lunch. If you would like to meet us there, contact me.

You can earn a merit mark for doing five Vessel Safety Checks (VSC's). VSC's can only be done by us and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. This can be a fun job to see lots of different boats and meet people, and is a great way to inform the public who we are; so I want to continue to grow this as well. We can always use more Vessel Examiners, which is another good way to get involved. McKenna's Fundraiser Night is May 11th . We get 10% of the proceeds for all sales from 5-8 pm. Please get everyone you know to join us. This is good for us and for Mckenna's, who has graciously provided us with this opportunity. We will have the Executive Committee Meeting there right after dinner and all members are welcome to attend that as well. PLEASE BE THERE!

(CONTINUED)

COMMANDER'S REPORT CONTINUED

I am planning a trip to the River Grille on the Tomoka on Memorial Day, May 25th . Anyone that would like to follow me to learn the safest way to navigate there by boat, is welcome to contact me for more info. I may also have some space on my boat if you would like to ride along.

Some have asked about going to the Conch House Restaurant, so I am tentatively planning that trip for June 13th. We can pick another date if needed. If you have suggestions for other outings, we will be working on our calendar at the Executive Meeting at McKenna's. You are encouraged to join in the discussion.

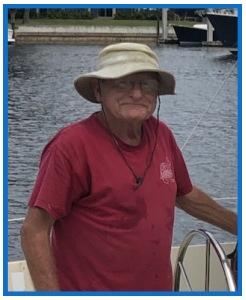
I look forward to seeing everyone at the next dinner meeting and don't forget the Lucky Star is up to $275. Don't miss it. Until then, God Bless and Happy Sails to you.
Commander Jeff Wise SN.

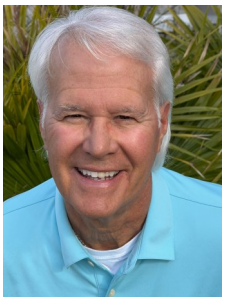
Respectfully Submitted: Cdr Jeff Wise, SN

This is a photo of our ASEO, P/C Don Roman, with members of our most recent ABC 3 Class. Thanks to Don and Tom Leitzel for all you do to teach Boating Safety to members of our community.

Education Officers

SEO P/C Will Benny, SN
ASEO P/C Don Roman, AP
ASEO Tom Leitzel, P





As of April 29, we are listed with 83 VSC this year, but not all our VSC exams have been recorded. Thanks to the efforts of CDR Wise, we were able to do VSCs on Freedom Boat Club boats in Daytona Beach on 26 April. This is really significant growth to our program.

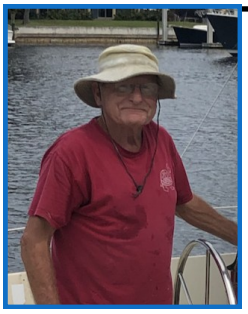
There are still lots of opportunities to help promote and improve our squadron. We need folks to help with public relations, developing relationships with local boating businesses and brokers; and a few more instructors to expand our education programs for our members and the public.

At our April Dinner, members indicated which seminars they were most interested in. The top results are listed below. **If you** have an educational interest, please let your executive committee know, or send an email, text or voicemail to Don Roman, andanteroman@mac.com(386)-453-6456.

3 VOTES	CPR	Weather for Boaters	Tides and Currents
2 VOTES	Modern Weather Forecasting		Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes
	All About VHF DSC Marine Radio		
1 VOTE	AIS Electronics for Boaters		Boating with Confidence

Lastly, summer is approaching and hurricane season starts in June. May and June are the months to review and prepare your hurricane plans and procedures. Safe passages… Don R

Respectfully Submitted: ASEO P/C Don Roman, AP



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

P/C Don Roman, AP

Check out our calendar of upcoming events on the first page of the Beachcomber. Those items listed as TENTATIVE are still in the planning stages by Commander Jeff Wise. Information on those will be forthcoming when finalized. Please contact Admin Officer P/C Don Roman at (386)453-6456 or andanteroman@mac.com with questions about the other activities and to RSVP for the squadron dinner meetings. We hope you will be able to participate in the many activities planned for you

Respectfully Submitted: P/C Don Roman, AP

Treasurer
Lt/C Luc Labreche

Our Treasury is strong and all bills are paid. We will finaliize transitioning extra cash into CD's. Zelle program is working well. Use info below to send funds to our squadron Treasury.

