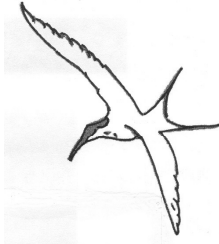




# of TARS & TERNS



Volume XLIII Number 6

July - August 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.nvsp.org](http://www.nvsp.org)

## **“Mark” Your Calendar NVSPS Meetings and Events**

### *July*

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*  
*See you in September*



**COMMANDER**

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703-242-8566  
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**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:**

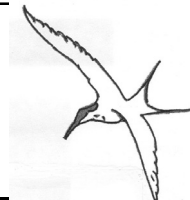
880 South Pickett Street, Alexandria VA. From the Capital Beltway, take the VA-613/ Van Dorn Street exit, exit number 173 (aka exit 3), towards Franconia. Turn left onto South Van Dorn Street / VA-613 North. Turn left onto South Pickett Street. Go less than .5 miles and turn in at the BoatUS sign and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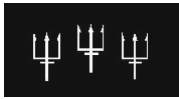
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## *Commander Sends . . .*

Cdr Francis T. Williamson, AP

Now that boating season is upon us, it's the best opportunity to recruit new members for NVSPS. Promoting safe boating while enjoying the waterways can introduce other boaters and friends to the camaraderie, educational benefits and volunteer spirit of the squadron – "Just ask!"

Before you head out onto the water with the family or friends, always check the weather forecast to determine what the marine conditions will be. Brandon Peloquin, Senior Forecaster at the Baltimore/Washington weather forecasting center presented an outstanding brief on the latest technology. Two new features of particular interest are the weather buoys in rivers in our area and on the Chesapeake Bay. Secondly is the new "point and click" ability that will permit you to select a specific Lat/Long, and display the current weather data real time. Brandon graciously authorized NVSPS to post the entire brief on our website [www.NVSPS.org](http://www.NVSPS.org). This information helps you determine up to date marine weather conditions before you get underway.

Monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at BOATUS offices which are accessed from the rear of the meeting. Our agenda is:

1900 -1930	Meet and Greet fellow members/refreshments
1930 - 2000	Business Meeting (30 minutes)
2000-2100	Guest Speaker

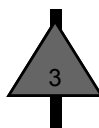
Look forward to seeing you and our new members on July 8th at BOATUS.

The Bridge and the Executive Committee have documented our 2009 objectives and proposed improvements for the squadron. You will see some new features on the website (2009 pictures, presentations and new members list) and additional publicity about the squadron in pursuit of these initiatives. Lt/C Ralph Young's article on the Squadron Improvement Initiatives adroitly presents the squadron generated requirements and leaders of each. Your input and support of these initiatives will be greatly appreciated.

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2009, please do so, reaffirming your commitment to safe and fun boating. Membership is a proud tradition in NVSPS and we welcome you to continue as a committed member of both USPS and our own NVSPS.

In late May my best boating buddy and I had our annual "shakedown cruise" de-winterizing, repairing items on my punch list and installing a new DSC radio with a high gain antenna for "Sea Glory". **Getting underway feels great!** Hail "Sea Glory" on channel 16 and have a most enjoyable NVSPS boating season!

Squadron Commander  
Francis Williamson, AP



## Squadron 2009 Improvement Initiative

CDR Francis Williamson has formed a new committee to lead the Squadron in a variety of new initiatives. The "Squadron 2009 Improvement Initiative Working Group" (SIIWG) includes CDR Williamson, Stf/C Davis, Lt/C Karjala, D/Lt Lazear, Lt/C Nartsissov, P/Lt/C Sheffield, Lt/C Unis, Lt Zugay, and Lt/C Young.

The initial intent is to automate various Squadron work activities; however, we have found that members had additional suggestions. The purposes of the initiatives are to increase membership (particularly the next generation of America's boaters), increase involvement of current squadron members, and to enable the necessary work of the Squadron to be accomplished even more effectively and efficiently. It's hoped that we can attract members of the Squadron to become more active by taking responsibility for a particular action they are interested in or have a concern.

