



America's Boating Club® of Lake MurraySM

Serving Central South Carolina since 1963 as

Lake Murray Power Squadron

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



The Log Jam

Volume 62, No. 3

Summer 2025 issue:

Power of One Campaign

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Power of One Campaign!

Who do you know that would be an active, fun and involved member? Invite a new member and earn rewards and recognition for our Squadron!

See page 9-10 for more details

Striper Fishing Fundraiser

We are still selling 200 raffle tickets for \$20 per ticket with all proceeds donated to ABC/Lake Murray in support of its non-profit mission.

Contact [Dennis Rankin](#) to purchase yours today!

Drawing will be held on **August 22**.

1st Prize: Chartered Striper Fishing Trip with Guide Captain Mike Glover - 3 max on boat (\$500 value)

2nd Prize: Abu Garcia 6500 Line Counter Reel with Ugly Stick 7.0 foot rod (\$250 value)

3rd Prize: 5-lb box of Egg Shell 2oz weights (\$50 value)

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Commander's Report

By Cdr Mike Charles, AP



Got caught in a 70 MPH wind on Lake Murray!

You read that line correctly. A 70 MPH wind caught my vessel and four others of America's Boating Club of Lake Murray (ABC Lake Murray), plus 10 sailboats engaged in the annual "all night sailboat race" out in the open with 30 minutes of warning.

The event began weeks earlier, when conversations began with members of the Lake Murray Yacht Racing Association (LMYRA) and the America's Boating Club of Lake Murray regarding the restoration of the once annual event called the "all night sailboat race" which, in the past, had included members of the area sailboat clubs racing with ABC Lake Murray providing the "mark" boats that the sailboats would sail around as part of the course.

Due to COVID, changes of leadership and the passing of time, this race had not happened for a couple of years. Old plans from years before included previous race course choices and GPS positions already plotted for the "mark" boats. The only thing needed was for racers to bring sailboats and ABC Lake Murray to bring power boats. Add a 10-knot breeze to assist the sailboats, organize the power boats, establish procedures, communication protocols and safety measures (like weather calls) and all parties had the ingredients for a race long enjoyed in years past.

The race would begin promptly at 1900 hours from the vicinity of the Columbia Sailing Club, progress past the Jim Spence Islands, make a turn north alongside the west shore of Goat Island and proceed approximately one mile and execute a 180 degree turn around the "Victor" mark.

This mark was formed by three boats – *Living Waters*, *Emily J* and *Airborne Lady Deuce*. Two additional vessels joined right at the beginning of the race: *One Morin and Done* and *One More*. The wind was 10 to 12 knots, and the air was good although there was some concern about the clouds forming to the west.

In about 45 minutes those clouds forming to the west became a menacing angry bulge of black and quickly began to stretch across the horizon from the north to the south. The LMYRA Race Director called on the phone to ask, "how does the weather look from your position. I can see nothing from here north of the dam, but the radar looks menacing." I handed the phone to Captain Tony Dodson who succinctly said, "you have 30 minutes before that storm hits and hits hard." Captain Dodson hands the phone back to me and in the next scant seconds the decision is made to abandon the race and advise all boats to seek safe harbor (per previously agreed safety procedures). The five mark boats pulled anchors, with two heading to their home docks and arriving safely, while three made flank speed to Flotilla Island.

It was *Emily J*, *Living Waters* and *Airborne Lady Deuce* coming from the west into the Flotilla dock in that order when the 70 MPH wind hit us with ferocity and velocity. *Airborne Lady Deuce's* skipper observed the instant change in the conditions as the previous two boats were now bucking against the dock and appeared exceedingly difficult to secure. The wind and intense rain were howling. With no safe method of putting *Airborne Lady Deuce* against the dock until the weather abated, she made way to a location just in the lee of Suzie Ebert Island where she rode out the angry storm until it blew through about 45 minutes later. Then, in a light breeze and twinkling lights ashore, she returned to the Flotilla docks and obtained docking assistance by the previous two skippers who secured the boats for the evening – happy to have another great boating adventure complete and with no major damage. The sailboats also eventually made it to their home ports safely. It was an evening to remember. We are already planning for next year!



