

# PORTOFINO

## HARBOUR NEWS



# 2020

### WHAT MAKES A DAD?

God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature,  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of the eagle's flight,  
The joy of a morning in spring,  
The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need.

Then God combined these qualities.  
When there was nothing more to add,  
He knew His masterpiece was complete,  
And so, He called it..." DAD!"

~Author Unknown

### RULES & REGULATIONS

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY STOPPED  
BY THE OFFICE AND SIGNED AND  
RECEIVED AN UPDATED VERSION OF  
PORTOFINO'S RULES AND  
REGULATIONS, PLEASE DO SO  
ASAP!!



*"I know you're new to boating, so I'll give you some friendly advice...the boat goes in the water, not your SUV."*



To all of our Portofino  
Father's  
Happy Father's Day



Pay Online

**CLICK HERE**

**Skip the check and pay  
online anytime.**



Invoices are due on the 1st and are late on the 10<sup>th</sup>.



# HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE! AGAIN!!

~~~~JUNE 1 – NOVEMBER 30~~~~

Hard to believe it is already the dreaded hurricane season. Time to get out your hurricane preparation plan and give it the annual once over. The key to protecting your boat, and home, from hurricanes or any severe weather is planning, preparation and timely action and that starts with a hurricane preparedness checklist.

Ben Franklin coined the adage “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure;” so in keeping with that adage it is time for us all to prepare for the worst and hope for the best.

Each of you, as boat owners, must make your plans and preparations **now** not when the hurricane is breathing down our necks. And, as a boat owner, it is **your responsibility, not the marina’s** to hurricane prep your boat. If you do not have a current plan, there are a number of websites on the internet that can help you formulate a plan that works for you.

“A hurricane ‘watch’ is posted when hurricane conditions pose a threat to a specified coastal area, usually within 36 hours. Some hurricane observers believe waiting for a watch to be posted also may be too late to head for the marina or to move the boat to a safer location...winds of 74 mph or higher are expected within 24 hours or less – too late, in most situations, to head for the boat. Securing the house, gathering emergency provisions, and evacuating the family will need attention at this point.

“The best advice is to prepare or move your boat when a hurricane is a substantial possibility, even before a watch is issued.” (Quoted from the BoatUS “The Boater’s Guide to Preparing Boats & Marinas for Hurricanes”).

**NOW** is the time to begin your hurricane preparations. **NOW** is the time to make sure your lines are adequate and you have the additional line needed as well as chafe gear and anything else required to properly secure your vessel. **NOW** is the time to review your hurricane preparedness plan. **NOW** is the time to make your list and check it twice.

**NOW** is also the time to exchange phone numbers with one, or several, dock mates. If you are one of the boat owners who lives a distance from the marina, it would behoove you have a “Dock Buddy” to help not only during a storm situation but in the event there is an emergency with your boat and you cannot make it to the marina. A “Dock Buddy” neighbor or two, or three, is a good thing.

Many insurance companies now take into consideration whether or not you adequately prepared, or even attempted to prepare, your boat when assessing damages and payout amount. Therefore, having a plan, and following it, could very well play a role in the amount paid you should your vessel suffer damages from a storm.

Those of you who have multiple vehicles and/or golf carts will also need to include their removal from the marina in your preparations plan. Any vehicles left in the marina when a hurricane is expected to make landfall will be towed to eliminate damage to marina property or winding up in the water as happened with the Lexus during Ike.

So, our best advice to you is put on your Boy Scout uniform and get prepared!!

~~~~~  
**Remember from Friday – Sunday only vehicles with parking stickers are allowed in Tenant/Owner Parking.**



**An email about more specific aspects of parking is forthcoming.**



If you don’t already have your 2020 wristbands, please come to the office and we will gladly provide them to you! They are required to be worn when you are at the pool and patio areas.



**For maintenance concerns please email Grant:**  
[phdoaservices@gmail.com](mailto:phdoaservices@gmail.com)

**For any other concerns please email Beth:**  
[Portofinoharbourmarina@gmail.com](mailto:Portofinoharbourmarina@gmail.com)

**For after hour emergencies please call: 281-614-9223**



## BE AWARE OF THE BYLAWS PERTAINING TO YOUR VESSEL

Vessels moored in the marina must be operable and maintained in a safe and seaworthy condition and be of a design suitable for operation on the open waters in the typical range of sea conditions.

