

The ABA Beacon®

Publication for American Boating Association Members

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MEMBER BENEFITS

- *The ABA Beacon*®
- *Seamanship Training*® E-Newsletter
- *ABA Online*® : All benefits can be accessed at americanboating.org
- ABA Boat Insurance: 800-477-7140
- ABA Boat Financing: 877-222-0244
- ABA Online Banking Center
- Safe & Clean Boating Information
- Cruising Destination Information
- ABA Marina Discounts
- *Boating Life Magazine*
- ABA Visa® Credit Card: 800-347-7887
- ABA Boat Products
- ABA RV Financing: 866-789-4511
- ABA Online Travel Booking Service
- ABA Personal Boat Checks and Labels
- *Waterway Guides Discount*: 800-233-3359, ID#UWGABA
- *Great Lakes Ports O' Call Cruising Guides Discount*: 800-589-9491, ID#ZABA
- *Cruising Guide To The New York State Canal System Discount*: 802-860-2886, ID#ABA

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A Boatload of Holiday Savings from ABA

Cruise on over to www.americanboating.org and soak up your 5% member discount on Unity items from BoatersWorld.com for your first mate and crew (and maybe something for yourself, captain). Then, how about a deal on a cruise? Check out our premier **Online Travel Booking Service**, www.americanboating.org/travelservices.asp, with member-only savings on cruises and more than 40,000 hotel and vacation properties, 200 airlines and 60 car rental agencies worldwide. *Happy Holidays from ABA!*

Give the Gift of Safety

Trying to determine that ultimate holiday gift for yourself or a seafaring loved one? The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has the perfect answer – give the gift of safety and take one of the many boating educational courses offered during 2007.

Interactive / Self-Study Courses	Length of Class	Audience
America's Boating Course (ABC) - On-Line/CD-ROM	Self-Paced	All boaters
Multi-Lesson Classroom Courses	Length of Class	Audience
America's Boating Course (ABCM) - Multi-Session	2-4 sessions	All Boaters
Navigation (NAV)	6-12 sessions	All Boaters
Boating Skills & Seamanship (BS&S)	8-13 sessions	Power Boaters
Let's Go Sailing (LGS)	4 sessions	Sailors
Seminar (One-Day) Classroom Courses	Length of Class	Audience
America's Boating Course (ABCS) - Seminar	8 hours	All Boaters
GPS for Mariners (GPSFM)	4-6 hours	All Boaters
How To Read A Nautical Chart (HRNC)	3 hours	All Boaters
Personal Water Craft Safety (PWC)	1-2 hours	All Boaters
Suddenly In Command (SIC)	4 hours	All Boaters
Classes For Kids	Length of Class	Audience
Boating Fun (BF)	1 hour	4-9 Year Olds
Waypoints (WP)	1-3 hours	10-12 Year Olds

According to the U.S. Coast Guard, about 80% of all boating fatalities occurred on boats where the operator had not completed a boating safety education course. For more information, contact your local Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla at www.cgaux.org. You can also take the America's Boating Course online at www.americanboating.org/americas_boating_course.asp. Make sure you don't become another accident statistic. Take a boating safety course today! ■

15% Discount at Boat Shows for ABA Members

Although for most of us the 2006 boating season has come to a close, we can still get our boating "fix" by attending any number of boat shows going on over the winter months. And because you're an ABA member, you can save 15% on e-ticket adult admissions to the National Marine Manufacturers Association-sponsored (NMMA) boat shows across the country!

Visit www.americanboating.org/boatshow_offer.asp for a list of shows eligible for the 15% discount. To order your tickets, click on the "Order Tickets" button from this page and follow the prompts from there. Once you are linked to the show you want tickets for, you'll purchase them online and print the tickets right from your printer. Doesn't get any easier than that!

