Commander’s Report

STAYING CONNECTED

As Tennessee continues to struggle with COVID cases, it is hard for us to stay connected. We have canceled every event for the past 6 months, with the exception of a couple of raft offs. I miss seeing all of you, and hearing about your activities. I miss our dinner meetings, the cruise to Terrace View, the ice cream social, the salmon roast, and the predicted log. Our squadron calendar had been full, and it will be again!

I would like to welcome Dave and Peggy Crowden as our newest members to the club. The Crowdens live on Lake Tellico, with a pontoon boat and a jet ski. I am looking forward to introducing them, as well as our other new members, as soon as we feel it is safe to resume our activities.

We also have two new boats joining the Squadron. Dan and Chris Johnson have bought a 42ft Chris Craft Catalina, which is now on Lake Chickamauga. They are hoping to get it moved up to one of the marinas on Fort Loudon or Tellico Lake as soon as space becomes available. Ed and Beth Fendley are in the process of buying a 26 ft Larson Cabrio. The boat will be surveyed next week, and if all goes well it will soon be in it’s new home on Watts Barr Lake.

As you probably remember, Dave Kimball had his 46 foot Meridian brought up here from FL in March. He was recently was able to take the boat out by himself for the first time the other day. This is a huge milestone for someone whose first boat is so big. Congratulations!!
On another note it's time to start planning for our new bridge year of 2021. Many of the current bridge members will be retiring from their command. The nominating committee will be getting under way to find new volunteers. The nominating committee consists of Dan & Chris Johnson and Wayne Baker. Please consider stepping forward and volunteering for a position. It takes many volunteers to run the squadron, and we can use your talents and energy!

We are also looking for a new editor for the newsletter. Mike has been the editor for a long time, and his last publication will be in November. The “Now Hear This” is our primary means of communication and information sharing. This is not a difficult job and needs only limited computer skills. Please, we need someone to step forward and take this critical position.

Tom

ELECTED NON-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

AUDIT:
CHAIR: Walt Hanson
2 Year: John Richardson
3 Year: Barbara Richardson

NOMINATING:
CHAIR: Wayne Baker
2 Year: Dan Johnson JN
3 Year: Chris Johnson JN

RULES:
CHAIR: Hank Davis, JN
2 Year: Wayne Baker
3 Year: Jean Armes

PORT CAPTAIN: WATTS BAR LAKE
Robert McConnel, SN

PORT CAPTAIN: FT LOUDOUN LAKE
P/C James C. Barkley, SN

PORT CAPTAIN: TELLICO LAKE
Mike Scher, AP

APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND OFFICERS

MEMBERSHIP
David Kimbell, S

EDUCATION
SEO: Lt/C Donald A. Perrine, JN
Asst. CEO: Capt John Farmer, AP

SAFETY
P/D/C Michael P. Scher, AP

PROMOTIONS
Dan Johnson, JN

SQUADRON HISTORIAN
P/C Bob Bray

VESSEL SAFETY CHECK
P/C Bob Mattison, S

LEGISLATIVE LIASION
P/C Chuck Smith, P

ROSTER & CALLING COMMITTEE
Linda Sunstrom

ABC CLASS COORDINATOR
Capt John Farmer, SN

MERIT MARK
Jeanette Farmer, P

WEBMASTER
Josh Kaczmarczvk

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Mike McCarthy, S

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Mike McCarthy, S
Administrative Report - September

As COVID19 continues to dominate our social lives, we are reviewing our Squadron event schedule month by month. As you know, circumstances related to the virus have not changed appreciably in the last month. The infection rate in the area has not improved significantly, it appears that most new infections come from “gatherings” where it is not practical to wear masks (like ours), and there is no vaccine yet available. For these reasons, the bridge has decided to cancel the Salmon Roast/Predicted Log/ Ice Cream Social event for September 18-20.

The good news is that the Dietrichs will be leading a down river cruise to the Chattanooga area in mid September. See Tom’s report on that event if you may be interested in participating.

As reported in the August Mid Month Blast, the much rescheduled BoatRides4Vets event has been cancelled for this year. Expect it to take place in late Spring 2021.

Watch the Mid Month Blast and NHT for news on events scheduled for October and beyond.

Please welcome:

Dave and Peggy Crowden

as our newest members to the club. The Crowdens live on Lake Tellico, with a pontoon boat and a jet ski.
Currently Underway:

2020 Down River Cruise

September 21 - 27

We are trying, once again, to put together a down river cruise. We will be able to maintain social distancing, and do this safely. Please think about joining starting from Fort Loudon on Sept 21.

Sept 21st: We will start at Lenoir City Park and travel to Watts Bar Resort (Docks only). Boats that would like to have electricity will need to stay at Euchee.

Sept 22nd: Travel to lake Chickamauga and raft off in Harrison Bay.