Executive Officer's Report

By Lt/C John Klein, AP

Ensuring Safe Waters: ABC Lake Murray's Dedication to Navigation Aids

For anyone who enjoys the beauty and recreation of Lake Murray, safety on the water is paramount. A key component of that safety often goes unnoticed, working silently to guide boaters and prevent accidents: the lake's navigation aids. And at the heart of maintaining these crucial markers is the tireless work of **America's Boating Club of Lake Murray (ABC Lake Murray)**.

ABC Lake Murray plays a vital role in keeping Lake Murray's waterways safe by taking on the responsibility of maintaining the reference light system. Imagine navigating the lake at night without these lights! Several times a season, often under the moonlight, dedicated ABC Lake Murray members venture out on their boats to inspect all 33 reference lights and day markers, ensuring they are functioning properly and accurately positioned. This isn't a small undertaking; servicing these lights requires travel by both land and water, and the club even purchases and maintains a stock of specialized maintenance items. We extend a special thank you to **Lake Murray Country** for their invaluable support in reimbursing ABC Lake Murray for these essential specialized parts for the lights, further enabling this critical safety work. We'd also like to express our gratitude to the **Nautical Boat Club** for generously loaning a pontoon boat, which is instrumental in carrying out this vital work.



The work of ABC Lake Murray members in maintaining these navigation aids is a testament to their commitment to civic service and the safety of all who enjoy Lake Murray. Their volunteer efforts directly prevent accidents, facilitate efficient navigation, and ensure that our beautiful lake remains a safe and enjoyable destination for everyone. If you've ever wondered who keeps those lights shining or those markers looking good, now you know: it's the dedicated members of America's Boating Club of Lake Murray, making a real difference, one navigation aid at a time.





Safety Officer's Report

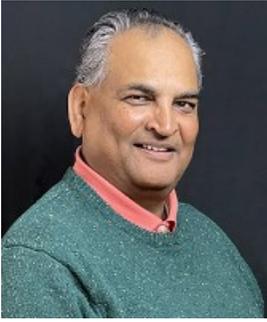
By P/C Jerry Wise, SN

My boat just bit me

The young couple and their little two-year-old toddler were having a great time just tooling around the lake. After a couple hours riding in the open water they decided to cruise over to a friend's dock and drop by for a visit. The friend's dock was older but in good condition with ample cleats for dock lines and solid deck structure. Nothing to be concerned about. As they approached the dock the father eased into a perfect alignment alongside and stepped onto the dock to secure the dock lines. The mother lifted the toddler over to her husband and stepped onto the dock. As she did a piercing fire like pain hit her leg. Then her arm and neck. Screaming and looking over at her husband she saw he was flailing and yelling as he slapped the wasp off his daughter while being stung in numerous places himself. They both ran down the dock swiping at wasp while being well stung in the process. The wasp actually chased them into their friends screened porch where they finally got some relief. (The author was chased over a hundred yards by Yellow Jackets last year.) Amazingly the little girl, while at times having several wasp on her, did not receive a single sting. Not so lucky the mother and father. Neither was allergic to wasp and recovered from their numerous stings in a few days so all ended well.

Several docks over from the above incident something else unsuspected occurred. A family of two young girls, two of their friends, a young sister and father and mother were loading up for an afternoon of skiing and tubing. The young girls were jumping off the dock and having a great time playing and splashing. The father was making sure all life vests were appropriate and he had everything needed for skiing and tubing. As he was stowing one of the ski ropes his daughter, who had been swimming behind the boat, said "Dad, looks like one of our ski ropes is caught up in the motor." He said "ok, I'll get it fixed up" and jumped in. Wading around behind the boat he tilted the motor with the side switch and there was the brightly colored rope just visible down in the tilt mechanism. As he reached in to pull and work the rope out it hissed at him. A small copperhead snake was deeply entrenched in the wires and mechanics of the tilt mechanism. Not known for a love of snakes, the father exited the water in a manner that left no doubt the children should do the same. He later cranked the motor and let it run. With that, the snake decided to ease into the water and go somewhere else.