What can you expect at your local boat show? All boat shows are different (that's part of the excitement), but most offer some common elements. For example, in addition to the newest boats and watercraft, your local boat show might also include:

- Seminars - Topics range from water safety to fishing techniques and everything in between. Many boat shows include the cost of seminars with your admission price. Pay to get into the boat show and attend as many seminars as you want. Check with your local show to see what their policy is.
- Workshops - One of the best ways to learn is the "hands-on" way. From outdrive repair and maintenance to maneuvering a trailer, many boat shows have several helpful workshops

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FORT LAUDERDALE

by Lynn Seldon, Boating Writer and ABA Member

Known as the “Venice of America,” Fort Lauderdale is a boater’s dream destination. Situated directly on the Atlantic Ocean waterfront and home to hundreds of miles of rivers, canals, and other waterways (including the Intracoastal Waterway), Greater Fort Lauderdale is shaped and styled by the water - and people that enjoy it by boat.

The area is home to one of the world’s largest populations of boats of every description - from 200-foot super-yachts to hundreds of runabouts - officials estimate the total at around 40,000 vessels! A large percentage of the world’s yachts are also bought and sold here.

In 1893, Frank Stranahan, Fort Lauderdale’s founding father, was the city’s first ferryman across the river. At the same time, a road was built connecting the area to Miami and the pioneering Florida East Coast Railway was extended to Fort Lauderdale. These were factors that led to the famous South Florida building boom in the 1920s and it was then that the canals were begun as an ever-growing grid that delineated neighborhoods and property lines for still-standing mansions - as well as unassuming cottages. Stranahan’s waterfront home, The Stranahan House, remains as one of Fort Lauderdale’s most popular and historic attractions, reachable, of course, by boat as well as land.

In the 1950s, city promoters adopted the nickname of “Venice of America.” Today, the canals and the Intracoastal Waterway divide the beach areas from the city - representing an ideal way to explore, sightsee, gawk at astoundingly large mansions and yachts, or simply enjoy the cool breezes and the lap of water on the bow.

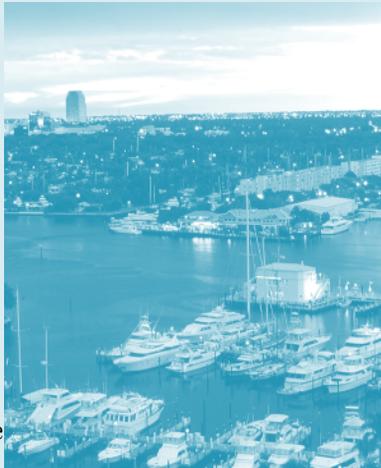
Surrounded by high-rise buildings, Greater Fort Lauderdale’s waterways cut through the very heart of downtown Fort Lauderdale, divide residential neighborhoods into geometric patterns, and meander to the edges of the untamed Everglades. By day, they provide a unique and relaxing perspective on a city going about its business. By night, the lights reflecting on rippling water, the murmur of music and voices from nearby homes, restaurants and clubs, and the stars above all lend a seductive element to the romance of boating.

For most boaters, nothing tops a trip up or down the New River. The New River, narrow, meandering and lined with yachts, flows through the center of Fort Lauderdale. On either side are historic landmarks and towering office buildings.

Popular Las Olas Boulevard, with its elegant shops and haute restaurants, runs parallel to the river. Fort Lauderdale’s popular waterfront Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District offers a number of restaurants, shopping, and entertainment options, such as the Museum of Art Fort Lauderdale, the Broward Center for Performing Arts, and the Museum of Discovery & Science. River traffic is brisk and busy, with water taxis pattering in and out from stops along the way and bridges opening and closing for larger vessels.

For visiting boaters, life on and off the water in Greater Fort Lauderdale is an experience found nowhere else in America. Greater Fort Lauderdale’s marinas are definitely some of the best-equipped, liveliest, friendliest havens around. Here are a select few possibilities:

- Bahia Mar Marina, 801 Seabreeze Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, 800-755-9558
- Cove Marina, 1754 SE 3rd Ct., Deerfield Beach, 954-421-9272
- Hillsboro Inlet Marina, 2705 N. Riverside Dr., Pompano Beach, 954-943-8222
- Pier 66 Marina, 2301 SE 17th St., Fort Lauderdale, 954-728-3578



Venice of America

Photo courtesy of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau

Exclusive Wireless Offers For American Boating Association Members

Reliable cell phone service can be essential to any boater. American Boating Association has teamed with e-VAR to bring you www.americanboatingmobile.com, an exclusive Verizon Wireless store for ABA members!

