

# THE GREAT SOUTH SPRAY

a publication of America's Boating Club of Great South Bay



## BRIAN & LINDSEY ENGAGED

The Bolands are proud to announce the engagement of their youngest daughter, Lindsey, to Bryan Juehrs this past September. Plans are in the making for a beautiful wedding. Congratulations to this sweet couple.

Lindsey and Brian joined Great South Bay in 2019 under Mike and Diane Boland.

## IN THIS ISSUE

- TIPS FOR OLDER BOATERS
- A LIFE MEMBER
- RADAR – WHAT TO KNOW
- FIRE ISLAND INLET UPDATE
- A TITANIC WOMAN
- The ABC App released



## 2020 GOVERNING BOARD HELD ONLINE

*The 2020 Governing Board of America's Boating Club was held virtually between September 9<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.*

Because of Covid-19, America's Boating Club was forced to move its Governing Board meeting to an electronic platform. Over the course of two weeks in mid-September, more than 35 meetings were organized and streamed live online.



If you missed these meetings, the recordings are now posted to the USPS National Website at the top of the homepage. Just go to USPS.org and login with your certificate number and pin to access this information. The next Annual Meeting of America's Boating Club is scheduled for 14-21 February 2021 to be held in person in Ponte Vedra, FL. This is subject to change given the public health crisis facing the globe currently.

## D3 GIVES BACK TO TWO LOCAL CHARITIES

Earlier this summer, District 3 was proud to donate to two worthy charities on Long Island. The first being Community Action Southhold Town, a 501c 3 non-profit organization who operates in the Town of Southhold on the east end of Long Island. The second was to Long Island Cares, a local food bank based in Hauppauge. D3 was proud to present each organization with a check for \$500 to help them with their ongoing missions during these difficult times. For more information on either organization please visit their websites:

[castsouthholdtown.org](http://castsouthholdtown.org) & [licares.org](http://licares.org)



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## A MESSAGE FROM THE SQUADRON COMMANDER

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By Cdr Kathy Matheson, AP

When James Milton suggested that we go to a print version of the Spray, one of the requests was that we submit articles about events taking place in the future. Well, COVID definitely put the kibosh on our typical Squadron activities for the foreseeable future.

District Commander Betsy Mandara attended our ZOOM General Meeting on 23 October and shared that the D/3 Bridge will not be holding any in-person meetings/events through 31 January 2021; everything will be held virtually. It is strongly recommended that Squadrons not conduct in-person events, meetings, or classes during this time as well.

In order to comply with their recommendations, and for the safety of all our Squadron members, we have cancelled the holiday party that was to be held on 5 December 2020 at Captain Bill's. They have graciously agreed to refund our deposit, and we hope to plan some fun events for you once the threat of COVID-19 is gone.

We have also learned that the insurance maintained by both District 3 and National does not provide coverage for any COVID-19 related claims. That is why we cannot have any "Squadron Sanctioned" events. It appears that this is the wave of the future since I received a rider to my company's corporate policy with a new "Infectious Disease Exclusion."

So, where do we go in the future? No one knows when this will end; the line is constantly moving, and infection rates are starting to increase around the world. What can we do to stay connected? Attend the General Meetings, call your friends in Squadron to see how they are faring, think about what type of events you would like to see in 2021 and share those ideas with your Bridge. Heaven knows that we have plenty of time to plan for next year.

Please be assured that we will be monitoring the situation and will keep you apprised of any changes in District or National policy. It is my hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and staying safe. Stay vigilant and maintain physical distancing. Hopefully, we will see an Indian summer and can go out and enjoy all our Island has to offer in the fall. Be well!



The Great South Spray is a publication of America's Boating Club of Great South Bay. The editor reserves the right to edit and modify materials in a style that best meets serves the needs of 'The Spray'.

Articles, opinions, and advertisements do not reflect our policy or endorsement unless so designated.

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## TIPS FOR OLDER BOATERS

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By Dr. Gino Mottino, M.D. (from 'The Ensign')

With the average age of Americans advancing and the cost of boats increasing, most new engine-powered boats are bought by older boaters. Regardless of age, a skipper must be responsible for the safety of the boat and everyone onboard.

As an operator, you must be aware of your abilities, limitations, and health, including sight, hearing, mobility, stamina, and mental acuity. You must also keep in mind the abilities and limitations of your crew: As we get older, so do all our family and friends.

