



## THE HARBOR LIGHT



America's Boating Club of Greenwich - District 2

[Our website](#)

Volume 93 No. 46 NEWSLETTER September 2023



*Co-Commanders, Andy Cummings JN and Howard Sklar AP-IN (L-R above)*

### Report from Andy Cummings, JN:

As I write this article, summer of 2023 is winding down. This always seems to happen this time of year. ABC of Greenwich had a very active boating season. Be sure to look at the photos at the end of this newsletter. The aerial shot of *Lucky Two* was taken by John Hill's drone. Here are a few reflections on our events and activities.

Once again, my wife Julie and I had the pleasure of hosting our summer kickoff party. A sudden downpour abruptly forced us indoors, but with the help of many we moved food and bar into the house. This is one of my favorite events of the year and I look forward to doing this again in 2024.

With the help and support of Greenwich Harbor Master Paul Cappiali and our mooring vendor Justin Colombo, I was able to survey our mooring location and lay to rest much confusion about our mooring. We have approximately 7 feet of depth at low tide and are in the best available spot. You will have the opportunity to meet Paul September 20th when he is offering us a wine tasting and talking about our waterfront.

In June, I taught for the first time the Partner in Command seminar. This seminar focuses not only on procedures in the event the primary boat operator becomes indisposed, but also on knowledge helpful to make any passenger on a vessel a helpful participant. We plan to offer this seminar again June 22nd 2024.

This summer we continued the Sunset Sail program on Tuesday and Thursday nights. For me, sharing time on the water with friends and club members was the boating highlight of the summer. Many thanks to Andy Papademetriou for organizing this program and to the other captains that participated in this program.

District 2 held its summer meeting virtually. ABC of Greenwich was yet again awarded the Distinctive Communicator award for its *Harbor Light* newsletter. Many thanks to Susan Ryan for publishing this award winning newsletter, and to the contributors.

Our lobster party was a big success. Events like this look easy, but they are not. It took many people to make this event possible. Thanks to Joe Grieco, Rich Malloy, Vicki Malara, David Leisten, and others for doing everything necessary.

We had two raft-ups with the best turnout in recent memory, 7 boats at each event. Thanks to David Leisten for organizing our raft-ups and thanks to Joe and Marjorie Pucciarelli for serving as the anchor boat for both events.

Thanks to Joe Grieco and Meg Kelley, we have a stellar line up of speakers at monthly membership meetings this fall. Please look at our schedule at the end of this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you at these events.

Finally, I want to highlight another event this fall. With the efforts of Howard Sklar, we will be conducting a CPR/First Aid class on December 2nd. The class will be taught by Alan Karpas, an experienced instructor for this course. Alan will focus on first aid for common boating emergencies. So, even if you are already CPR and/or first aid trained this will be a very beneficial class.

Much will happen at ABC of Greenwich between now and the 2024 boating season, and I am looking forward to all of it.

---

### Report from the Educational Officer, Susan Ryan, JN

As a reminder, since [America's Boating Channel's](#) launch, its videos on very useful boating skills have been available for you to download for free at [bit.ly/USPSABC](https://bit.ly/USPSABC). There's an index to help you find what you want.

Thanks to Andy Cummings and his team of instructors, we are offering some popular classes over the next few months, so please tell your boating pals. All are open to the public, but there is limited space available.

- **Dec. 2** 9am - 5pm at Greenwich Police Headquarters, 11 Bruce Place, Greenwich  
**CPR/AED Certification.** Contact [GreenwichSquadron@gmail.com](mailto:GreenwichSquadron@gmail.com) for details.
- **Jan. 23** 7 - 9pm Greenwich Police Headquarters, over multiple Tuesday evenings.  
**Marine Navigation** [Register here](#) \$130 members, \$230 non members.
- **Mar. 16** from 9am - 5pm at Greenwich Police Headquarters, 11 Bruce Place, Greenwich.  
**Safe Boating Class** [Register here](#) \$95 (family discounts available.)
- **Jun 22** from 9am - 12noon at Mianus River Boat & Yacht Club, 98 Strickland. Cos Cob.  
**Partner in Command** [Register here](#) \$50 members \$90 non members.

*If you want to build a ship, don't drum up the men to gather wood, divide the work and give orders. Instead, teach them to yearn for the vast and endless sea..." - Antoine de Saint Exupery*

---

### Report from the Safety Officer, Howard Sklar, AP-IN

#### DSC - Digital Selective Calling

How many of us know what this is, or how to use it and when? DSC is a distress calling feature on most newer VHF radios. The DSC feature uses the Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) number that requires the boat owner to register for. A DSC call allows boaters to instantly send an automatically formatted distress signal to the Coast Guard and/or others anywhere in the world.

Remember you must register or update your MMSI information through either our own America's Boating Club, Boat US, or the FCC. Failing to register your MMSI information greatly impacts the Coast Guard SAR (Search & Rescue) response. What is MMSI anyway? It is a 9-digit number that uniquely identifies your boat from all others. It registers the boat giving the vessel's name, description, owner information etc.

Clearly an up to date MMSI database greatly reduces the USCG's and others' response time to locate your vessel's distress. MMSI registration takes the Search out of an SAR incident.

An interesting and concerning statistic: 60% of DSC distress calls used MMSIs that were either made up or from unregistered boaters. Interestingly enough, most of these distress calls were from vessels that had not undergone a Vessel Safety Check.

To schedule a vessel safety check, please contact our VSC Chair, Susan Ryan, at [GreenwichSquadron@gmail.com](mailto:GreenwichSquadron@gmail.com).

Acknowledgement to the US Coast Guard and the USPS America's Boating Club Safety Committee

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Watch your inbox for details or contact [GreenwichSquadron@gmail.com](mailto:GreenwichSquadron@gmail.com)

- Sep. 20 7pm at the Greenwich YWCA Paul Cappiali 'Wine Tasting and the Waterfront'
- Oct. 18 7pm at the Greenwich YWCA David Tunick, Atlantic Ocean solo sailor
- Nov. 15 7pm at the Greenwich YWCA Evan Ward 'Plastics in our Oceans'
- Dec. 15 7pm at the new Innis Arden Country Club, Old Greenwich - Holiday Party





America's Boating Club | Tomac Avenue, Old Greenwich, CT 06870

[Unsubscribe nspseducation@gmail.com](mailto:nspseducation@gmail.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by greenwichsquadron@gmail.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!