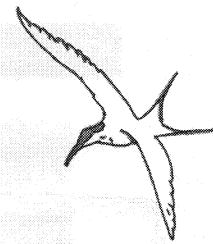




# of TARS & TERNS



Volume XLIII Number 5

June 2009

## BRIDGE OFFICERS



**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



**SECRETARY**  
Lt/C Ralph R. Young, AP



**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.nvsps.org](http://www.nvsps.org)

## "Mark" Your Calendar NVSPS Meetings and Events

### June

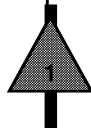
- 10 All Hands Meeting
- 24 EXCOM Meeting

### July

- 8 All Hands Meeting
- 14-16 Squadron Cruise – Travel as a Group
- 17-23 District 5 Cruise
- 23-26 District 5 Summer Rendezvous and Council
- 22 EXCOM Meeting

### August

*Happy Boating*



**COMMANDER**

Cdr Francis T. Williamson, AP  
703-440-9074

[willyjhu@verizon.net](mailto:willyjhu@verizon.net)  
[Francis.Williamson@jhuapl.edu](mailto:Francis.Williamson@jhuapl.edu)

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rryoung@mitre.org

**TREASURER**

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

**MEMBERS AT LARGE**

P/C G. J. Nelson, AP                   703-437-0064  
P/C George K. Degnon P           703-448-8766  
P/C John Shivik, AP                 703-273-3351  
P/LtC Cathleen Sheffield, AP   703-370-4331  
Lt Frederick D. Zugay, JN       703-815-1954

**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:**

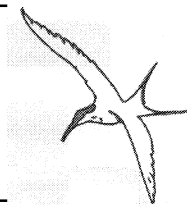
880 South Pickett Street, Alexandria VA. From the Capital Beltway, take the VA-613/ Van Dorn Street exit, exit number 173 (aka exit 3), towards Franconia. Turn left onto South Van Dorn Street / VA-613 North. Turn left onto South Pickett Street. Go less than .5 miles and turn in at the BoatUS sign and 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.nvsps.org>



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

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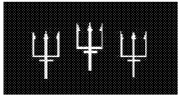
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## *Commander Sends . . .*

Cdr Francis T. Williamson, AP

Boating activity for the squadron is in high gear as we prepare for the boating season. P/C Jay Nelson's de-winterization check list presentation in March was timely and great detail for even the smallest of items. April's fishing presentation by Charter Captain Phil Gilbert provided the techniques and best lures to catch Rockfish, Blues, Trout and Spanish Mackerel in the mid Chesapeake Bay.

Concurrently, the squadron is providing quality boating education classes and seminars to increase boater's skills at every level. I encourage members to develop their knowledge and skills through the outstanding educational series provided by Rich Unis, AP and his team. Trained members help us "save lives" by teaching a course or seminar for the squadron.

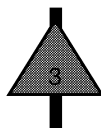
The new "National USPS Approach to Marketing Our Educational Offerings" where is NVSPS going?, generates the three objectives I have asked the Bridge and EXCOM to work towards. First, focus our efforts to recruit new members. As the largest squadron in District 5, acquiring new contributing members keep us proactive and improves our ability to provide education and service to the public. We will seek new members through both direct and indirect communication with America's boaters.

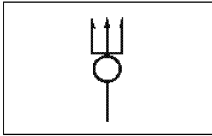
Secondly, target squadron marketing to new "generations" of boaters moving away from older styles of marketing. Examples are new phraseology, terminology and attributes of the identified boating generations ( GI, Baby Boomer, Generation X, and Millennial General Y). National will focus on Generation X. Marketing these new customers will strengthen and refine the squadron message and attract new boaters to our educational offerings and public service.

Our third objective is digital records which are; streamlined and automated , reducing workload while eliminating unnecessary documents or tasks. A new NVSPS Automation Work Group (NAWG) is identifying and refining squadron tasks to achieve these goals.

Make every day on the water better through membership in NVSPS. Please help us retain our standing as the Nation's premier boating organization by renewing your USPS membership as soon as you receive your renewal notice. Membership renewal notices have been circulated by National, and dues will be paid to National directly. Remember to seek friends, family, prospective boaters, and ask them to join our squadron.

I invite your support to invest in the future of NVSPS through education and service to America's boaters.





