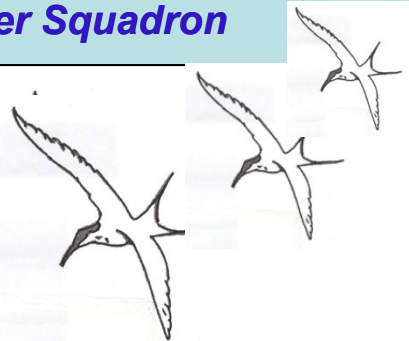




# of TARS & TERNS



Volume XLVI Number 3

April 2011

## “Mark” Your Calendar

### NVSPS Meetings and Events

#### April

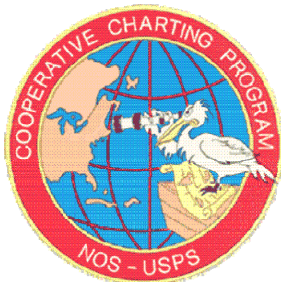
- 13 All Hands Meeting
- 27 Executive Committee Meeting

#### May

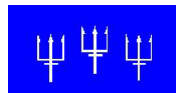
- 11 All Hands Meeting
- 14 NVSPS Picnic – FYC
- 25 Executive Committee Meeting
- 27 NVSPS Rendezvous

#### June

- 8 All Hands Meeting
- 22 Executive Committee Meeting



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## Commander Sends . . .

Cdr. John G. Karjala, P.

Fellow members, bear with me in this matter for I am going to paraphrase the New Bridge talk that I gave at the Change of Watch. I am doing this because I believe the same grand theme ran independently through the short talk of the District Commander and the speech of Commander Nartsissov.

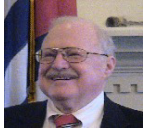
That single unifying thought was the importance of each member of the Squadron doing good works for the District, the Squadron, and the public; and the thanks each of us had for the active membership through the year to “lend a hand” for the public good.

So I continue, all of us through this organization represent the public good. We belong to an organization dedicated to boating safety and education. Those, ideals I submit to you, are fundamental to the public good.

. Continued on page 4



## **BRIDGE OFFICERS**



### **COMMANDER**

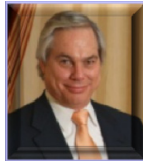
Cdr John Karjala, P

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Lt/C Frank Shults, S

### **EDUCATION OFFICER**

Lt/C Sean Gallagher, AP



### **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

PC G. Jay Nelson, AP

### **TREASURER**

Lt/C Robyn Stewart

### **SECRETARY**

Lt/C Michelle Dufay, S

### **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?*

*P/C George Nartsissov,  
ganh@verizon.net*



**of TARS & TERNS**  
The Official Publication of the  
**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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# 2010 – 2011 NVSPS Squadron Awards

**Recognition of NVSPS Squadron Members for their Contribution to  
Squadron Activities During 2010 – 2011  
Presented at the Squadron Change of Watch Ceremonies, 12 March, 2011**

## **Perpetual Trophies**

- *Charles S. Kent Mem. Award:* Lt John von Senden, AP – Vessel Safety Checks & Safety
- *Commander's Appreciation Award:* Lt/C Frank R. Shults, S – Public Relations
- *NVSPS Educational Award:* P/Lt/C Richard E. Unis, JN – Squadron Education Programs
- *Outstanding Instructor for Boating Safety Award:* P/C G. Jay Nelson, AP
- *Past Commander's Award:* P/C John A. Shivik, AP – Chaplain; Ship Store; Instructor

## **Squadron Individual Awards**

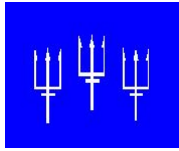
- *NVSPS Seasoned Salt Award :* P/C Gale Alls, SN – Programs & Meetings
- *Mentor of the Year Award:* Lt Jean P. Durgin, AP – Merit Marks
- P/C Richard J. Durgin, JN – Flower Power Fund; Operations Trng.
- P/C Francis T. Williamson, AP – Continuous assistance to Commander
- *NVSP New Member Award:* Robyn Stewart – Squadron Change of Watch action person

## **Commander's Discretionary Awards:**

- CDR John G. Karjala, P: As the past Squadron Executive Officer and sharing Squadron Administrative Officer duties.
- Sue Karjala, P: As the past Squadron Secretary and sharing Squadron Administrative Officer duties.
- P/Lt/C Steven D. Hall, AP: As the past Squadron Treasurer (three years).
- D/Lt Walter D. Lazear, AP: Website "*Distinctive Communicator Award*" by USPS, Squadron Roster; Web Master; "oT&T" distribution
- Lt Manette B. Lazear, AP: Squadron newsletter "*Distinctive Communicator Award*" by USPS as "oT&T" Co-Editor & distribution
- P/C Keith B. Segerson, P: Wounded Warrior Cruise Chair
- Lt Thomas Ballew, AP: Youth Programs/Sea Scouts
- Lt Robert Van Buskirk, P: Boating Course Chair
- Ann Nartsissov, P: Assistant to CDR