Before leaving the dock, you should check equipment, monitor the weather and complete your predeparture checklist, but you should also gather your crew to ask them if they feel well and are comfortable with their situation and any tasks they've been assigned. Ask if they have any special needs or if you should be aware of any conditions that could affect the trip. Make sure the medical box is stocked appropriately and consider having an automated external defibrillator onboard and someone trained to use it.

Assign a back-up skipper or two. Someone who can start and stop the boat, dock the boat, anchor in an emergency, and use the radio to call for help, without any assistance from you.

*Read this article in its entirety online at [theensign.org/tips-older-boaters](http://theensign.org/tips-older-boaters)*

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## GREAT SOUTH BAY MEMBER EARNS LIFE MEMBERSHIP

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**Joseph Russo awarded 25<sup>th</sup> Merit Mark**

Merit Marks are one of the tangible rewards for squadron service. The varied and valuable voluntary service a member may execute does not go unrecognized or un-rewarded. A USPS member who “performs substantial effort in furthering the interests, programs and objectives of USPS, its Districts and Squadrons” may be awarded a merit mark by the Chief Commander. Any member who has earned 25 Merit Marks shall be bestowed the honor of ‘Life Member’. This year, in recognition of 25 years of service, USPS awarded Joe Russo his 25th Merit Mark. It will be presented at the Annual Meeting in Ponte Vedra, Florida in February.

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## MEMBER MILESTONES AND ANNIVERSERIES

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25 MERIT MARKS – Joe Russo

10 YEAR MEMBER – John Pergola

20 YEAR MEMBER – George Fontaine, Bill Gesele, Dave Speciale

45 YEAR MEMBER – Chuck LaCarubba

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**THANK YOU TO SUPPORTERS OF THE GREAT SOUTH SPRAY**

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**Wowee Maui**

Remembering Bill

**Moonlight Shadow**

Ally & James

**Second Edition**

Marie & John

**Never Say Never**

John, Jack, Nick & Ellie

**Sea Raider**

Lisa & Joe

**Pennies from Heaven**

Larry Postel

**Interim**

Larry & Marge Grossgold

**My Pleasure**

Remembering Tony

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**A MESSAGE FROM THE EDUCATIONAL OFFICER**

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By Lt/C Marie Wallach, AP

Boating Education continues to be an especially important part of our Squadron even though we are still going through the Covid-19 pandemic. In classroom courses are still difficult because of the many safety requirements and mandates; however, the education department is diligently working toward more virtual classes for the fall/winter months.

Virtual Americas Boating Course – The Education Team diligently worked together, came up with a teaching plan, and successfully completed two separate classes. Fifteen students received their Boating Safety Certificates. A huge “Thank You” to our Instructors and their Proctors!

If you have never taken the America’s Boating Course or would like a refresher course, please sign up. Remember, it is the law that everyone who operates a motorboat has a Boating Safety Course Certificate approved by NASBLA. This course is called AMERICA’S BOATING COURSE.

Note: Even if you have taken advanced courses such as: Seamanship, Piloting, Advanced Piloting etc., those classes do not get you the certificate. You still must take the America’s Boating Course to get your certificate.

Any questions about upcoming classes are always welcome, so feel free to contact me at MarieAWallach@gmail.com or (631) 848-8387.

Great South Bay’s ASEO, Committee Chairs, and Instructors are always working hard for our Education Dept. Thank you all for helping me do my job! Hoping you all had a good boating season, and that you are well and staying safe.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season!  
Your SEO, Marie

