

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

For Boaters, By Boaters®




THE DRUM

A Publication of the Finger Lakes Chapter – www.ABC-FLX.org

In this issue...

From The Commander	1
From the Executive Officer	3
From the Education Director	5
Water Lines	6
Upcoming Classes & Seminars	7
Marine Navigation Course	7
America's Boating Course.....	7
Basic Weather and Forecasting Seminar.....	7
Instructor Development Course	8
How to Register	8
Looking for Something?.....	8
Long-Term Class Schedule.....	8
USPS News: Local, District, National & More	10
New Member Welcome	10
Happy Birthday!	10
Upcoming District 6 Fall Conference Highlights.....	10
Got News?	10
The Last Word	11
Calendar of Events.....	12
Report any errors or omissions to:	
drum@abc-flx.org	

From The Commander

By Jim McGinnis, AP SV Brewster

View from the Bridge

Just got my new rank in the Power Squadron – Senior Navigator. And completed the Inland Navigator Certification.

I owe a whole lot to Tom Alley and Charlie Fausold and many other instructors like Merrill Sproul, Terry Stewart, Don Kloeber, for making these achievements possible. We are truly fortunate to have those members in our Club. It took me 10 years but its done!



Next for me is more offshore learning and sailing. The Boat Operator Certification goes through Offshore Navigator. I have been fortunate to build the skills necessary to confidently rent Charter Boats with friends



and family. This is opening doors for Lynne and me in the future.

Hurricane Henri

Hurricane Henri gave us a reminder that the weather will be a part of our future in boating. Recent picture from Jamestown, Rhode Island. Don't ever want to see this happen.



Photo 1: Aftermath in Jamestown, RI.



Photo 2: Take 3 Quartet (yes, there are five of them) performs for ABC-FLX in Sampson.

Sampson

We had a terrific weekend at Sampson Marina this year. The sail up Friday (7/30) was just work with 20 knots on the nose. Friday night food, music and sunset at the Vista was the perfect wind down for the skippers and crew. Saturday, Seneca lake was like a pond – which was great for the Hands On Training (HOT) we conducted on the water with Maura Toole, Dee Stafford and Cathi Gueli (new member).

Charlie coordinated the Inland Navigator Skills, Certification Testing and demonstrations by Tom Alley (Flares) Don Kloeber (Fire Extinguisher), Jim Morris (Life Lines). Saturday night was a get together with the *Take 3 Quartet* for sunset evening.

Sunday was rough weather, Jim and Sue Morris headed

out early and got back to Watkins Glen just ahead of the storm in a strong south wind. The other boats waited until Monday when a north wind filled in after the front. The wind built throughout the day, and I didn't get my spinnaker down in time before wind and white caps power us to >8 knots.



Photo 3: Last Photo of that spinnaker.

The Drum

*Published six times per year by the Finger Lakes Chapter of America's Boating Club. The opinions expressed in **The Drum** are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of America's Boating Club, its officers, directors, or members.*

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Sailing in Maine

Lynne and I headed to Maine for a week and then a couple days with family and friends on Cape Cod. My brother John and I sailed his (new to him) – 1972 36 ft Gulfstar Motor Sailor everyday and had a great sail across Penobscot Bay, I spent a lot of time telling sailing stories left over from our voyages in Long Island Sound. We keep running into people saying they lived on Long Island or sailed Long Island for years – it's an awesome cruising ground.

I want to end with a special “Thank You” to Charlie Fausold.

He bucked a lot of head winds to make the Boat Certification happen at Sampson and it was a class activity. His efforts will be a spring board for growth of the America's Boating Club – Finger Lakes Chapter. We got one new member that day!

- Jim, SV Brewster
co@abc-flx.org



Photo 4: Charlie Fausold sailing his hand-built ketch.

From the Executive Officer

By Phil Cherry, S

Cruising the Erie Canal



I had the pleasure of spending the first week of August this year on the Erie Canal. What a joy!

