



### COMMODORE'S CHANNEL:

A new boating season is just around the corner...in a matter of a couple of weeks, the yard will empty as the fleet will start to take shape in the waters.

Thank you for all your hard work on the docks, tender boat and yard. Without you, none of this would be possible.

As I'm sure you are as well, I'm looking forward to another great season at the club and enjoying quality time with family and friends on the Delaware.

#### *Some reminders:*

Please label your 1) mast, 2) mooring, 3) cradle and/or trailer. Stainless tags that we purchased for the Moorings last year can also be used for identifying your mast. A permanent solution at minimal cost of \$2.00. Can easily be riveted, or epoxied on. See Joe Apice if you're interested. Also remember all moorings must have permanent ID tags applied before going in this upcoming season!

Lastly, opening day will be held on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, the ceremony will begin at 1pm. Details to follow but we'll be serving steak and shrimp as we did last year. Hoping to have a good attendance so start spreading the news - it's sure to be another good time.

See you soon!

Sincerely,

E. Rob Stecher  
Commodore



## OFFICER/COMMITTEE NOTES

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Welcome Carlton Clevenger. Carlton became a Probationary Active Member at the December 2015 General Membership/Election Meeting. He recently purchased a sailboat and is looking forward to spending time on the river. We apologize for not recognizing him in an earlier edition of the Beacon

### Don't Forget:

#### Dues & Insurance:

Remember all dues must be paid by the April General Membership Meeting. And your insurance must be up to date, and on file. No dues or no insurance and your mooring doesn't get launched. The mooring Chairman will have a list of members who have paid their dues. It will also be posted in the club house. If you need to be on a payment plan, you should come before the Board and discuss your circumstances with them. Remember, they're your friends and will do what's necessary to get you in the water.

#### Moorings:

Step One; inspect your mooring and fix/replace what is needed.

Step Two; when you think your mooring is ready, tie a white rag on the top of the mooring shaft.

Step Three; if it passes you'll get a green tag and your good to go, if it fails you'll get a red tag and the problems will be noted on a sheet of paper posted in the club house.

The Mooring Committee inspects moorings that have been first inspected by the owner. They won't inspect a mooring that you haven't taken the time to look at and fix first.

Nick Noderer  
Treasurer

## UPCOMING EVENTS - DRYC

April 16, 2016 - BBQ

April 23, 2016 - Sea Scouts Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

May 21, 2016 - Opening Day

### DRYL

April 16, 2016 - Quaker City Yacht Club Coach Bingo

April 20, 2016  
Red Dragon, presentation of Who Really was the Boston Strangler (free)

April 21, 2016  
Bordentown Cigar and Steak dinner

April 23, 2016  
National Park BC opening day

### Other:

May 6, 2016

James McClelland and Lynn Miller, authors of the recently published City in a Park, will speak in the ETC Auditorium of Holy Family University at 7 pm on Friday, May 6, about "Expanding Philadelphia's Parks in the 21st Century."

May 14, 2016 - Glen Foerd Spring cleaning

Directors Meeting - Monthly, 1st Wednesday each month

General Membership - 2nd Wednesday each month



## WOMEN'S COMMITTEE:

Plans are in the making for opening day. Details to follow. Please feel free to email me OR phone me with your suggestions - we need more support with the Women's Committee and event planning.

Danaene Stecher

## RECIPE CORNER:



## Top 10 Foods You Should Eat This Spring

From artichokes to strawberries, these diabetes power foods will add fresh flavors, colors, aromas, and nutrients to your spring cuisine.

- Artichokes
- Halibut
- Beets
- Blueberries
- Strawberries
- Peas
- Radishes
- Lamb
- Asparagus
- Basil

See full article here:

<http://www.diabeticlivingonline.com/food-to-eat/nutrition/top-10-foods-you-should-eat-spring?page=0>



## THE HULL STORY:

### [Spruce Street Harbor Park Opens Friday May 6th](#)

Columbus Blvd. and Spruce Street  
Open Friday, May 6 - Sunday, September 25

Your favorite waterfront park is back 3 weeks earlier this year. Thanks to the generosity of Univest Corporation and Valley Green Bank, a division of Univest Bank and Trust Co. Spruce Street Harbor Park will open at the beginning of May and continue to be free to the public through the end of September.

