

The ABA Beacon

Publication for American Boating Association Members

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MEMBER BENEFITS

- **The ABA Beacon®**
- **ABA Online®:** All benefits can be accessed at americanboating.org
- **ABA Boat Insurance:** 888-222-5792
- **ABA Finance Program:** 888-222-5792
- **Safe & Clean Boating Information**
- **Cruising Destination Information**
- **ABA Marina Discounts**
- **ABA Visa® Credit Card:** 800-FIRSTUSA
- **BoatersWorld.com Product Promotions**
- **ABA Online Travel Booking Service**
- **ABA Personal Checks and Labels**
- **Lakeland Boating Magazine Discount:** 800-827-0289, ID#ZABA
- **Great Lakes Ports O' Call Cruising Guides Discount:** 800-892-9342, ID#ZABA
- **Cruising Guide To The New York State Canal System Discount:** 802-860-2886, ID#ABA
- **Waterway Guides Discount:** 800-233-3359, ID#UWGABA

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Smo-o-o-th Sailing for ABA Members

Whether you're headed out to sea or out to the marina, ABA benefits make your boating safer, more enjoyable, and more affordable: • Boat insurance & financing • Free boating resources, references & information • Discounts on travel, boating magazines, car rentals, theme parks - and much more! And when you use your ABA Visa® card, you support our mission to promote boating safety, affordability, environmental cleanliness, growth, and fun for more than 30,000 ABA members. Access all of your member benefits at www.americanboating.org.

Atlantis - Paradise Found in the Bahamas

by Mike Anderson, ABA Staff Member and Former Full-Time Cruiser

Legend has it that the lost continent of Atlantis sank into the ocean thousands of years ago taking its secrets with it to the bottom of the sea. If you visit Nassau in the Bahamas, you may find that Atlantis has risen, bringing the magic and wonders of the lost continent with it.

Atlantis on Paradise Island, Bahamas, is an excellent destination for the boater looking for an all around resort location that has something for everyone. This mega-resort dominates the skyline of Nassau Harbor and provides an exotic backdrop for this island adventure.

The marina at Atlantis is one of the premier marinas in the Bahamas. This luxury yacht harbor can accommodate vessels up to 220 feet. The 100 foot wide channel, located to the west of the north bound Nassau/Paradise Island bridge, provides direct access from Nassau Harbor and allows for unrestricted mast height for sailboats and easy access for power boats. The channel and the marina both have a minimum depth of 12 feet at low tide. This well protected marina features 63 slips, the largest of which are 160-foot finger piers with

Harborside Resort at Atlantis

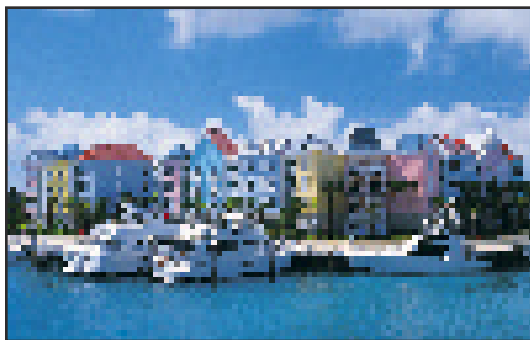


Photo Courtesy of Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas

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Log In? Password? What's That All About?

ABA Online's home page has a new look - and a quick new procedure for you to gain access to all of your member-only benefits at www.americanboating.org. Here's how it works:

- **If you are an ABA VISA credit card holder**, set up your member account access by clicking on "Already an ABA Member but Haven't Set Up Your Log-In Account Yet?" on the home page. Once your account is created, your password will be e-mailed to you. You may keep this password, or change it by clicking on "Update Account."
- **If you are not an ABA VISA credit card holder**, simply click on "Forgot Your Password?" Enter your e-mail address where indicated, and we will automatically send you a password by e-mail. You may keep this password, or change it by clicking on "Update Account." Be sure to enter the **same e-mail address** you used to sign up as a member - that's how you're identified as a Charter Member in our records.

Problem? Question? Just send us an e-mail at admin@americanboating.org or call us at **508-432-8846**, and we'll provide prompt assistance.

