

2018 JULY NEWSLETTER

Ahoy Matey's,

Our summer weather has started off with late afternoon storms that have brought torrential rains to the area. The water levels have fluctuated a lot over the last month or so. The spillway at the dam has been open for the last couple of weeks and the level today (June 30th) has the water just below the stationary docks. Please be aware that there is a lot of debris in the water from all of the storms.



LGYC extends its sincere condolences to Sara Walker Koizol and family in the death of her husband, Kevin, today. Please be in prayer for Sara and her family during this time of loss.

The Lake Guntersville Hydrofest 2018 kicked off June 22 – 25 and there were over 10,000 people in attendance. Our club was the host for the drivers, owners and city dignitaries on Friday night, June 23rd, and our clubhouse was filled to capacity. We had over 60 of our club members who greeted our guests and the night was a huge success. Unfortunately, Mother Nature was not kind to the event on Saturday and the race was delayed due to strong storms in the area. Sunday turned out to be the best day and the final race of H1 boats was a nail biter. Andrew Tate and Jimmy Shane (5 times Champion) were neck and neck at the finish line, but Andrew Tate got the checkered flag. These two boats were within 10 feet of each other most of the 5 laps. Below are some pictures from the weekend.

LGYC's members were in full attendance to volunteer in various areas.



Saturday's festivities started off with the singing of the National Anthem and then the flag was flown in by helicopter. (The trees made it a little tricky to capture some pictures)



Our club members had a nice tent to sit under to break the heat during the races.



As the weekend progressed, we had more in attendance.



Saturday, at 4:00 PM, Papa Dubai's provided appetizers for our group.



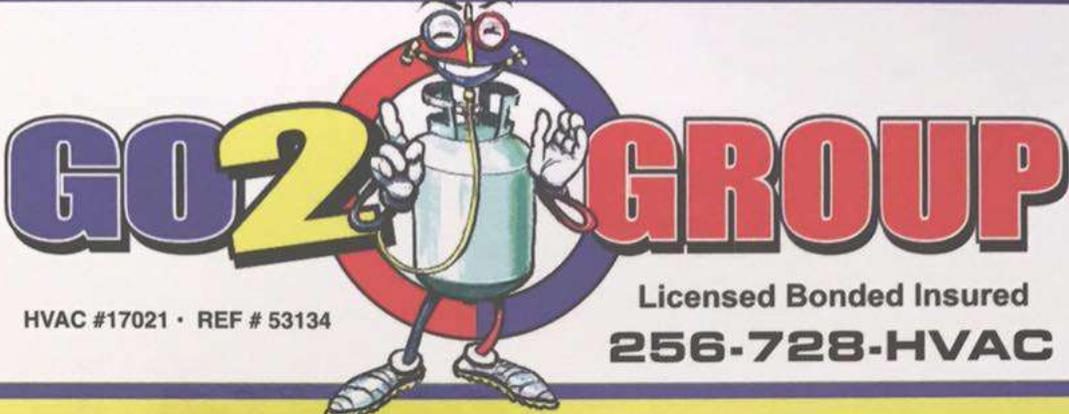
The top speed of the winning boat by Andrew Tate was clocked at 168 MPH. There was a huge rooster tail as the boats sped by. It was an exciting day for all!



This Budweiser boat was on display for a photo opp.

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The above mentioned business is locally owned and operated by Matthew Ferguson. If you are in need of service on your marine refrigerator or air conditioners, Matthew is the one to call. His technicians are highly trained and very professional. This company has provided several members with refrigerator and marine air services just recently.



BoatUS has a few safety tips for this holiday & even thru the summer boating season:

ALEXANDRIA, Va., June 25, 2018 – Just like Americans’ hectic Thanksgiving Day holiday travel habits, July 4 is recreational boating’s biggest holiday of the year. The nonprofit [BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water](#) predicts crowded launch ramp and marina facilities with significant recreational boat traffic congestion on lakes, rivers and coastal waters. Operator inattention, improper lookout, operator inexperience, machinery failure, and alcohol use rank as the top five primary contributing factors in accidents according to the U.S. Coast Guard, and each could come into play on boating’s biggest time of the year. Here are five July 4 safety tips from the BoatUS Foundation:

1. Stop the distractions: Being distracted — even for an instant — can make a good day go bad. Before you head out on the water, learn how to use your GPS at the dock, rather than with your head down, trying to figure out how to toggle between screens while underway. Can you move your hand between the throttle and wheel without looking? Do you know the locations of the trim switch, running lights or bilge switch by feel? If not, spend some time memorizing the locations of your boat controls. When running, try to zone out of unnecessary conversation that is going on around you, with the exception of valuable input from a helpful lookout. **Texting and boating is a dangerous activity, just as it is in a car.**

2. Hold off on the alcohol until you’re safely ashore or tied up for the night: Added to the effects of sun, wind and waves, alcohol lowers situational awareness. Bring lots of water and other nonalcoholic beverages.

3. [The best life jacket is the one you will wear:](#) Spending the extra money on a comfortable life jacket means your chances of wearing it greatly increase. Check out the newer, small lightweight inflatable-style life jackets that are nothing like the uncomfortable life jackets of old. And it’s also always wise to have everyone aboard in life jackets when going to fireworks shows – accidents can happen very quickly, especially after the shows end and the mad dash for home begins. If you need a right-sized kids life jacket, you can borrow one for free from one of 550 locations by going to [BoatUS.org/Life-Jacket-Loaner](#).

4. Some help just for paddlers: Paddlers should understand all of the [nautical rules](#) of the road, practice defensive paddling and assume no one can see you. At night, show a white light (glow sticks hung around the paddler’s neck do not qualify). Avoid crowded anchorages and congested ramp areas.

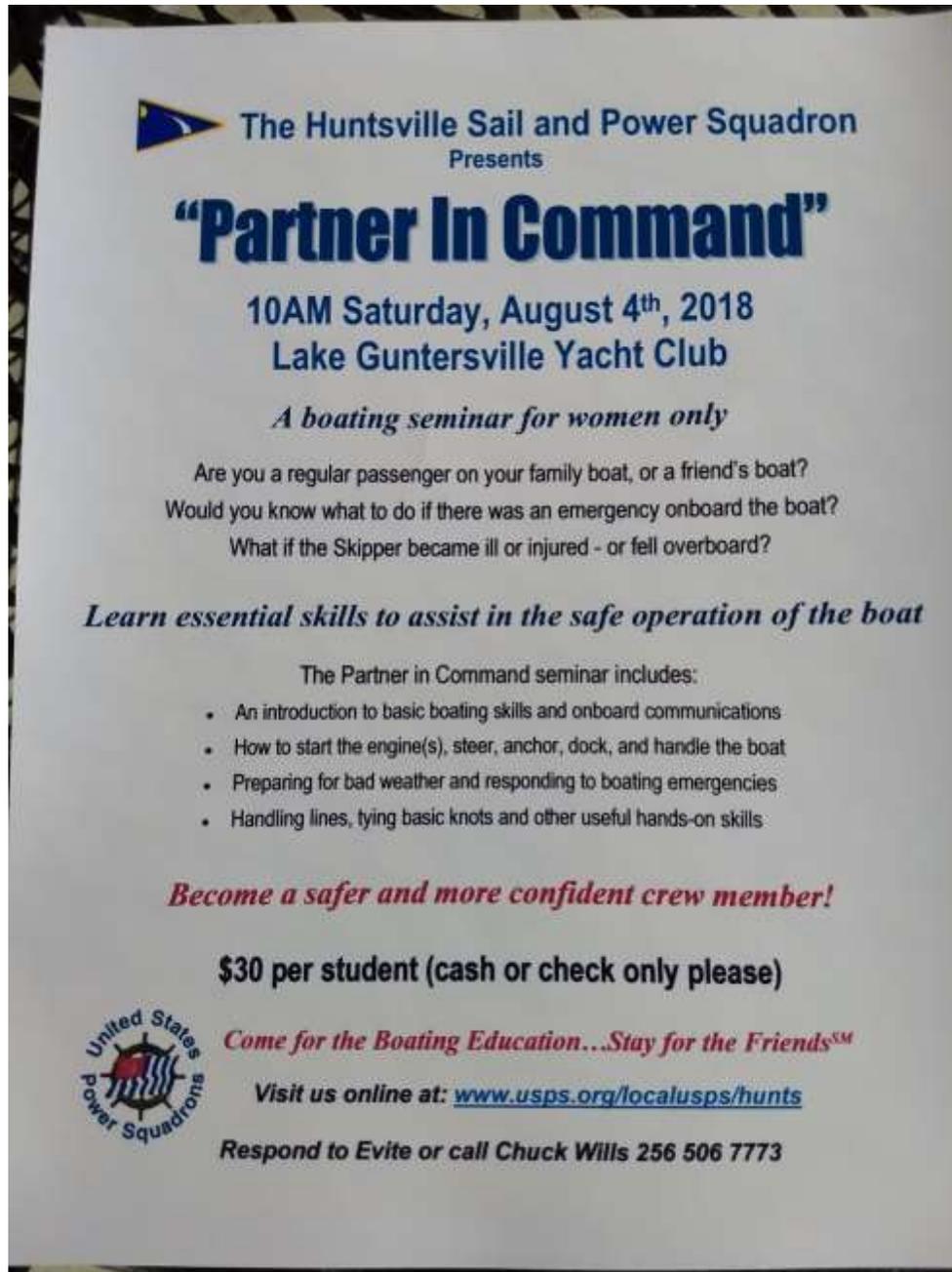
5. About that broken down boat: The nationwide TowBoatUS on-water towing fleet traditionally reports hundreds of requests from boaters needing assistance with battery jumps and anchor-line disentanglements over the July 4 holiday. To avoid having to contact BoatUS 24-hour dispatch ([BoatUS.com/App](#)) monitor your boat’s battery drain during the long day on the water, go slow while hauling your anchor line, watch for wakes, and be super vigilant so you don’t run over someone else’s anchor line after the fireworks show ends.