Code for funds to our squadron → abcdb.usps@gmail.com

The code is case-sensitive, so capital letters and punctuation matter.

Respectfully Submitted: L/C Luc Labreche

Secretary
D/L/C Sharon Neitzey

Please contact me (sneitzey@aol.com or 386-290-1243) with any corrections or questions regarding the current minutes or Beachcomber Newsletter. Also, let me know if you have photos or news that you feel should be included in our Beachcomber. Please send photos to Christine Zahornacky at gandczee@gmail.com. We will need all information and photos for the June edition of the Beachcomber by May 25.

Respectfully Submitted: L/C Sharon Neitzey

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DISTRICT 23 NEWS

The D23 Spring Picnic was held at Herschel Walker Park in Flagler on April 25. It was a beautiful day. Thank you to D23 Bridge for all the arrangements, to Elmer Bakalla and Paul Martines for the cooking, to Jeff Wise for the boat rides, and to all who joined us for the day.

Life Vest Photo and boat rides are traditions at the D23 Picnic.

The annual Jacksonville River Cruise will be coming up on June 26-28. The cruise is held on the St. John's River. Jacksonville Squadron welcomes participants from other D23 squadrons. Contact D/C Mark Adams for information .

Don't forget that the D23 Fall Conference will be held in Cocoa Beach October 16 ,17, 2026. Preview flyer is attached on p. 9. Hope to see lots of Daytona members there.

DISTRICT 23 FALL CONFERENCE—OCTOBER 16-17, 2026

Friday Night: October16, 2026

ISLAND TIME
Dolphins Waterfront Bar and Grill at Cape Crossing
310 Lagoon Way
Merritt Island, Florida

Put on your Hawaiian shirts and enjoy a buffet dinner with live music.

Cost: $35.00/per person
Reservations Required

Saturday: October 17, 2026

D23 FALL CONFERENCE
Host: America's Boating Club Cocoa Beach

Brevard Veteran's Memorial Center
400 South Sykes Creek Parkway
Merritt Island, Florida, 3295
Gray Hall Conference Room

Morning Registration:
8:00 AM: Coffee and doughnuts will be available.

D23 Council
8:30 AM – 10:30 AM

N Club
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

12:00 Noon Lunch:

BBQ Buffet: $22.00/person: Reservations Required

Fall Conference Meeting:
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS

Cal Gordon **Luc Labreche**

Becky Roman **Peter Singh** **Tom Leitzel**

Sherry Martines **anielle Heath-Jones**

Happy birthday to you.

Happy birthday to you.

Happy birthday dear squadron members.

Happy birthday to YOU!!!

Lucky Star

Lucky Star Winner

SADLY, THE VAN DYKES WERE NOT AT OUR APRIL MEETING FOR THEIR $250 WINNINGS, SO OUR LUCKY STAR DRAWING ROLLS OVER AGAIN THIS MONTH. THE POT OF $275 WILL BE DRAWN AT OUR MAY DINNER MEETING. REMEMBER, YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.

DON'T MISS OUT!

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UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

MEMBER BENEFITS

Your membership is your ticket to savings.

SAVE WITH OUR PARTNERS

- Members Only Boat Insurance
- Members Only Boating Courses
- Boat Parts and Accessories
- Electronic Flares
- Boat Financing
- Home Mortgages
- 24/7 Boat Monitoring
- On-Water Towing
- Rental Cars
- Prescription Discounts
- Pet Insurance

and much much more!

For more information, visit our website
AmericasBoatingClub.org/Benefits

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Do you know your benefits as a member of America's Boating Club?

Go to the National Website to find out!

The link is https://www.usps.org/departments/14000/14500-member-benefits

*You will need your membership number (on your membership card) to Log In.

