



American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC)
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For photos: https://www.abycinc.org/PRassets_2026BOD

From left are members of the ABYC Board of Directors and staff: Leon MacCorkle, Brian Goodwin, Laurie Louvier (in for Eric Fetchko), Tim Murphy, Randall Lyons, Joe Maniscalco, Matt Majors (outgoing member), John Adey, Kate Holden, Derek Rhymes, Heather Lougheed, Phil Estes, Christina Paul, Jeff Wasil, Paulee Day, Pete Chisholm, Cindy Squires, Sean Hatherley, Robert Newsome, William Daley, Shannon Aronson, David Broadbent, Kristina Hebert and Kevin Scullen.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ABYC Updates Board Leadership for 2026

CHARLESTON, South Carolina (Jan. 15, 2026) – The American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) announced updates to its board of directors during its annual meeting this week in Charleston, held in conjunction with the organization’s 17th annual Standards Week.

New board members include Kristina Hebert, president and CEO of Wards Marine Electric, and Heather Lougheed, president of the BoatUS Foundation.

"I'm honored to join ABYC's board of directors, as ABYC's trusted standards play a critical role in keeping boaters safe and enhancing the experience for everyone on the water," Loughheed said.

"ABYC has been instrumental in the structural and operational foundation at Wards Marine Electric, providing essential frameworks that guide our practices," Hebert said. "By serving on the board, I aim to leverage my experience and network to enhance ABYC's initiatives, expand its influence, and ultimately contribute to improving safety standards and career development within our industry."

Board Chair Christina Paul introduced the slate of officers and directors-at-large. Elected officers are:

- Christina Paul, chair
- Cindy Squires, vice chair
- Pete Chisholm, technical chair
- Derek Rhymes, treasurer
- Jeff Wasil, past chair

For a complete list of ABYC's board of directors and additional information, visit <https://abycinc.org/about/leadership>.

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Suggested Social Media Post:

Industry News: The American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) announced its 2026 board of directors during Standards Week in Charleston, SC.

#BoatingSafety #MarineIndustry #Leadership

ABOUT ABYC

Since 1954, the nonprofit American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) has developed safety standards for boat design, construction, equipage, repair and maintenance. The essential global source of marine industry technical information, ABYC's product safety standards, credentialing, education, training, and other tools help members make boating safer.