



# Scuttlebutt

Monthly Newsletter



Volume LVII, No. 4, April/May 2024

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9 MAY	Annual Trash Panda's Baseball Outing Toyota Field, Huntsville — 1830
11 MAY	Paddle Smart Seminar/LGYC — 0900
18 MAY	Annual Flint River Kayak Adventure Brown Bear Canoe & Kayak — 0900
18 MAY	Aprés Kayak Lunch at El Monte Mexican restaurant, Winchester Plaza — TBD
3 JUN	ExCom Zoom Mtg — 1800
15 JUN	Boating on Lakes, Rivers & Locks Seminar and Lake Guntersville Dam Lock Thru Cruise/LGYC — 0900
28-30 JUN	Lake Guntersville HydroFest
4 JUL	July 4 <sup>th</sup> BBQ at LGYC
20 JUL	Cruise or Drive to The Docks at Goose Pond for Lunch — 1200
18 AUG	Pappo's Pizza Outing — 1500

## THE BRIDGE

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The latest Scuttlebutt and our Calendar of Events can also be found on our Squadron Website at: [abcnorthalabama.org](http://abcnorthalabama.org).

Be sure to check out the America's Boating Club and America's Boating Channel websites for even more helpful information at: [americasboatingclub.org](http://americasboatingclub.org).

This newsletter is published monthly for the benefit of members and friends of the Huntsville Power Squadron. Commentary expressed in published submissions is that of the submitter and should not be considered as an endorsement by the Huntsville Power Squadron. Membership in the Squadron is available to anyone interested in boating who has completed America's Boating Course or its equivalent. For additional information please contact any of the officers listed.



## COMMANDER'S LOG

CDR Chuck Wills, P

willscharles@gmail.com

I would like to thank Lisa Shier for putting on a great *Partner in Command* seminar, and to thank Mike Walley for taking the group on a cruise around the lake and for lunch at Another Broken Egg at City Harbor. It was a great day to learn, cruise and have lunch together.

Don't miss the upcoming events! I am looking forward to the Trash Pandas outing, the *Paddle Smart* seminar and the flint river kayak trip, followed by lunch at El Monte Mexican Restaraunt in Whitesburg Plaza. Please jump in and join us if you have not committed yet, and bring friends! We are always welcome to members bringing friends to our events.

Boating season is on and I hope you are all getting out and enjoying the water. I am starting to plan for a week on the water at the end of May with a cruise to Chattanooga. Day one gets me through Nickajack Lock and we will anchor out at Little Cedar Cove. Day two will go through one of the most scenic parts of the Tennessee River as we do a slow cruise through the area with famous for swirling water and whirlpools. The areas were named by Native Americans the Suck, the Boiling Pot and the Skillet. If you want to know more about this section of the river, follow this link: [www.visitchattanooga.com/blog/post/whats-hiding-in-the-tennessee-river](http://www.visitchattanooga.com/blog/post/whats-hiding-in-the-tennessee-river).

Our trip will continue to downtown Chattanooga which is a great place to visit by boat. We stay on our boat but know many that take a smaller boat and book a hotel. It is a great trip that everyone should try sometime. I am here to serve as your club Commander this year. Please call, text, email any time you want to talk.