For many months of the year wildlife have free run of our lakes and rivers. Only during the Summer Season do we massively infringe on their habitat. For the most part we live well side by side. Unless of course we are in Alligator Country. When it comes to wasp and stinging things it often is hard to tell they are around. Look for several wasp flying in and out of enclosed spaces. You can bet there is a nest up in there. Snakes are opportunistic and may be anywhere around the water and even vegetation and buildings. Most of the time you will never know you just walked by a snake. Most are non-venomous. That being said, "most" should not be a comfort if you come up on one. Treat it with great respect and both of you should go your own way. "Most" of the time it will all end well but be cautious with them around your kids and family.



Administrative Officer's Report

By Lt/C K.T. Tripathi

As the Admin officer I would like to remind members that the best way to take advantage of being a member of America's Boating Club, Lake Murray is to Be Involved. Nationally, our programming is tops within America's Boating Club; in quality, quantity, and widely varied to accommodate the tastes of most members. Education and boating safety (learn boating from being a beginner to advanced, as well as teaching boaters to be better boaters), community involvement (Thornwell Day, Dam Swim, Sail Boat Racing), lake maintenance (Reference Lights, Island clean ups), and social events (Change of Watch, Christmas event, Fourth of July and many others).

C'mon, get involved and be an active member in making our club an even better club. Get educated or educate others. Be a part of improving our community by being involved in community events. Help with setting up and cleaning up with events. Get to know more people. Get access to an awesome networking capability.

It is your club and it will be as good as we make it. Your involvement and participation is crucial for a successful club. You will have fun, too!

Get engaged and involved and let's have a great 2025!

Food & Fun	LM Cruises	Cruises	Lake Fun
Commander's Breakfast September 6	Big Man's July 27	Congaree River (original date of August 9 is being rescheduled)	Lake Day for Thornwell Children July 26
	Reference Light Cruise September 26	Charleston to Beaufort/HH August 22-25	Log Jam #4 August 16
		Congaree August 9	Lake Murray Dam Swim September 13
		D26 Cruise and Rendezvous September 11-14	Overnight Raft up September 27



Educational Report

By Lt/C Brian Warman



I have a proposition to the membership that we jump start on completing the BOC – Boat Operator Certification learning tracks, targeting Inland Navigator as we have many new members. The Certification is comprised of 4 main tracks, each building upon the previous track - Inland Navigator (IN), Coastal Navigator (CN), Advanced Coastal Navigator (ACN), Offshore Navigator (ON). This is a multi-year educational track. Many of the current members have completed some if not all of the courses. For those of us that have started and not completed your older completed course may still be valid and we can review on a case-by-case basis.

I am seeking suggestions from the members on what Core and Elective courses are of interest. Depending on the class and participation we may have multiple concurrent classes during the Fall and Spring sessions.

Most if not all the established members have completed a NASBLA – approved boating course which is step 1 for all tracks. Congratulations on starting your journey! More ABC Courses will be made available if you haven't completed the required class for membership, and you can always complete it online if that is your preference.

For Inland Navigator (IN)

There are 3 more core classes after the NASBLA approved class:

- Boat Handling
- Engine Maintenance
- Marine Electrical Systems

4 required electives (Seminars\Webinars) these electives also have equivalents and substitutions.

- CHT – How to Use a Chart - This requirement may also be met by completing the 16-hour America's Boating Course (i.e., the course that includes chart navigation work), the new Marine Navigation course which is the first step on the Coastal Navigator (CN) or the Chart Smart seminar.
- VHF – VHF Radio & VHF/DSC Marine Radio
- GPS – Using GPS
- WF – Onboard Weather Forecasting (we all can probably do better than WIS this year).

We will be reviewing the records for those that have completed the above and need to perform the Skills demonstrations for BPH Basic powerboat handling and FE Fire Extinguishers.

Please forward your class preferences to SEO@LMPSONLINE.ORG. We will also be sending a survey of the Inland Navigator courses to be offered. For those that have completed (IN) please sign up to help teach or proctor those that are working to complete (IN).

Many of these courses can be delivered virtually so if you are not able to participate locally at our fantastic Flotilla Island, you are still encouraged to seek out opportunities online through other Chapters offering classes in a format that works for you. We are lucky to have the island and support of Dominion Energy to help us promote Boater Safety Education. Have fun and boat safely!

Boating Activities Report

By Lt/C Tyler Williams, S

As boating activities chairperson. I would like to update the membership with recent activities and future events. I will start with our first event which was the shake and break tie up. The club had 13 boats and 26 members attend this event with several boats bringing guests.

