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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BoatUS Appoints Five New Members to BoatUS National Advisory Council



Photo Caption: The BoatUS National Advisory Council. New members include Creighton Maynard (2nd from L), Linda Bendsen (4th from L), Bob Adriance (6th from L), and Jim Graybeal (2nd on R). Nicholas Kerigan not pictured. [Download hi-res photo.](#)

FT. MYERS BEACH, FL, December 13, 2010 – [The Boat Owners Association of The United States](#) (BoatUS) has made five key appointments to its National Advisory Council. They include Nicholas Kerigan, national commodore, US Coast Guard Auxiliary; Jim Graybeal, president, National Association of State Boating Law Administrators; Creighton Maynard, chief commander, US Power Squadrons; Linda Bendsen, president, Recreational Boaters of California; and Bob Adriance, editor of *Seaworthy* magazine. The appointments were announced this past week at the Council's annual meeting in Ft. Myers Beach, Florida.

The Council was created over 30 years ago to advise and guide the over half-million-member association on federal and state issues critical to recreational boaters. Throughout the years they have debated policy topics ranging from unfair fees and taxes to today's hot-button issues such as the increasing levels of ethanol in gasoline, mandatory life jacket wear, marine protected areas and homeland security.

"We're counting on the unique perspectives and experience that these new Council members will bring to the table," said BoatUS President Nancy Michelman. "This group helps us take a critical look at the 'big picture,' craft policy, understand trends, and provide direction on how BoatUS can best meet the needs of today's boaters, sailors and anglers."

The five new members bring the total number of BoatUS National Advisory Council members to 13. Current members also include:

- Kris Carroll, president, Grady-White Boats, Inc.
- Lenora Clark, vice chair, California Boating and Waterways Commission
- Dean Travis Clarke, executive editor, *Sport Fishing* and *Marlin* magazines
- Doris Colgate, president, Offshore Sailing School
- Jim Ellis, former president, BoatUS
- Wolcott "Tony" Gibbs Jr., former editor of *Yachting* and current Council chairman
- Chuck Hawley, vice president of product information, West Marine
- Elbert "Mack" Maloney, author, *Chapman's* and *Dutton's*

BoatUS is the nation's leading advocate for recreational boaters providing its over half a million members with government representation, programs and money saving services. For membership information visit www.BoatUS.com or call 800-395-2628.

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