1. Operable Vessels “Operable” means capable of safely maneuvering under its own power out of the marina on its engine, from the mooring to another port of call and back to its mooring. Only pleasure craft in sound, maintained in a slightly and seaworthy condition will be admitted to the marina. To maintain these standards, Vessel owner understands that vessel is subject to inspection, if requested, by the Marina Management after authorization by the Board of Directors.
2. In cases where a vessel does not appear to have left its mooring for an extended period of time and the question of operability arises, Marina Management may require a demonstration of the vessel’s operability. At least thirty-(30) day’s advance written notice must be given to the vessel’s owner for such a request. In cases where a vessel is found to be inoperable, the owner shall have ninety (90) days to effect repairs. If after ninety (90) days the boat is still inoperable, the mooring will be forfeited.
3. Seaworthy Vessels “Seaworthy” shall mean that the vessel’s hull, keel, decking, cabin and mast are structurally sound and generally free from dry-rot or other similar defect or deficiency. If a dispute over the seaworthiness of a vessel arises, the opinion of a qualified independent marine surveyor may be obtained at the owner’s expense. If a determination is made that a vessel is not seaworthy by the Board of Directors and marina management, ninety (90) days shall be granted to repair the vessel. If after ninety (90) days the vessel is still not determined to be seaworthy, the mooring of said vessel shall be forfeited. In

design and/or seaworthiness is in dispute, Marina Management’s in conjunction with the Board of Director’s decision will be final.

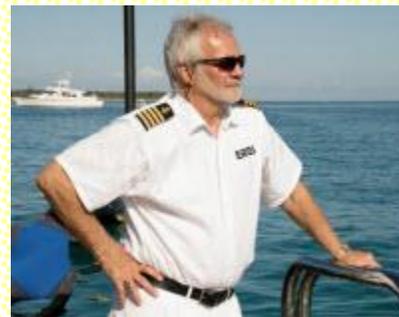
4. Vessel Condition - Any vessel which is poorly maintained in appearance, badly deteriorated or likely to damage property may be removed at the owner’s expense upon receipt of written request from the Board of Directors. At least thirty-(30) day’s advance written notice must be given to the vessel’s owner to effect repairs. In the event that the vessel owner is unavailable or available but refuses to act upon such a request, the marina shall have the right to cause removal at the owner’s expense.



### Captain on the Bridge - A Job Soon to be Obsoleted by Automation?

- By Gus Giobbi - BlueSkyNews.com

**People are only recently getting a real sense of how many jobs and skills are in the process of being rapidly eliminated or dramatically transformed by robots and automation.**



**One maritime related job on the automation revolution chopping block is no less than that of the Captain.**

**That includes all types of captains - On military ships; commercial ships; cruise ships; yachts; yacht delivery; and yes, even recreational boats.**

**If you look into this subject, you'll be stunned at how far the technology of skipperless vessels has progressed - and what the future looks like.**

**Last summer a Norwegian built robot sailboat became the first unmanned vessel to successfully cross the Atlantic.**

**If one looks through the hindsight crystal ball, it's not too difficult to predict which marine skills will eventually be reduced, eliminated or transformed.**

Other than Captain, at the top of the list will probably be those involved with traditional navigation. That includes both the navigators and navigation instructors.

Persons involved in any form of marine instruction, deck jobs, security, mate, leadership, watch standing, etc. would be well advised to keep abreast of these trends.

Crew members will be some of the last jobs eliminated, but the required number of crew members has already been dramatically reduced; especially aboard commercial ships.

Today's monster container ships for example used to have hundreds of crew aboard, but the average number of crew today is only 18-20 people. And countries like Japan are working hard to reduce that number to zero.

Jobs that will probably be the last to be eliminated will be those in Food Service, Engineering, Electrical, Security and Fire Fighting.

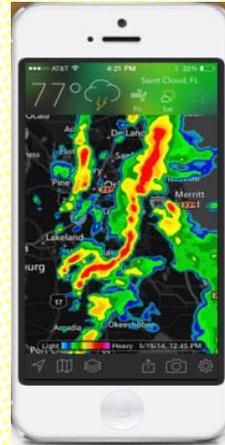
Autonomous ships are even an area of particular interest for the International Maritime Organization (IMO), which sets the standards for international waters. It launched a regulatory scoping exercise last year to analyze the impact of autonomous boats.

So what does it all mean? If you're a sea captain, you might want to look into becoming what they are foreseeing as an "Armchair Captain", controlling several ships in a Tracon-like center captaining several ships on a computer console.

For me, automated recreational boats and yachts are also coming soon. I'll name my next yacht Alexa.



I can see it now - My guests will be aboard and settled in for a cruise. I'll be sitting in an armchair on the back deck - "Alexa! - Take us to Catalina! - And bring me a margarita



## My Radar - Boating App

Whether you're out on your dinghy or relaxing by the marina pool, this handy App displays animated weather radar conditions around your current location, allowing you to quickly see what kind of weather is headed your way.

The App's High Definition Doppler radar data is processed from raw NOAA weather radar data from the National Weather Service using proprietary systems and software.

Just start the app, and your location pops up with animated weather.

With this portable radar system, you'll always be in touch with storm warnings; wind; rain; snow; NOAA alerts; and other weather details at the closest level.



**OUR POOL IS OPEN AND READY FOR YOU!!**

**I want to call your attention to the dock box that has been placed up by the pool.**

**Go take a look inside...**

**FUN & GAMES FOR ALL TO ENJOY!**