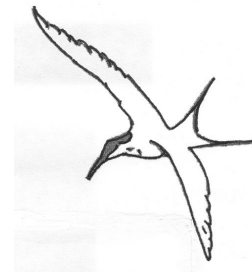




of TARS & TERNS



BRIDGE OFFICERS



COMMANDER

Cdr George K. Degnon, P



EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lt/C Ronald H. Larson, P



EDUCATION OFFICER

Lt/C Richard E. Unis, JN



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lt/C John G. Karjala, P



SECRETARY

Lt/C George Nartsissov, P



TREASURER

Lt/C Steven Hall, AP



Northern Virginia
Sail and Power Squadron
District 5

A unit of the
United States Power Squadrons®
Sail and Power Boating

www.nvsp.org
www.uspsd5.org



Calendar of NVSPS Meetings and Events

October

- 8 International Pot Luck Supper
- 10 D/5 Sail Regatta – Rock Hall, MD
- 15 *Inputs due to oT&T*
- 22 EXCOM Meeting
- 28 How to Use a Chart Seminar
- 31 *Halloween*

November

- 1 Seamanship Class
- 7 D/5 Fall Conference – Solomon's
- 12 All Hands Meeting – Boat US
- 15 *Inputs due to oT&T*
- 19 EXCOM Meeting
- 27 *Thanksgiving*

December

- 13 Holiday Party
- 25 *Christmas*

2009

COMMANDER

Cdr George K. Degnon, P
703-448-8766
boater@degnon.org

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lt/C Ronald H. Larson, P
703-922-7094
mdlars@msn.com

EDUCATION OFFICER

Lt/C Richard E. Unis, JN
703-777-8378
runis_320@yahoo.com

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lt/C John G. Karjala, P
703-818-8676
jgkarjala@verizon.net

SECRETARY

Lt/C George Nartsissov, P
703-425-7044
ganh@verizon.net

TREASURER

Lt/C Steven Hall, AP
703-242-8566
sdhall01@verizon.net

MEMBERS AT LARGE

P/C G. J. Nelson, AP 703-437-0064
Lt Francis Williamson, AP 703-440-9074
P/C Gale Alls, SN 703-569-1511
P/C John Shivik, AP 703-273-3351
P/LtC Cathleen Sheffield, AP 703-370-4331
P/C Richard J. Durgin, JN 703-560-9106

Scheduled Meetings

Unless otherwise noted, the General Membership Meetings will be held at the BoatUS* Headquarters facility at 1900. Any changes will be posted in this newsletter or on the Squadron web site.

BoatUS Headquarters and meeting location:

880 South Pickett Street, Alexandria VA. From the Capital Beltway, take the VA-613/ Van Dorn Street exit, exit number 173 (aka exit 3), towards Franconia. Turn left onto South Van Dorn Street / VA-613 North. Turn left onto South Pickett Street. Go less than .5 miles and turn in at the BoatUS sign and go to the lighted parking lot in the rear. Proceed to the entrance.



**Do you or one of your friends need a vessel checked?
Or want to become an examiner yourself?
J. Van Senden, John@Southerngirl.net**



of TARS & TERNS
Official Publication of
Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron
<http://www.nvsp.org>



Articles, opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect USPS policy or endorsement unless so designated

Published ten months of the year
July/August and January / February issues are combined
Volume XLII, No. 8; Oct, 2008

EDITOR

Stf/C Richard Davis, AP
(703) 444-2772
rpdavis1702@comcast.net

DISTRIBUTION

Lt Manette B. Lazear, AP
(703) 620-1821
lakematesm@comcast.net

D/Lt Walter D. Lazear, AP
(703) 620-1821
lakematesw@comcast.net



Commander Sends . . .

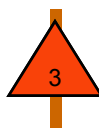
Thanks to all of the members who signed up for our Cruise and Rendezvous at Chesapeake Yacht Club on September 5-7. We had six boats planning to cruise over and a dozen automobiles planning to come over for the dinner on Saturday evening. This was going to be one fun event and we had every wish that Hanna would peter out over the Carolinas or go eastward and out to sea, but she had a mind of her own. We waited until Friday afternoon to make a final decision re cancellation, and ultimately we had to consider the safety of members who would be driving over in the winds and rain, so cancel we did. We just need to try again and pick another date for this fall for all you party loving boaters!

