

America's Boating Club of Winston-Salem



CROSSED ANCHORS

March/April 2020



Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the FriendsSM

Commander

Lt/C Bill Davis, SN



It is finally spring. Although it has been a very mild winter, it always seems like a long wait for boating season to start. Now it's the cusp of boating season and we are all quarantined in our homes due to CAVID-19. So, I guess I can do some maintenance and work on the farm and only imagine that we are having a normal spring.

I imagine my boat has already been pressure washed and waxed. I wishfully think the Yamaha four stroke 150 hp motor started without hesitation. I continue to dream on that everything works as designed on the boat. The reservations are made for the D27 rendezvous in New Bern the first weekend of June and the boat is peacefully bobbing at the dock in my mind. I have already done my persueing of the goodies in Mitchell's Hardware on Craven Street and made my selection of nice to have, but could have lived without purchases. All this will put a big smile on my face from the hour it took to study all the wares. Always look forward to this ritual as I have in the past whenever in New Bern.

Kin will have had 25 students in his ABC class at Salem Lake March 28 and David and I will have inspected 20 boats, all passing inspection! Now that would be a good day.

So, to look forward with even more excitement, the boat has made its way to the farm in Jamesville and continues to Manteo on Roanoke Island where the rental house has a 30 foot dock to tie up to while the family grills out on the back deck. It's warm but there is a nice sea breeze, so the mosquitoes are not a problem. We have reservations for the kids to see the "Lost Colony" play at the theater waterfront which is always good. Recommend it to any others that would be in the area during the summer.

To let my mind venture even more, I can envision the boat at Belews Lake ready to chase some floating milk jugs with lat/lon coordinates on each indicating where the next milk jug is located. Greensboro and Winston Salem have planned this together so it will be great fun. My chart plotter has found at least 3 satellites and the global positioning is working well. Afterwards we look to open our lunch baskets and dine in high elegance on the water.

For now, I think I will just finish my nap and dream about being in my boat on the open water with the sun warming my face.

Administrative Officer

David Jackson



In response to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), Mayor Allen Joines has issued a "Stay At Home" order affecting all residents and nonessential businesses in the City of Winston-Salem. The order is valid from 5 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2020 through 12:01 a.m. Thursday, April 16, 2020.

Greetings, I hope everyone is well and staying safe. Due to the stay at home orders, we are canceling all meetings until May. We will reassess the COVID-19 threat at that time. We would still like to hear from everyone in the mean time, let Sheila, or anyone in the club know what you are doing and if you need anything. We may not be able to meet, but we can still stay in touch. I will be looking at our Face book page daily and you can post there or give us a call. These are trying times, but we will get through it.

Hopefully there will be boating and better times this summer. I have been on house arrest since Feb16, I went to Costa Rico and had a good trip. The country is beautiful and we saw a lot of interesting places.

Upon my return while flying through Atlanta airport I caught a nasty case of type A flu. So for the next two weeks I dealt with the flue and a chest infection. I got over that just in time to have shoulder surgery to repair two torn ligaments and a rotor cuff tear. Surgery went well and I earned 4 ½ week home stay from that. No Driving with Nurse Debbie making sure. Now we are under the stay at home orders. By the time I get out, I will have forgotten what Winston Salem looks like. Well enough complaining, I urge everyone to practice social distancing, take care of family and stay safe. Debbie and I will be hanging out in Rural Hall!

<https://www.facebook.com/Winston-Salem-Sail-and-Power-Squadron-227852653967964/>

Thanks for your support.

Lt/C David Jackson, S

Admin Officer, America's Boating Club of Winston Salem

Education Officer

Lt Kin Cartrette



Life has changed. It will pass and we will be okay, but for the near future it has it changed. My profession is a speech/language pathologist in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools. Like all educators, I'm used to getting up and going into a busy and energetic school, working face to face with my students and colleagues, progress monitoring, writing IEPs, contacting parents, preparing lessons and materials for tomorrow, and running a few errands on the way back home to the great metropolis of King, North Carolina.