The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water is a national leader promoting safe, clean and responsible boating. Funded primarily by donations from the more than half-million members of Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS), the nonprofit provides innovative educational outreach directly to boaters and anglers with the aim of reducing accidents and fatalities, increasing stewardship of America’s waterways and keeping boating safe for all. A range of boating safety courses – including 36 free state courses – can be found at [BoatUS.org/Courses](#).



Kerry & Trudy Harbaugh had their boat renamed to Cat's Meow on July 4th and Captain Ruddy was in attendance for the christening ceremony. Congratulations Kerry & Trudy!

*****Attention all LGYC ladies/1st Mates*****



 The Huntsville Sail and Power Squadron
Presents

“Partner In Command”

10AM Saturday, August 4th, 2018
Lake Guntersville Yacht Club

A boating seminar for women only

Are you a regular passenger on your family boat, or a friend's boat?
Would you know what to do if there was an emergency onboard the boat?
What if the Skipper became ill or injured - or fell overboard?

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The Partner in Command seminar includes:

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Be sure and respond to the Evite or Chuck Wills by phone if you want to be a part of this seminar!

Our July 4th celebration was a huge success. There were water slides for the kids to enjoy, pool activities were a big hit due to the hot temperature and the BBQ lunch was enjoyed by all!





The lunch kicked off with the Pledge of Allegiance and God Bless America, which was sung by the children as they paraded by.





The ballroom was decorated in the traditional Red, White and Blue. A grand salute to all of those who helped with the decorations.

After lunch, the boats made their way out to Short Creek to salute Commodore Mike Rogers. It looks as though the temperature drove all of those people who participated in the salute into the cool refreshing waters.



Following a torrential downpour and 30 mph winds, everyone made their way over to just beyond the big bridge to view the spectacular fireworks show. The display this year was breath-taking as usual.



The picture above was taken just before the fireworks burst on the scene.



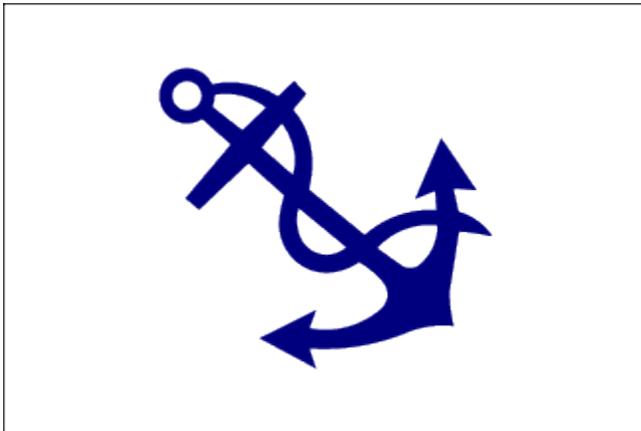
Calling all helpers! Nancy Hedden is asking for assistance from LGYC members to volunteer to make sandwiches for our Labor Day weekend event. These sandwiches will be needed on Saturday, September 1st. If you are willing to help, please call or e-mail Nancy at 256-679-7446 or bnhedden@comcast.net.