Sept 23rd and 24th: Travel to Chattanooga. Spend two nights at Erwin Marina and explore Chattanooga.

Sept 25th: Travel down river through the “Tennessee River Gorge”. Raft out overnight.

Sept 26th: Travel back to Chickamauga and stay at Island Cove Marina.

Sept 27th: Head back to Fort Loudon.

If you are interested in joining us please let Tom & Marbeth know by Sept 7.
(tdietric1@aol.com)
It’s Merit Recommendation Time in September

Each year merit marks are awarded to people in America’s Boating Club who have preformed a significant amount of service for our Knoxville Club. This year has certainly been a tough year for external activities like Vessel Safety Checks and Club events. We need your help in making sure every qualifying hour of service is recognized. Recommended hours can include: attending meetings as an officer or official representative, teaching or proctoring a class, doing vessel safety checks, serving on a communications committee, serving as membership chairman, planning or working on a rendezvous, newsletter editor, website editor, audit committee work, law officer work, rules committee work, serving as a member at large on the executive committee, working a boat show (planning, setup, booth monitor, tear down) or similar activity. Generally, at least 12 creditable hours are required for award of a Merit Mark in any one year.

For the submission we need: names, tasks accomplished (must be specific! Not just “Served as, etc.”) and number of hours expended on each task. All committee chairmen need to submit data for members of their committee. We have not seen each other for quite a while, so be sure to submit personal hours to your committee chairman so he/she will have factual data to submit to the MM chairman. Submissions must be approved by our Squadron Commander before being forwarded to an area monitor and then on to the Chief Commander for final approval. Hours expended for the district are reported separately.

Please send all Club submissions to P/Lt/C Jeanette Farmer, P (Merit Mark Chairman) at matejeanette@gmail.com.
FORWARD LOOKOUT:

September

— 5 — BoatRides4Vets 9-5 Wind River Marina

10 - ABC Class 2 Test Louisville Town Hall

October

TBD - Piloting Course (see educational corner)

26 - Membership Dinner Meeting—Dietrich’s house?

31 - Color Cruise on Sea-Duction?
From Don

**ABC Course:** The second ABC course is being held now with a small number of students. The first two classes are online, while the last class is held at the Louisville Town Hall using COVID-safe practices. Our new method of teaching emphasizes reading and applied scenario homework assignments, followed by in-class discussion of the students’ reading assignment test questions and the assigned scenario application questions. This approach seems to be working very well, based on our excellent test results from the June course and our evaluation and feedback forms from that course.

The reason for conducting the current ABC course with a small number of students is to give Walt Hanson and Mike McCarthy, two of our newly certified instructors, an opportunity to lead and conduct this course. In addition, it enables us to accommodate these students who otherwise would be directed to other sources.

**Piloting Course:** For anyone interested to elevate both their boating ability and confidence in longer range boating or cruising, Tom Dietrich will be teaching the Piloting course. The course will cover knowing how to get from point A to point B, whether inland or coastal, using paper charts, plotting and other tools, while emphasizing dead reckoning. The course will also cover using Open CPN, which is an electronic chart tool available to everyone. The course doesn’t have any prerequisite; however, it is a step up from Seamanship, the next logical step above the basic ABC course. The course will start in October, and the schedule will be determined by the student’s preferred dates. For anyone interested to either learn more or sign up for the course, and for those folks who have already expressed interest in the course, now is the time to register. To register, please contact Don Perrine, John Farmer or Tom Dietrich.

From John:

You can now take the Boat Handling course completely online for full credit and when completed you will receive the traditional grade of S (S for the old Seamanship course). It covers: 1-Rules of the Road: A Practical Approach, 2-Confidence in Docking and Undocking: Slow-Speed Maneuvering, 3-Boating with Confidence: Handling Your Boat Underway, 4-anchoring with Assurance: Don't Get Carried Away, 5-Emergencies on Board: Preparation to Handle Common Problems and 6-Knots and Line Handling: The Knots You Need to Know. If you would like to take the course that includes many very good instructional videos contact DEO John Farmer at captfarmer@gmail.com. He can order the course and get you your access key.
From Kenneth Griffing ANEO:

As you have heard by now, the Governing Board scheduled for Raleigh this September has been cancelled, but plans are currently underway for a number of virtual sessions during this same time period. The Educational Department is working plans for a variety of informative sessions on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9-11 September 2020. As soon as specifics of these sessions are finalized you will be informed but please make plans to be available for what promises to be a helpful and informative series of on-line meetings.

====================================================================

From John:

We continue to publish free YouTube River Navigation videos on our sailing TOUCAN channel. The latest one is entitled:

10 River Navigation – GPS only navigation – NO!

It explains the dangers in over reliance in GPS only navigation without sufficient backups, recognition of its limitations and provide suggestions to cover its many shortcomings. It can be viewed at:

https://youtu.be/QrnLmKUm9AI
Now Hear This! Editor NEEDED!