Judy and I and our good friends Phil and June from Buffalo rented a 42-foot canal cruiser out of Seneca Falls and took a week motorizing the canal from Seneca Falls out to Spencerport and back. The rental Company (Erie Canal cruise Lines - www.canal-cruises.com), advertises the adventure as “Life In The Past

Lane” and in many respects it is absolutely accurate. We traveled portions of the canal that date back almost 200 years and many other sections of the canal that has been built and rebuilt several times over the course of its history. It was a fabulous, informative, and fun learning opportunity and an excellent vacation.

I know many of you have traveled the canal bringing your own boats to and from faraway lands like Oswego, Buffalo and Albany, and still others of you are far more experienced travelers and canalers and perhaps accomplished the Great Loop or some other combination of open water and canalizing experiences. However, for the four of us, none of whom had any extensive experience navigating

SV Harmony

the canal, it was an adventure, and an awful lot of fun. Thank goodness I was able to take the USPS Seminar “Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes” offered this summer through our very own Finger lakes Chapter of America's Boating Club. Better still was the fact that our club offered an “on-the-water” component to the course where I was able to experience several locks before having to navigate our own charter boat just a few weeks after the course. I know my crew was especially comforted knowing that at least one of us had some lock experience, thanks again to ABC-FLX and our great boating instructors.

Our tentative float plan had us hopscotching from one small Canal village to another, making about 15 miles a day on the canal and leaving plenty of time for exploring local Village amenities, restaurants and wildlife along the way. Leaving Seneca Falls, our first night was spent at the Clyde Dock, where we met a young family on a bike trip along the canal and a young man transporting a 46' catamaran from Michigan to New York City. Our next stop was Newark, NY, and then on to Fairport, Bushnell Basin (for ice Cream and a pump out) and Spen- ceroport and then stopping over-night at Palmyra and Lyons on the return trip. In every Village we saw how important the canal was to its history and how focused each canal town was to using the canal to draw tourists in the present day. Each Village dock offered free electric, restrooms and other amenities and some Villages offered free Wi-Fi, pump-outs, and showers for boaters. We saw all types of vessels and met people from all walks of life. Most interesting were the number of boaters who were in the process of completing the Great Loop. I had heard of the loop previously, but it wasn't until we spoke to many of them that we gained a greater appreciation for the time and dedication it takes to complete the loop. Completing the Great Loop is now on my bucket list!

We also had some great luck with timing. With all the rain we've

had this summer, por-tions of the canal we were planning to cruise in had been closed right up until the time we started our trip due to high water and debris. Now, several weeks after our trip, portions of the canal are again shuttered due to weather impacts...so we really lucked out! The weather was also beautiful! During our week on the water, we had only one rainy day and it was otherwise sunny, cool and beau-tiful every day, making our trip that much better. We were able to bring our bicycles on Board and use them to get around the vil-lages or to peddle along the canal trail, which runs for miles along the canal. The classic canal towns of Fairport, Pittsfield, Newark, Palmyra, Lyons, Clyde and Spen- ceroport all rolled out the red carpet for us and other boaters and we never once felt at all unsafe or unwel-come.

Since returning from our trip, everyone I've talk to is intrigued with our trip and many have said how they'd like to do it themselves one day. I highly recom-mend experiencing the canal at some point in your boating life, either on your own boat or



Photo 5: June, Phil K., Phil C., and Judy posing in front of a map of the canal in the Seneca Falls Canal Museum. Great Museum!

through a rental. There are other companies that rent canal cruisers and there's lot of canals to ex-plore. You could probably go a lot further than we did in 7 days, but don't forget to experience "Life in the Past Lane" during your vacation!

- Phil

xo@abc-flx.org



Photo 6: Our cruiser had a 65 hp diesel, a 42-foot length, a 12-foot beam, two full berths, two heads and a full galley, not to mention lots of room on top for bikes and gear. Here we are parked at the dock in Fairport enjoying afternoon cocktails.

From the Education Director

By Charlie Fausold, SN-IN

Looking Ahead



As the boating season begins to wind down (much as it pains me to

write that!) it is a good time to reflect on subjects we wished we knew a little more about or skills we would like to develop further. America's Boating Club offers a wide array of [in-depth courses](#), [short seminars](#), [online classes](#), recorded webinars and even a library ([America's Boating Channel](#)) of educational videos.

