



**4** Best Family Fun Machines p80

**SPEED SPECTACULAR!**  
Boat Racing for Everyone p16

# BoatingLife®

The Authority On Recreation Boating

## Complete Water Sports Guide

- 12 Tow Boats
- Best Gear
- Driving Tips



Supra Launch 24 SSV

## 6 Hardy Cruisers for Instant Escapes

**Sweat-Free Strategies** at the launch ramp p18

### Tests

- Monterey 214 FS
- Hurricane FunDeck 238
- Doral Thundercraft 240 Magnum
- Boston Whaler 205 Eastport
- Nautic Star 205 DC

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## Freeze!

**T**wo of our favorite new products will capture memorable boating moments and preserve them indefinitely.

### Photo Bug

Missed that great shot of the soggy doggy after his swim because you didn't take your \$500 camera on board? We can relate. At first, price was the main reason we took a look at the Concord Q 4.0 megapixel digital camera. Then we shot some images to check 'em out. Sharp. Very sharp. A 3X optical zoom and a 6X digital zoom combine to get you 18 times closer to the action. Red eye reduction and video modes add to versatility. **Cost:** \$179

**Where we found it:** walmart.com



### I Spy

Take the long view — something Bushnell's Image View 10 x 30 mm binoculars do very clearly — and then add a function boaters have wanted for years: the ability to snap a picture of the long view right through binoculars. The Image View's built-in 2.1 megapixel digital camera takes great images at snapshot resolution. You can take visual notes of a route or take close-ups of the kids on the beach. We found the magnification tight enough to home in on an ICW marker a couple hundred yards away. James Bond wished he had binoculars like this. **Cost:** \$139.99 **Where we found it:** cabelas.com



### Head (Lights) Up!

We wondered what the big deal was about this ball cap until somebody switched on the light. Literally. Then we chuckled, scratched our collective chins and said, "Yeah, I can see that!" The tiny LED beam under the bill clicks on and off at the touch of a switch. When it's on, it illuminates the lure and line you're tying together or the burnt fuse you're trying to replace. It would be awesome for after-dark trailer adjustments at the ramp, and nobody knows it's a headlight until you turn it on. **Cost:** \$19.99 **Where we found it:** ledhedz.com

### AAA in a Box

Dead batteries and running out of fuel are the top two reasons to call Sea Tow. A little care can prevent fuel outages, but sometimes batteries are fickle. The Jumpstart Elite from West Marine has plenty of amps to start an engine in a pinch, and we've even been able to run all day on similar backup starter systems. Forget fickle. Forget waiting for a tow service. Keep this portable device charged up at home and take it to the ramp for a sure launch and a happy day at the lake. **Cost:** \$82.99

**Where we found it:** westmarine.com