## *The Editor's moment . . .*

*Stf/C Richard P. Davis, AP*

I have received several inquiries from members as to why we do not have a small classified section. It is possible, however we would have to have some restrictions as to size and duration. There should be no charge for the advertisement and it will be short in length.

If you are interested in having this feature, please let me know at:  
rpdavis1702@comcast.net.

Regards  
Richard,



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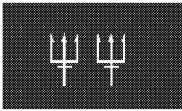
### **Sea Scout Andrew Scheuerman receives Educational Proficiency Award.**

Andrew Scheuermann represents one of the most decorated Sea Scouts all across the entire United States having earned all the following Sea Scouting / Scouting TOP Awards and recognitions (not the least of which is one of their most knowledgeable Sea Scouts - due to all the NVSPS Power Squadron courses he now has successfully completed):

1. 'Quartermaster' Sea Scout.
2. 'Eagle' Scout Award.
3. Venture 'Silver' Award.
4. Sea Scout 'Ship 1942' elected youth Boat wain when they won the "2007 National Flagship Award" for the very best Sea Scout Ship in the United States.
5. U.S. Power Squadron's "Raymond A. Findley, Jr." Sea Scout Service Award. 5. Led his 'Ship 1942' in two east coast Sea Scout "Henry Nygard Regatta" Memorial weekend nautical skills championships.
6. Venture Outdoor 'Ranger' Award.
7. Venture 'Leadership' Award.
8. Sea Scout Advanced Leadership (SEAL) Afloat Training graduate.
9. 'Kodiak' and 'Kodiak-X' Venture Leadership trained.
10. First Place "Kiwi Cup Division" for the national small boat sailing Sea Scout "Koch Cup" championships.
11. U.S. Power Squadron's Advanced Pilot now with his Educational Proficiency Award.



Andrew, Congratulations and well done!



**Education Officer - Richard E. Unis**

## **Virginia Boating Safety Education Requirement**

There seems to be some confusion over the boating safety education requirement in Virginia so I thought I would provide the facts.

The Virginia General Assembly enacted a law in 2007 that established a boating safety education compliance requirement. The requirement for boating safety education is being phased in over several years. The law applies to all personal watercraft (PWC) operators and operators of power boats of 10 horsepower or greater.

Effective July 1, 2009, all PWC operators 20 years of age or younger must have completed and passed an approved boating safety education course. So, if you have a PWC and you have kids under the age of 20 years, please ensure they have a boating safety course completion certificate. By July 1, 2010, all PWC operators under the age of 35 years must have completed the course. Power boat operators under the age of 40 years must obtain certification by July 1, 2013.

Each of us, as members of the United States Power Squadrons, has a responsibility to promote safe boating through education. I encourage each of you to talk about boating education with your fellow boaters on the water this summer. Ask if they've taken a boating safety course and see if they are interested in joining us and improving their boating skills. I don't know of anyone who would not be interested in improving their boating skills! Send them to our website so they can see our latest course offerings.

Please take note of a new requirement if you rent, lease or charter a boat in Virginia. You will be required to complete a Dockside Safety Checklist. The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) is in the process of implementing this requirement and providing the checklist to rental businesses.

Remember to check our website at [www.nvsps.org](http://www.nvsps.org) for our current course offerings and to register. Have a safe and enjoyable summer on the water!





**Administrative Officer – John Karjala**

The Squadron's Annual Spring Picnic was held Saturday 16 May 2009. You missed a great time although you should have received a reminder by snail mail and an invitation, reservation form, and directions to the Fairfax Yacht Club by e-mail distribution as well as in the oT&T. Free food, beer, wine, and games were the order of the day at the Fairfax Yacht Club. If you did not receive notice, please contact me.

The next NVSPS scheduled event will be a rendezvous at Cambridge Municipal Dock. Check with George Degnon for details at [george@degnon.org](mailto:george@degnon.org).

If you have any questions regarding status or details of any event please call me at (703) 818-8676 or e-mail at [jgkarjala@verizon.net](mailto:jgkarjala@verizon.net). ♪ ♪ ♪

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## **Changes in Virginia Boating Regulations**

In 2007 there were over 5,000 boating accidents nationwide and 685 lives were lost. The majority of these accidents occurred while cruising or drifting on lakes, ponds or reservoirs, in boats less than 26 feet, in calm to light chop waters with light winds, and on days with good visibility. Expressed another way, the vast majority of boating accidents occur in nearly ideal boating conditions. Tragically, two-thirds of the 685 boating fatalities were the result of drowning. Of those who drown, 90% could have been saved if they had been wearing a life vest. These sobering statistics underscore the reason the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and the State of Virginia have recently taken regulatory actions in an attempt to make recreational boating safer.