You may already have an idea of your boating education needs based on the type and level of boating you do or anticipate doing. If so, great. But if you are not sure, the [Boat Operator Certification](#) (BOC) program might provide some guidance.

BOC is a credentialing program – a way to get formal credit for your boating knowledge and skill. It could be useful when chartering a boat for example, or perhaps lower your insurance premiums. But its real value may lie in providing a means to chart your way through the myriad of ABC educational products in such a way that you achieve your goals. With that in mind, we have restructured our long-term class schedule to make it easier to visualize the subjects and skills most applicable to different levels of

boating (inland, coastal and offshore). If you choose to pursue BOC certification, and even if you don't, you'll be able to better plan ahead.

Over the summer, several steps were taken that have enhanced our ability to administer the BOC program locally. I was trained as a BOC Certifier (Inland Navigator) which means I can now certify members at that level, and I can also teach the *Hands On Training in Basic Powerboat Handling* for beginners. Our friends, Paul and Maxine Flagg, from the Ithaca Sail and Power Squadron provided this training and have been very helpful to us in getting the program off the ground. Paul and Maxine are both certified at the Coastal Navigator Level, and Paul is now the Assistant Regional Director for District 6.

Five ABC-FLX members are currently pursuing Inland Navigator certification, and several of them intend to go on to higher levels. On-the-water and on-the-ground skill demonstrations/evaluations were held in Watkins Glen and at our rendezvous at Sampson (see article elsewhere in this edition).

You may also have boating education interests that aren't necessarily tied to any particular goal. If so, it would be helpful for us to know what they are, so that we can respond accordingly. For example, the *Sail Trim and Rig Tuning* seminar that we held last spring came about as the result of a suggestion from one of our members. To assist in this effort,

we plan to survey our members to see what educational programs you are most interested in. Look for it in the near future.

Looking ahead, **Marine Navigation** will begin Tuesday, September 28, 7 to 9 pm in the Schuyler County Human Services Building. This 8-week (plus exam) course will replace Piloting as the first in the Navigation series of courses. It is a modern re-thinking of the introductory course, focusing more on electronic navigation, while still covering traditional techniques. A new pilot version of the course is expected to be released in September. If it is delayed, we will delay as well and wait for the new version. The course fee is \$110 and includes the student guide and accompanying *The Weekend Navigator*. Students will also need accessories such as plotting tools and dividers. Instructors: Charlie Fausold and Ray Margeson

America's Boating Course will begin Tuesday, October 12 in Waterloo. Successful completion of the course and the exam will result in the NYS boating safety certificate. Course fee \$45 including 218-page student text. Instructor: Dennis Daniels

Basic Weather and Forecasting. The safety and comfort of those who venture out on the water have always been weather dependent. This seminar serves as an introduction to the basics of weather and forecasting. It is a must for boaters who have never taken a weather course. Thursday, November 4, 7 to 9 pm, Schuyler

County Human Services Building in Montour Falls as well as over freeConferenceCall.com. Course fee \$20. Instructor: Don Kloeber

Instructor Development. This course deals with effective communication for speakers and teachers--a quality that benefits

the individual in all walks of life. It offers practical instruction in: preparing for teaching assignments; preparing for meeting presentations; effective teaching techniques; conducting efficient meetings; and selecting and using audiovisual aids. No fee. Begins

in January. Instructor: Charlie Fausold.

To register for any of these classes contact me at SEO@ABC-FLX.ORG or 607-207-7771.

- Charlie

seo@abc-flx.org

Water Lines

By Glenda Gephart, Public Relations Officer

Seneca Lake Boat Wrecks



Using sonar and underwater camera drones, Art Cohn, lead maritime investigator of the Seneca Lake Archaeological &

Bathymetric Survey, and his crew are rediscovering the lake's history through its shipwrecks.

In the 19th century, Seneca Lake was busy with commercial boat traffic moving to and from the Erie Canal. Cohn is looking for the boats and barges that didn't reach their destinations.

"We realized that Seneca Lake had so much commercial activity on it that it potentially contained a treasure trove of shipwrecks never been inventoried or seen before," Cohn told a reporter with Spectrum News 1 in Syracuse.

"We realized that we had stumbled into a veritable community of historic shipwrecks and their legacies of tragedies from 150 years ago."

