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## HULL OF A TOUR: Florida-to-D.C. 'Freedom Ride' starts May 15

Posted on May 7th, 2015 Written by [Wanda Kenton Smith](#)



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I love God.

I love America.

I love my family.

*And baby, I love boating and motorcycling!*

When it comes to my life's passions, that's everything rolled up into a few choice words.

As it relates to boating and motorcycling, there's no place on Earth I'd rather be than at the helm or behind the wheel of a magnificent, sleek machine. I love the feeling of raw power and the sense of freedom that is unleashed as you throttle forward and discover stunning new horizons.

Nothing feels better than the wind in your hair and the sun on your face. I love the sights and sounds and smells of the open water and the open road. When you're out there, everything is intensified. You just experience unbridled joy and exhilaration at every turn.



That's what led me to organize the first Boaterz n Bikerz of America *Hull of a Tour* in 2013, which combined boating and motorcycling in a cross-country, 3,000-mile adventure from Florida to California. That awesome tour took us from the flat lands of Florida to the plains of Texas, from the bright lights of Las Vegas to the mountains of New Mexico, and from the Mojave Desert in California to splashdown in San Diego.

All along the trail we enjoyed unique boating activities, from the Legendary Marine Yacht Club in Destin, Fla., with dinner at the harbor, to the sunset cruise aboard the 90-foot Miss Texas, compliments of Marinas International in Grapevine, Texas, to the ultimate power yacht and sailboat ride aboard spectacular Beneteaus in San Diego provided by sponsor South Coast Yachts.

The last question on everybody's parched lips at the conclusion of the tour: "When's the next ride?"

It's a week away! Here we are two years later, preparing to launch this year's Hull of a Tour, *The Freedom Ride*, sponsored by the Freedom Boat Club, along with Hurricane Boats, Soundings Trade Only and Kenton Smith Marketing.

This year's adventure revs up on May 15 from Sarasota, Fla., and winds up the East Coast for 2,000 glorious miles, snaking through a variety of historic ports of call charted by our road captain, Jim Krueger of Regal Marine.



Along the way, there will be boating parties hosted by Freedom Boat Club franchise owners in Sarasota and St. Augustine, Fla.; Savannah, Ga.; Myrtle Beach, S.C.; and Annapolis, Md. The latter event will include a command performance by the Blue Angels as we watch aboard club boats on the Severn River.

We're taking a ferry and riding through the Outer Banks, plus touring naval ships in Charleston, S.C., the Harley-Davidson factory in York, Pa., the Gettysburg battlefield and Thomas Jefferson's beloved Monticello. The grand finale sweeps us into the nation's capital on Memorial Day weekend, where our band of merry boaters and bikers will proudly join Rolling Thunder, a 100,000-bike escorted ride from the Pentagon to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in celebration and memory of POWs, MIAs and war veterans.

I hope you'll come along and join me for The Freedom Ride as I blog daily during the trip right here from my perch at Soundings Trade Only. It's going to be one hull of a tour!

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