

Set Sail for a Great Year of Boating!

I always like to ask the question, “**Done any boating lately?**” After emerging from a stretch of snow and an unusually cold winter for our area, I think I know the answer. But with warmer days ahead and summer just around the corner, it's time to gear up for another great boating season!

Exciting Cruises on the Horizon

Our cruise planners have been hard at work crafting an excellent lineup of trips for this year. We're introducing **Low Country Cruises**—formerly known as Magellan Cruises—a new program focused on **short, local excursions** designed to enhance navigational skills and highlight beautiful nearby spots that you might not explore on your own. And for those looking for more adventure, **our thrilling Adventure Cruises** will take you to even more spectacular destinations. Oh, the places you will go! These will be published on the ABCHH.ORG website. Sign up early when the invitations arrive, otherwise you may end up on a waiting list.

Boating Education: A Must for Every Mariner

Enhancing your boating knowledge is one of the best ways to ensure safety and confidence on the water. We encourage all members to take advantage of our **boating classes**, which cover essential skills, safety protocols, and advanced navigation techniques. Stay tuned for the latest class schedule!

District 26 Spring Conference – Don't Miss It!

Mark your calendars! Our squadron is proud to host the **District 26 Spring Conference at the Sonesta Resort, February 28 – March 2**. A highlight of the event will be two **Low Country Cruises** on March 1, leading up to the afternoon business meeting. One trip will circumnavigate Hilton Head Island, and the other will cruise through the serene waters of Bull Creek.

Right now, the **Hilton Head Island cruise** is the top choice among participants. However, if ocean conditions don't cooperate, we'll pivot to the scenic cruise along **Bull Creek**. A huge **thank you** to all the boat captains who have volunteered to host passengers for these fantastic trips!

Fundraising & Silent Auction – Your Help Needed

The D26 Conference also presents a great opportunity to raise **funds for our squadron**. We'll have a **silent auction, a 50/50 raffle, and other fundraising activities** to support our programs.

We're still looking for **silent auction contributions**, and here's where you come in:

- Have a **wine collection**? Consider bundling a few bottles in a gift basket.

- Are you a **woodworker, artist, jeweler, or crafter**? Donate one of your handcrafted pieces!
- Team up with fellow members to put together a **themed basket** for auction.
- Perhaps you have something else, such as boating equipment or other new merchandise that you think would be of interest to donate.

If you'd like to contribute, please contact **Debbie Dion** at debradion1028@gmail.com to arrange a pickup or delivery of your donation.

Let's Make This a Fantastic Year on the Water!

With exciting cruises, educational opportunities, and a wonderful community of boaters, 2025 is shaping up to be a fantastic year. We can't wait to see you out on the water!

Fair winds and following seas!