The first signs came when we no longer allowed parents and visitors to come in the school buildings. Then they began gathering the laptops and Chromebooks from all of the classrooms. Then the announcement came that the students would no longer be allowed in the building and that we would send homework packets and Chromebooks for distance learning for two weeks. After two weeks of being without our students and trying to learn how to deliver speech therapy via the internet, the buildings were closed and educators and staff began teaching from home. So, my den looks like Penelope Garcia's computer station on Criminal Minds and I am doing distance learning speech therapy from home!

Change isn't easy. The routine is very comfortable, and we don't like being uncomfortable. But a new normal is here for a while. I prefer the classroom setting for teaching, but, it is not possible now. On Saturday, March 28th, the Winston-Salem Sail and Power Squadron had a day-long class scheduled Salem Lake as part of "Creek Week". We were planning to offer Vessel Safety Checks at the Salem Lake boat ramp as part of the day's activities. The threat of a very dangerous COVID-19 pandemic necessitated a closing of city parks and all classes and activities were cancelled.

So, we will practice social distancing and know that it will pass and we plan to be okay! As we spend time at home with family, outdoor boating and the boating classes my have been restricted or halted for a while, but we have options! When given lemons, make lemonade! Americas Boating Club has online classes that we can take online while we wait out the coronavirus. If you go to the Online Boating Education page at <https://www.americasboatingclub.org/learn/online-boating-education> you will find links to the online Americas Boating Course -3. There are online seminars for weather for boaters, VHF marine radio, boating in rivers and locks, AIS electronics for boats, crew at the helm, how to use GPS, planning your cruise, hurricane preparation, and propane systems on your boat. There are also webinars with virtual classrooms. These are opportunities to continue your boating learning and also encourage friends to take the classes online!

I look outside the window while I'm teaching from home and frequently see Jordan climbing on "C'Gal", washing her, checking the engine, checking the lights, inspecting the trailer, and then repeating the process. The boat has never been so clean! I hope he doesn't rub a hole through the gelcoat!

Be safe! Take care of yourself and your family. Pray for our health care professionals and those coming back from retirement to help in the hospitals. Pray for our leaders as they coordinate the effort. Call family and friends and shorten the distance a little.

The weekend promises to be beautiful and it may be time to pull out the canoe and find a remote river! Watch the Crossed Anchors for updates on classes!

So, see you on the water eventually in a clean boat!

Kin



Fish House Chronicles

By P/C Don Breault, AP

“The Flight of that First Spring Cruise”

Felix was feeling that urge to get out of the shady turf and taste some of that good old fashioned salt spray in his face. The winter as mild as it was, had Felix dreaming the journey of a dreamer for almost seven nights in a row. The fire of adventure was burning in his soul. He, like most of us has been confined to quarters because of the COVID 19 virus pandemic. Felix had been sitting at home watching “Captain Ron” re-runs one after another thinking that someday he will be able to live the life of a Captain Ron and make a good living at it. Because Felix knows that your destination is where you are that moment. So Felix rounds up Mandy and the pair decide to go to the boat knowing they could be in violation of the stay in place shelter proclamation.

They get to the boat and the marina is a ghost town. They are the only people on the docks. Mandy bleeps out that this is pretty scary. She reported that this is almost like one of those science fiction movies she and Felix would watch when nothing else was on the TV. Mandy thought that she saw a UFO hovering in the east over the ocean. Felix just shrugged it off as he concluded it was the effects of the pandemic.

Felix went below on his little fishing boat and reported that there were at least 2 rolls of toilet paper and 1 roll of paper towels. Now Felix was thinking he could use those items to barter with. Maybe he could pay for some take-out food with 10 or 20 sheets of toilet paper. So what does Felix do? He talked himself into just that. He calls the pizza palace down the street from the Marina and orders a large pepperoni pizza. He drives up to the take out window and the owner said this will be \$32.95 with tax. So Felix rolls out 45 sheets of toilet paper and hands it over to the little man behind the window. Now we all know how this story is about to unfold. The little man expressed to Felix; “You got to be kidding me” Toilet paper? He demanded cash and told Felix to keep his toilet paper. So Felix tried to roll out almost the entire roll, but to no surprise, the little pizza man insisted on cash. “No cash, no Splash” was the sound that Felix heard over and over in his mind. So he gave in and gave up the cash. Then the little man kept the toilet paper anyway as a way of saying this is my tip.