**Life On The Lake Is Great, Be Safe!**

## SECRETARY

P/C Vern Gehm, AP

bvgehm@hiwaay.net

### 22 April 2024 ABCNA ExCom Minutes

The April 22, 2024 ExCom was held at 1800 via zoom. In attendance were CDR Chuck Wills, P; P/C Chris Whitacre, AP; Lt Frank Scalfano, P; Lt/C John Kennedy; Lt Grant Linhart; Lt Mike Walley, AP; and P/C Vern Gehm, AP. CDR Chuck conducted the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as provided via email. The supplies necessary to provide every member with an ABCNA badge have been received. Vern has started creating the badges and expects to have them available soon. An email reminding everyone of the 9 May Trash Panda event will be emailed out soon. The Partner in Command seminar, cruise to City Harbor, and lunch at the Another Broken Egg was a success. Mike and Tina Walley hosted the cruise and made plans for lunch. A Partner in Command seminar was presented on 13 April at the Lake Guntersville Yacht Club. A Paddle Smart Seminar will be held on 11 May, with a Flint River canoe and kayak trip to follow on 18 May. The Rivers, Lakes, and Locks seminar is planned for 15 June. Let Lisa or Chris know what courses you would like to take. There is little change from the previous month and our finances continue to be in good shape. No update on the status of the Burgee order. A motion passed to allow Chuck to spend up to \$300 for printing of tri-fold Club Brochures. We are running out of brochures to pass out at the Boat Show and events. The meeting adjourned at 1845.

### 1 April 2024 ABCNA ExCom Minutes

The April 1, 2024 ExCom was held at 1800 via zoom. In attendance were; CDR Chuck Wills, P; P/C Joel Weinbaum, AP; P/C Chris Whitacre, AP; P/C Rich Walter, AP; Lt Paul Tatum, S; Lt Ken Rorie; Lt Frank Scalfano, P; Lt/C John Kennedy, Lt Grant Linhart, Lt Paul Tatum, S; Lt Mike Walley, AP; and P/C Vern Gehm, AP. CDR Chuck conducted the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as provided via email and summarize at the meeting. The supplies necessary to provide every member with an ABCNA badge have been received. Vern expects to start creating the badges soon. A Partner in Command seminar will be presented on 13 April at the Lake Guntersville Yacht Club from 9-11am. Mike is organizing a cruise after for the participants to demonstrate what was presented during the seminar. A 1pm lunch is being organized after the cruise. The site is still being discussed. Several other seminars are planned for the coming year. Let Lisa or Chris know what courses you would like to take. There is little change from the previous month and our finances continue to be in good shape. The meeting adjourned at 1845. Addendum to Meeting: An email motion was approved on April 3 to allow Rich to purchase 10 large and 10 small burgees for the ships store.

[www.abcnorthalabama.org](http://www.abcnorthalabama.org)

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## EDUCATIONAL OFFICER & EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lt/C Lisa Shier, JN

kwajshier@yahoo.com

Our free seminar series is underway. Last month, we did *Partner in Command*, followed by a short cruise to City Dock. In May, we will focus on very small craft. We will hold a *Paddle Smart* seminar on May 11th at 9am at Lake Guntersville Yacht Club. Members of our club experienced in various types of paddle craft will introduce us to their preferred boat. We'll also get some general tips on safety in small boats and how to select your own paddle craft. Contact Chuck Wills to let us know that you are coming. After the seminar, we'll head down to the LGYC boat ramp to see a collection of paddle craft. Some boats will be available for test paddles. On the following Saturday, we will do a float down the Flint River and you can try out your skills. Rental kayaks and canoes are available for this excursion (see the upcoming events section for detailed information).

On June 15th, we will do the *Boating on Rivers, Lakes, and Locks* seminar. We'll cover information specific to boating on our local waters, including locking through. Following the seminar, we'll head to Guntersville Dam for some practical experience with locks.

We are interested in your ideas for more free seminars later in the summer. We are also considering which longer format classes to offer this winter.

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lt/C Page Marie Kennedy

page.abcna@gmail.com



**ABCNA** *March & April '24*

Sending a special thanks to our new member Bruce Weddendorf, for hosting us at Straight to Ale in Huntsville! We had a fantastic tour of their brewery, learned a ton about all that goes into making (& tasting) beer, Campus 805's history, and enjoyed a delicious St. Paddy's Day feast. A great time was had by all--thanks Bruce! The Partner in Command seminar & cruise to City Harbor was a success! Thanks to Mike & Tina Walley for hosting the cruise and organizing lunch at Another Broken Egg. Take a look at our Upcoming Events, as we have a lot planned in May. Our annual Trash Panda's Baseball Outing is right around the corner on May 9th, followed by a free Paddle Smart seminar on the 11th and our annual Float the Flint Kayak Adventure on the 18th. Stay safe on and off the water! Shine on~Page







## ABCNA Upcoming Events

### Thursday, May 9th

6pm/Toyota Field — *Trash Pandas Baseball Game*. Come one come all! Join us for our annual baseball outing! Check out the info page for complete details for our suite on the third base line. RSVP to Page: 256.960.6399.