Our second event was the overnight raft up which had 6 boats and 12 people with a Sunday morning worship on the lake.

Our third event was the first Log Jam preceded by Flotilla Friday meatball subs that was a huge success with 38 members attending. The Log Jam the following day had 15 boats and 27 members plus guests.

Our fourth event was Log Jam number two hosted by the Brownings with a theme of Jamaican Me Crazy where the Brownings and the Morins offered Jamaican-inspired food. This event was attended by 19 boats and 31 members plus several guests along with a couple non-member boats.

By the time this article is posted we will have had four more events, including the charity dam run with the high performance boats on June 21 followed by a lunch-in at Nacho Margarita's on Sunday June 22.

The Third event was Log Jam number three hosted by the Troutwine's on July 5, which was preceded by a Flotilla Friday spaghetti dinner and fireworks. Then, on July 18, a reference light check was scheduled following sunset.

Future events:

- ◆ July 26 Thornwell Children's Day on the Lake, during which Flotilla facilities will be closed to member use until the children leave late afternoon.
- ◆ July 27 Big Man's Cruise and lunch-in
- ◆ August 9 Congaree River Cruise — V/C David Allen needs to reschedule this for later in the season — watch your email and our Google Calendar for an update.
- ◆ August 16 Log Jam #4 hosted by Fred Ruinen
- ◆ August 22-25 will be our 25th Charleston to Hilton Head Cruise
- ◆ September 11-14 will be the D26 Cruise and Rendezvous, hosted by Golden Corner Lakes in Seneca
- ◆ September 13 Lake Murray Dam Swim
- ◆ September 26 Sunset Reference Light Cruise
- ◆ September 27-28 will be our final Overnight Raft-up

Above and Beyond Honorable Mention

The Bridge would like to take the time to acknowledge a few of our members who have gone “above and beyond” to assist the club with a couple of projects.

First – P/C Charlie Bruce and his wife Diane, repaired all the electrical posts out on our docks. The club’s responsibility was solely financial (we supplied the parts). They donated all their personal time to make sure all our users are safe when using the electrical outlets.

Second – Executive Officer John Klein obtained and installed a new flag for our flagpole. We have been working on this issue for a while, but due to some weight and size restrictions it has become a tedious task. Many thanks to John for finding a temporary resolution to this task and allowing us to proudly fly our USA flag.

New Benefit for Members!

Take your skills to the next level with Ditch, the AI-powered navigation app that helps you explore with confidence.

As a United States Power Squadron® member, you're eligible for a one year subscription, completely free! Use promo code BOAT2025

Ditch uses advanced technology and recent data to provide you with the safest and most efficient routes, helping you navigate unfamiliar waters.

- **Smart Path™:** Ditch uses billions of data points to generate smart auto-routing for your journeys
- **Historical AIS data:** See where other boaters have been to benefit from valuable local knowledge
- **Smart ETA:** Get accurate arrival times that factor in slower no-wake zones and channels
- **Live navigation view:** Enjoy real-time updates on your route, ETA, and SOG

<https://ditchnavigation.com/americasboatingclub>



Membership Recruiting Effort Underway

By Allan Lakin, National Secretary

America's Boating Club | United States Power Squadrons recently announced a renewal of "The Power of One" campaign, a membership recruiting effort started by late Past Chief Commander Ernest Marshburn, which encourages every member to bring in at least one new member.

At first, it looks like a daunting task. People don't join groups the way they used to. ABC | USPS membership has declined over the 35 years that I've been a member. The same issues affect my wife's Kiwanis chapter and my brother's Masonic lodge.

About five years ago, I was introduced to Robert Putnam's book "Bowling Alone," in which Putnam and his co-authors dig deep into a decades-long issue: Civic groups are shrinking. The book goes back to 1920 to see a multigenerational view. Civic group membership peaked between 1950 and 1960. By 1990, membership had returned to 1920 levels. Maybe we're not declining; maybe we're returning to our normal state.

Is it hopeless? Absolutely not. People still join community groups. The numbers are declining, but they have never gone to zero. Is there something that distinguishes joiners from non-joiners? Can we use that difference to improve our search? As a matter of fact, there is an important difference. According to Putnam, joiners are scarce. Just 5% to 7% of the U.S. adult population is active in a community group. That number has been steady for years. Furthermore, it turns out that being already active in one group is a strong predictor for being willing to become active in another. If you're a joiner, you're really a joiner.