Twelve "Improvement Areas" have been identified and a "Lead" has been designated for each area (see box). Also, a document has been drafted that identifies 2009-2010 Squadron objectives, provides a vision for this initiative, outlines an implementation approach, suggests potential specific actions or changes for each Improvement Area, and identifies a set of "success factors" and "performance metrics" to enable us to evaluate our progress and success. Each Lead has developed a list of suggested improvement ideas that is ready for expansion or refinement (with your help!).

Some of the ideas that have been suggested are to develop a good "new Member package"; to acknowledge new members with a picture of the new member with their boat in the Squadron newsletter; to encourage members to make additional use of the Squadron's website ([www.nvsps.org](http://www.nvsps.org)); to provide additional information about boating in the Newsletter; to invite Sea Scouts to participate with Squadron members on their boat in a navigation competition, and to create a team to proactively reach out to potential members.

The improvement ideas will be prioritized and the Leads (again, with your help) will implement the ideas with the greatest consensus and support by defining and accomplishing the actions that are required. A softcopy of the current version of the "Vision and Scope Document for the NVSPS 2009 Improvement Initiative" may be obtained by sending an email to Lt/C Ralph Young at [ryoungrr@aol.com](mailto:ryoungrr@aol.com). Then document was drafted over the past six weeks and continues to evolve and improve as additional Squadron members review it and make suggestions. In a very real sense, this initiative is an effort by the members of the current Bridge and Executive Committee (EXCOM) to reach out to any and all members of the Squadron and to involve them in making the Squadron even better.

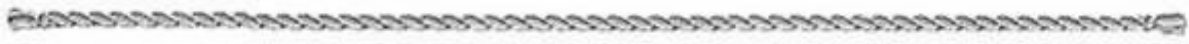
## **Improvement Areas and Leads**

### **Improvement Area**

Membership  
Communications  
NVSPS Website  
Education Program  
Squadron Involvement (Boating, Membership Process and Participation),  
Squadron Secretary (Editor, History, Roster, ENSIGN)  
Documented Processes, Procedures, and Checklists  
Interaction with National/District 5  
Calendar and coordination to facilitate completion of work products in a timely manner  
Sea Scouts  
Ship's Store  
Squadron Treasury  
Historian

### **Lead**

Fred Zugay  
Richard Davis  
Walt Lazear  
Rich Unis  
John Karjala  
  
Ralph Young  
Cathy Sheffield  
Francis Williamson  
George Nartsissov  
  
Tom Ballew  
Robie and John Shivik  
Steve Hall  
TBD



**Education Officer - Richard E. Unis**

WX

At our 10 June 2009 General Meeting, Senior Forecaster Brandon Peloquin of the National Weather Service Forecast Office, Sterling, Virginia, presented an outstanding briefing on marine weather products that are available on the WEB.

These products provide the boater with an in depth assessment of conditions that help make a Skipper's decision to venture forth beyond safe harbor. Here is one URL that you should readily seek: <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/lwx/marine.htm>.

Also, ensure you listen on your VHF radio to the local forecast before going out on the briny. These products are tailored to the various locations on the Chesapeake, Potomac and more that will enhance your safe boating. Think a minute about the impact of weather on your life. Sun, wind, rain, snow, thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, waves and fog are a few that can influence your safety afloat and ashore. Consider signing up for the USPS Weather course.

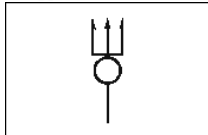
Be safe! Contact Lt/C Rich Unis, SEO, for more information on the course.



**Administrative Officer – John Karjala**

The next NVSPS event will be joining the D5 Rendezvous from 23 through 26 July 2009 at Bay Creek Marina, Cape Charles, Virginia. For further details, check the District 5 website [www.uspsd5.org](http://www.uspsd5.org) and at “Summer 2009” therein, or George Degnon at [george@degnon.org](mailto:george@degnon.org).