The Squadron is alive and well, and from my vantage point it's a real delight to see so many members on the water having fun, to hear the wonderful stories of summer experiences, and to know we still have some of the best boating ahead of us with the upcoming fall season. Marge and I are planning to attend the District 5 Sail Regatta and Rendezvous over in Rock Hall on Columbus Day weekend and we hope many of you will come along. We are also planning to attend the District 5 Fall Conference in Solomon's on Nov 7-9 and again hope to see many of you there too. Rumor has it that the commander is buying at 5:00 pm at both events so come on over!

We had an absolutely wonderful experience with the war veterans from Walter Reed Army Medical Center who participated in the Day on the Water which the Squadron hosted in cooperation with the Chesapeake Yacht Club. The event provided us with the opportunity to put a smile on the faces of those who sacrificed so much for our freedom. It was a wonderful experience for the 18 soldiers and family members who attended our Labor Day weekend boat rides for Vets. We had a dozen boats provide rides for the day and some explored St Michaels Harbor and passed under the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, while others went up to Annapolis for a cruise around the Naval Academy and still others enjoyed the Rhode River and West River and their tributaries, and a few just toured the lighthouses on the nearby Chesapeake Bay.

The soldiers truly appreciated the relaxing rides and getting away from the hospital which has been home for most of them for the past year. Several are looking forward to returning home to civilian lives and putting their life shattering experiences behind, and others are looking forward to returning to regular duty. The average stay at Walter Reed for our wounded warriors is eighteen months.

According to one of our Walter Reed contacts, the boat rides have become one of the favorite recreational activities for our soldiers – one service member commented to his advisor: "Since returning from Iraq over 8 months ago I had not slept at night nor been able to relax in the day, but following that boat ride I slept my first good night's sleep and now I can relax again."



When the soldiers arrived for the rides, we started the day off with a delicious and nutritious box lunch and plenty of water and soft drinks. Upon returning from the rides, our guests were treated to a wonderful evening including dinner, friendship and plenty of great food—enough to feed an Army! Following the dinner, the soldiers were provided with gifts of boating shirts and hats by the Chesapeake Yacht Club's Ladies Auxiliary.

When it was time to go home, no one wanted to depart and the soldiers expressed appreciation for the thoughtfulness and kindness of the Power Squadron and the Club, words were shared and hugs were exchanged. What started as a day where strangers met each other for a boat ride was ending up as one of life's unique experiences where human bonding took place among soldier and family with captains and crew. The soldiers were really grateful for the rides but more importantly the boaters were able to express their appreciation to the folks who put their lives on the line to make America the great country we are. There was hugging of old timers and young soldiers bonded by the unspoken experiences of combat separated by generations, and simply admiration of our service men and women for their sacrifice and courage in this day of an all volunteer force. It was enough to make this power squadron member go back to have a great nights sleep knowing that our efforts to put a smile on their faces and in their hearts was successful.

Thanks to Bill Petersen and Marge Degnon for their invaluable assistance and support in organizing this event, to the Board of CYC for their cooperation and partnership, to our NVSPS Executive Committee members who provided constant encouragement throughout this endeavor, and to the USPS National Office for their cooperation and guidance.

George K Degnon, P
NVSPS Squadron Commander

**Veterans
Day**



OFFICIAL NOTICE TO NVSPS MEMBERS

This is to notify the membership that bylaws changes are being proposed and to invite members to view them online at the Squadron home page at www.nvsp.org

At the October 8 Oktoberfest International Dinner we will have a brief business meeting to review the changes and vote on their adoption. If you do not have access to the internet to view the proposed new bylaws which shows the old version with track changes for the new version, please contact george@degnon.org and a copy will be mailed to you.

If you wish to offer comments on the proposed changes.