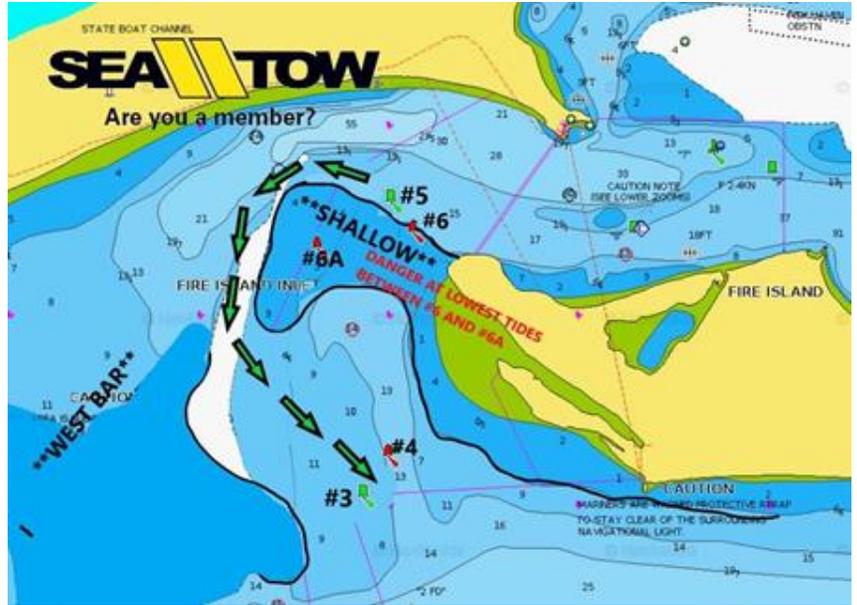




**VESSEL EXAMINERS COMPLETE  
191 EXAMS**

By D/Lt James M Milton, JN

As 2020 wraps up, most of our examiners have finished their exams for the year. Thank you to all our Examiners and members who participated in the Vessel Safety Check program this year. Unless we end up with some late submissions, our final number for Great South Bay this year was 191 examinations by our 7 examiners. If you are interested in becoming a vessel examiner, please contact me and I will get you enrolled. There is no cost to the member to become an examiner; you will just be required to take a self-paced exam online.



**FIRE ISLAND INLET SHOALING UPDATE**

Courtesy of SeaTow Great South Bay

FIRE ISLAND INLET SHOALING UPDATE: The shoaling shown in our chart is continuing to get worse. Just yesterday we had to pull off a 42ft vessel that was aground inside the channel near buoy 6A. If you have a larger vessel with a deep draft, you absolutely need to stay away from this area or you will run aground. As always, proceed at your own risk and make sure you are an active Sea Tow member. [www.seatow.com/membership](http://www.seatow.com/membership)  
Chart for reference only, not for navigational use.

**THANK YOU TO SUPPORTERS OF THE GREAT SOUTH SPRAY**

**Fair Winds, & Following Seas**  
John & Marie

**Jiminy Crystal**  
Jim Milton

**Happy Ours**  
Dave & Rosanne  
Antar

**Reel Sole**  
Frank & Joanne

**Ram Castor**  
Carolyn Cairo

**Lady J PARTY PARTY**  
Joe & Joan

**In Memory of Warren Alber**  
Neutral is your friend

**La Boheme II**  
Chuck & Karen



**NATIONAL SHIPS STORE**

Excerpt from C/C Abbotts letter dated 20 Oct

**GSB SHIP'S STORE**

By Joan Milano

Hello Everyone!

Hope you are doing well & I can't wait to see you all again.

The Ship's Store is up and running with a SUPER SALE: All stock clothing (shirts, hats, cover-ups, windbreakers) are now 30% off original pricing!

Burgees and Ensigns are also available. I am also taking orders for new merchandize. As always please feel free to contact me for any of your Ships Store needs.

Please stay safe and be vigilant. Love you guys. Thank you for supporting the Ship's Store.

Ship's Store: a new procedure is in place for ordering logo items by the Certified Instructors and Vessel Examiners. Four times a year, there will be a two-week window for ordering shirts directly from our supplier through a link on the Ship's Store webpage. This will allow better pricing because of batch ordering plus the order will be drop shipped to the purchaser's address thus saving inventory costs and shipping & handling fees.

\*Editors note – the first window of this program ended 10/27/2020. When the next ordering window opens, you will be notified via e-mail.

**GSBPS.org SUNSET 11/24**

D/Lt James M Milton, JN

After many years, Great South Bay has decided to discontinue use of GSBPS.org. The domain is due for renewal in November, and we are going to let it expire. If you still use the GSBPS.org domain as your preferred way to access our website, please update it to BoatGSB.org. GSBPS.org currently forwards to BoatGSB.org, but after it expires it will cease to exist. If you have any problems, please contact me.

