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## **Spend your time wisely**

**By P/C Marvin Chaney Jr. SN**

Time

It slips up on us.

I just attended the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion of my college graduation in computer science from N.C. State University. When I got invited to this event, I went ... "Wait – that can't be true." But I did the math and sure enough I graduated 50 years ago in 1976.

Time

When you retire, somehow you don't have enough. Mary and I have a calendar on the fridge, and if there isn't something slated for one or both of us to do every day, it is unusual. How did this happen? How did we do all this before we retired? (Answer: We didn't; we worked.)

Time

Founder and now Executive Chairman Torstein Hagen of Viking Cruises, in all those commercials you have seen, says:

"Time is the only truly scarce commodity. And then when you come to that realization, it is important that you spend your time wisely. I think most of us have no regrets about things we did, but I think we can have regrets about things we DID NOT do. And what better way of spending time is there than ..."

He goes on to say "traveling." But, to paraphrase, why not substitute "Boating with your friends"?

Since 1989 (Wow!), Mary and I have had boating / boating education through Charlotte Power Squadron as one of those things that appear on our calendar, and this definitely illustrates “spending our time wisely.”

As fellow members of Charlotte Power Squadron, I trust you feel the same.

*Marvin Chaney Jr. is secretary of America’s Boating Club-Charlotte.*



**Marvin Chaney at the 2025 Change of Watch.**





## **Like the weather, plans change for next Squadron education course**

**By P/C Dan Bartell SN-ACN**

Plans for expanding our educational program are moving forward. We held a Zoom meeting as the Squadron Educational Department that included all those members who take part in our Public Boating Course. It lasted for over two hours, and we made a lot of progress.

We decided that we needed to try to walk before we tried to run.

Initially, I proposed that we teach Marine Navigation, the new Piloting course, as a virtual offering. During the meeting we looked at its contents and came to several conclusions:

- It is heavily weighted towards paper charts and coastal navigation and is not an appropriate first class to teach.
- Paper charts are no longer readily available and most area boaters use their chart plotters or phone apps.
- We do not have any experience with teaching a virtual class.

- Marine Navigation or, alternatively, Boat Handling, the new Seamanship course, take seven to eight sessions; so, for our first offering, a classroom seminar would be our best choice.

In later discussions we decided on the **“Weather for Boaters”** seminar. It is a new seminar, published in late 2023, and has excellent presentation materials.

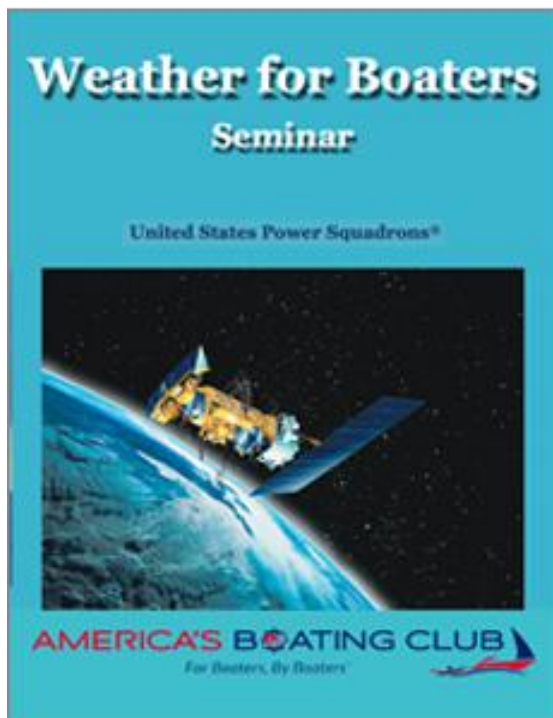
Here is a brief description from the National Website:

### **Weather for Boaters**

*“A veering wind will clear the sky;  
A backing wind says storms are nigh.”*

All boaters have heard this mariner’s proverb or similar ones. They have a salty flavor that takes us back to the era of sailing ships. In this seminar students will learn the meteorological basis for them.

The safety and comfort of those who venture out-on-the-water have always been weather dependent. This seminar is a must for boaters who have never taken a weather course. The complex subject of weather is presented in a way that is both understandable and useful.



Topics include:

- Air Masses and Fronts
- Winds
- Storms
- Clouds and Thunderstorms
- Fog and
- Forecasting

We will be presenting this seminar sometime in July, and D/C Bo Ibach SN-ACN has secured MarineMax Lake Wylie Marina as the location. Our target date is Wednesday, July 8, 2026, at 6 p.m.

We are restricting it to Squadron members but may expand it to include MarineMax employees and Catawba members. In order to recover materials cost, we will charge squadron members \$15 to audit the seminar and \$20 if you want to receive educational credit. (National charges us \$10 to award credit). We would charge Catawba members \$25. Please let me know if you are interested and if you would prefer a different date. [dantbartell@gmail.com](mailto:dantbartell@gmail.com)

After we get our feet wet on our first seminar I would like to offer it as a virtual seminar to the public. I will mine the National Databases for anyone locally who has taken the Public Boating Course in the last 5 years

for a list of individuals to contact. Beyond that I would like to see us offering additional seminars and teaching the Boat Handling Course within a year.