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



***The Editor's moment . . .***  
*Stf/C Richard P. Davis, AP*

I apologize for the delay of this issue – however due to a serious computer crash everything has had to be reconstructed. I think we are now back on course !

I have received several inquiries from members as to why we do not have a small classified section. It is possible , however we will 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 but contain all contact information.

If you are interested in having this feature, please let me know at:  
[rpddavis1702@comcast.net](mailto:rpddavis1702@comcast.net).



Regards  
Richard,

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>

# Dock Talk



## Not quite the way its done!



---

### CURMUDGEON'S Observations

- It's not an optical illusion. It just looks like one
- Do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?
- At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle will arrive last.
- When you rearrange the letters 'ELEVEN PLUS TWO', it spells 'TWELVE PLUS ONE'.
- "I put tape on the mirrors in my house so I don't accidentally walk through into another dimension." - Steven Wright
- "The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will." - Vince Lombardi
- The Redneck Book of Manners says that a guy should always offer to bait his date's hook on the first date.
- "The government is like a baby's alimentary canal, with a happy appetite at one end and no responsibility at the other." - Ronald Reagan
- The test of a salesman is in his ability to convince his wife she'd look fat in mink.

# More Dock Talk



## AGREE OR DISAGREE?

How many high school sailors does it take to change a light bulb? Three. One to change the bulb, one to be a witness, and one to file the protest.

How many Finn sailors does it take to change a light bulb? Four. One to hold the bulb and three to rotate the ladder.

How many Star sailors does it take to change a light bulb?  
115. One to hold the bulb and 114 to rotate the house.

How many Force 5 sailors does it take to change a light bulb? Irrelevant. There aren't any Force 5 sailors left. They all burned their boats and bought Lasers.

How many Sunfish sailors does it take to change a light bulb? None. The class rules don't allow the light bulb to be changed.

How many Moth sailors does it take to change a light bulb? Meaningless question. The light bulb was eliminated to ANCHORS AND GROUND TACKLE

Ground tackle refers to all the parts of an anchor package between the boat and seabed, including the anchor. If you use only line, the ground tackle may be referred to as simply the anchor line.

Laser sailors aren't afraid of the dark.



On July 8th, 2009, Jim Connolly shared a presentation about the Anacostia River at the monthly meeting of the Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron. Jim is the Executive Director of the Anacostia Watershed Society, a local, non-profit organization that is working to restore the Anacostia River to a swim able and fishable condition. His presentation focused on the history of the river and its watershed, both the ecological history as well as the social/cultural background which has helped to shape the river's current condition. A description of the current pollution issues facing the river were discussed, and an update on the efforts currently underway to restore the river were presented. Many of the problems facing the Anacostia River are common of all urban rivers, and this presentation offered insights into how those living within these urban watersheds can make a difference.



**July 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 (H)  
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 Causal  
Flag Raising Saturday Morning  
Uniform E or appropriate USPS/Squadron shirt

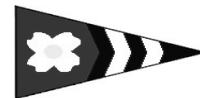
## Classified

**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, 703-318-5899

**Lifesling For Sale:** Like new. Includes Second New Case. Includes 4-to-1 Hoisting Tackle with 90' of 3/8" Dacron soft braid line. Used only once for practice. \$200. Rick Baker, 703-318-5899

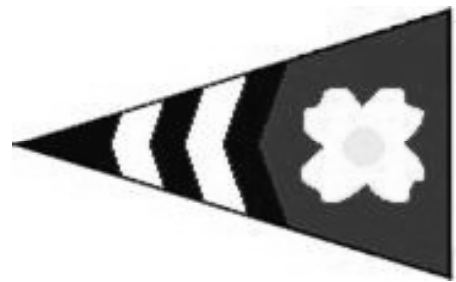
Cedar and canvas canoe 16foot canoe with all accouterments for sale. Custom built in Maine, can be seen in advertising or will provide photos. Like new. 703 444 2772. rpdavis1702@cocast.net)

## 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



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2014 Lakebreeze Way  
Reston, VA 20190-4020

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