Back to the marina went Felix and he and Mandy had a wonderful dinner of peperoni pizza and some warm Coors Light with mountain labels showing no color at all. Plus the beer was last summer’s left over because Captain Reid did not finish them. That next morning they pulled out from the dock and at high tide they entered the ICW heading north toward the turning basin in Morehead City. Sky was clear and the temperature was a bit on the chilly side but the day was young and the forecast was a balmy 75 degrees. At this point it occurred to Felix that he and Mandy may be the only people on the water in a boat. How strange is this he thought? Now just where did you see that UFO in the east he asked Mandy? No response as she was trying to ready the cabin below for an evening on the hook near Oriental Harbor. As the two sailors entered Adams Creek, they quickly brought the little boat up on plane to 20 plus knots as the water looked like a mill pond. No wind and great visibility and above all, no marine traffic at all.

Now Felix got to his intermediate destination in Jarrett Bay to purchase some diesel fuel. No one was home as they had to dock themselves. Place was like a ghost town that was locked up and closed for the ensuing storm of the century. Felix now had to calculate his fuel left to make sure he could get to Oriental. Knowing that he had a previous experience on running out of fuel, he would rather not repeat that same experience. The couple pulled out of the marina and continued north along Adams Creek. The weather was on their side but again they saw no marine traffic. When they entered the Neuse River, they did get a glimpse of a large trawler heading east toward the Pamlico, but she was too far for them to catch up, so Felix continued to head to Oriental. Early that afternoon they arrived into Oriental Harbor Marina and noted there were at least 6 or more open slips so they took one. No one answered on the VHF so again they docked themselves.

They got off the boat and noted the restaurant was closed; the hotel was locked up with a sign closed due to the COVID 19 pandemic. So back to the boat they went to assess the food & beverage situation. Here is what they found: 1 roll of toilet paper, a half roll of paper towels, 2 cans of year old rusty cans of sardines, 1 small can of baked beans, and an open bottle of wine from last year. Plus the 3 remaining warm bottles of outdated and expired Coors Light beer. That was the good news. The bad news was the fuel supply was less than a half tank. Maybe enough to return to Morehead City but not enough to get to Peltier Creek. The now worried couple sat down to make the best of the limited cuisine they found aboard and hoped that they would not have to use all of the toilet paper. The marina had shut off all power to the slips so they had no electricity to warm the beans so cold beans and sardines they ate for dinner washed down with stale warm beer. The entire area was so quiet, Mandy thought that everyone had evacuated to someplace else. Felix assured her that this was the result of the virus scare going on. So the two drifted off to sleep and had dreams of the many cruise destinations they would encounter later that summer.

The next morning they were awake to finally see some evidence of civilization. It was a county Sheriff's Deputy who spotted them moving around in the boat and quickly lit up the public dock area with multiple blue lights and a very loud voice crackled over the PA system of the police vehicle questioning the people in the small down east cruiser why they were not adhering to the Governor's orders to stay put in your shelter. Felix responded that they were keeping a safe social distance from everyone. The Deputy got out of his car and approached the docks and told them to get their boat back to their home port pronto. So Felix complied and they two of them motored back out into the Neuse River heading back to Adams Creek.

Felix watching his fuel supply drift lower into the one quarter tank level began to create a worried feeling in his stomach. As they rounded another bend in the creek they were alerted by a Coast Guard patrol boat that had his blue lights on signaling them to heave to and to be boarded. As they stopped in the middle of the creek the patrol boat stood 15 feet to their port and asked the usual questions of origin & destination. Felix responded they were heading back to home port from Oriental. The patrol boat captain advised Felix that he was in violation of the stay at home order and that all recreational boating activities were suspended for 30 days. When Felix showed them his fishing tackle, they agreed to let him off with a verbal warning because they did not want to expose themselves to unknown risks. So Felix and Mandy sped off hoping they could find one marina open for selling fuel.