Opening weekend kicks off with [Art Star Craft Bazaar](#) (May 7 & 8) next door at the Great Plaza at Penn's Landing. Perfect way to spend Mother's Day weekend!

Park features include: colorful hammocks, floating gardens, beautiful lights, refreshing craft beer, and food from popular Philly restaurants. [Visit the website.](#)

## CHATTER ISLAND

### NEWS From BoatUS

#### Eight Boat Spring Commissioning Goof-Ups We Made

#### BoatUS Staff Speak Up So You Don't Make the Same Blunders

ALEXANDRIA, Va., April 13, 2016 – They are the crewmembers of the nation's largest boater advocacy, safety and services group, BoatUS. And like most boaters, they aren't perfect. They make mistakes and learn from them too. With boat yards, back yards, marinas and clubs now coming to life, spring commissioning time has arrived. Here are eight spring commissioning mistakes that the employees of BoatUS have made over the years that could save you a lot of aggravation, or your life.

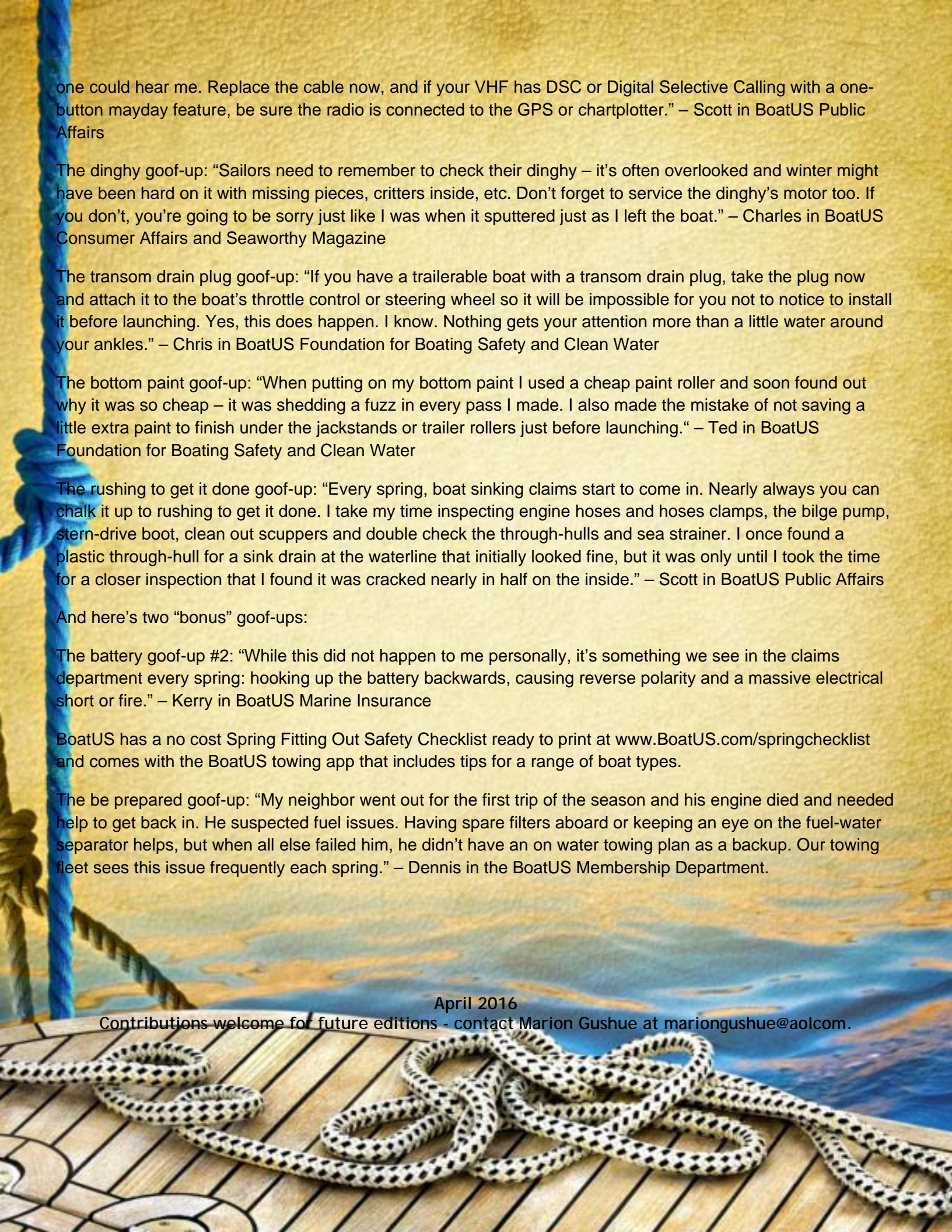
The battery goof-up #1: "When reconnecting my batteries I missed one of the ground wires that had slipped down behind the battery box. I noticed something was wrong when the trim/tilt worked fine but the motor would not start. With so many cables going to multiple batteries, I'm taking a photo this year of how things are properly attached so next spring things go as planned." – Mike in BoatUS Marine Insurance