**This is for Al**  
CJacs

**Back to the Beach**  
The Businskis

**SheScape**  
Doreen

**Mary & Michael**  
2020

**Good Luck GSB**  
The Barratos

**Avanti**  
Joani & Angelo

**Born to Play**  
The Sinacore Family

**McCourtship**  
Fair winds, & calm seas

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## THE WOMAN WHO SURVIVED ALL THREE DISASTERS ABOARD THE SISTER SHIPS: THE TITANIC, BRITANNIC, AND OLYMPIC

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Reprinted from 'Today I Found Out' - by Emily Upton

I found out about Violet Jessop, "Miss Unsinkable," the woman who survived the sinking of the sister ships the Titanic and the Britannic, and was also aboard the third of the trio of Olympic class vessels, the Olympic, when it had a major accident.

Violet Jessop enjoyed incredible "luck" from a young age. Born in 1887 in Argentina to Irish immigrants, she contracted tuberculosis as a young child and was given just a few months to live. Somehow, she managed to fight the disease and went on to live a long, healthy life.

When her father passed away, her mother moved the family to Britain, where she took a job as a stewardess on a ship. While her mother was working, Violet attended a convent school. Unfortunately, her mother became ill, and to provide for her siblings Violet decided to follow in her mother's footsteps and become a ship stewardess herself.



The first in a long line of struggles for Violet was finding a ship that would take her. She was just 21 years old at the time and most women working as stewardesses in the early 1900s were middle-aged. Employers believed that her youth and good looks would be a disadvantage to her, "causing problems" with the crew and passengers. (Over the course of her career, she did get at least three marriage proposals while working on various ships, one from an incredibly wealthy first-class passenger.)

Eventually, Violet solved the problem by making herself look frumpy with old clothes and no make-up and experienced more successful interviews after this. After a brief stint aboard the Orinoco, a Royal Mail Line steamer, in 1908, she was hired by the White Star Line.

Violet started out on the line's Magestic, switching to the Olympic in 1910. Despite the long hours and minimal pay (£2.10 every month or about £200 today), she enjoyed working aboard the massive ship. She had initially had some concerns about the rough weather conditions while traveling across the Atlantic, but she reportedly liked that the Americans treated her more like a person while she served them.

It was just one year later when the trouble started. In 1911, the Olympic collided with the HMS Hawke (a ship designed to sink ships by ramming them). Both ships sustained considerable damage, including the Olympic having its hull breached below the water line, but miraculously didn't sink. They were able to make it back to port, and Violet disembarked without being harmed.

A couple of years later, the White Star Line was looking for crew to cater to the VIPs aboard the unsinkable ship, the Titanic. It took a while for her friends and family to convince her that it would be a

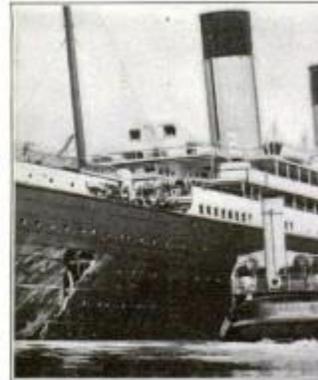
#### THE GREAT SOUTH SPRAY

wonderful experience, but Violet eventually decided to take a job on board the ship. As you already know, the Titanic struck an iceberg and sunk, killing more than 1500 people.

Violet was able to escape the disaster on lifeboat 16. In her memoir, she recalls, I was ordered up on deck. Calmly, passengers strolled about. I stood at the bulkhead with the other stewardesses, watching the women cling to their husbands before being put into the boats with their children. Sometime after, a ship's officer ordered us into the boat first to show some women it was safe.

As she was jumping into the lifeboat, she was handed a baby to care for. When they were rescued by the Carpathia, the baby's mother (or at least Jessop thought it must be) found her and whisked the baby away (literally grabbing the baby out of Jessop's arms and running off).

Once again, Violet lived to sail another day. Although, she did later state the first thing she missed after the Titanic sank was her toothbrush that she'd left on board.



The Hole in the "Olympic," the Damage Below the Waterline being Much Greater Than That Above



The Bow of the "Hawke," the Damage being so Great That the Ram Has Been Mashed Flat

You'd think she'd stop getting on ships at this point, or at least ships of the Olympic class, but not Violet. In the lead-up to World War I, she decided to serve as a nurse on board the Titanic's other sister ship, Britannic, which was operating in the Aegean Sea. Given her track record, you can probably guess what happened next. The Britannic ran into a mine that had been planted by a German U-boat. The ship sustained substantial damage and quickly started sinking.