They got to the turning basin and the fuel level was right on empty. But Felix was committed at this point so he operated in trawler/crawler mode to conserve what little fuel he had. The luck of the Irish was upon him as he hailed the Gulf Docks in Morehead City to find that they were open for another hour. So the little cruiser was pointed into the waterfront district of Morehead City where they docked and got a tank full of fresh diesel. Mandy looked around and she found the Ruddy Duck was doing curbside take-out orders so she ran as quickly as she could with cash & credit card in hand. Felix paid for the fuel and asked where he could buy some cold beer or cold water. The dock hand pointed to a guy across the street selling toilet paper by the single roll. Felix approached him and asked for some cold beer and water. The little man said he could have a 6 pack of bud with every emergency survival kit purchased. Felix asked what that was and the little man said it was 1 roll of toilet paper, 6 sheets of paper towels, a small 8 ounce bottle of hand sanitizer, and a small container of sanitizing wipes. How much asked Felix? The little man said \$255. Felix walked back to his boat waiting on Mandy and she did return with 2 take-out orders of fried shrimp and scallops. She also said that in order to get the take-out food she had to purchase a 30 day membership called the survivors club. What was that asked Felix? She responded that it included 1 roll of toilet paper, a half roll of paper towels, and small container of hand sanitizer and a small container of sanitizer wipes for \$255.

They ate their food and drank the last warm bottle of Coors Light. Felix told Mandy he found a better deal on toilet paper that came with a cold 6 pack of bud. Mandy laughed and said that she was offered the bud as part of the deal but she declined so she could get the \$50 discount on the membership. She was feeling pretty happy about saving \$50 bucks that day. So back to Peltier Creek they went and the best part was nothing broke on the boat, and they never went aground.

See you on the water

P/C Don Breault

“Island Girl”

Maintenance Mike



For most boaters in North Carolina, the winter layup is somewhat easy and shorter than our northern comrades. By this time you have already got the itch to re-commission those boats on trailers or laid up in a storage yard on blocks covered in a shrink wrap or some sort of plastic to keep the dust, dirt and other airborne pollutants from settling inside the cockpit. But before you launch your “Baby” this spring, listed below are some things you do not want to overlook if you are a do it yourself service technician.

1. Bilge pump operation, wiring, and automatic float switch. You want to visually inspect this very important item for proper operation and make sure there is no debris left over from the winter that may have got inside of the bilge that could obstruct the operation of this very important safety device.
2. Control cables. Inspect and lubricate where needed all steering, and throttle cables as needed for smooth operation. Test for any unusual noise by twisting the cable that is inside the sheathing because this is an area of unseen corrosion. Check your boat or engine owner’s manual for proper lubricant service.
3. Ventilation. Most important on any gasoline powered engine and fuel tanks that are enclosed below decks. The blower switch, wiring, and motor should have a visual and test run before launching the first time. Gas fumes are the primary cause of most explosions caused from not venting those spaces. Inspect any air vents in the hull to make sure insects, rodents, and other uninvited critters have not blocked these critical air intake items. Winter time is a prime period for rodents to nest inside of these vents and connected hoses.
4. Cockpit drains & thru hulls. Inspect all cockpit drains for winter accumulation of crud and debris that can block the flow of water discharge from rain. Many a boat has filled with rain water because of a blocked drain hose and faulty bilge pump float switch. While you are on your knees and putting yourself into smaller places you cannot fit into, this is a good time to check all seacocks for ease of opening and closing. Now is also a good time to clean the sea cock strainers from last year’s debris.
5. Lower unit inspection & oil lube change. Now is a good time to inspect the lower units for any water intrusion leakage by draining the oil and refilling with fresh lube. If you discover water contamination, this is the best time to have the units serviced by a marine tech who specializes in this. It could be something as simple as a few seals and not a major replacement of components. You also want to inspect the bellows and thru hull connection plate to insure no rodent damages as they like to chew on the rubber if the boat sat on a trailer for some time. The bellows is also prone to becoming brittle from age so this would be a good time to inspect and replace if needed.