We would like to start a Birthday Club for our members. There are a lot of businesses that have an employee list of birthday dates, so they can announce them on a monthly basis. Please send me an e-mail with yours and your spouse's name with the birth month and day, so I can provide birthdates in the monthly newsletters.

Save the Date!

Don't forget to respond to the Evite for the Members / Guests day at the club on July 21st. This is your opportunity to bring that special friend or acquaintance to the club who might be interested in becoming a part of a great club such as ours.



From the desk of the Fleet Captain

I want to take a moment to talk about Carbon Monoxide Poisoning and the potential to die from it. This year that have been an abnormal number of boater deaths from carbon monoxide poisoning and so I felt it necessary to mention this for the safety of our yacht club members and others that might be unknowingly in harm's way.

From Wikipedia, Carbon monoxide is colorless, odorless, and tasteless, but highly toxic. It combines with [hemoglobin](#) to produce [carboxyhemoglobin](#), which usurps the space in hemoglobin that normally carries oxygen, but is ineffective for delivering oxygen to bodily tissues. Concentrations as low as 667 [ppm](#) may cause up to 50% of the body's hemoglobin to convert to carboxyhemoglobin. A level of 50% carboxyhemoglobin may result in seizure, coma, and fatality. In the United States, the [OSHA](#) limits long-term workplace exposure levels above 50 ppm.

The most common symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning may resemble other types of poisonings and infections, including symptoms such as [headache](#), [nausea](#), [vomiting](#), [dizziness](#), [fatigue](#), and a feeling of weakness. Affected families often believe they are victims of food poisoning. Infants may be irritable and feed poorly. Neurological signs include confusion, disorientation, visual disturbance, [syncope](#) (fainting), and seizures.

The primary products of petroleum fuel combustion in air are carbon dioxide, water, and nitrogen. When there is insufficient oxygen available for the combustion CO is formed instead of CO₂... Diesel engines produce one-twenty-eighth the carbon monoxide that gasoline engines do, as they burn their fuel in excess air even at full load. So while this means you are safer with a Diesel engine and generator you are still not 100% safe from the cumulative effects of diesel exhaust, especially if you have an exhaust leak and the CO can build up over time.

This year's CO deaths have been with experience boaters; some even with diesel boats, some in the vicinity of gas burning generators. When you are on the hook alone and there is a breeze and your boat is able to swing with the breeze they about of CO build up is at a minimum. If you have the back windows open you could experience the "station wagon effect" which vacuums in the exhaust gasses. However, if you are docked and the wind is from astern and you are running a generator you need to be aware that the CO can build up in your boat and in less than 15 minutes be a toxic levels. Obviously you should not be using portable gas generators anywhere near your boat and if you have a gas generator you need to realize that you are at a much higher risk of CO poisoning that your diesel counterpart. Lastly, if you are rafted up with someone with a gas generator you may be at risk because if you are a diesel boater you will not be as vigilant and may not have CO detector aboard. If rafting with a gas boater position them to the outside of the raft with their exhaust away from the other boats if possible. I'm not trying to pick on gas boats, just pointing out that there are risks.

EVERYONE should have CO monitors in their boats, diesel or gas. For \$25, you can buy a battery powered CO detector with a 10 year sealed battery and a digital display. You should have one of these in each stateroom. For \$2.50 per year per stateroom it is cheap insurance that no one succumbs to the CO gasses.

Fleet Captain Pete

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Well, that just about covers the news for July. Remember to send any newsworthy items to me throughout the year, so I can keep everyone at the Yacht Club in tune with what is happening with all our members.

Until next time, **"Keep Calm and Sail On!"**

Gail