This time, Violet wasn't lucky enough to jump into a lifeboat as the ship was sinking too fast. Instead, she jumped overboard. In her own words,

I leapt into the water but was sucked under the ship's keel which struck my head. I escaped, but years later when I went to my doctor because of a lot of headaches, he discovered I had once sustained a fracture of the skull!

She joked that she only survived because of her thick hair, which cushioned the blow. She also stated this time she remembered to grab her toothbrush before evacuating, unlike with the Titanic.

Even this latest disaster was not enough to deter Violet. After the war, ships were becoming a more and more popular form of transport. Even cruise ships were starting to emerge. Violet left the White Star Line for the Red Star Line and worked on a ship doing world cruises for several years.

Luckily for Violet and everyone traveling on the ships she was aboard later, no such vessel she worked on ever sustained significant damage again. She did take a clerical job for a while after World War II but went back to working on Royal Mail ships for a few years before she retired at the age of 61. The rest of her life was spent gardening and raising chickens. She died in 1971 of congestive heart failure at the ripe old age of 84.

**ON ANOTHER NOTE – STAY WARM AND DRY**

Reprinted from Oct issue of Gull Chatter  
Oyster Bay Power Squadron  
By Cdr Ron Ferina, JN

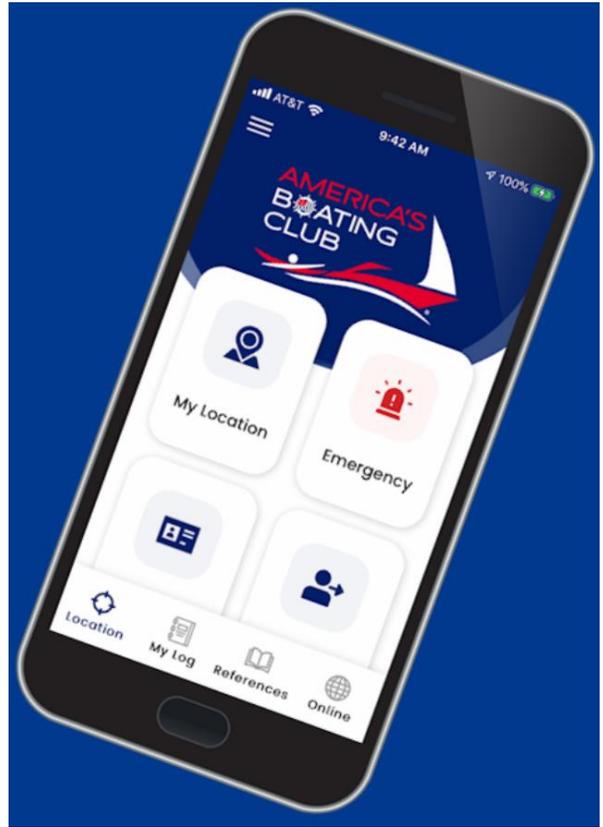
Stay warm and dry. The short boating season may have you delaying putting your boat up for the winter. We do have some nice weather in October, albeit a bit chilly if the sun is not out. September, October, and early November is prime sailboat racing season. Dressing properly is the key to extending your season. Dress in layers, so as the temperature and sun heat up, you can remain comfortable by removing layers. Keep those layers handy because before long, you will be looking to add them back.

Waterproof socks can keep you dry and warm. A base layer that wicks perspiration away should be worn under your pants and shirt. Some base layers are fleece lined, which are great for really cold days. Your pants and shirt should be water repellent and of a quick drying material. A light wind breaker with a high collar and hood is strongly recommended. A good part of losing heat is from your neck and head. A hat should be worn. I find a balaclava is best for colder days as well.

Have a heavier jacket handy. Be prepared.

Water temperatures are usually warmer than the air this time of year, so getting a bit wet is not so bad ... at first. Quick drying apparel is important. If your clothes don't dry by the time the temp and sun begin to go down, you will get very uncomfortable and risk hypothermia.

Enjoy the last days of the season; make them memorable because they predict a long, cold winter ahead.