Executive Officer - Ron Larson

Fellow NVSPS members, the XO Report this month will be brief.

We had a great meeting on Wednesday, September 10, 2008 at the BoatUS facility in Alexandria. Pls review the minutes for details and come to the next meeting scheduled for October 8th at the Fairfax Yacht Club in conjunction with the International Pot Luck Dinner.

As was reported in the Sept. 2008 issue of this publication, a Boat Show was scheduled at the Dulles Expo Center Oct 3-5, 2008. NVSPS hoped to have a presence there, I will report on the outcome next month. This was a short notice event, so planning was done "on-the-go". This is the first year that a Fall Boat Show has been put on by the people that are the planners for the big Spring Boat Show. NVSPS has always participated in the Spring Boat Show and gotten safe boating and education info out to the public. Hopefully, the Fall Boat Show will give NVSPS another opportunity to provide this information to everyone.

The Boat Show, Youth Programs, COOP, Legislative Liaison, PRO, RTO, Safety and VE offices are all functioning and will be reported on in future OT&T issues and at NVSPS General Membership meeting on a continuing basis.

Lt/C Ron Larson, P
Executive Officer NVSPS

Merit Mark Recommendations Due

During calendar year 2008 did you perform substantial service for NVSPS by:

- Performing 10 Vessel Safety Checks
- Teaching a class
- Grading exams
- Setting up tables for a pot luck dinner
- Attending a committee meeting
- Working in the boat show booth
- Organizing an event
- Making a report to the membership
- Writing an article for the newsletter
- And a million other jobs, large and small?

If so, please send a short but specific description of what you did to Jean Durgin, the Merit Mark Chair (rjdurgin@aol.com), so that your name will be on the list of NVSPS members recommended by Cdr. Degnon for a merit mark this year. Make sure your contribution is recognized by USPS! Deadline is 1 October 2008.

Thanks!





CHALK TALK

Education Officer
Rick Unis

Rich Unis, JN, SEO

I am devoting this month's Chalk Talk to a look at the upcoming course schedule between now and spring. I asked for inputs on what boating education courses you would like to have offered but I received very little in the way of feedback, with the exception of the Sea Scouts. I have done my best to assemble a broad array of course offerings that offers something of value to the general public and to all of our squadron members. My course plan includes a host of Squadron Boating Courses offered in various locations to meet the demand for boating safety certification (see our website for details on these courses). In addition, a variety of advanced education courses and electives will be offered to include Piloting (fall), Advanced Piloting (spring), Navigation (fall/winter), Marine Electronics (fall/winter), Cruise Planning (winter), Weather (winter/spring) and Seamanship (fall and a possible course in the spring too). Further, there will be several seminars offered to include Using a Chart; Anchoring; and Knots, Bends & Hitches. That's a pretty full load of courses that will require a commitment from our instructors and from you to sign up for a course that interests you.

Here is the current schedule for advanced courses, electives and seminars starting in the fall and winter that are open for registration. Note – the Piloting and Marine Electronics courses started in early September and are ongoing. The Navigation course will start as soon as the new books are published – currently estimated for sometime in October.

Course: HOW TO USE A CHART SEMINAR (1 session – Open to the Public)

Description: Learn to use marine navigation charts in detail. New Seminar! Cost is \$35; family members and significant others may share the materials for a discount.

Date: 28 Oct 2008 (Tues) Time: 7:00 – 9:30 PM

Location: GMU Offices, Fairfax City, VA

Instructor: Bob Cox, JN and Mark Anderson, P

Register by: 15 Sep 2008

Contact: SEO Rich Unis at: runis_320@yahoo.com

Course: SEAMANSHIP

(~5 sessions – Sat, 1 Oct 2008 – 13 Dec 2008, 0800-1200). (No class on 8 Nov or 29 Nov). Sea Scouts have priority for this course but others are welcome to attend!

Description: Learn safe operation of recreational boats with an emphasis on higher level boating skills, docking, anchoring and rafting, basic boat care and maintenance, rules of the road, marlinspike and nautical customs and courtesies.