• Your ABA Membership is Still FREE

You'll also see that there is now a \$10 per year charge for new members; however as a *Charter Member* of ABA, your membership is still free. You will continue to enjoy free access to all of your member benefits now and in the future. It's our way of saying "Thanks" to you and more than 30,000 of your fellow boaters and boating enthusiasts who have helped ABA grow. Our goal is to make your boating safer, less expensive, and more enjoyable. We look forward to serving your needs in the future. If there's a way we can make your membership more valuable, we'd like to hear from you. Please send us a message at admin@americanboating.org. Thanks again for your support! ■

A TIDY VESSEL IS A SAFE VESSEL

by Wayne Spivak, National Press Corps, United States Coast
Guard Auxiliary

When I was younger, I remember “Cleanliness is next to Godliness.” I guess it was our culture’s way of teaching us that neat and clean were a healthy way to live. However, that old adage as many old sayings do has some truth to it. And no better place to share the validity of the adage is on your boat. A sloppy boat is just a disaster waiting to happen.

What is a sloppy boat?

Let’s define my term “sloppy.” A sloppy boat has lines, and equipment lying around the deck. A sloppy boat has a bilge, which contains foreign objects. A sloppy boat has chafed and/or exposed electrical systems. A sloppy boat has leaky or poorly supported fuel systems. A sloppy boat has a galley full of dirty dishes. A sloppy boat has pots and pans not secured. A sloppy boat has heating and air conditioner ducts clogged or blocked. A sloppy boat is a very dangerous place to be.

A USCG Auxiliary Vessel Safety Examiner will, during the course of a free Vessel Safety Check (VSC), check your boat and note when and where these and other conditions exist. Failure to keep a tidy boat, is just one of the reasons for failing a VSC, and if not corrected, could cause the Coast Guard to issue a voyage termination order.

But, we’ve gone a little too far. Let us examine why a sloppy boat is a very dangerous place to be!

Dangers of a sloppy boat

Tripping on equipment or lines that are just lying around the cockpit, the galley, the sole, or even the walkways can seriously injure you, your crew or guests. In fact, it’s possible to fall overboard by tripping over something.

In addition, gear, which is not stowed properly, as far as weight distribution, can cause instability for the vessel, and increase the chances of both a broaching and/or a swamping. A reason for the increased likelihood of these two conditions is the reduced freeboard caused by the improper weight distribution.

Foreign articles in the bilge can cause the pump to fail, which in turn, prohibits the water from finding its way out of the boat. Excess water in the bilge can cause stability problems for your vessel, by having a freely shifting weight moving counter to the righting arm of the vessel.

Electrical systems and fuel systems that are in need of repair can be the cause of the one element you never want to lose control of in a boat. From time in memorial, fire has been one of the most prized, yet frightening aspects on a boat. “Fire,” as Richard Pryor once said, “is inspirational,” except on boat!

With nowhere to go, but overboard, a fire can be one of the most frightening and dangerous events that a boater can encounter. As in your house, frayed wires can cause a fire. Improperly maintained fuel systems can also cause gas fumes, which can be ignited. In either case, unsafe electrical and fuel systems are a dangerous condition. Dirty and clogged heating or air conditioner vents prevent these systems from efficiently working, and can cause overheating of the a/c or heating systems.

Vermin, insects, food poisoning, and flying debris are all caused by a sloppy galley. Broken glass, crockery, sharp implements (such as knives, forks and even spoons) can be dislodged during a bouncy ride, and be the catalyst for injury.

Who wants to sleep in an overly cold or hot cabin that most likely is inhabited by non-paying, non-contributory guests (we’re not talking about the in-laws... we’re talking about vermin and insects).

A clean galley is a safer galley. A safer galley is a safer boat, and safe boating should be the goal for all boaters. For further information, you can contact your local Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla at www.cgaux.org. To contact a Vessel Examiner in your area, use the automated VSC Examiner finder at: www.safetyseal.net/GetVSC/. ■

Boat Evaluations Available

ABA has made it easier to research boats through the “Boat Test” section of www.americanboating.org. Boats are listed by type (bass, cruiser, deckboat, fishing, high performance, etc.), then by manufacturer. Click on the boat that you are interested in to see the following information.

- General Information
- Test Results
- Specifications
- Photo Gallery
- Detailed Information

Contact information for the manufacturer is also listed. BoatTEST.com provides the information.

Save time by using this very handy and informative section of the ABA website. ■

Book Your Travel with ABA and Save!

You can check rates and book your travel online with ABA’s Travel Booking Service and receive as much as 65% off hotels. Discounts are available on rental cars and vacation rentals. Book your air, too. Simply go to www.americanboating.org and book your travel online. You have a choice of bookings with major airlines, hotels, and rental car agencies across the country and the world! ABA is your “one-stop shop” for your travel needs, saving you time to individually check out travel prices.