## **Virginia Boating Education**

Although most States have long recommended and encouraged boaters to obtain boating safety education before venturing out upon the water, it has not been a requirement. However, over the past decade many States have begun to require that boaters attend a boating safety course approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA). These courses are readily available at reasonable cost from the United States Power Squadrons, the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, the State of Virginia, and several other organizations.

In 2007, Virginia joined the growing body of States that require boating safety education compliance to operate recreational vessels upon Virginia waters. This boating safety education compliance requirement is phased-in over several years and applies to all personal watercraft (PWC) operators (commonly called jet skis) and operators of motorboats with greater than 10 horsepower. This year, PWC operators under 20 years of age must meet the requirements by 01 July 2009. By 01

# Dock Talk



July 2010, PWC operators under 35 years must meet the requirements. Compliance for motorboats does not begin until July 2011, and then only for operators under 20 years of age. This phased approach continues through July of 2015 when all PWC and motorboat operators, regardless of age, must meet the requirements. To learn more about boating laws in Virginia and about boating education courses, visit the Department's website at [www.dgif.virginia.gov/boating](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/boating).

## **USCG Life Vest Requirements**

Another recent change to boating regulations that Virginia boaters should be aware is the modification to the USCG's Personal Flotation Device (PFD) regulations. The new rules state "no person may operate a recreational vessel on federal waters with any child under age 13 on the vessel unless each child is either wearing an appropriate life jacket approved by the USCG or below deck or in an enclosed cabin. In Virginia, this regulation applies to waters in which the USCG has enforcement jurisdiction, which includes the Chesapeake Bay, Smith Mountain Lake, Lake Gaston, Kerr Reservoir (Buggs Island Lake), Claytor Lake, Lake Moomaw, and other inland waters that are considered navigable. Additional information on the USGC life vest regulations can be found at [http://www.uscgboating.org/SAFETY/fedreqs/equ\\_pfd.htm](http://www.uscgboating.org/SAFETY/fedreqs/equ_pfd.htm).

In addition to the Federal requirements above, boaters must be aware of Virginia's life vest regulations that life jackets must be readily accessible. "Readily accessible" means stowed where they can be easily reached, or are out in the open ready for wear. Life jackets cannot be in protective coverings or under lock and key. Further, a Type IV throwable must be immediately available. "Immediately available" means the throwable flotation device must be quickly reachable in an emergency situation. You must have a Type IV throwable device in the open and ready to use at all times.. Additional information in life vest regulations can be found at [http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/boating/wog/equipment-regulations.asp#REQUIRED EQUIPMENT](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/boating/wog/equipment-regulations.asp#REQUIRED_EQUIPMENT).

The very best life jacket is worthless unless worn. The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) is asking all boaters to make a commitment to wear their life jackets at all times while on the water.  
Above all, boat safe.

# More Dock Talk



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## US Coast Guard Alert

This message is being sent to you by the U.S. Coast Guard Navigation Center to notify you that the USCG District Five Local Notice to Mariners <<http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/lnm/d5/lnm05202009.pdf>> (20-2009) is available for download.

In addition, the 2009 USCG Light List Volume Two <<http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/pubs/LightLists/LightLists.htm>> is available for download and is updated to Local Notice (53-2009) as is a summary of corrections <<http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/pubs/LightLists/Corrections/V2D05.pdf>> .

The Local Notice to Mariners, Light List, and Summary of Corrections are posted weekly and require Adobe Acrobat Reader to view. You can download a free copy of Acrobat Reader at: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

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## KNOW THE WEATHER BEFORE YOU GO

Brandon Peloquin, Senior Forecaster at the Baltimore/Washington weather forecasting office will talk about the forecasts issued by his office for both aviation and marine interests.

