

2006 • Over a Decade with Dr. Gel • 2017



Ask

Dr. Gel

by Dave Weakley



Dave Weakley is the owner of American Boat Restoration and has been helping Northeastern boaters keep their boats in fine trim and good repair for over 40 years.

"Email me or call me with your questions! I'll be happy to help you out"

americanboatrestoration.com / email: boatrepair@aol.com / Office: 413.665.7424 / Cell: 518.577.7799

Playing It Safe

Back in the day a long time ago all we had for tubes to tow behind a boat were those black inner tubes. We used a regular ski line, chafed our entire body and had to make sure the tube was over inflated otherwise it would drag through the water. We also had to make sure the valve stem was pointed down!

Today manufacturers are making monster size towable toys, some holding six people. The weight and drag is immense requiring very heavy tow rope. Some ropes have a tensile strength of 6,000 lbs. That's enough to tow a large truck! Before you venture out onto the water on a very exciting and thrilling Towable tube make sure your boat and towing system can handle the load and is up to the task! The tow mechanism needs to be properly and securely fastened!

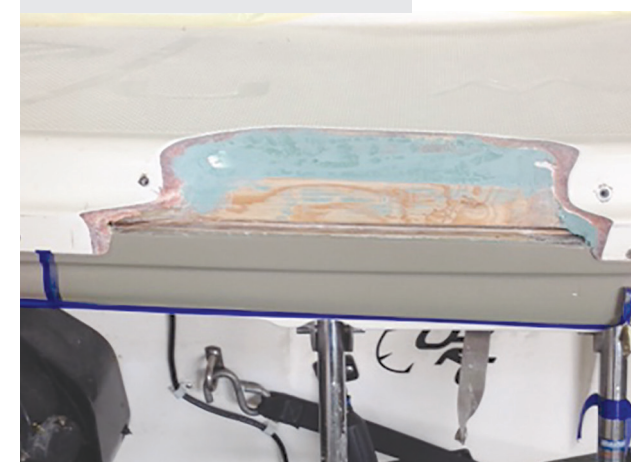
There are towing rings that are installed on the transom of boats that are so wimpy that you would not want to pull more than one skier at a time



with. The system is not built with an adequate tow eye for heavy loads. Hooking a heavy large towable to one of these could cause damage to your boat or worse hurt someone. Pieces of the towing apparatus could rip out suddenly and potentially be a flying projectile hurting people on the tube or in the boat.

It is also extremely important that Wakeboard/Skiing Towers be installed properly with substantial reinforcing backing plates. I've seen Towers installed with just washers on the inside. This is unacceptable and unsafe! It will damage your boat!

My best advice is to have a professional fiberglass repair shop look at your boat before hooking up your tube or when installing a tower.





"Food for thought"

- Check the fastening on the towing system and Towers – reinforce if needed- inspect periodically.
- Don't use your cleats as tow rings! Even to tow a broke down boat! Use tie down rings through your transom. They are a lot more substantial.
- Remember to have riders wear life vests & know the water ski hand signals.
- Have legal age appropriate Spotters.
- Go the recommended not-to-exceed speed for riders - 15 mph max for children – Adults 20 mph
- Know the area & laws you are towing in!



- A Tow rope of any type including waterskiing should be at least 20' long to keep riders out of engine exhaust!
- Backing plate not large enough to adequately hold the cleat results in a gigantic hole

P&T Surplus

TOOLS • TARPS • FACTORY SURPLUS

TARPS!

• Economical Blue & Heavy Duty Green/Silver

GREAT PRICES

WE SHIP DAILY

www.ptsurplus.com

845-338-6191

198 Abeel St. Kingston, NY

Let us help you
CHART YOUR COURSE
toward **FINANCIAL SUCCESS**

Retirement Plans • Mutual Funds
College Funding Plans • Annuities
Brokerage Accounts • Life Insurance



RMR WEALTH BUILDERS, INC
500 Glenpointe Centre West, Teaneck, NJ 07666
888.333.9898 tel • 201.836.1897 fax • rmrwealth.com
TEANECK • FT LAUDERDALE • SCOTTSDALE
Securities and investment advisory services offered through
Calton & Associates Inc., member FINRA/SIPC.

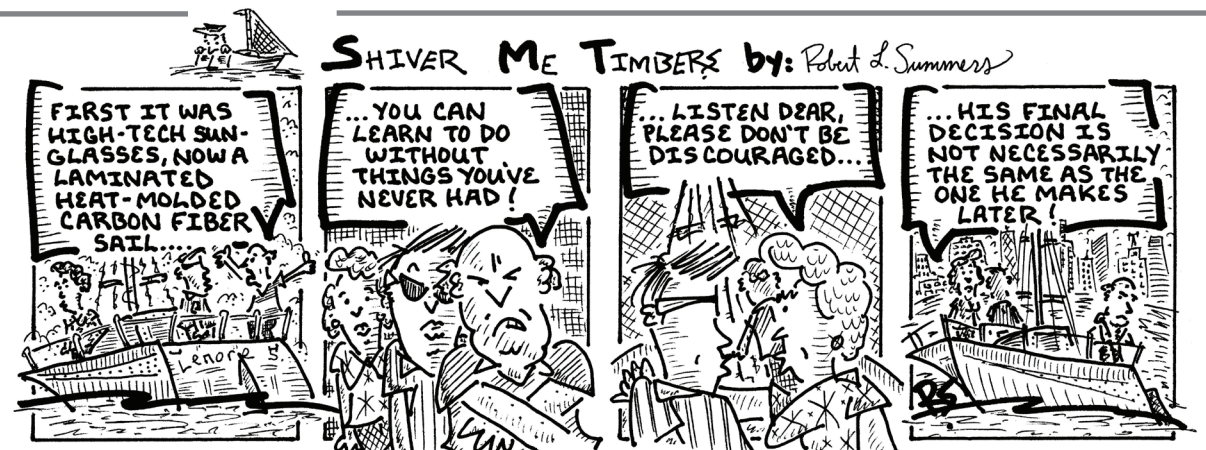
PC

Arthur F. Stahl

Phone 845-729-7638

500 Glenpointe Centre West

Teaneck, NJ 07666



500 YARDS SOUTH OF THE DUNN MEMORIAL BRIDGE, OR 1.5 NM NORTH OF MARKER #221 ON THE EASTSIDE OF THE HUDSON RIVER IN RENSSELAER, NY

www.albanyyachtclub.com

ALBANY YACHT CLUB

JUST MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN ALBANY, THE EMPIRE STATE PLAZA,
CULTURAL EDUCATION CENTER, TIMES UNION ARENA & AMTRAK



AMERICAN EXPRESS - DISCOVER - MASTER & VISA CARDS ACCEPTED

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL (518) 445-9587 FROM 8 AM TO 8 PM OR VHF CHANNEL 16

NY CANAL PERMITS
WI-FI • CABLE TV
TRANSIENT DOCKAGE 17' DEPTH
GAS • DIESEL
PUMP OUT SERVICE
HOT SHOWERS
LAUNDROMAT