I will be out of state for the first three months of 2021 and communications are sketchy where we stay in Naples. However, it’s time for a new vision, version and editor. If you can copy and paste and resize pictures, that’s 80% of the job. We use MS Publisher and it is very similar to MS Word. I have files from previous years to pass on. Gmail makes distribution a matter of a few keystrokes with the KPS contact list. I will be happy to work with the new editor in making the transition. I’ve been serving in this post for several years and do enjoy it, along with the wonderful people that contribute.

The last month I will be able to do NHT! will be November, 2020. So, if you’re ready to step up and become more involved, we welcome you! Please notify Tom or me.

tdietric1@aol.com or mm189700@gmail.com

Cheers,

Mike McCarthy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>March</strong></td>
<td>5-8 - Downtown Boat Show</td>
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<td>23 - Membership Meeting at Z Fish House</td>
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<td>26-30 BOC Boat School Pensacola, FL</td>
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<td><strong>April</strong></td>
<td>3 - 5 District Spring Conference, Embassy Suites, Chattanooga</td>
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<td>6 - Bridge Meeting</td>
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<td>17-19 - Downtown Cruise Rossini Festival — Friday eve Pot Luck at</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chuck and Vickie Smith’s Place.</td>
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<td>14, 16, 21, 25 - ABC Class Holiday Inn Knoxville (25th on the water)</td>
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<td>25 - VSC - Rarity Bay</td>
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<td>27 - Membership Dinner Meeting Z Fish House, Loudon, TN</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>May</strong></td>
<td>2 - VSC Tanasi Docks &amp; Tellico Village Yacht Club</td>
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<td>5, 12, 19, 26 Boat-Handling Classroom Course</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9, 16 VSC Kahite Docks &amp; Tellico Village Yacht Club</td>
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<td>15, 16 - Dock &amp; Dine &amp; Lock-Thru — Pavilion 1, Lenoir City Park</td>
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<td>23 - Music on the Water — Wind River</td>
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<td>29 - VSC Tellico Harbor Marina &amp; Sequoyah Landing Marina</td>
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<td><strong>June</strong></td>
<td>2, 9 &amp; 16 continued from May — Boat-Handling</td>
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<td>6 - VSC, Fort Loudoun Marina &amp; Wind River Marina</td>
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<td>5, 6 &amp; 7 — Terrace View Down river cruise —?</td>
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<td>16, 18, 23 On-line ABC Class 1 Louisville Town Hall (23 — Testing)</td>
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<td>19 — 21 Dock &amp; Dine &amp; Ice Cream Social — Tellico Harbor Clubhouse</td>
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<td><strong>July</strong></td>
<td>3 - Music on the Water raft off ( on 4th: Rock the Docks raft off)</td>
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<td>11 - Dock &amp; Dine &amp; Ice Cream Social — Tellico Harbor Clubhouse</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18 - BoatRides4Vets 9AM—5PM — Wind River Marina</td>
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<td>27 - Wine Tasting &amp; 7PM Dinner — Tennessee Winery</td>
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<td><strong>August</strong></td>
<td>1 - Goose Pond Cruise — postponed</td>
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<td>3 - Bridge Meeting — cancelled</td>
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<td>25. Sept 1 ABC Class 2 On-Line</td>
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<td>15 - 16 Raft off in front of the Lenoir City Park</td>
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<td><strong>September</strong></td>
<td>10 ABC Class 2 Test at Louisville Town Hall</td>
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<td>5 — BoatRides4Vets 9-5 Wind River Marina</td>
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<td>8, 15, 22, 29 &amp; Oct 6, 13, 20 Piloting (Marine Navigation)</td>
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<td>18 &amp; 19 Salmon Roast/ Member appreciation day — Pavilion 1,</td>
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<td>Lenoir City Park</td>
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<td><strong>October</strong></td>
<td>TBD — Piloting Course</td>
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<td>26 Membership Dinner Meeting — Dietrich’s house</td>
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<td>31 - Color Cruise on Sea-Duction</td>
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<td><strong>November</strong></td>
<td>2 - Bridge Meeting</td>
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<td>23 - Membership Dinner Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>December</strong></td>
<td>7 Christmas Party — Kountry Kinfolk</td>
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<td>25 Election of Officers Dinner Meeting — Blue Tick Tavern</td>
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<td><strong>January 2021</strong></td>
<td>25 Election of Officers Dinner Meeting — Blue Tick Tavern</td>
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<td>19 — 21 Dock &amp; Dine &amp; Ice Cream Social — Tellico Harbor Clubhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>February 2021</strong></td>
<td>22 Change of Watch Meeting — Mimi’s</td>
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