



# of TARS & TERNS



Volume XLVII Number 8

October 2013



## Mark Your Calendar

NVSPS Meetings and Events

### OCTOBER 2013

**19 - Oktoberfest** at the Fairfax Yacht Club located at 10721 Old Colchester Road, Lorton, VA

### NOVEMBER 2013

#### 13 - General Membership Meeting

1900 - 2100: BoatUS Headquarters; 880 South Pickett Street, Alexandria, VA

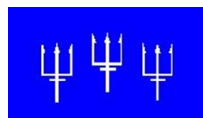
*Speaker:* To be announced.

#### 13 - Executive Committee Meeting

1930 - 2100: George Mason University office located at 4019 University Drive, Fairfax, VA

### DECEMBER 2013

**14 - Holiday Party** at the American Legion Post 177 located at 3939 Oak Street, Fairfax, VA



## Commander Sends...

Cdr. Richard P. Davis, AP

Commander Sends

Remember, the **Squadron International Pot Luck Supper** will be held at the Fairfax Yacht Club on 19 October 2013. The flyer is enclosed on page 5 and on our website. P/Lt/C Cathy Sheffield is accepting registrations. Come join us, it's a lot of fun, and will be our General Membership Meeting for the month of October.

The **Holiday Party** is scheduled for 14 Dec 2013 at the VFW Hall in Fairfax. Guests are welcomed.

Thanks to P/C F. Williamson, our Wounded Warriors Cruise was a success on the 14th of Sept. The International Boat shows are in Annapolis in October. Our Change of Watch will be on 23 March 2014.

P/C G. Nartsissov and his team are having another very successful year at providing Vessel Safety Checks for boaters, see his report enclosed.

"Winterization", Fall is right around the corner and I am sad to say we are moving into the "winterization" season. For all boaters this is our least favorite time of year as it means the end of the cruising and sailing season. However it also provides us time to prepare for the next boating season in both the preparation of our vessel and upgrading of our knowledge boating.

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A detailed Squadron calendar including all meetings and educational courses can be found on our web site [www.nvpsps.org](http://www.nvpsps.org)



Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron  
A unit of the  
United States Power Squadrons®

**October General Membership Meeting** will take place at the Oktoberfest Event on 19 October 2013 from 1100 to 1600

**November General Membership Meeting** will take place at our regular meeting location

**December General Membership Meeting** will take place at our Holiday Party on 14 December 2013 from 1800 to 2300



## Bridge Officers

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### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Vacant

*(Contact the Commander if you would like to help)*



### SECRETARY

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**Looking for a free a Vessel Safety Check?  
Or want to become an examiner yourself?  
Contact P/C George Nartsissov, [ganh@verizon.net](mailto:ganh@verizon.net)**

### 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, 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.

### NVSPS Winterization Tips

For those of you that winterize you own boat each season you might be interested to know that the NVSPS website has our “NVSPS Winterization” Power Point Presentation on-line. This presentation serves as a good overview of the winterization process and will help you build a checklist for you own boat’s winterization requirements. There is also a sample winterization checklist in a MS Excel file format you can download and modify.



## Of Tars & Terns

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[www.nvsp.org](http://www.nvsp.org)



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

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**Volume XLVII; Number 8: October 2013**

### EDITOR

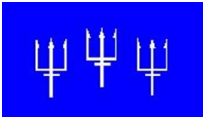
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## Commander Sends...

.... Continued from Page 1

Cdr. Richard P. Davis, AP

With the gorgeous late summer, mild Fall weather still flowing, I know it's hard to think about winterizing your boat. However, one must prepare for the cold winter months ahead by protecting your investment now. There are many checklists available on items that should be done.

The winterization process is rather simple. Sails and canvas down, antifreeze in everything that did or could have water in it, including the transom, shower, refrigerator drain, air conditioning condensate pumps, and don't forget the engine raw water system and the generator if you have one. Additionally, winterization is the best time to change the engine oil and filter.

It is also a great idea to shrink wrap your boat during the winter months to protect it from the ice, snow, and severe cold. Tarps don't last - trust me! A heavy duty canvas cover is another option to protect your boat from the harsh winter. Better yet is indoor storage – it is expensive, but can allow you the use / access to your boat during the period.

Our Squadron's membership is now at 134. When you walk the dock talk USPS membership.

Reports are that our Vessel Safety Check Program is going very well, Thanks to P/C G. Nartisisov.

When was the last time you took a course? Yes even if you took it before, have all the grades, full certificate, it may be wise to take it again if no other reason than to update. You know things, equipment and technology have changed, and it pays to update your knowledge. Do you know inland boating, if so we need an instructor. Contact the SEO.



Richard P. Davis

NVSPS Commander

*Join the Fun, Share the Knowledge !*



## Executive Officer

Lt/C Richard Unis, JN

### Wounded Warrior Cruise – A Veteran's Perspective

I just returned from the 2013 Wounded Warrior Cruise at Pax River Naval Air Station. I want to share my experience with the Squadron and give you my perspective of the event as a military Veteran.

The crew members of Windspiration for the event (Jeff Voudren, Walt Lazear and I) are all military Veterans. In fact, we are all Air Force retirees. For this cruise, we hosted a female Army Sergeant, her fiancée' and two boys. Naturally there is a bit of anxiety at first from the crew's perspective in not knowing what physical or emotional limitations, if any, to expect from the Wounded Warriors. I'm sure there is some level of anxiety as well from the Wounded Warriors because they're not sure what to expect from the whole experience, especially if they have never been boating. While it's appropriate to ask about physical limitations, it's not in the best interest of either party to probe into the Wounded Warrior's emotional stability. However, it was readily apparent that our Wounded Warrior likely suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). She mentioned to me that she had not really been out of the house to do anything in over a year and didn't really like to be around people. In fact, she said she wanted the van to turn around and take her back to Ft. Belvoir on the trip down. But, she really wanted to go sailing and she overcame her fears. Chalk one up for courage! Needless to say, the pressure was on the crew of Windspiration to ensure she and her family would have a safe, enjoyable and relaxing time on the water. The last thing we wanted was for her to leave at the end of the day regretting her decision to participate.

