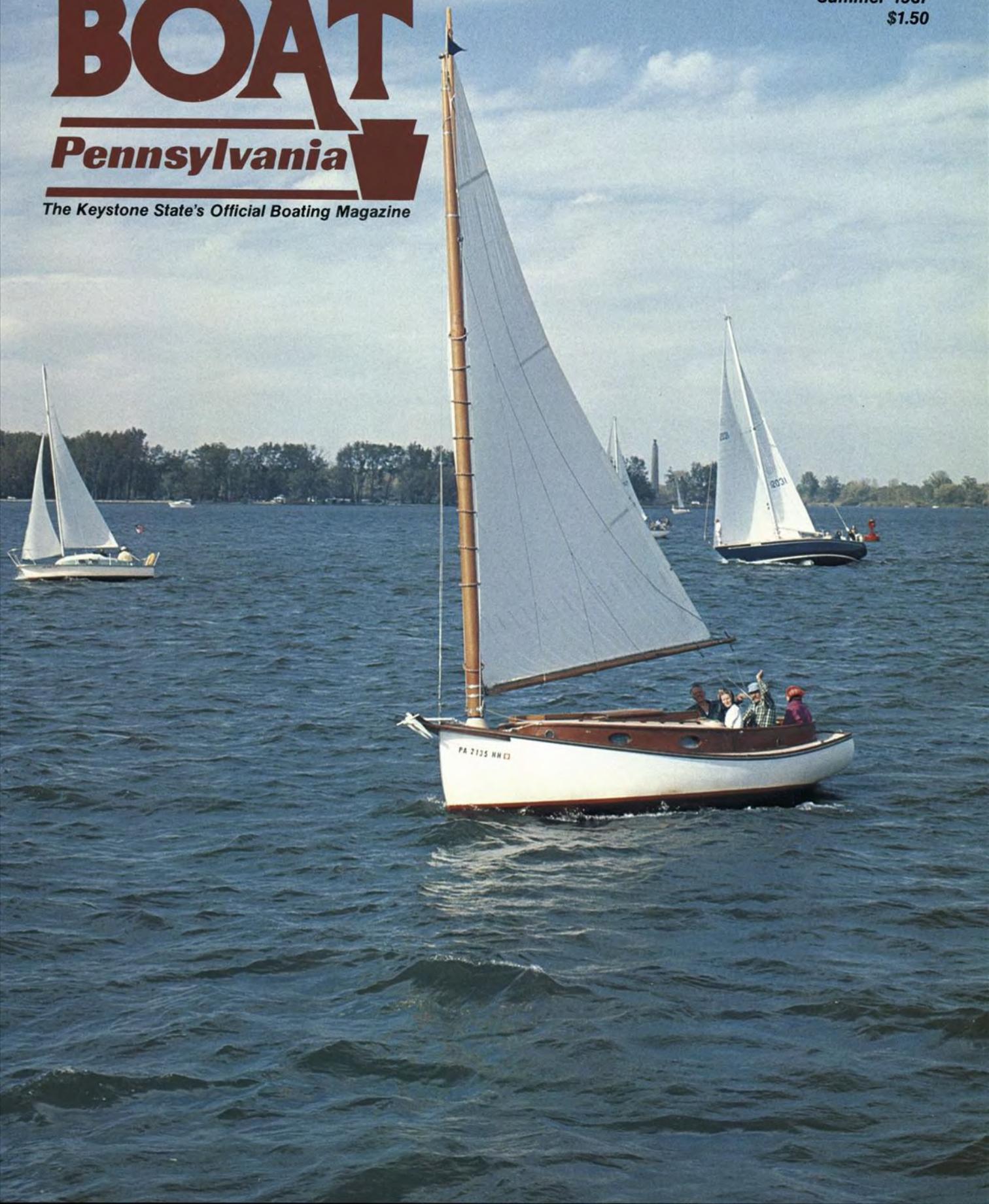


BOAT

Pennsylvania

The Keystone State's Official Boating Magazine

Summer 1987
\$1.50



VIEWPOINT

Accesses and Enhancing the Sport of Boating

Recreational boating as a sport continues to blossom in Pennsylvania. Blessed with many thousands of acres of lakes and miles of streams, we continue to see an annual increase in the number of boats. Pennsylvania ranks 15th in the number of registered boats nationwide. When unregistered boats are counted, our rank jumps to 8th. About 17,000 new motorboat registrations were issued last year, making Pennsylvania one of the fastest growing boat populations in the nation.

Whether it is water skiing, cruising, exploring, rowing or paddling, Pennsylvania has the place for you. Renowned in the East for the quality and availability of its waters, literally millions of people participate in boating in Pennsylvania. The Pocono lake country has long been the retreat for boaters for the Philadelphia and New York metropolitan areas. The lure of big water and salmon fishing annually brings thousands of boaters to Erie. Lake Raystown has become a mecca in central Pennsylvania. A study by the DER set the annual economic significance of boating in Pennsylvania at over \$500 million. Boating is big business and is vital to the economy of many areas.