Seventeen vessels have been located in Seneca Lake waters, including a rare packet boat that is the only one known to exist.

The Spectrum News 1 reporter, Jim Aroune, spent time on the lake with Cohn and his crew, and

his story and video about the experience are very well done.

The link:

<https://tinyurl.com/uca4dmtu>

Cohn has done a handful of presentations around the region this summer, speaking about his work that began in 2019. If you have an opportunity to hear Cohn, don't miss it!

The project is sponsored by the Finger Lakes Boating Museum in



Photo 7: One of the Seneca Lake shipwrecks from Cohn's book.

Hammondsport and supported by the New York State Canal Corporation, the Institute of Nautical Archaeology, the Tripp Foundation and the Hochul Foundation, which is operated by the family of Kathy Hochul, the state's new governor and former lieutenant governor.

Cohn's published report about the work, "Seneca Lake Archaeological & Bathymetric Survey; 2019 Final Report," is available for purchase from the Finger Lakes Boating Museum and the Schuyler County Historical

Society's Brick Tavern Museum in Montour Falls.

- Glenda
pro@abc-flx.org

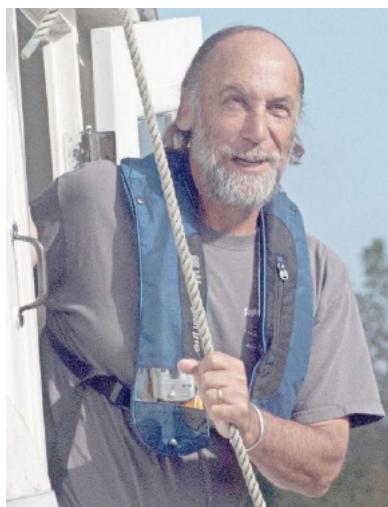


Photo 8: Art Cohn, leader of the project.

Upcoming Classes & Seminars

To register for any of these classes or to get more information, please contact Education Director Charlie Fausold at:

seo@abc-flx.org

or call 607-207-7771

Marine Navigation Course

Sep 28 – Nov 23

Marine Navigation will begin Tuesday, September 28, 7 to 9 pm in the Schuyler County Human Services Building. This 8-week (plus exam) course will replace Piloting as the first in the Navigation series of courses. It is a modern re-thinking of the introductory course, focusing more on electronic navigation, while still covering traditional techniques.

A new pilot version of the course is expected to be released in September. If it is delayed, we will delay as well and wait for the new version.

The course fee is \$110 and includes the student guide and accompanying *The Weekend Navigator*. Students will also need accessories such as plotting tools and dividers.

Instructors: Charlie Fausold and Ray Margeson

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Course fee \$45, including 218-page student text.

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The safety and comfort of those who venture out on the water have always been weather dependent. This seminar serves as an introduction to the basics of weather and forecasting. It is a must for boaters who have never taken a weather course.

Thursday, November 4th, 7 to 9 pm, Schuyler County Human Services Building in Montour Falls as well as over freeConferenceCall.com.

Course fee \$20.

Instructor: Don Kloeber

Photo 9: An image of a sunken boat from Cohn's book.

Instructor Development

Course

This course deals with effective communication for speakers and teachers – a quality that benefits the individual in all walks of life. It offers practical instruction in: preparing for teaching assignments; preparing for meeting presentations; effective teaching techniques; conducting efficient meetings; and selecting and using audiovisual aids.

Begins in January 2022.

No fee.

Instructor: Charlie Fausold

How to Register

If you have questions about any of these courses, or better yet, to sign up, please contact either of the following individuals:

Education Director Charlie Fausold, Finger Lakes Chapter:

seo@abc-flx.org

or call 607-207-7771

Or you can go to the national web site (www.usps.org) and register under the “Find A Boating Class” tab on the member home page.

Looking for Something?

The Finger Lakes Chapter of America’s Boating Club will be happy to accommodate requests for courses not currently on our schedule of formal offerings. If there is an area in which you would like to get some instruction, please contact Charlie Fausold, the Chapter Education Director, with your request.