Hotel discounts are as much as 65% off at properties like Hampton Inns®, Holiday Inns®, Best Westerns®, Courtyards by Marriott®, and many others. You can even save on your vacation rentals. Avis®, Alamo®, Budget®, Hertz®, Enterprise®, National®, Thrifty®, and other rental car companies are available to book your discount rentals. And booking airfare is just as easy with choice itineraries available from many of the major airlines.

After you make your reservation online, 24-hour, 7-days a week, 365 days a year (including holidays) customer care is available if you have any questions or need help with anything.

Save yourself time and money - book your travel today at www.americanboating.org! ■

ON THE HORIZON

Boat Shows

Representative boat shows are listed below. For a full boat show listing and to link to boat show websites, please visit www.americanboating.org/boatshows.asp.

September 4 - 7

Atlantic City In-Water Powerboat Show, NJ
215-732-8001

September 5 - 7

Daytona's September Boat Show, FL
516-225-1941

September 10 - 14

Fall Lake Union Boats Afloat Show, WA
206-748-0012

North American Sail & Power Boat Show, OH
440-899-5009

September 11 - 14

Newport International Boat Show, RI
800-582-7846

September 13 - 21

Boat Show USA - Fall, MI
800-529-0494

Fall Power & Sail Boat Show, CA
800-818-9994

September 18 - 21

Norwalk Int'l. In-Water Boat Show, CT
212-984-7000

Lido Yacht Expo, CA
949-757-5959

September 21 - 22

Antique & Classic Boat Show, VA
757-727-1276

September 25 - 28

NY/NJ Sail Expo, NY
800-817-7245

September 26 - 28 & October 4 - 5

Long Island In-Water Fall Boat Show, NY
631-691-7050

September 27 - 28

Newport International Boat Show, RI
800-582-7846

October 2 - 5

Tampa Int'l. Boat Show, FL
954-441-3220

October 15 - 19

Int'l. Sail & Power Boat Show, CA
714-633-7581

October 30 - November 3

Ft. Lauderdale Int'l. Boat Show, FL
800-940-7642

Atlantis

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a 35-foot beam, plus several lay-along-side berths with no beam restrictions.

Guests of the marina enjoy all of the benefits and activities that Atlantis has to offer and the added benefit of being able to stay on their own vessel and with access to their own provisions. With 18 restaurants, Atlantis provides a wide variety of dining selections ranging from poolside casual to upscale elegant, from exotic Asian and Bahamian cuisine to Italian, American fare, buffets and even a deli. For on-board dining, marina guests can choose from room service or a home cooked meal prepared on-board.

Nightlife abounds with 20 lounges and clubs offering dancing, comedy, sports and cigar bars. The Atlantis Casino spans a 7-acre lagoon between the towers in a setting of magnificent ocean views and provides an exciting venue for the gamblers aboard.

The grounds that surround the hotel complex are a captivating mix of water-park, aquarium and tropical-island paradise. The towering six story Mayan Temple offers five water slides, including the daring Leap of Faith, a 60 foot nearly vertical drop that shoots you through a clear tunnel submerged in a shark filled lagoon. The less adventurous can ride the Lazy River Ride, a relaxing quarter mile long river that carries you on a tube through lush tropical scenery. In between these two extremes are several other fun filled rides for children of all ages. Atlantis offers 11 pool areas for swimming and lounging and miles of white sand beaches on the Atlantic Ocean.

Atlantis boasts of having the largest marine habitat in the world. The 11 exhibit lagoons contain over 11 million gallons of water and are the home to more than 50,000 sea animals from 200 species. There are lagoons filled with stingrays that glide majestically in huge packs; guests can even touch and feed them. There are all kinds of sharks, huge turtles, eels, jellyfish and colorful reef fish. The underwater viewing areas offer spectacular glimpses of marine life and live coral in an awesome setting that may

not be seen anywhere else without getting wet.

The Dig is a fascinating interpretation of how life may have been in mythical Atlantis. This underground maze of rooms and corridors take you on a journey into the imagination. It explains how Atlantis and its inhabitants may have existed and gives vivid examples of what their civilization would have been like by taking you into the ruins of ancient Atlantis. All of this is in the setting of huge aquarium tanks filled with stunning sea life. There are sharks, piranhas, moray eels, huge groupers and the largest stingray you could imagine. It was quite a sight to see long lines of spiny lobsters racing

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Need a Better Rate on Your Boat Insurance or Loan?

ABA Boat Insurance and Finance

www.americanboating.org

888-222-5792 (toll free)

Just one online or telephone quote request, and the insurance & finance experts will get you the best quote.

- Fast, free confidential service
- Specialists in marine insurance and finance since 1966
- Available for all boat types and sizes

Another valuable benefit for members of the American Boating Association



ABA
American Boating
Association

Working to promote boating safety, affordability, growth and a clean environment!