Cost is \$40; family members and significant others may share the materials for a discount.

Location: St. George's Episcopal Church, Arlington, VA

Instructor: TBD

Register by: 2 Oct 2008

Course: WEATHER

(~12 sessions – M, 5 Jan 2009 – 6 Apr 2009 with a break for holidays, 1900-2100). This course is tentative pending release of the new course materials).

Description: Learn basic and advanced weather knowledge and how to make weather predictions based on observations of the sky, barometer, wind information and weather data.

Cost is TBD (based on new materials)

Location: Fairfax High School

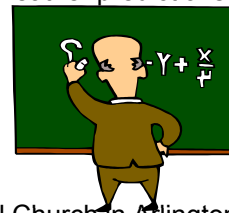
Instructor: John Shivik

Register by: 1 Dec 2008

Course: CRUISE PLANNING

This course will start on 15 Jan 2009 and will be held at St. George's Episcopal Church in Arlington, VA.

Sea Scouts will have priority for this class but others are welcome to attend. This course is currently being planned. Please see next month's newsletter for more details.





Administrative Officer – John Karjala

International Pot Luck & All Hands Meeting – The Monthly Membership Meeting will be a short meeting and will be supplemented with good food and fun.

Our Annual International Pot Dinner also known as the Squadron Oktoberfest is scheduled for 1900 hours or 7:00 P.M., Wednesday, 8 October 08, at the Fairfax Yacht Club, 10721 Colchester Road, Mason Neck, VA.. This is always a spirited occasion. Don't be left out.

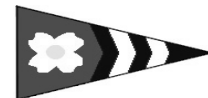
We ask that every one bring a hot dish, vegetables, cold platter, salad, or dessert. German beer, spirits, wine, sodas, and water are included in the reservation fee. Send the reservation form enclosed with this *Tars & Terns*; E-mail me at jgkarjala@verizon.net; or call me at (703) 818-8676,. Make your reservation now to inform me which dish you are bringing so we may assure there is good variety in the menu. Reservations are \$5 per couple and \$2.50 for singles. Children under 13 are free. Please RSVP by 3 October 08.

Directions to the Fairfax Yacht Club from the Beltway are given on the Reservation form. ***Holiday Dinner Dance*** - Reminder to put the Christmas Party on your calendars now. It is on Saturday, 13 December 2008 starting at 1830 hours or 6:30 P.M. at The American Legion Post #177 in 3939 Oak Street in Fairfax City.

The menu follows last year's super dinner. Two entrees (Prime Rib and Baked Chicken Breast) will be served with abundant sides. Kevin & Melanie, the DJ's, will play your favorite songs and the Commander's liquor locker will be open. Beer wine and set-ups will be available from the American Legion at good prices. Rumor has it that Santa might also attend with Ms Claus. All details and price will follow in further mailings and meetings.

Members please remember to invite friends for this great Dinner Dance. Advanced bookings accepted by e-mail to me at jgkarjala@verizon.net or call me at (703) 818-8676 to make your reservation now at last year's prices of \$25.00 per person. This early bird price offer is only good through September 2008.

SHIP's STORE



Need a new burgee for your boat? How about a tote bag or sports shirt?

Contact: Robie Shivik e-mail: JSHIVIK@VERIZON.NET



October Membership Meeting:

International Pot Luck & All Hands Meeting – The Monthly Membership Meeting will be a short meeting and will be supplemented with good food and fun. Our Annual International Pot Dinner also known as the Squadron Oktoberfest is scheduled for 1900 hours or 7:00 P.M., Wednesday, 8 October 08, at the Fairfax Yacht Club, 10721 Colchester Road, Mason Neck, VA.. This is always a spirited occasion. Don't be left out.

We ask that every one bring a hot dish, vegetables, cold platter, salad, or dessert. German beer, spirits, wine, sodas, and water are included in the reservation fee

Send the reservation form enclosed with this *Tars & Terns*; E-mail me at jgkarjala@verizon.net; or call me at (703) 818-8676,. Make your reservation now and inform me which dish you are bringing so we may assure there is a good variety in the menu.