That revelation caught my attention. It's Marketing 101: Hershey sells candy bars to people who already buy candy bars. 95% of Americans don't join groups. Let's look for the 5% who do. We can test that notion by looking at ABC | USPS members we already know. Do we have multiple interests and memberships? We sure do! Almost everyone I know is an ABC | USPS member and a member of another organization. We volunteer at food pantries. We coach and referee youth sports. We serve on our church vestries and our homeowner association boards. We join fraternal lodges, Coast Guard Auxiliary flotillas and yacht clubs.

Your own group-joining habits probably have deep roots. Maybe you were a Little Leaguer, Pop Warner football player, soccer player, Scout or a 4-H'er. Ten years later you joined a fraternity or a veterans' organization, cleaned up beaches and planted trees on Earth Day. Ten years after that, you were a homeroom mom, cubmaster and a field trip chaperone. Today's jobs are just your current stage in a long succession.

To return to the candy bar metaphor, do people already have too many candy bars—are joiners already too busy? The answer to that question gave me the last piece of the puzzle. I flashed back to the "busy person rule" I'd learned in 1966.

I was the junior assistant scoutmaster in my church's Scout troop. We needed a new scoutmaster. None of our fathers was willing to take the job. When the youth pastor listed several congregation members he would ask, I protested. Why would any of them step up to deal with a dozen rowdy 11- to 14-year-olds? → People still join community groups. The numbers are declining, but they have never gone to zero. "

Brother Novak smiled and said something I've never forgotten: "When you've got to get something done, ask a busy person." Or, as Putnam would put it, "If you want a new member, give a job to a busy person from another organization." Continued...

Membership Recruiting continued...

Imagine using this information in “The Power of One” campaign:

Sell candy to candy buyers. People who have joined groups tend to join still more groups.

Ask a busy person. People who have been getting things done in groups want to continue getting things done in groups.

Build your prospecting list. I joke that our best clues will be the bumper stickers saying, “I was an Eagle Scout” or “Proud hockey mom.” (If it says, “I was a Sea Scout,” even better.) The bumper sticker will be sitting right above the trailer hitch. You’ve just found a boater (is there any other use for a trailer hitch?) with a favorable experience in a social group.

One more thing: When you find a joiner, sprinkle some coconut on that candy bar. Tell them that we are their kind of people because we love to mess about in boats with other boaters. My elevator speech has changed.

I have it oriented toward that precious 5% to 7% of busy people I would like to have in my club: “What is America’s Boating Club | United States Power Squadrons? It’s about community service and fellowship on the water. Tell me about your community, and I’ll tell you about mine.”

About the author: Vice Commander Allan W. “Al” Lakin is a life and sustaining member with 33 merit marks. He joined Valley Ho Power Squadron/13 in 1990, transferring to The Valley Sail & Power Squadron as a charter member in 2008. Currently, he is squadron educational officer. Al is a past squadron commander of Valley Ho, past district commander of District 13, and has served on seven national committees with two nonconsecutive terms as chair of the Rules Committee. A retired manufacturing executive, he holds a bachelor’s degree in chemistry and a master’s degree in plastics engineering from MIT and a Juris Doctor from Loyola Law School. He is an inactive (retired) member of the California bar. Al lives in the Encino district of Los Angeles with his wife, Sandra, and has two adult children.

The Power of One Campaign is underway, and we’re calling on you to help grow America’s Boating Club, one member at a time!

Every member you recruit earns you credit toward individual rewards. We’re talking national recognition, exclusive prizes, and bragging rights. The more you bring in, the more you take home!

Why participate?

- ◆ Help grow your local squadron.
- ◆ Keep our boating community vibrant.
- ◆ Earn recognition and rewards along the way!

Let’s make this our biggest year yet!

One Member Can Make a Difference. That Member is You.

Who will you bring aboard?

April-June Event Highlights





First Mate Day

Fifteen ladies spent a beautiful day on the water building confidence and essential boating skills at our 2025 Ladies Day Training event.