Boat rental is also very popular. Over 300 liveries have over 1,500 registered boats available. Thousands of unpowered canoes and sailboats are also available. It has been estimated that over 8,000 canoes are available for rent on the Delaware River alone.

Furthermore, a Commission study has shown that 31 percent of all anglers own a boat and 80 percent of all boats are used for fishing. Many boat anglers do not consider themselves boaters, but without their boats they would not be as successful. The boat, as an angling accessory, is almost as important as the fishing tackle. Shore fishing is great but everyone knows you can only get the biggest fish from a boat. Fishing infuses another \$700 million into the economy. Combined, fishing and boating contribute more than any other single outdoor recreational activity.

The Commission has recognized the needs of the boater. Lakes have been built and access areas purchased and developed. Without the activity of the Commission's access and development program many areas of the state's vast water resource would be unreachable and boating would not be enjoying the popularity it does. More needs to be done, however, to assure that present and future boaters continue to have a safe and accessible place to enjoy their sport. Many waterways still need public access. Many other areas need improved access. The state is lacking in good boat mooring in many places. The Commission stands ready to correct these problems and to encourage both public and private development, which will enhance both the sport and the economy of the Commonwealth.



John Simmons
Acting Director
Bureau of Boating
Pennsylvania Fish Commission

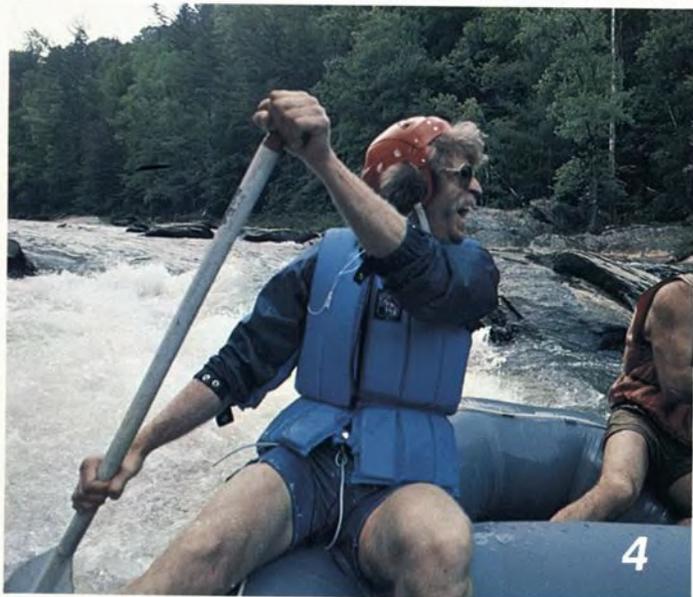
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The cover

This issue's front cover, photographed by Gus Neuss, Jr., shows the pleasurable pursuit not only of sailing, but of sailing an antique boat. The scene was Presque Isle Bay. Perhaps the reason why old boats attract us is because these days our boating needs change so often that to see a sailor operating an old craft is so unusual. Along these lines, in the article that begins on page 26, a sailor retraces the steps that led him to add an auxiliary motor to his sailboat. The article that begins on page 16 is a more humorous recounting of a Pennsylvania boater's development. In contrast, the article that starts on page 4 shows what's what in inflatables, and the story on page 11 describes the quiet revolution in canoesport, perhaps the result of these enthusiasts' changing needs.

Blow-up Boating by Louis Bignami

Inflatables suit today's compact lifestyles, so if you're considering an inflatable, check out these details first. 4

Any Port in a Storm by Gary Diamond

Heed the warning on lightning, wind and rain, and tune in to how valuable NOAA Weather Radio can be. 8

Kids Page by Steve Ulsh

A word search and a story on the weighty topic of anchors. 10

The Growing Elitism in Canoesport by Cliff Jacobson

See if you agree or disagree with these ideas on the factions that divide canoesport. 11

Anchor Basics by Annette Lucido

We take this subject for granted until we face strong winds and a dead motor. Then we'll need these specifics. 14

The Rise and Fall of Captain Granny Grunt, Pennsylvania Boater by Bill Porter

This story chronicles the not-so-ordinary experiences that ordinary boaters live through. 16

Electronic Aids to Navigation

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Teaching Kids to Water Ski by Bruce Kistler

This summer you could introduce your kids to this sport by applying this information. 23

Seduction of a Sailor by Jack Grazier

Adding an auxiliary motor to your sailboat is difficult when it goes against everything you think sailing should be. 26

Three Rivers Boating by Rick Drury

If you'd like to cruise the urban waterways of Pittsburgh, read this. 30

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