AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB OF DETROIT

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MInutes

Date:	Thursday, April 2, 2026
Time:	1830
Location:	Zoom
Zoom:	Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88660328773 Meeting id: 886 6032 8773 Password= dps

2026 Bridge

Commander	Wendy S. Caldwell, P	586.469.3196	wendycaldwell@hotmail.com
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Chaplain:	D/Lt Douglas R. Rocho, P	586.306.1836	dougffhg@gmail.com

(The positions of Executive Officer and Administrative Officer are open)

2026 Executive Committee

P/C Delphine S.Cooley	313.587.4002	dscooley@att.net
Lt Kurt Lyons, P	313.884.8941	kjlgpw@gmail.com
Lt. Mike Murphree, P	586,202.6295	mjmurphree@outlook.com
Lt. Karl Bloomquist P	248-986-3131	goblue565@gmail.com
Lt. Christian Sandvig AP	217.766.2327	Christian.sandvig@gmail.com

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Quorum: Present. Meeting Called to Order: 6:42 PM (1842)

(The Audio from the April 2, 2026 GM meeting is available by contacting Commander, if you need it. The transcript of the meeting will follow. I will make some corredctions to the transcript to fix spelling errors or to a clarification where needed.)

Zoom Quick Recap:

Quick recap

This was the 4/02/2026 general membership meeting of America's Boating Club Detroit. Commander Wendy presided over discussions of various operational matters and Dara Brooks delivered a presentation on maritime safety regulations following the Titanic disaster. The meeting covered updates from officers including SEO Vincent Cooley, who reported on upcoming boating education classes at Riverside Marina starting April 21st, administrative reports from Dan and Doug, and plans for upcoming events including the MeritMark event this fall. Grosse Pointe Commander's Ball on May 2nd at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. The board discussed various scheduling matters including VSC days at DYC and the D9 Spring conference in Port Huron, while also addressing the need for additional volunteers for the upcoming charity poker.

The meeting began with an invocation by Doug, who provided an update on Bill's condition, noting he is recovering well after hernia surgery. The group approved the minutes from the previous meeting. Vincent reported on education initiatives, confirming a class starting April 21st at Riverside Marina and discussing plans for a potential second class. The Riverside class will initially remain private, with Vincent planning to meet with instructors to verify schedules and determine if additional books need to be ordered.

The discussion focused on instructor certification expirations, with Vincent reporting that all squadron instructors' certifications are expiring this month. Two options were presented for recertification: a virtual seminar on June 1st with a 25-person limit, or each squadron organizing its own recertification. Wendy raised concerns about logistics, and Vincent clarified that while certifications are expiring at month-end, the class will still proceed with instructors.

The meeting was suspended and Dara presented research presentation.

The presentation was well received and was appreciated by those in attendance. Wendy and Delphine both complemented Dara for her work. Delphine offered to help Dara share her presentation as a PDF on the website.

Wendy mentioned attending a blessing of the fleet event with Delphine and Karl, and discussed highlights from a D9 Council meeting including proposals to simplify quorums and increase officer nomination timeframes.

Delphine reported that the cost for Merit Mark earners for an upcoming event was set at $30, and for non-Merit Mark earners $100. 29 Merit Mark earners had registered so far with space for up to 50 people total.

Delphine confirmed details for the Education cruise on September 16, including timing and boarding information.

Upcoming Events and Administrative Updates

The meeting covered updates on upcoming events and administrative matters. Wendy discussed plans for the charity poker event, seeking additional volunteers for shifts, and mentioned the donation to the Detroit Sailing Club. Upcoming events were outlined, including the Spring conference for April 24-26.

VSC days at DYC, Memorial Day service, and various other activities. The board approved a donation to the Detroit Sailing Club and discussed potential locations for the next general membership meeting. Diane committed to sending Kurt the electronic version of the 2026 VSC decal.

Next Steps:

- Vincent: Schedule a meeting with instructors to confirm the schedule for the upcoming Riverside Marina class and send out a Zoom link for the meeting within the next day or so.
- Vincent: Monitor Riverside Marina class registration and, if needed, publish the class as a public course if registration is slow (after hearing from the events planner in about 1-2 weeks).
- Vincent: Inform instructors about the June 11th virtual recertification seminar and coordinate registration if the squadron chooses to participate, or explore hosting a local recertification if preferred.
- Wendy: Send out an email to membership requesting volunteers for additional shifts at the upcoming charity poker event, especially to cover shifts while she is unavailable.
- Delphine: Send out a flyer and RSVP information for the September 16th education cruise to the membership and Grosse Pointe squadron.
- Wendy: Solicit suggestions for a speaker for the September 16th education cruise.
- Delphine: Send out RSVP information for the May 9th flare demo and lunch at DYC, including details for non-DYC members to gain access.
- Diane: Send the electronic version of the 2026 VSC decal to Kurt tonight.
- Delphine: Send out menu information and RSVP details for the Commander's Ball buffet dinner at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.
- Wendy/Delphine: Determine and communicate the location and time for the next general membership meeting (June 4th), including possible alternative venues.
- Delphine: Collect names of those planning to attend the Memorial Day event at DYC for gate access.
- Dara: PDF the presentation and provide to Delphine (or directly share link) for posting on the website or in the "dumping grounds".

Although Dara's presentation is scheduled for the Dumping Grounds or Web site, it will follow below.

Meeting Minutes recorded and transcribed by Zoom and clarified by the Assistant Secretary,

Sincerely,

P/C Daniel Bodnar

Titanic presentation by Dara Brooks:

Maritime Law Evolution After Titanic

Dara presented on the historical catalyst for updating maritime law, using the Titanic tragedy as a key example. She explained how outdated safety measures at the time included insufficient lifeboats based on ship tonnage rather than passenger capacity, lack of communication drills, and inadequate watertight compartment designs. The presentation highlighted how these safety improvements came about following maritime tragedies, drawing parallels to modern cruising safety requirements that many passengers now consider inconvenient.

Titanic Safety Regulations Presentation

Dara presented on the Titanic disaster and resulting safety regulations, highlighting how Sir Alfred Chalmers' incorrect assumptions led to regulatory reforms in ship design, emergency equipment, and crew training. She shared charts comparing pre- and post-Titanic safety standards and explained that she chose this timely topic to connect historical lessons to the organization's mission of promoting safe boating practices. The presentation was well-received by Wendy and Vincent, with Delphine noting its relevance to the upcoming anniversary of the disaster.

Titanic Tragedy Response and Safety

Dara explained the initial response to the 1912 Titanic tragedy, focusing on the establishment of a commission to standardize communication across different shipping companies. She detailed how they addressed immediate issues like radio operator training and life jacket effectiveness, while also highlighting longer-term discoveries about ship materials and safety protocols. Dara shared insights from a recent visit to the Titanic Experience exhibit in Orlando, where she learned about the context of the tragedy, including how coal shortages forced passengers to transfer to the Titanic from other canceled luxury liner voyages.

Titanic Safety Lessons Discussion

Dara shared an educational experience about the Titanic, where participants followed a passenger's journey and learned about the tragedy's causes, including insufficient lifeboats and assumptions about safety. Delphine commented on the oversight

regarding lifeboats and discussed how people's focus was on the maiden voyage experience rather than safety concerns. The conversation concluded with Wendy reflecting on how learning from historical tragedies like the Titanic should motivate the group to be more meticulous in their current safety practices.

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