Participants rotated through hands-on stations focused on basic first aid, VHF radio use, knot tying, docking, and the use of flares, all taught in a relaxed supportive setting. Whether trying something for the first time or brushing up on old skills, everyone walked away with new knowledge and more confidence.

The day wrapped up with a barbecue dinner prepared by our LMPS men.

P/C Tim Barnhill passed out certificates of completion to all the participants.

Special thanks to P/C, paramedic, and fire fighter Jay Strohecker for teaching the basic first aid and use of tourniquets, P/C Captain Mike Kirk for his VHF expertise, P/C Tim Barnhill, Lt/C John Klein, Tow boat USA Rick Kahn for teaching proper docking skills, Lt/C KT Tripathi and members David Cook, and Tommy Clawson for teaching knots and proper use of flares, and P/C RJ Becht for helping out wherever we needed him. These men truly made this day possible.

Special thanks to District 26 for recognizing First Mate Day with a monetary award that was used to buy important first aid supplies for our facility. This year with the first aid theme in mind we purchased a life vac to aid if a member is choking and a first aid kit for our building. We have already utilized the first aid kit so again THANK YOU for our award.



July-September Activities

For ABC/Lake Murray Members and Invited Guests

(All activities at Flotilla Island unless otherwise noted)

July

26 — Thornwell Children's Day on the Lake

27 — Big Man's Cruise and lunch-in

August

9 — Congaree River Cruise — being rescheduled, watch for updates

16 — Log Jam #4 hosted by Fred Ruinen

22-25 — Charleston to Hilton Head Cruise

September

11-14 — D26 Cruise and Rendezvous, hosted by Golden Corner Lakes

13 — Lake Murray Dam Swim

26 — Sunset Reference Light Cruise

27-28 — Season's final Overnight Raft-up

Check our online [calendar](#) for upcoming events. You also will find other resources and information on our website at LMPSonline.org

Follow us on our Members-Only Facebook page [Lake Murray Happenings | Facebook](#) for the latest news and on our public Facebook page [America's Boating Club of Lake Murray!](#)

Together, we can continue to make our club a thriving and welcoming space for everyone.

D26 Cruise and Rendezvous



Hosted by America's Boating Club®
Golden Corner Lakes, Seneca, South Carolina

September 11-14, 2025

We are excited to invite you to the 2025 District 26 Cruise and Rendezvous, hosted by America's Boating Club – Golden Corner Lakes (GCL)! Nestled in the scenic foothills of South Carolina, our club is located on the beautiful Lakes Keowee and Hartwell, making this the perfect setting to celebrate the end of summer and the beginning of fall.

Weekend Highlights:

Thursday, September 11 – Welcome Celebration at Jazz on the Alley

Friday, September 12 – Choose Your Adventure

After breakfast at the hotel, enjoy one of several exciting daytime activities:

- Two distinct boating excursions
- A tour of stunning local gardens
- A guided hike to a picturesque waterfall
- Cap the day with social time and dinner back at the hotel with fellow attendees.

Saturday, September 13 – Lake Keowee Fun & Dockside Dinner

Spend the day out on the water with a boating scavenger hunt across Lake Keowee, followed by optional swimming and a laid-back dinner dockside at a member's home. It's the perfect way to soak up lake life and make new memories.

Sunday, September 14

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, or on your own, and then off you go! We look forward to your return to our neck of the woods, soon. Safe travels.

Lodging & Logistics:

We've reserved a block of rooms at the **Fairfield Inn, Seneca**, at a special rate of **\$119 per night + tax**, including continental breakfast. Reservations can be canceled up to 48 hours before check-in without penalty. Book your room here: [Reservation-Link](#)

Trailing a boat or jet ski? No problem—we'll provide a secure area for your watercraft during your stay. For more information, contact Brian Hackley at (864) 784-2551 or hackley1@gmail.com.

[Register today!](#)

Understanding Marine Batteries seminar

America's Boating Club | United States Power Squadrons is launching a new seminar on marine batteries. [Introduction to Marine Batteries](#) is designed to help boaters of all experience levels understand batteries and basic DC circuit concepts, ensuring they can maintain reliable power while on the water. From selecting the right battery to battery installation and long-term care, this seminar provides essential knowledge to keep a boat's marine electrical systems running smoothly.