Available subjects for instruction can be found on the chapter web site:

www.abc-flx.org

Long-Term Class Schedule

Seneca Education Department

Table Key

X = Planned

C = Completed

Level		Title	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Inland Navigator	Classes	ABC	C	X	X	X	X	X
		Boat Handling	C		X		X	
		Engine Maintenance		X				
		Marine Electrical Systems						X
	Seminars	Using A Chart			X			
		VHF/DSC Radios			X			
		Using GPS		X				
	Skills	Basic Weather and Forecasting	X					
		Basic Powerboat Handling	C	X				
		Fire Extinguishers	C					

Level		Title	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Coastal Navigator	Classes	Marine Navigation	X		X		X	
		Marine Communication Systems						X
		Weather			X			
	Seminars	Tides & Currents			X			
		Rules of the Road				X		
		Anchoring		X				
		Mariner's Compass					X	
	Skills	Coastal Nav	X					
		Pyrotechnics	C					

Level		Title	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Advanced Coastal Navigator	Classes	Advanced Marine Navigation		X		X		X
		Cruise Planning				X		
		Marine Navigation Systems					X	
		Radar				X		
	Sem.	Emergencies Onboard			X			
		Marine Radar				X		
	Skills	Advanced Coastal Nav			X			
		First Aid						

Level		Title	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Offshore Navigator	C	Offshore Navigation		X				X
		Computer Weather Forecasting				X		
		Thunderstorms / Severe Weather				X		
		Offshore Navigation				X		
	Sem.	CPR/AED						
		Sail		X		X		X
		Boating on Rivers, Locks, and Lakes	C					
	Endorsements	Canadian Regulations					X	
		Paddlesmart		X			X	
		Instructor Development		X				
		Instructor Recertification				X		
	Other	Operations Training		X				

USPS News: Local, District, National & More

New Member Welcome

Bob MacBlane

Happy Birthday!

Best wishes to Finger Lakes Chapter members who are celebrating their birthday in next couple of months.

September

Howard Cabezas
Charlie Fausold
Lynne McGinnis
Steven Moff

October

Lisa Alley
Carl Blowers
Charlie Honsberger
Ken Mansfield
Mary Margeson
Theresa Moff

Upcoming District 6 Fall Conference Highlights

By Tom Alley

It won't be long, and you will begin receiving information about the District 6 Fall Conference. There are a couple of presentations scheduled for Saturday afternoon, October 30th, that will be of particular interest due of involvement of several of our Finger Lakes Chapter members.

If you've been following the saga of *Tomfoolery* and her quest to sail the Marion-Bermuda Race, you'll probably enjoy the presentation by her crew on the adventures they experienced trip to southern New England and the racing and cruising they did there.

Immediately following, attendees will be welcomed at the Rochester Planetarium (just 2 blocks from the conference hotel) for a 90-minute show that will be a "must-see" for anyone

even casually interested in stargazing or celestial navigation.

It goes without saying that the social events, including lunch, dinner, and associated hospitality sessions are always fun!

The D/6 Fall Conference will be held in Rochester, October 29th-31st. All are welcome. Details will be sent to everyone from the District Secretary in late September or early October.

Got News?

By Tom Alley, Editor

Do you have any squadron-related news or announcements? Contact your editor and have it printed here. We're happy to publicize anything of interest to our members, whether it's for the Seneca Squadron or one of our neighboring squadrons.

Contact Tom Alley:

editor@abc-flx.org

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The Last Word

By Tom Alley, SN

Settling In? Not Likely...



I've been home from my "grand adventure" for a couple of months now and things are starting to

settle back into a routine. At least that's what I keep telling myself. Maybe if I keep repeating that thought I'll begin believing it? Routine or not, there are more changes coming soon.

Before we know it, it will be time to begin decommissioning our boats and getting ready to haul out for the off-season. We'll be talking about what's coming at the District Fall Conference and some of you will be getting ready for a southerly migration while the rest of us scratch our heads trying to remember where we put the snow shovels. (Ugh!)

As my activities shift from being on-the-water to being in-the-house, some energies will get focused on my duties as District Education Officer (DEO) and webmaster for both our local chapter and the District.