Continued on page 4





## *Commander Sends Continued. . .*

**Cdr John G. Karjala, P**

Further, we have pledged to “*Render assistance whenever possible*” This unqualified pledge is not to be taken lightly. Yet, the members of the United States Power Squadron do try to live up to that pledge.

As I worked as an Administrative Officer, then as an Executive Officer, I have been routinely and pleasantly surprised by the variety of talented people in this organization. Those people (you are the people) who have volunteered to work at some task, or Chair an area of responsibility, and have thoughtfully and intelligently carried out your duties. It is indeed impressive! Your untiring efforts form the core of this grand organization!

I am proud to represent the good people of the Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron. I aim to try to keep this ship in fair winds, regardless of the adverse economic times that we have been through and that we will continue to weather.

I wish to hear all new thoughts from any quarter to solve the Squadron’s issues as they arise. Together, in good fellowship, we will assure this Squadron will survive the economic lows and thrive. I thank you all for your continuing efforts and I look forward to working with you in the coming year.

---

### *NVSPS Squadron Awards Continued*

#### *Commander’s Recognition Certificate:*

- Lt Sean P. Gallagher, AP: Assistant Squadron Education Officer
- P/Stf/C Richard Davis, AP: Squadron newsletter “Distinctive Communicator Award” by USPS, as “oT&T” Co-editor; Chair, Nominating Committee.
- Lt Robert Donahue, AP: Chair, Educational Property
- Lt John J. Fitzgerald, JN: Americas Boating Course Coordinator; Sea Scout courses
- Lt Ed Phillips, AP: Boat Show Chair; COOP Charting
- P/Lt/C Cathleen F. Sheffield, AP: Executive Committee Member at Large; D-5 Spring conference “Hospitality Suite” planning and support
- Lt Frederick D. Zugay, JN: Membership Chair
- Steven K. Wanbaugh, S: Executive Committee Member at Large
- Able Sea Scout Alex Lieberman: Flag Lieutenant at Change of Watch





**Executive Officer –**  
Lt/C Frank R. Shults, S

This begins my fifth season of boating on the Chesapeake. During that time I have matured as a boater and can honestly say that this is the first year that I am approaching the season with more excitement than anxiety. A large part of that is the confidence one gains with experience, but another major contributor to my feeling of confidence is the interaction with so many of you, the members of this Squadron. Our Squadron is large, but it is very personal. We offer many opportunities to learn about boats and boating and to share our knowledge with others. Our civic programs, most notably our Wounded Warrior Cruises, provide the means to share our passion for boating with those who have sacrificed so much to preserve our freedom. As members of this organization, I hope you take every opportunity to become involved in the Squadron. If you do, you will help make this year the best ever for the Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron.

If you missed the Boat Show at the Chantilly Expo Center on March 11/12/13, you missed the chance to get a good head start on the boating season. Through the efforts of many NVSPS members who stood watch at our booth, and especially due to the efforts of Ed Phillips, AP, who chaired this event for us, we had a terrific booth and display. Many passers-by were intrigued by the board of nautical knots that was on display. We had many inquiries about our basic training program, "America's Boating Course" and I believe we may have attracted a few new members. Our thanks to Ed and to the members who gave their time to this important NVSPS event.

As you read these remarks, please bear in mind that some of your fellow Squadron members are working very hard preparing for the D-5 annual meeting in Ocean City; preparing instruction classes for the upcoming year; and planning for the social and civic events that we want to pursue this year. You received a survey from me recently, asking you to get more involved in our organization. Only 12 members out of the total of 206 members responded. I know that time is your most precious commodity. But please consider NVSPS as one of the organizations that is at the top of your list when it comes to involvement and commitment to excellence.

Thank you.