### Saturday, May 11th, 2024

9-11am/LGYC — *Paddle Smart Free Seminar*. Learn an overview of paddle craft & Paddle like a Pro! The objectives of the seminar are to educate on types of paddle craft, to learn what safety equipment is recommended, and to understand the basic, entry-level strokes. Suitable local destinations for different types of paddle craft will also be discussed. RSVP to Chuck Wills at: 256.506.7773.

### Saturday, May 18th

9am/Brown Bear Canoe & Kayak — *Float the Flint River Kayak Trip & Lunch*. Let's meet at Brown Bear Canoe & Kayak for a blast on the Flint River. Contact Brown Bear 256.885.6546 or BrownBear2017@yahoo.com, to secure your kayak rental. RSVP to Lisa at: 808.342.5476. After the paddle we will gather for a late lunch at El Monte Mexican Restaurant in Winchester Plaza. If you're not paddling, we hope you can join us for lunch. Message Page & she'll keep you in the loop!

### Saturday, June 15th

9am/LGYC — *Boating Lakes, Rivers & Locks Free Seminar* followed by 11am water exercise and lock through to the Lake Guntersville Dam.

11am/Depart LGYC — *Guntersville Dam Lock Through Cruise*. We're planning a slow cruise to the lock and back with the larger vessels. It will take about an hour or so each way plus the time in the lock. Bring your own bag lunch and beverages since we will likely get back to the Club at about 2pm. RSVP to Chuck: willscharles@gmail.com.

### Saturday, June 29th & Sunday the 30th

Lake Guntersville Hydrofest. Volunteer with LGYC. RSVP to Chuck at: 256.506.7773.





## SAFETY OFFICER

Lt/C Joel Weinbaum, AP

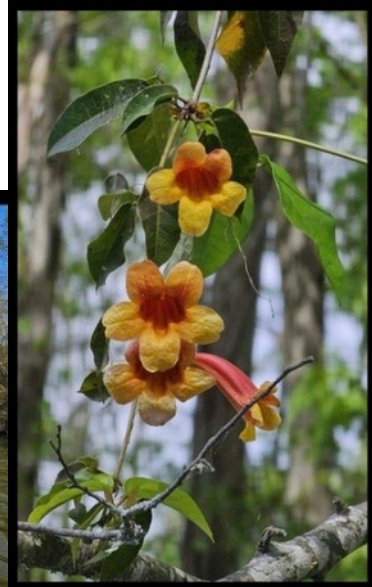
smokeywhiskey@gmail.com

As we know, "Partner in Command" is a safety issue. I think it goes with learning First Aid and Water Rescue, including retrieval of an individual. As Safety Officer, I encourage everyone to realize the training opportunity of being confident under the worst of circumstances, whether from health problems, stranding, or injury. Weather is even a greater factor now with the heat of Summer and popup storms that produce high wind, heavy rainfall, and lightning. Heed the Boy Scout motto and be prepared! Our ABC Pledge reminds us to "render assistance whenever possible." It's not just for ABC members, it's important for all on the waterways that we stay at the ready.