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across the bottoms of the tanks in conga line formation. The detail and extravagance of The Dig is something that will bring you back every day of your visit to Atlantis.

In addition to all of this, Atlantis offers many other activities to their guests. There are water toy rentals like sunfish, hobie cats, paddleboats, kayaks and even a glass-bottom boat. Complimentary scuba lessons are available and scuba and snorkeling adventures can be arranged. Boat charters can be booked as well as several other tours and excursions around the island. Guests have access to the 18-hole championship Paradise Island Golf Club just five minutes away. There is tennis, volleyball and basketball as well. The Spa at Atlantis will pamper you with a full array of services including aromatherapy, facials, massage and even a seaweed body wrap. A full service salon and two fitness centers are also available. Discovery Channel Camp at Atlantis offers three sessions daily for children ages 5-12.

If you are looking for a luxury destination for your boating vacation, Atlantis should be at the top of your list. The marina is first class, the amenities are exceptional and the resort provides entertainment and activities for everyone aboard. The only reason to have nothing to do at Atlantis is by choice, and there is nothing wrong with lounging about in a tropical paradise surrounded by the activity of others.

For more information on Atlantis visit them online at www.atlantis.com or contact them at 888-528-7155 for reservations, rates or to request a brochure. ■

Helpful Boating Information

ABA Onlinesm, www.americanboating.org, has a myriad of helpful boating information for ABA members. Take advantage of the following resources:

- ABA Marina Alliance Program Marinas - marinas that offer ABA Member discounts.
- Marine Manufacturers - a searchable database of all types of marine manufacturers.
- Marine Surveyors - a searchable database of marine surveyors around the country.
- Boat Show Calendar - find an upcoming boat show from a database of over 400 shows.
- Fuel Tax Refund Information - see if you're due a fuel tax refund.
- Boating Education Laws - find out the latest laws for boating in your state.
- Towing Laws - review the towing laws for the states where you boat.
- Clean Boating Information - learn how you can be an even cleaner boater.
- Boat Values - an easy, accurate way to check a boat's value.
- Boating Safety Information - learn how you can be an even safer boater. ■

BOATER'S QUIZ

Match Boating Terms

Match the terms on the port side of this page with the definitions on the starboard.

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 1. Abaft | A. Sail close-hauled on alternate tacks |
| 2. Beat | B. Sail with the wind generally on beam |
| 3. Clew | C. Sail too close to the wind |
| 4. Drogue | D. Toward the stern |
| 5. Foot | E. Outward curve along leech of sail |
| 6. Heel | F. Sail's forward edge |
| 7. Kedge | G. Sail's lower aft corner |
| 8. Luff | H. Move a boat by pulling on its anchor |
| 9. Pinch | I. Sea anchor |
| 10. Roach | J. Rope on boom used to flatten sail |
| 11. Roach | K. List far to side under wind |
| 12. Vang | L. Sail's bottom edge |

Id. 2a; 3g; 4i; 5l; 6k; 7h; 8f; 9c; 10b; 11e; 12j
Key to answers

MEMBER
BENEFITS

- **ABA Magazine Discounts:**
800-289-6247
- **ABA Custom Boating Apparel:**
800-480-2053
- **ABA CityPass Discounts**
- **Alamo Auto Rental Discounts:**
800-354-2322,
ID#679044
- **Avis Auto Rental Discounts:** 800-331-1212,
AWD#B853101
- **Budget Auto Rental Discounts:**
800-455-2848, ID#X483101
- **Enterprise Rent-A-Car Discounts:**
800-593-0505, ID#KC4551
- **Hertz Auto Rental Discounts:**
800-654-2200, ID#1290122
- **Comfort Inn, Comfort Suites, Clarion, Sleep Inn, Quality Inn, MainStay Suites, Rodeway Inn, and EconoLodge Discounts:**
800-258-2847, ID#00058336
- **Cendant Hotel Discounts:**
#60093:
 - Days Inn, 800-268-2195;
 - Howard Johnson, 800-769-0939;
 - Knights Inn, 800-682-1071;
 - Ramada, 800-462-8035;
 - Travelodge, 800-545-5545;
 - Wingate Inn, 877-202-8814
- **ABA Discount Calling Card:**
800-657-4711, ID#ABA
- **ABA Theme Park, Zoo, and Ski Resort Discounts**
- **Royal Caribbean and Celebrity Cruise Line Discounts:**
888-226-2100, ID#8884567887
- **ABA Movie Discount Program**

All benefits can be accessed at:
americanboating.org

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