NEWLY ADDED BENEFITS

Ditch Navigation | AI-Powered Navigation App
(Use promo code BOAT2025 to activate your FREE 1-year subscription)

JUST ADDED

Your certificate # is your key to unlocking great savings. New benefits are added frequently so be sure to check back often!

https://ditchnavigation.com/americasboatingclub

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
For Boaters, By Boaters®

DAYTONA BEACH FL

"Come for the boating & Education---- And Stay with Friends"

Don't Miss Out!

Our Daytona Beach Sail and Power Squadron America's Boating Club partners with the USCG Auxiliary in providing FREE Courtesy Vessel Safety Checks for those who wish to ensure that their boat meets USCG (and State) requirements.

Our examiners are trained and ready to perform these valuable exams for the boat owner's benefit. Unlike the FL Sheriff, FWC, or USCG that conduct law enforcement boardings," our Vessel Safety Checks are simply intended to help you meet USCG requirements.

The Decals indicate to all that you are a concerned, conscientious boater who ensures your boat is ready, safe, with required equipment.

To schedule a Vessel Safety Check, you can contact one of our Vessel Examiners:

Will Benny	386-265-5180	New Smyrna Beach/Edgewater
Tim Henke	352-483-6000	Lake Marion/Seminole Co
Paul Martines	386-265-5180	Daytona Beach/Holly Hill
Tom Leitzel	704-591-6558	New Smyrna Beach/Port Orange
Ron Radford	515-236-8206	Palm Coast/Flagler
Don Roman	386-453-6456	Ormond Beach/Daytona Beach
Jeff Wise	386-299-4536	Daytona Beach/Port Orange
John Demaye	724-462-5330	Daytona Beach/Port Orange

We will meet you at your home, boat ramp, boat storage, or a parking lot convenient for you. Call and arrange your VSC: 386-453-6456 or any of the above numbers.

Display of numbers Registration/Documentation Personal Flotation Devices (PFD) Backfire Flame Control Pollution Placard Navigation Rules Fire Extinguishers Sound Producing Device MAR POL Trash Placards Navigation Lights Ventilation Visual Distress Signals (VDS) Engine Cutoff Switch (ECS) Overall Condition Trash Management Plan. Note: Requirements vary by Boat's Class

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

For Boaters, By Boaters®

WWW.ABCDB.CLUB

America's Boating Club Daytona Beach

Website:	abcdaytonabeach@gmail.com	Facebook
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SPONSORS

Jeff & Cathy Wise
Atlantic Marine, Pt. Orange
Aaron Kilman Jewelers

Frank & Sharon Neitzey
Aloha Marine, Holly Hill
McKenna's, Pt. Orange

A huge shout-out to Aaron Kilman Jewelers for their continued generous support of America's Boating Club.

We are always looking for new sponsors for our worthy organization. It is time to renew. Squadron Members who wish to appear on our Sponsor Page should give your $20 donation to our treasurer, Luc LaBreche. Thank you.

A NOTE TO OUR READERS...

As the editors of this newsletter,
we welcome your input on articles in the newsletter
or suggestions for materials that you would like to see
included in future issues.

This newsletter is one of the primary tools used by the squadron to communicate with its members.

Please review the articles and meeting flyers included and join us for classes and events announced.

Each of us can play an important role in the success of our squadron. Please feel free to contact us or e-mail us.

Sharon Neitzey and Christine Zahornacky

sneitzey@aol.com ***gandczee@gmail.com***

Please submit any information or photos for the May

Publication to us by ***May 25.***

Send info to Sharon Neitzey and photos to Christine Zahornacky.

****Members please note that .pdf files submitted to the editors are not grammatically correctable.*

*However, Microsoft Word and Publisher files are correctable.****

Photos should be in .jpeg format.

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

TENTATIVE CALENDAR FOR 2026

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DECEMBER	**10:Executive Committee, HRYC, 7 p.m.**
	TBA: HOLIDAY PARTY

Come join us for our next activity. Call Don Roman to RSVP 386) 453-6456.

Website:

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abcdaytonabeach@gmail.com

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