



## The ABC-R June 2020 eBlast

### Six Feet Apart, or Six Feet Under

#### Back in the Saddle Again

To quote the late Gene Autry (I'm sure most of you remember him). And the second verse in case you can't recall, "Out where a friend is a friend". OK, admit it, how many of you are humming right now? What a change has taken place over the last thirty days. Most boating restrictions are lifted, and the weather has transitioned into boating season. So here is my rendition: Back in the water, again. Out where my hearts, always been. {Sorry}

#### Grant and Alan Needed Guinea Pigs.....And Did You Ever Respond

Last month Grant Woodside (our Education Officer) requested 10 "volunteers" to attend his newly formulated Electronic Navigation course, and 19 of you responded. We've now completed two of the five slated classes.....and have we ever learned a lot.

Also last month, Alan Karpas, working with Julie Brown at the DNR, was asking for students to take the courses and test necessary to become certified to teach the Maryland Boats course. We had 8 students raise to the occasion, Alan Karpas, Gene Danko, Denise Allen, Paula Sind-Prunier, Julien Hofberg, Mike Collins, Dennis Krizek and Jeff M Kinney. Adding Paul Mermelstein, who was already instructor qualified, we now have 9 instructors certified to teach the course on behalf of ABC-R and the State of Md. What a tremendous success!!! And this creates a fantastic opportunity for ABC-R to reach potential new club members.

#### Seeking a Membership Chairperson

Speaking of which, Paula is seeking a Membership Chairperson. This is not a sales position, this person's job it to send information to those who are reaching out to us and inquiring about our club. If you can help, please email [excom@rspsonline.com](mailto:excom@rspsonline.com)

#### Its 5 O'clock Somewhere Virtual Happy Hour!

Our Virtual Happy Hours continue to be HUGE successes, so the program continues. The next virtual-gathering is this coming Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, from 5-6pm. You should have already received the Evite. As Fonzi says, "Be there or be square". Wow, am I reminiscing today....

We're also considering an Actual or Virtual Raft Up for our annual Father's Day event (June 20/21), stay tuned for details.

### **Virtual Boat Safety Checks.**

We're not quite ready to reactivate the Vessel Safety Examination (VSE) program due to social distancing. However, because above all else we are concerned about your boating safety, Julien's team of Vessel Examiners are willing to perform a "Virtual Boat Safety Inspection" on your boat. Granted it won't earn you the fancy sticker to indelibly glue to your mast or windshield, but it will give you a sense of safety as the VEs can run through the VSE checklist with you "virtually" and point out where you might have concerns. You can hold up your cell phone and show them the items as he runs through the checklist. My opinion, this is an awesome opportunity and we thank you Julien and all of the Vessel Examiners. If your care about your boat's safety, contact Julien at [julienp@comcast.net](mailto:julienp@comcast.net).

### **Membership Renewals.**

National advises that due to the pandemic, they are experiencing difficulties mailing printed dues invoices for June renewals. They request if your membership is up, please pay on line. You will need your certificate number, invoice number or PIN, which you can retrieve from the renewal page. The page also includes a link where life members can renew their DAN Boater member benefit. Go to: [www.usps.ort/dues/pay](http://www.usps.ort/dues/pay)

**This month's Trivia Question:** "This operation is not being planned with any alternatives. This operation is planned as a victory, and that's the way it's going to be." Who made this statement? Hint: There were 6,939 boats/vessels of various sizes involved in this operation.

### **Safe Boating!!**

View and share photos from ABCR events <https://www.flickr.com/photos/158352335@N04/albums>

PS Interesting factoid, I used the word "virtual" eight times in this eBlast. While in the June 2019 publication, I never used the word once.