Meanwhile, your educational department will be working to determine what our squadron members would like us to offer in the way of seminars and courses.

*Dan Bartell is Educational Officer for America's Boating Club-Charlotte.*

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## Children's Outing 2026



**Ray Williams of America's Boating Club of the Catawba gives safety instructions to the children before setting sail. Greg Lewandowski, also with the Catawba Squadron, is at the helm.**



Lifeguards watch over swimmers at the Red Fez Shrine Club.



**Guests of all ages line up for boat rides.**



**P/C Marshall Bain AP helps chef Marcelo Moreno and Shawna Moreno with the grilling.**



**P/C Brevard Myers Jr. SN-ACN and passengers leave the dock for an early spin on Lake Wylie.**

#### 2026 BRIDGE OFFICERS

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**2026 MEMBERS AT-LARGE**

|                             |                                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| P/C William G. Granger P-IN | P/C Jack Moore AP-IN            |
| Lt Tom Frederick            | P/C Brevard S. Myers Jr. SN-ACN |
| Lt Shaun M. Haycock         | P/C David Stewart AP            |
| Lt Pat Mencil S             | P/D/C Paula Stewart AP          |

## Calendar of Events for June and July 2026

| Date                                         | Event                                         | Time                  | Location/Details             |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>No General Membership meeting in June</b> |                                               |                       |                              |
| <b>6/2</b>                                   | Wylie Gator Rowing Club                       | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.      | Pat Hakanson's home          |
| <b>6/9</b>                                   | Wylie Gator Rowing Club                       | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.      | Pat Hakanson's home          |
| <b>6/15</b>                                  | ABC-Charlotte Executive Committee Meeting     | 5 p.m.                | Jocks & Jills                |
| <b>6/16</b>                                  | Wylie Gator Rowing Club                       | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.      | Pat Hakanson's home          |
| <b>6/19</b>                                  | Deadline for View from the Bridge July column | 5 p.m.                | Past Commander two years ago |
| <b>6/23</b>                                  | Wylie Gator Rowing Club                       | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.      | Pat Hakanson's home          |
| <b>6/27</b>                                  | Vessel Safety Checks                          | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.      | Buster Boyd Landing          |
| <b>6/30</b>                                  | Wylie Gator Rowing Club                       | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.      | Pat Hakanson's home          |
| <b>No General Membership meeting in July</b> |                                               |                       |                              |
| <b>7/1</b>                                   | July-August Side Lights to publish            | TBD                   | In your email                |
| <b>July 4 Independence Day</b>               |                                               |                       |                              |
| <b>7/7</b>                                   | Wylie Gator Rowing Club                       | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.      | Pat Hakanson's home          |
| <b>7/8</b>                                   | Weather for Boaters Seminar                   | 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.       | MarineMax Lake Wylie Marina  |
| <b>7/11</b>                                  | Commander's Luncheon                          | 12 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.   | MarineMax Lake Wylie Marina  |
| <b>7/14</b>                                  | Wylie Gator Rowing Club                       | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.      | Pat Hakanson's home          |
| <b>7/18</b>                                  | America's Boating Course                      | 8:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. | MarineMax Lake Wylie Marina  |
| <b>7/20</b>                                  | ABC-Charlotte Executive Committee Meeting     | 5 p.m.                | Jocks & Jills                |
| <b>7/21</b>                                  | Wylie Gator Rowing Club                       | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.      | Pat Hakanson's home          |

|      |                         |                  |                     |
|------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 7/28 | Wylie Gator Rowing Club | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Pat Hakanson's home |
|------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|

Locations:

- AmberJack Seafood & Steaks Restaurant** – 4253 South New Hope Road, Gastonia
- Buster Boyd Landing** – Blucher Circle next to Papa Docks Shore Club, 3990 Charlotte Highway, Lake Wylie, S.C.
- Pat Hakanson's house** – 6812 Old Ridge Road, Waxhaw
- Jocks & Jills** – 4109 South Stream Boulevard, Charlotte
- MarineMax Lake Wylie Marina** – 310 Blucher Circle, Lake Wylie, S.C.
- Merit Mark Point (MMP)** – 4892 Power Squadron Lane, York, S.C.
- Red Fez Shrine Club** – 16600 Red Fez Club Road, Charlotte



### June

Valerie K. Cahill, Kathryn Louise Courtright, Guynn Francis, Joshua Gibson, Michael J. Ibach, Kenneth J. Mart, Thomas J. Nicolosi, Rose D. Samonds and Harpreet Singh-Gill

### July

Brendan Cahill, Declan Cahill, Brady Conetta, Doug Drum, Ron Everson, Ron Helms, Michael Ingold, Lori Myers, Tiny Riddle and Clyde Starr

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John and Connie King on the water Drawing by the late Carl Foesch

## Friends of the Squadron

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- Marvin and Mary Chaney
- Ken Elkins and Joann Infante
- John and Connie King
- Paula and David Stewart
- Anonymous sponsors

### Side Lights Staff

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