The safety gear goof-up: "We remove a lot of gear to store inside each winter, but realized after leaving the dock not all had made it back aboard. Now I download a checklist of required safety equipment and inventory everything to ensure it gets put back on the boat before launch day. I also check the dates on my flares and ensure my extinguisher is in the green zone." – Margaret in BoatUS Executive Office

The boat trailer goof-up: "Winter plays havoc on boat trailers and I once departed the parking lot without checking my trailer lights. Thankfully, just a short distance away another motorist advised me of the issue. Now I make sure all is well before departing and also check tires and inspect the bearings and brakes." – Ted in BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water

The call for help goof-up: "On sailboats with mast top VHF radio antennas, a common problem on older boats is a rotted antenna coax cable near the mast base. I found this out when I went to use my VHF radio and no





one could hear me. Replace the cable now, and if your VHF has DSC or Digital Selective Calling with a one-button mayday feature, be sure the radio is connected to the GPS or chartplotter.” – Scott in BoatUS Public Affairs

The dinghy goof-up: “Sailors need to remember to check their dinghy – it’s often overlooked and winter might have been hard on it with missing pieces, critters inside, etc. Don’t forget to service the dinghy’s motor too. If you don’t, you’re going to be sorry just like I was when it sputtered just as I left the boat.” – Charles in BoatUS Consumer Affairs and Seaworthy Magazine

The transom drain plug goof-up: “If you have a trailerable boat with a transom drain plug, take the plug now and attach it to the boat’s throttle control or steering wheel so it will be impossible for you not to notice to install it before launching. Yes, this does happen. I know. Nothing gets your attention more than a little water around your ankles.” – Chris in BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water

The bottom paint goof-up: “When putting on my bottom paint I used a cheap paint roller and soon found out why it was so cheap – it was shedding a fuzz in every pass I made. I also made the mistake of not saving a little extra paint to finish under the jackstands or trailer rollers just before launching.” – Ted in BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water

The rushing to get it done goof-up: “Every spring, boat sinking claims start to come in. Nearly always you can chalk it up to rushing to get it done. I take my time inspecting engine hoses and hoses clamps, the bilge pump, stern-drive boot, clean out scuppers and double check the through-hulls and sea strainer. I once found a plastic through-hull for a sink drain at the waterline that initially looked fine, but it was only until I took the time for a closer inspection that I found it was cracked nearly in half on the inside.” – Scott in BoatUS Public Affairs

And here’s two “bonus” goof-ups:

The battery goof-up #2: “While this did not happen to me personally, it’s something we see in the claims department every spring: hooking up the battery backwards, causing reverse polarity and a massive electrical short or fire.” – Kerry in BoatUS Marine Insurance

BoatUS has a no cost Spring Fitting Out Safety Checklist ready to print at [www.BoatUS.com/springchecklist](http://www.BoatUS.com/springchecklist) and comes with the BoatUS towing app that includes tips for a range of boat types.

The be prepared goof-up: “My neighbor went out for the first trip of the season and his engine died and needed help to get back in. He suspected fuel issues. Having spare filters aboard or keeping an eye on the fuel-water separator helps, but when all else failed him, he didn’t have an on water towing plan as a backup. Our towing fleet sees this issue frequently each spring.” – Dennis in the BoatUS Membership Department.

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Contributions welcome for future editions - contact Marion Gushue at [mariongushue@aol.com](mailto:mariongushue@aol.com).