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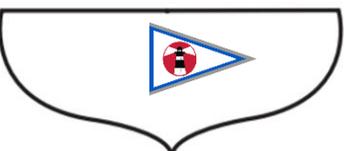
**Dragon Computers**  
George Hoffman

**Just Knot Today**  
The Morrisseys

**In Memory**  
Wilton Widman

**In Memory of**  
Carolyn Postel

**In Memory**  
P/C Irving Smyle



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**MEMBER BENEFIT SPOTLIGHT**  
**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB BOAT**  
**INSURANCE PROGRAM – FOR MEMBERS,**  
**BY MEMBERS**

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One of the many benefits of membership in America's Boating Club is the exclusive America's Boating Club Boat Insurance Program (formerly USPS Boat Insurance Program). This program is available to most America's Boating Club members and is based on the premise that America's Boating Club members represent a class of "preferred risk" boaters by the virtue of their formal education in the care and operation of boats.

Since 1988, the America's Boating Club Boat Insurance Program has been providing America's Boating Club members the best service, reliability, and coverage in the industry. The America's Boating Club Boat Insurance Program was created exclusively for members of America's Boating Club. It is administered by McGriff, Seibels, & Williams, Inc. and underwritten by the Travelers Companies, Inc. Visit [USPS.org](http://USPS.org) and click 'member benefits for more info'

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**WRITERS WANTED!**

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As we continue to try and expand the 'Great South Spray', we are in need of more writers! Writers can submit articles once an issue or once a year on any boating/USPS/ABC related topics. It can be anything from how to dock a boat to old stories from your boating adventures - we appreciate any content you can contribute. Not a good writer? Don't worry; we copy edit every submission prior to publication.

E-mail [Editor@boatGSB.org](mailto:Editor@boatGSB.org)  
to submit content!

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**ALL ABOUT BOATING SAFETY**

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By D/Lt Arthur Huebner, JN

Hi Everyone! I hope you are all safe!

Dictionary definitions of SAFE:

1. Protected from or not exposed to danger or risk
2. Having escaped injury; unharmed
3. Giving protection
4. Trustworthy
5. Prudent, cautious

A thought came to mind about caring and protecting our medications at home or away for the protection of ourselves and loved ones. In general, we have an increase change for injury from falls over a power cord, uneven flooring, carpeting, or worse like falling down the stairs. Now take a moment and add to this list.

The dictionary definition of smoke is; the visible vapor and gases given off by a burning or smoldering substance. Trust your senses. Your first sense of smell can assist in answering the questions of "What type of odor and where is it coming from?" An article in Newsday from Oct 21<sup>st</sup> says that the NTSB blames deadly California boat fire operator/owner error. In sept of 2019 it tragically killed 33 passengers and one crew member off of Santa Barbara. The investigation uncovered a lack of smoke detectors in accommodation spaces, and poor emergency escape options. Thank god for the invention of the smoke detector! It has saved countless lives in the home and on the water.

Reminder, change the clock, change your batteries. Put new batteries in your smoke detectors!

# Classifieds

To advertise in 'The Great South Spray' please visit [BoatGSB.org/advertise](http://BoatGSB.org/advertise)

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## Spring 2021 “Looking Back” Photo Contest

As we look forward to future outings on the water, we want to see your favorite boating photos from years past. They can be from any decade or year, as long as you're the one who snapped the photo. You can submit up to four photos:

- Photographs should not be altered except for cropping, color or contrast adjustment, and dust removal.
- If you would like to submit a print photo, please scan and submit it via email. If you don't have a traditional scanner, there are a number of [scanner apps](#) available for download on your smartphone, such as [Adobe Scan](#). If not, you can mail the photo(s) to us to be returned, but we are not responsible for any lost photographs.
- The contest is open to amateur and professional photographers who are USPS members or subscribers of The Ensign magazine.
- Your entry constitutes an agreement to allow your photos and name to be used in any USPS publication or website. All photos used by USPS will carry a photographer's credit.
- Photographers must hold rights to the photos submitted and must obtain permission before submitting photos of identifiable people.
- Deadline for submission is Dec. 31, 2020. Winning photos will be featured in an upcoming issue of The Ensign.

Take a look at the winners from previous years, then **email your submissions for 2021 to [ensign@hq.usps.org](mailto:ensign@hq.usps.org)**. Please alert us by email if you plan to mail us any physical photos.