American Boating Association members who sign up for Verizon Wireless Service through www.americanboatingmobile.com get the best phones with \$50 INSTANT CASH BACK! This means no rebate forms to fill out and mail, no waiting in store lines and no hassle. For members, it simply means you can get the best phones free today, along with the nation’s best wireless service.

Simply activate a Verizon Wireless voice plan and receive:

- Your choice of FREE phones from the best brands including: Audiovox, Motorola, Samsung, LG, Nokia and Kyocera.
- FREE FedEx shipping.
- 15-day satisfaction GUARANTEE.
- FREE mobile-to-mobile calling to Verizon Wireless customers.
- The nation’s most reliable wireless network – covering 95% of the people in 98% of the nation.

Visit www.americanboatingmobile.com to take advantage of this online-only deal for American Boating Association members today!

Note: This offer is currently not available to existing Verizon Wireless Customers. ■

Holiday Savings for ABA Members at BoatersWorld.com

What better way to make your holidays even merrier than by saving money on holiday purchases? Looking for a special gift for your crew or a boating buddy? As a member of the American Boating Association, you are entitled to a 5% discount on products from BoatersWorld.com! There are no coupons, no codes, and no hassles.

Just log into the Members Only section, www.americanboating.org/login.asp and shop BoatersWorld.com by clicking on the blue starburst on the homepage. The 5% discount will ONLY be applied if you access BoatersWorld.com through ABA Online®.

ABA members receive:

- 5% savings on all of your products purchased online from

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PRODUCT INFORMATION

Garmin GPSMAP 76



Knowing where you are and where you're going is easy with the Garmin GPSMAP 76. The value-priced handheld has a built-in base map containing nautical navigation aids like lights, buoys, sound signals, and day beacons, along with a world map of cities, lakes, rivers, interstates, and exits. The GPSMAP 76 also includes 8 MB of storage for points of interest details from Garmin's CD-ROMs. It's completely waterproof, runs on two AA batteries for up to 18 hours, and comes in a silver color that's attractive on any boat's dash!

Smart ABA members shop online with BoatersWorld.com because they get an incredible selection, competitive pricing, the convenience of online shopping - and a 5% discount when they access the site through www.americanboating.org! Along with great deals, the Boaters World.com website features a gift store, a clearance center, auctions, and many helpful boating links.

Note - the discount does not apply if ABA members go directly to BoatersWorld.com or visit one of many Boaters World stores. ■

5% Discount at BoatersWorld.com for ABA Members.

To receive your discount, go to www.americanboating.org/products.asp.

Need a Better Rate on Your Boat Loan or Insurance?

ABA Boat Finance & Insurance Programs www.americanboating.org

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

- * Competitive Rates
- * Quick and Easy
- * Online or By Phone
- * Available for All Boat Types and Sizes
- * Provided by Boat Finance and Insurance Experts

Valuable benefits for members of the American Boating Association



ABA
American Boating Association

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

ON THE HORIZON

Boat Shows & Parades

Representative boat shows and parades are listed below. We recommend that you contact the show to confirm the information as dates can change without prior notice. For a full boat show/parade listing and to link to boat show websites, please visit www.americanboating.org/boatshows.asp.

November 11-12

• Florida Sportsman Fishing Show, FL

November 16-18

• Pacific Marine Expo, WA

November 16-19

• St. Petersburg Boat Show, FL

December 2

• Grand Lake Boat Parade, OK

• Mount Dora Boat Parade, FL

• Wheeler Lake Boat Parade, AL

• Christmas on the Creek Boat Parade, NC

• Boat Parade of Lights, AZ

• Hampton Holly Days Boat Parade, VA

December 9

• Winter Park Boat Parade, FL

• Naples Island Boat Parade, CA

• Festival of Lights Boat Parade, FL

• Bellingham Lighted Boat Parade, WA

• Ft. Myers Beach Boat Parade, FL

• APS Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade, AZ

Fort Lauderdale

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• Sands Harbor Marina, 125 N. Riverside Dr., Pompano Beach, 954-942-9100

• Sea Legs Marina, 5398 N. Ocean Dr., Hollywood, 954-923-2109

Of course, Fort Lauderdale is known to boaters worldwide as the home of the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show. The show is billed as the "world's largest boat show" and typically features more than 1.6 billion dollars worth of boats, yachts, superyachts, electronics, engines, and thousands of accessories from every major marine

manufacturer and builder worldwide. The boat show is owned and operated by the Marine Industries Association of South Florida. The organization's website, www.miasf.org, is also good place for boaters traveling to Greater Fort Lauderdale.