As DEO, I've been challenging our Squadron Education Officers (SEOs) to restructure their thinking on USPS education around the BOC program rather than the traditional Advanced Grades sequencing. Our own SEO, Charlie Fausold, has been doing that and is becoming the pacesetter for District 6. I'm excited by the progress he's been making. It's a lot of work, though, and I'm sure he would welcome some help with it. If you have some interest in that area, please reach out to him.

As the webmaster for numerous web sites, including those for District 6 and for our own chapter, I've been spending a lot of time this year rebuilding both. I'm sure you've fallen victim to the random error messages on our home squadron's site that prevent a pages from loading. I was never able to figure out what caused that problem and wound up building a new site from scratch. It's not fully online, yet, because there are a number of things on our site that could stand being updated. If this interests you, drop me a note and we can get things fixed all the sooner.

The District web site is old and outdated. Former District Webmaster Jerry Zambrosky did a great job with the tools he had, but technology has moved on

SV Tomfoolery

and it's time to upgrade to a web site that can keep up with the changes taking place within the USPS. The new site is built on similar technology used on the National USPS web site (and our local squadron site, too). It should be easier for non-technical people to maintain, which I hope will result in a dynamic site that gets updated regularly with new material for everyone.

Closer to home, the to-do list associated with my boat is a chronic fixture in my life. As was pointed out by someone online, any boat over 40 years of age is, by definition, a "project boat". Mine is no exception and, now that I'm home, I can begin working on all of the things that took a beating by being exposed to salt water for several months.

As I enjoy the final months of our (all too short) sailing season, I already know that the winter is not going to be dull or idle.

Darn!

- Your Editor, Tom

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As always, send your thoughts about this newsletter to:

[*editor@abc-flx.org*](mailto:editor@abc-flx.org)

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Calendar of Events

September 2021

- 8/29-9/5 Governing Board Meeting (National)
- 01 Seneca Drum September issue publication date
- 01 General Membership Meeting & Social, *Seneca Cheese Company, Watkins Glen, NY* (1800)
- 14 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 28 Marine Navigation Class begins, *Human Services Building, Montour Falls, NY* (1900)

October 2021

- 12 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 12 ABClass begins, *Waterloo, NY*
- 15 Deadline for *The Deep 6* articles (D/6)
- 22 Deadline for *Drum* articles
- 29-31 District 6 Fall Council & Conference, *Rochester, NY* (D/6)

November 2021

- 01 Seneca Drum November issue publication date
- 04 Basic Weather & Forecasting Seminar, *Human Services Building, Montour Falls, NY* (1900)
- 09 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 18 *The Deep 6* fall issue publication date. (Delayed to cover Conference activities.) (D/6)

December 2021

- 17 Deadline for *Drum* Articles

January 2022

- 01 Seneca Drum January issue publication date
- 11 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 16 Seneca Change of Watch, *Online virtual event.*
- 21 Deadline for D/6 *The Deep 6* articles (D/6)

February 2022

- 01 *The Deep 6* winter issue publication date (D/6)
- 06-13 USPS Annual Meeting, *Ponte Vedra, FL* (National)
- 08 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 21 Deadline for *Drum* Articles

March 2022

- 01 Seneca Drum March issue publication date
- 08 Bridge Meeting (1900)

April 2022

- 12 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 15 Deadline for *The Deep 6* articles (D/6)
- 22 Deadline for *Drum* Articles
- TBA District 6 Spring Council & Conference (D/6)

May 2022

- 01 Seneca Drum May issue publication date
- 01 *The Deep 6* spring issue publication date (D/6)
- 10 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 21-27 Safe Boating Week (National)

June 2022

- 14 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 17 Deadline for *Drum* Articles
- TBA Instructor Development Course begins

July 2022

- 01 Seneca Drum July issue publication date
- 12 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 22 Deadline for *The Deep 6* articles. (D/6)

August 2022

- 01 *The Deep 6* summer issue publication date (D/6)
- 09 Bridge Meeting (1900)
- 26 Deadline for *Drum* Articles

Calendars are “living documents.” For the latest information on squadron activities, please check our web site:

<http://www.abc-flx.org>

or our Facebook page:

<http://facebook.com/SenecaPowerSquadron>

for any last-minute changes.