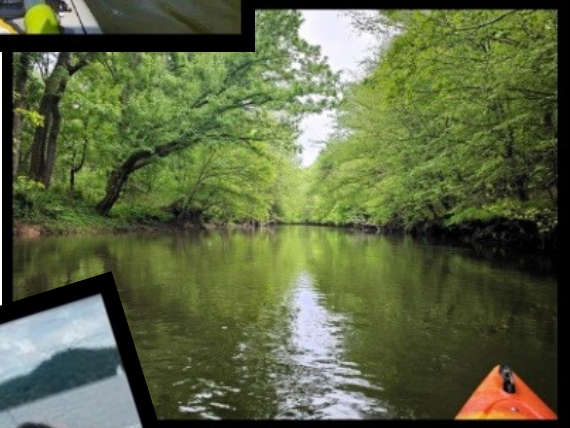
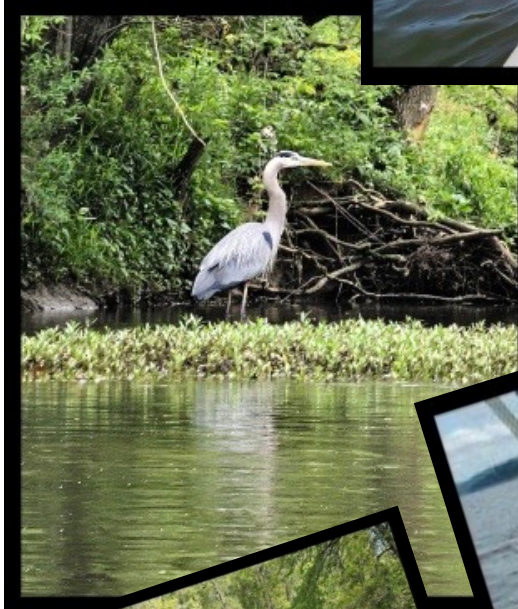
***Yours in Safe Boating — Happy Cruising!***







Can you spy it? Look up! Thanks for sharing all these pictures of your adventures on the waters of Northern Alabama, Lisa Shier!



Send **YOUR** pics to:  
page.abcna@gmail.com

Share Your Nature Pics!

Rita Kirby is at the helm! Thanks for sharing these pics of your sailing adventures on Lake Gunterville, Stephen!

# 2024 Calendar of Events

- January 11-14th: Huntsville Boat Show
- February 11th: 2pm/LGYC—Change of Watch/Annual Meeting
- March 17th: 3-5pm/STA—St. Paddy's Day Brewery Tour & Social with owner & friend Bruce Weddendorf, Straight to Ale, Huntsville
- April 13th: 9am-2pm/LGYC—Partner in Command Seminar followed by Spring Cruise (BYOL=bring your own lunch, etc.)
- May 9th: 6:30pm/Toyota Field, Madison—Annual Trash Pandas Baseball Outing
- May 11th: 9-11am/LGYC—Paddle Smart Seminar
- May 18th: 9am/Brown Bear Canoe & Kayak, Huntsville Annual Flint River Kayak Trip followed by Lunch at El Monte Mexican Restaurant
- June 15th: 9am-2pm/LGYC—Lakes, Rivers & Locks Seminar followed by Lock Thru Cruise to Guntersville Dam (BYOL)
- June 29-30th: Lake Guntersville's HydroFest (Volunteer with LGYC)
- July 4th: July 4th BBQ Celebration at LGYC
- July 20th: 11am/Cruise to meet at Goose Pond for Lunch at The Docks
- August 18th: 3-5pm/Lunch Outing at Pappo's Pizza
- September 21st: Cruise to Joe Wheeler State Park (Dinner and/or overnight if desired/people can also drive to dinner)
- October 13th: 2pm/Top Golf Outing, Huntsville
- November 10th: TBD/Lunch Outing
- December 15th: 2pm/Annual Holiday Party at Amy & Chuck Wills'



**Mark Your Calendars For Boating Fun!**



# Estate Planning Seminar

Join us for an engaging session on **Estate Planning!** (And it's FREE!) Our speaker, W. Carter Montgomery, will shed light on some of the most vital topics when estate planning. **Don't miss out on this valuable opportunity!**

### Topics:

- Wills vs. Trusts
- Powers of Attorney & Living Wills
- Special Circumstances
- Gift & Estate Tax Matters
- What is Probate?
- Common Estate Planning Misconceptions

We will discuss the most important legal documents needed in your estate plan followed by a Q&A

Date: 5/13/24

Time: 6:00pm-7:30pm

Location: South Huntsville Public Library

Speaker: W. Carter Montgomery with Martinson & Beason,



Scan the code to sign up!

Hosted by Grant Linhart and  
COTTTON STATE REALTY, LLC

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*of North Alabama* 

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