There's still time in 2006 to enjoy the Seminole Hard Rock Winterfest Boat Parade. This annual show is celebrating its 35th anniversary with a theme of "Broadway on the Waterway." It is truly a unique event for boaters. Hundreds of vessels, from small sailboats to mega yachts, adorn their ships with hundreds of thousands of lights and other decoration and proceed down Fort Lauderdale's waterways in a dazzling

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15% Discount at Boat Shows...

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from which to choose.

- Safety - If you're looking for information or products, most boat shows can provide a wonderful array of boating safety products, services and literature.

- Company Representatives - Your local boat show may very well host the representatives from boat manufacturers and equipment and environmental agencies. It's always interesting to speak face to face with people who work directly for the companies from which we buy.

- Prizes and Freebies - Practically every boat show across the country has prize drawings. Many of the exhibitors also offer boating-related freebies just for stopping by their booths.

Regardless of why you go or what you hope to see, attending boat shows is a wonderful way to spend an afternoon. You'll learn a lot, get up to date on the latest products and see some breathtaking new boats that will leave your heart pounding!

ABA's Boat Show and Parade Calendar will help you find the right boat show for you to attend. You can find it at www.americanboating.org/boatshows.asp. There are over 600 shows and parades for you to search. And remember to take advantage of your 15% ABA member discount for the NMMA-sponsored shows. ■

Holiday Savings...

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BoatersWorld.com through ABA Online (not available in Boaters World stores or catalog);

- discount automatically applied at final check-out stage;
- no sales tax;
- free shipping on orders over \$100 if shipped within the continental U.S. (some restrictions apply). ■

Fort Lauderdale

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parade of light. Spectators line bridges and riverbanks to watch the boats' awesome procession. It's being held December 16, 2006.

On February 4, 2007, the **Super Bowl** (XLI) returns to South Florida. Visiting boaters in Greater Fort Lauderdale can catch the excitement down in Miami and won't have to worry about a hotel room!

For further information, contact the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, 100 East Broward Blvd., Ste. 200, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301; 954-765-4466 or 800-22 SUNNY; or log on to www.sunny.org. This excellent site also has links to marinas, as well as information about boat ramps and boating in general. ■

BOATER'S QUIZ

Water You Saying?

You'll probably recognize most of the following titles or sayings about water, but how good are you at matching them with their authors? A word of caution: some of these lines were spoken by characters in plays, poems or stories - but the only answer that counts is the name of the writer. For more quizzes on matters aquatic, go to www.americanboating.org.

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|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Water, water everywhere, Nor any drop to drink. | a. William Brinkley |
| 2. Blood (original form bluid) is thicker than water. | b. John Heywood |
| 3. Don't Go Near the Water. | c. Samuel Taylor Coleridge |
| 4. Water continually dropping will wear hard rocks hollow. | d. Simon and Garfunkel |
| 5. The Water-Babies | e. Gavin Maxwell |
| 6. A man may well bring a horse to the water, but he cannot make him drink without he will. | f. Sir Walter Scott |
| 7. The barge she sat in, like a burnish'd throne, burned in the water... | g. William Shakespeare |
| 8. This business will never hold water. | h. Colley Cibber |
| 9. Ring of Bright Water | i. Charles Kingsley |
| 10. Bridge Over Troubled Waters | j. Plutarch |

1c; 2f; 3a; 4f; 5i; 6b; 7g; 8h; 9e; 10d
Key to answers

MEMBER BENEFITS

- **Lakeland Boating Magazine Discount:**
800-827-0289, ID#ZABA
- **ABA Magazine Discounts:**
800-603-5602
- **ABA Custom Boating Apparel**
- **ABA CityPass® Discounts**
- **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
- **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 Travel Insurance**
- **ABA Mobile Phone Discounts**
- **ABA Theme Park and Zoo Discounts**
- **ABA Ski Resort Discounts**
- **ABA Movie Discounts**

All benefits can be accessed at:
www.americanboating.org



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