Whether you're looking to enhance your knowledge for weekend boating or want to gain confidence in the DC system on your power or sail boat, this seminar will provide the tools needed to keep your vessel powered and efficient.

What to expect from the marine battery seminar

This seminar provides a practical understanding of marine batteries and how they fit into a boat's marine electrical systems. The knowledge gained will help prevent power failures, extend battery life, and improve overall efficiency. Expert-led instruction, hands-on demonstrations, and troubleshooting exercises will ensure attendees leave with essential skills related to their marine batteries. Marine batteries are one of the most overlooked yet essential components of a boat.

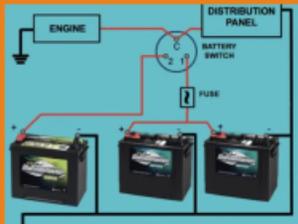
Many boaters are familiar with fueling and [engine maintenance](#) but may not fully understand the intricacies of their vessel's marine electrical systems. A failing or improperly maintained battery can lead to unexpected power loss, affecting everything from engine startups to emergency communications.

This seminar was created to address these challenges and provide boaters with hands-on training in marine battery maintenance. By attending, participants will gain expert insight into battery selection, charging techniques, and proper marine battery installation to maximize performance and longevity.

- **Understanding different marine batteries' chemistries:** Learn the key differences between lead-acid, AGM, and lithium-ion batteries and determine which best suits your vessel's needs.
- **Battery lifespan and replacement:** Recognize when it's time for a new battery, the factors that shorten battery life, and how to test battery health before issues arise.
- **Proper charging and marine battery maintenance:** Discover best practices for charging marine batteries, how to avoid overcharging or undercharging, and strategies to extend battery life.
- **Marine battery installation and troubleshooting:** Gain insights into secure battery installation, proper wiring techniques, and how to diagnose and resolve common electrical issues.
- **Real-world scenarios and expert Q&A:** Participate in troubleshooting exercises and interactive discussions with industry experts to address specific concerns about your boat's marine electrical system.

By the end of this [marine battery seminar](#), boaters will have the confidence and technical knowledge to properly maintain their marine batteries, ensuring smooth, reliable, and worry-free boating experiences. –

Mitch Anderson



Introduction to Marine Batteries

Learn the ins and outs of marine batteries before leaving the dock. Take the "Introduction to Marine Batteries" seminar from America's Boating Club today.

[Enroll Now](#)

Membership Dues Increase

On March 29 at the business meeting held as part of our annual Shake ‘N Break event, a dues increase was proposed and unanimously approved after having been circulated by email to the entire squadron membership. A quorum was present for the Executive Committee’s presentation of the need for an additional \$50 to cover significant increases in squadron expenses, especially insurance. The new dues structure shown in the chart below is effective June 1, 2025.

	Single Active Member	Family Membership	Apprentice/Sea Scouts
National.....	\$60.00.....	\$90.00.....	\$12.00
District 26.....	\$12.00.....	\$18.00.....	\$0.00
Lake Murray.....	\$116.00.....	\$140.00.....	\$20.00
Total	\$188.00.....	\$248.00.....	\$32.00

Don't have FOMO

Follow us on our Members Only Facebook page [Lake Murray Happenings | Facebook](#) so you know where to meet for raft-ups and other fun events.



A new group [The Resilience Group](#) was created to promote friendship and personal growth. Allow connection to others with similar interests including activities, crafts, shows and events and also allow opportunities to give back. [Join](#) today!



The Ship's Store



Many are sporting their new ABC apparel and gear! Don't be left out of cool boat and float ware! Don't see what you are looking for? We can take special orders in size or type of apparel and the sky is the limit on what is in the catalog!

Call Heidi to see what is in stock or place an order 518-726-0003



Makes a great gift!



Treat yourself!

America's Boating Club of Lake Murray
is on the web:
<https://lmpsonline.org>

Log Jam Editor

Send content ideas and photos!

Email the Editor

Lt Diane Urban at

baysidedi@gmail.com



Articles, opinions, and advertisements do not necessarily reflect America's Boating Club/USPS policy or endorsements.



America's Boating Club® of Lake MurraySM

Serving Central South Carolina since 1963 as

Lake Murray Power Squadron

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



Bridge Officers

2025

Commander: Cdr Mike Charles, AP (commander@lmpsonline.org)

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