Reservations are \$5 per couple and \$2.50 for singles. Children under 13 are free. Please RSVP by 3 October 08.

Directions to the Fairfax Yacht Club from the Beltway are given on the Reservation form.

Holiday Dinner and Dance –

Reminder to put the *Holiday Party* on your calendars now. It is on Saturday, 13 December 2008 starting at 1830 hours or 6:30 P.M. at The American Legion Post #144 in 3939 Oak Street in Fairfax City.

The menu follows last year's super dinner. Two entrees (Prime Rib and Baked Chicken Breast) will be served with abundant sides. Kevin & Melanie, the DJ's, will play your favorite songs and the Commander's liquor locker will be open. Beer wine and set-ups will be available from the American Legion at good prices. Rumor has it that Santa might also attend with Ms Clause. All details and price will follow in further mailings and meetings.

Members please remember to invite friends for this great Dinner Dance. Advanced bookings will be accepted by e-mail to me at jgkarjala@verizon.net or call me at (703) 818-8676 to make your reservation now. At last year's prices of \$25.00 per person. This early bird price offer is only good through September 2008.

Dock Talk



The new Northern Virginia Sail & Power Squadron (NVSPS) website is now operational at www.nvsps.org. It can also be reached via the old address for a while, to allow pointers in printed material to still be relevant. At some point National will stop hosting our old stuff (including the redirection file) and we'll have just the new address (www.nvsps.org). But for now we're flexible.

The US Coast Guard issued a notice stating that, in order to adjust to a new printing cycle, it will not publish the **2008 editions of the Light Lists**, except for Volume 5 (Mississippi River System). The agency is changing the publication cycle so that annual editions are available early in each calendar year. Since printing of the 2007 editions occurred in November 2007, they will remain effective for approximately 14 months. 73 Fed. Reg. 45776

A Great Deal for the Holidays!

Share the joy of the Holiday Season with your fellow squadron members by posting a message in the December issue of *of Tars & Terns*. Just make a tax-deductible contribution of any amount to the NVSPS Flower Power Fund. Your donation will become part of the Flower Power Fund, the interest from which supports squadron educational and other programs.

Examples of messages are "Happy Holidays and Safe Voyages in the New Year from the crew of ----" and "Blue Skies and Fair Winds in the New Year from ----"

Mail the form below with your check payable to NVSPS Flower Power Fund **by 12 November 2008** to Dick Durgin, 308 George Street SW, Vienna VA 22180. You will receive a receipt by mail. Questions? Call Dick at 703-560-9106. Thanks!



Please include my holiday message in the December of *Tars & Terns*!

Name/address: _____

Tax Deductible Donation: \$ _____

(Check enclosed payable to NVSPS Flower Power Fund.)

My holiday message:



Lt W. Lazear, AP
2014 Lakebreeze Way
Reston, VA 20191



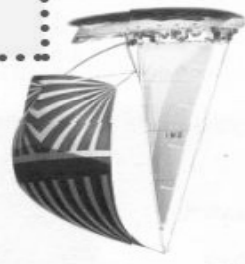
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO.
6586
RESTON, VA

Dated Material



MONTHLY ALL-HANDS MEETING
2nd Wednesdays at 1930 (any changes posted herein and on the web)
at BoatUS 880 S. Pickett St., Alexandria
From I-495 take Van Dorn Exit #173 (old #3) north.
Turn Left on S. Pickett
Or..From I-395 take Duke St. Exit #3 east, turn right on Van Dorn.
Turn right on S. Pickett.
Then...Go less than 1/2 mile and turn in at the BoatUS sign.
Enter from the lighted parking lot behind the building.



of TARS & TERNS
an official publication of
Northern Virginia Sail & Power Squadron
in District 5 of
United States Power Squadrons®
Articles & other contents do not represent USPS® policy or
endorsement unless so designated. Published ten times
yearly. January & February, July & August are combined
Visit us at: www.usps.org/localuspsnva

America's Boating Club