Brandon attended Ohio State University, receiving a Bachelor of Science in Atmospheric Science in March 2000. Shortly after, Brandon accepted a position as a meteorologist with AccuWeather, a private weather company located in State College, Pennsylvania. After a couple of years at AccuWeather, Brandon joined the National Weather Service as a Meteorologist Intern in Elko, Nevada. Following a year and a half stay in Nevada, Brandon returned east to work at the Baltimore/Washington Weather Forecast Office, first as a general forecaster then as a Senior

Forecaster. In addition to his routine weather forecasting duties, Brandon leads both the Aviation and Marine Programs at the Baltimore/Washington Weather Forecast Office.

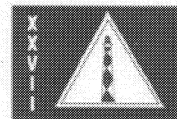
**June General Meeting**





# CROSSING PATHS

USPS Districts 5 and 27  
2009 Summer Rendezvous



Bay Creek Marina and Resort  
Cape Charles, Virginia  
23-26 July 2009

Make slip reservations directly  
with Bay Creek Marina.

Michael Ward  
Marina Operations Manager

Bay Creek Resort and Club  
1 Marina Village Circle  
Cape Charles, VA 23310  
757-331-8648 (office)  
757-693-2513 (cell)  
757-331-8659 (fax)

Reserve your slip under the  
"United States Power Squad-  
rons". There are 70 slips in  
our block.

Slip rates:  
\$2.00 per foot  
\$5.00 per day - 30 amps  
\$8.00 per day - 50 amps  
\$10.00 per day - 2-30 amps

USPS Committee Coordinator  
for slip and marina questions:  
P/D/C Dick Nitschke, SN  
757-440-9069 (FB)  
757-408-5355 (C)  
nitschke@infionline.net

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### 23 July 2009 - Thursday

1500 Cruises Arrive  
Dinner On Your Own

### 24 July 2009 - Friday

0900 Chatham Vineyards Tour and  
Tasting  
(Includes Lunch at Eastville Inn)  
1000 Choose Your Team - Bean Bag  
Baseball Sign - Up  
On-the-Water Poker Run  
Stroll Main Street Cape Charles  
Children Activities  
Navigation Contest Captains  
Meeting  
1730 Seafood Fest - Hosted by Cape  
Charles Fire Dept

### 25 July 2009 - Saturday

0830 Flag Raising Ceremony  
(Cdrs, P/D/C, P/C/C, CC,  
National Officers Assemble at  
0800 at flag pole)  
0900 D5 Summer Council Meeting  
1000 Navigation Contest Meeting  
Observers Assigned  
1300 Navigation Contest Starts  
1300 Bean Bag Baseball Starts  
Stroll Main Street Cape Charles  
Potato Cannon Competition  
1600 Conch Blowing Contest  
1700 D/C 5 & 27 Cocktail Party  
1830 Southern Style Pig Pick'n and  
Awards

### 26 July 2009 - Sunday

Depart for Home Port

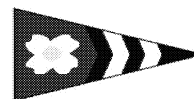
Dress - Boating Casual  
Flag Raising Saturday Morning  
Uniform E or appropriate USPS/quadron shirt

## Classified

**Vivitar 7x50 Binoculars For Sale:** New-In-Box Vivitar 7x50 Binoculars with case. Never been used; still in plastic wrapper. MSRP: \$49.99 Asking \$30. Rick Baker, [rickmerchtacct@verizon.net](mailto:rickmerchtacct@verizon.net)

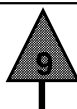
**Lifesling For Sale:** Like new. Includes Second New Case. Includes 4-to1 Hoisting Tackle with 90' of 3/8" Dacron soft braid line. Used only once for practice. \$200. Rick Baker, [rickmerchtacct@verizon.net](mailto:rickmerchtacct@verizon.net)

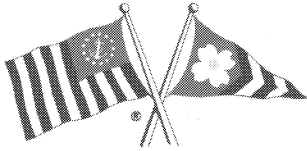
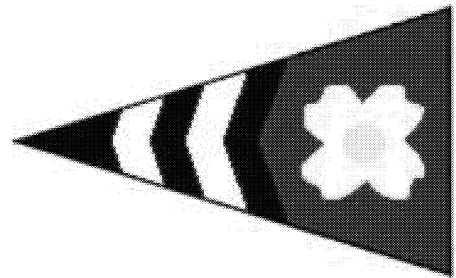
## SHIP'S STORE



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

Contact: Robie Shivik e-mail: [JSHIVIK@VERIZON.NET](mailto:JSHIVIK@VERIZON.NET)





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