## May Education Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Marine Elec Sys Geo Mason Bus Ofc Instr: Dwight Bues	3 Navigation TBD Instr: Unis,Baker	4	5	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9 Marine Elec Sys Geo Mason Bus Ofc Instr: Dwight Bues	10 Navigation TBD Instr: Unis,Baker	11	12	13	14
15	16 Marine Elec Sys Geo Mason Bus Ofc Instr: Dwight Bues	17 Navigation TBD Instr: Unis,Baker	18	19	20	21
22	23 Marine Elec Sys Geo Mason Bus Ofc Instr: Dwight Bues	24 Navigation TBD Instr: Unis,Baker	25	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day	31 Navigation TBD Instr: Unis,Baker				

## June Education Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Marine Elec Sys Geo Mason Bus Ofc Instr: Dwight Bues	7 Navigation TBD Instr: Unis, Baker	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Flag Day Navigation TBD Instr: Unis, Baker	15	16	17	18
19 Father's Day	20	21 June Solstice Navigation TBD Instr: Unis, Baker	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Navigation TBD Instr: Unis, Baker	29	30		





# ANNUAL SPRING PICNIC

14 May 2011

at the

Fairfax Yacht Club  
10721 Colchester Road  
Mason Neck, VA 22079

Annual Spring Picnic

*Free to NPSVS Members and Family*

1200 – 1630 Vessel Safety Checks at the Fairfax Yacht Club  
Marina

1245 – 1400 Picnic lunch

- Barbecued pulled pork and pulled chicken
- Barbecued baked beans and barbecue sauces
- Pot luck: Shared salads, chips and dips and desserts

1245 – 1500 50 / 50 Raffle: See Jay Nelson for tickets (Donation:  
\$1.00 / 2 tickets)

- 1400 – 1500 Seamanship Rodeo:
- 1400 – 1420 Water Balloon Toss
- 1420 – 1440 Lifeline Toss
- 1440 – 1500 Compass Course

1600 – 1630 50 / 50 Raffle Drawing

**Please bring a pot luck serving to share:**

- Appetizer • Salad • Chips and Dip • Dessert

Contact Jay Nelson: 703 437-0064 / [gjaynelson@aol.com](mailto:gjaynelson@aol.com)

**Reservations due by 11 May 2011**



## *NVSPS Rendezvous*

This is going to be a GREAT REVIVAL, not a spiritual one, but a boating one that you don't want to miss!!

This is a Come One, Come ALL get together. NVSPS cruisers, both sail and power, will be heading across to the Eastern Shore for a visit to Historic Oxford for Memorial Day weekend, arrivals may be on Friday May 27 or Saturday May 28 at Mears Yacht Haven. We will plan some fun group social activities for Saturday and Sunday, with departure back to home ports on Monday, Memorial Day, May 30. Marina slips and great anchorage will be available. Oxford is a wonderful place to walk around town, sit on the park benches overlooking the water, and do nothing of a change. This is what life should be about, relaxing and having fun so come on over and join us for the weekend. One of the grand traditions is the exploration of the contents of the Commander's Locker, and Commander John Karjala has commissioned the locker for this event, so come on over and enjoy. We will be inviting folks to bring along your favorite appetizers so we can honor another grand tradition, no captain or crew will go hungry!

Now is the time to register, get these dates onto your calendar now so we can firm up a slip for you so you will be able to enjoy some ole fashioned fun with the Squadron the way it was years ago when our cruises were the highlight of the year and there would be 15-20 boats going on our NVSPS weekend cruises. This is a great way to honor that wintery new years resolution to make this a fun boating season. Come on out on the water with old friends and wonderful new friends waiting to be made. Let's make this a revival of one of the grandest tradition of our Squadron, a cruise on the Bay. This is why we are all members, to enjoy the water together.

To reserve your spot call P/C George Degnon at (H) 703-448-8766 or email [George@degnon.org](mailto:George@degnon.org) and provide the number in your party, your boat name, Vessel length, Beam, depth, your electric needs and your arrival day, Friday or Saturday. We will be firming up our social schedule for the weekend and will share it with all who sign up. We will be planning some daily activities too. On one evening we will have a cook out in the Marina's picnic area which is equipped with new propane grills and there still are a few charcoal grills, bring your own dish and a little extra to share! On the other evening we will be having dinner as a group at one of the wonderful nearby restaurants in Oxford—where they really know how to serve good seafood.

And, there are some wonderful B&Bs in Oxford for those who would like to drive over to join the group for the weekend. Our weekend activities will include all who drive over so you will fit right in and be part of the group.







## **Administrative Officer – P/C G. Jay Nelson AP**

As we begin this watch I would like to say that I am pleased to be serving as the Administrative Officer (AO) on the 2011/2012 Bridge. While the AO position was officially vacant in the previous Bridge term, John and Sue Karjala, and our new bridge member Roybn Stewart, managed to deftly manage the AO duties amidst their other Bridge responsibilities. Their dedication was evident in the recent success of our 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Change of Watch on 12 March. It is my hope that I will equal the dedication and achievements of those before me.

