



**NORTHERN VIRGINIA SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2009**

The General Meeting was held at the Boat US conference room. The meeting was called to order at 1935. A quorum was not present.

In attendance:

BRIDGE:

Commander, CDR Francis T. Williamson, AP
Executive Officer, Lt/C George Nartsissov, P
Education Officer, Lt/C Richard E. Unis, JN
Administrative Officer, Lt/C John G. Karjala, P

Members at Large:

P/C Gale Alls, SN P/C Richard Durgin, JN
P/C G. J. Nelson, AP P/Lt/C Cathleen F. Sheffield

Absent:

Secretary, Lt/C Ralph R. Young, AP
Treasurer, Lt/C Steven Hall, AP
Members at Large: P/C John A. Shivik, AP

REPORTS IN THE ORDER OF DISCUSSION:

Vessel Safety Check Chair, Lt John von Senden, AP

LT von Senden reported on an active schedule to start the Vessel Safety Check (VSC) season. Events are planned for:

8 April	Prince William Marina
19-20 April	Tim's River Shore
2 May	Herrington Harbour North (Led by P/C John Shivik)
9 May	West River Sailing Club, Galesville
3 & 17 May	Prince William Marina
16 May	Fairfax Yacht Club (concurrently with NVSPS Picnic)

Treasurer (CDR Francis Williamson for Lt/C Ralph Young)
Current NVSPS membership is 291.

Administrative Officer, Lt/C John G. Karjala, P:

PAST EVENTS

COW The Change of Watch Dinner took place Saturday 14 March 2009 at the Fairfax American Legion Post. The event was attended by 45 members which included two guests

from District 5, United States Power Squadrons. The Commander's liquor locker was open so Martinis and Manhattans were free. A good time was had by all.

BOAT SHOW The Boat Show started on Friday 13 March 2009 and went through the weekend at the Chantilly Conference Center. The Squadron's booth had a good showing and was manned by Squadron volunteers. Interest was expressed by many visitors in the Squadron's Safe Boating Course.

D5 Training Conference The District 5 Training Conference took place 26-29 March 2009 in Ocean City. The NVSPS educational demonstrations and hospitality room were a success.

FUTURE EVENTS

ALL HANDS REFRESHMENTS We continue to need volunteers to furnish refreshments at future All Hands Meetings. A sign-up sheet was passed around for the rest of the year.

Spring Picnic The Spring Picnic will take place 16 May 2009 from 1200 to 1700 at the Fairfax Yacht Club. Barbecue Pork and Chicken accompanied by Barbecue Beans will be the main courses as well as Pot Luck for appetizers, salad and dessert. Everyone is encouraged to bring one of those sides. The picnic is free. Invitations were sent via email to the membership last weekend.

Of Tars & Terns Articles for Bridge and Committee Chairs must be submitted not later than 15 April 2009 for the May edition.

Education Officer, Lt/C Richard E. Unis, JN: Recognized John von Senden, AP for his achievement of earning the USPS Educational Achievement Award. Norbert Hymel, AP was recognized for his being named as Outstanding Boating Safety Instructor. Rich reported that he recently attended an SEO Seminar at Tilghman Island.

Two Squadron Boating Courses are currently underway. Next week, another course will start at Lake Accotink. A new Anchoring Seminar is scheduled to be held at George Mason University on Saturday 25 April to be taught by Bob Cox, JN.

Future seminars include:

Boat Handling Under Power	30 May from 0900 to 1130	Instructor: Jay Nelson
Knots, Bends, and Hitches	30 May from 1230 to 1500	Instructor: Bob Cox

Both seminars will be held at George Mason University, 4301 University Dr, 1st Floor Conference Room, Fairfax City.

Rich intends to refocus our marketing efforts to emphasize what we bring to boating. Boaters are nine times less likely to get into a boating accident if they take a Safe Boating Course. Boating education makes people safe.

Commander, CDR Francis Williamson, AP:

Francis provided a summary of activities and proceedings of the D/5 Conference.

USPS is making a nationwide push on seminars. A Leadership Development Workshop is another Certificate requirement being planned for rollout that will be required to attain Senior Navigator (SN) status.

The new Bridge and EXCOM have hit the ground running. Francis encouraged members to send their ideas and suggestions for OT&T to Richard Davis or to Francis.

Francis reported that Secretary Ralph Young is investigating the digitization of NVSPS records. He also encouraged the Squadron to get out and do as many Vessel Safety Checks as possible.

Cruise Chairman George Degnon will be surveying members for their interest in cruises and cruise destinations for this boating season.

Thanks to those members who participated in the Chantilly Boat Show. There was an uptick in applications for Boating Safety Courses. The show was successful.

There being no further business the general business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 2030.

Guest Speaker: P/C Ails introduced Captain Phil Gilbert, a professional Fishing Charter Captain on Chesapeake Bay who gave a very enjoyable, interesting and useful presentation on how a professional fishing charter Captain makes fishing Charters successful and enjoyable for his client and on fishing on the Chesapeake Bay.

Respectfully submitted

1st Lt Stephen L. Shupack, AP

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Assistant Secretary