Cont’d next page

6. Engine. Change oil, oil filter, and fuel filter. Even if you only put on less than 50 hours on the engine last year, the oil has been sitting in that crank case for a year so it is good sense to just change it. This is a simple do it yourself trick with the help of some tools that another boater can lend you such as an oil drain vacuum rig. While you are bent in half in a painful agonizing position this would be a good time to inspect all belts & hoses for cracking, wear, and age issues. All of these rubber type components get brittle with constant heat and age. Inspect engine for any corrosion and this is also a good time to replace any and all zincs in this area. If your engine is a freshwater cooled rig, the heat exchanger will have both zincs to replace and other service needs to insure raw sea water corrosion is not taking its toll. Remember, raw water cooled components have a 3 to 5 year shelf life or less depending on where you do your boating. Less in salt water, and maybe a little more in fresh water such as inland lakes. If you have an inboard, you will also need to service the transmission by checking for hydraulic fluid level and see when the manufacturer recommends a complete oil/lube change. Last but not least, this is also a great time to inspect and service your batteries. The new technology in glass matt type of dry batteries is wonderful compared to the traditional wet cell giants. They last longer and can take more tossing around if you are a cowboy on the water. Just make sure before you upgrade to these, your battery chargers can accommodate these batteries.

7. Safety gear. Now is a good time to inspect, replace, update, or upgrade your distress signals, sound devices, PFD's, and all running lights. The new technology for an LED lighted SOS signal lantern is a great alternative to explosives such as the 12 gauge meteor flare guns we were all trained to use but may have never used them. These new lighted distress signals have no expiration date and the initial cost is the same as replacing 4 or 5 flares for the pistol. You may want to make sure you have replaced any flashlights you keep on the boat with fresh batteries. Most of us never do much night time boating, but Felix has a story about running out of fuel forcing him to extend his on the water time well into the darkness of night time.

Next month we will discuss fresh water tanks, plumbing, and marine sanitation devices. Meantime, safe boating and have fun. Remember what Captain Ron said: "you don't know what you don't know, so get it out into the open water and see what works"



Calendar of Events for 2020

America's Boating Club of Winston Salem

Date	Events for 2020
Mon, May 4	Executive Meeting North Point Grill 1800
Wed, May 6	Wade Shores/Shackleford Banks Picnic
Thur, May 14	Cape Lookout Raftup
Sat & Sun, May 16-17	Crystal Coast Boat Show, Morehead City, NC
Wed, May 20	Wade Shores/Shackleford Banks Picnic
Wed, May 20	Membership Meeting Bleu Restaurant 1800
Mon, June 1	Executive Meeting, Mayberry's Restaurant 1800
Wed, June 3	Wade Shores/Shackleford Banks Picnic
June 6-12	Albemarle Loop Cruise
Wed, June 17	Membership Meeting, Bleu Restaurant 1800
Mon, July 6	Executive Meeting, North Point Grill 1800
Mon, Aug 3	Executive Meeting, Mayberry's Restaurant 1800
Wed, Aug 19	Membership Meeting, Bleu Restaurant 1800
Mon, Sept 7	Executive Meeting, Mayberry's Restaurant 1800
Wed, Sept 16	Membership Meeting, Bleu Restaurant 1800
Mon, Oct 4	Executive Meeting, North Point Grill 1800
Wed, Oct 20	Membership Meeting, Bleu Restaurant 1800

* Address for Bleu Restaurant is: 3424 Frontis Street, WS. 336-760-2026, contact is Sam Strong

** Address for Mayberry's is: 50 Miller Street, WS. 336-724-3682

*** Address for North Point Grill is - 7843 North Point Blvd, WS. Phone is 336-896-0500

**** Polo Park Community Center, 1850 Polo Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27106





2020 Bridge Officers

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Nominating Committee: Lt/C Eddie Shinlever, P, P/C Debbie Mayfield S, P/C Reid London N

Feel free to contact any of the above if you have questions. Our meetings are always open to the public.

Please visit with us anytime.