The Executive Committee has had much discussion of late regarding our Squadron social events. These discussions are motivated by the declining attendance and increasing costs of these events. We also appreciate that our members lead busy lives, and we acknowledge that the timing or location of some of our events is inconvenient. My objective for the 2011/2012 Bridge term is to encourage member participation in our meetings and social events. To achieve this objective, I am actively soliciting input from our Squadron membership as to your preferences as to how the Squadron's meetings and social activities should be structured. I am open to any suggestions regarding meeting content, types of social events, dates, times and/or locations for our future Squadron events.

Let me offer a couple of examples of what we are considering. For obvious reasons, all Christmas parties are scheduled during the first three weeks of December, and the NVSPS Holiday event is no exception. However, most of our members are working professionals with a myriad of holiday social commitments at this time of year between work, family and friends. Instead of creating holiday event conflicts for our members, perhaps our Holiday Social Event should become a 'Spring Commissioning Event' around the first of April, where we could have a family picnic with seminars or workshops on topics that helped our membership prepare for the onset of the boating season. Another consideration might be to change our General Membership Meeting location from Alexandria to a location that better accommodates the commute issues of our members.

Continued on page 10



## News Scoop From the Commander !

We have a scoop from the D5 Spring Conference that closed Sunday 27 March 2011.

Shown is the NVSPS's award for the Best Hospitality Suite at the 2011 District 5 Spring Conference. This is a highly coveted award and is sought by all Squadrons participating in District 5 Spring Conferences. The award of this plaque is the first win for our Squadron since the award was inaugurated some twenty years ago. This high honor is a tribute to the work and dedication to duty by members of the NVSPS.



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### *Editor's Comment:*

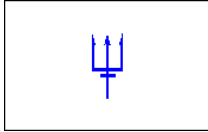
Due to space limitation photographs from the District 5 Spring Conference will be included in the next edition.

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### *Admin. Officer Continued.*

The point in all of this is that this is your boating organization, and as such, it should reflect your interests and fulfill your needs. Everything is open for consideration. We are eager to hear your thoughts, complaints, praise or anything else you feel will better our Squadron. I encourage you to attend the next General Membership Meeting on 13 April 11 at 7:00 PM at the BoatUS Headquarters, 880 South Pickett Street, Alexandria, VA and offer your suggestions, or send me an email at [gjaynelson@aol.com](mailto:gjaynelson@aol.com) and I will speak for you. Your feedback is essential to our ongoing success.





**Safety Officer –  
P/C George Nartsissov, AP**



First, a big thank you to Lt John von Senden, AP, for his past several years as the Squadron *Vessel Safety Check (VSC)* Chair! John was nominated and received the *Charles S. Kent Perpetual Memorial Award*, for the year 2010. This is one of the NVSPS perpetual annual awards for service to the squadron and/our community.

John has asked that someone take the chairmanship of the VSC program due to his time constraints. I will assume the chairmanship for the 2011 boating season. The squadron VSC program is part of our *Civic Service* work for our boating community. A boat that displays the VSC sticker is representative of a skipper that is committed to safer boating. It would be great if ALL Power Squadron boaters displayed the VSC sticker as an example of promoting safety to other boaters! I encourage all of you to get a Vessel Safety Check wherever you keep your boat.

If you are not familiar with the VSC program, also administered by the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, visit the Power Squadron web site at [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org). Once on the site, go to the vessel safety check (highlighted in the text) below the picture on the home page. Once on that page, you will be in the Safety Committee Vessel Safety Check screen. There will be numerous tabs to get a variety of information regarding the VSC program.

The squadron needs additional volunteers to be qualified as a Vessel Safety Examiner. Instructions how to accomplish that is also on this web page. This is an interesting program and a great service to the community. We will be getting a schedule posted for VSCs at various marinas.

P/C George Nartsissov, AP  
Vessel Safety Check Chair  
[ganh@verizon.net](mailto:ganh@verizon.net)  
703-425-7044





# Photo Album

## 2011 Change of Watch



### Out Going And Awards

CDR G. Nartsissov



DC C. Brown



PC Gale and Evelyn Alls



Robyn Stewart



John and Sue Karjala



Steve Hall





# Photo Album

## 2011 Change of Watch Awards - Continued



**Rich Unis**



**Jay Nelson**



**R. Durgin, F. Williamson , and Jean Durgin**



## In Coming



**John is sworn in.**



**The new Bridge**



**The new commander bows in.**

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



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**MONTHLY ALL-HANDS MEETING**

2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



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