After we boarded the boat and reviewed a few safety matters, we were underway and soon after hoisted the sails in the Pax River. No sooner than we hoisted the sails, a huge smile came over her face and she lit up like a Christmas tree. I think we were all amazed at her transformation, including her fiancée.

Continued on Page 9



## *Education Officer*

Lt/C Sean Gallagher JN

The USPS educational program continues to evolve. While there are many aspects of this program we are still trying to adapt to as a Squadron, there are two elements I believe will be of interest to our Squadron members; USPS' first online seminars of "Partner in Command" and "ABC3 On-The-Water Teaching Aid Guide", and the "Boat Operator's Certificate Program".

### **USPS Online Courses and Seminars:**

The Partner in Command seminar is now available online. It is the first fruit of the USPS/BoatUS partnership to put USPS courses and seminars on-line. It is the first of many, with the goal of all USPS courses and seminars being available to the boating public on line. Targeted at boaters who are not familiar with USPS, the on line. courses will help us educate new people, increase our visibility among boaters, get new contacts for our squadrons to recruit for activity and membership, and make some money for our squadrons and USPS as a whole. Your squadron can take advantage of the opportunity to provide on-the-water training to students in your area who take the on line. version of Partner in Command.

Partner in Command is now being offered for a special introductory price of \$31.60 for members and \$40.00 for non-members. For more information, see [www.usps.org/edonline](http://www.usps.org/edonline).

The ABC3 On-The-Water Teaching Aid Guide is now available for downloading and use from the Downloads section of the ABC3 page. The Guide takes the classroom knowledge to actual on-water experience, covering the material in the ABC3 2012 reprinting, 8 and 12 hour course versions. Concomitant to building confidence in new boaters, these skills will establish a foundation for on-the-water training in advanced courses and seminars, and foster interest in the BOC program

Additionally, there are now two additional ways to take USPS courses and seminars online:

1. A fully interactive online learning experience for our courses and seminars is online via BoatUS

See the USPS/BoatUS gateway page for more information on what courses and seminars are available to both USPS members (at discounted prices) and the public, as well as to start the easy sign-up process.

2. Traditional narrated courses and seminars are available online via UWF

In partnership with the University of West Florida (UWF), several of our advanced courses have been made available to those mariners needing an alternative method of effective boating education. These online courses are narrated versions of the classroom courses with student manual and handouts. Self-study chapter questions are completed and corrected online for immediate feedback. The course exams are also online to allow course completions without waiting for printing and mailing of a course exam. Several of our seminars are similarly available online.

### **Boat Operator's Certificate Program**

I would like to bring to our members attention that the latest BOC nationwide training schedule is available in PDF format on the Education Page of the National Website. Squadrons that are considering, or have scheduled, upcoming BOC training (IN/INC/INCT, POTW, CN, etc.) in their area, with or without the "Water Trainer" boat, should contact Don Funderburk with the details identified in the public schedules so he can include them in the nationwide schedule. Don also does scheduling for the Water Trainer. All updates, additions, and deletions should be coordinated with Don Funderburk, SN, BOC Schedule Manager using the OTW Schedule Input Form or via phone at 912-659-0471 (Cell), or e-mail [dnd-f@hotmail.com](mailto:dnd-f@hotmail.com).

*Lt/C Sean Gallagher JN*

*NVSPS Squadron Education Officer*

*[seo@nvspss.org](mailto:seo@nvspss.org)*

## Upcoming Events



### Oktoberfest

19 October 13 - 1100 to 1600  
10721 Old Colchester Road  
Fairfax Yacht Club, Lorton VA 22079

***Come Joint the Fun!***

The NVSPS Oktoberfest Event will be held again this year at the Fairfax Yacht Club located at 10721 Old Colchester Road, Lorton, VA. From 1100 to 1600. We will have our usual pot luck luncheon with plenty of good food, free beer and wine, sodas and good company. There will be a \$5.00 p/person charge at the door. Vessel Safety Examinations will also be conducted.

***Bring a food dish to share and join in on the fun.***

Call or email P/LtC Cathy Sheffield at 703 370-4331 or [carney1227@aol.com](mailto:carney1227@aol.com) and let her know what you will be bringing to the event.

#### **Driving directions to the Fairfax Yacht Club:**

Drive South on I95 from the Beltway and take Exit 161 - US 1 South to Woodbridge. In 0.7 mile, turn left onto Furnace Road and follow it for approximately 0.4 mile, under the railroad tracks (small one-lane tunnel) to the stop sign. At the stop sign, proceed straight onto Hyde Street for approximately 0.3 mile to the entrance gate into the Fairfax Yacht Club.



### *Our Sea Scouts - Ship 1492*

We enjoyed the Wounded Warrior Cruise to no end. That same Saturday, we were torn between two big on-the-water events. Our other big effort was taking our Sea Scout 9-person 'whale boat' (8 rowers and cox'n) and rowing a half-marathon (13.1 miles) around Wye Island. This is an annual rowing-paddling competition event. Sea Scout 'Ship 1942' took first place in our rowing division, completing the rowing course in 3-hours and 15-minutes. 60D x St: Now that's moving in a human powered 'whale boat' over the long distance. To be a teenager again, and have that energy?

Sea Scout Ship 1942 teens the weekend prior also took First Place in the annual Northeast Regional (13-state) small sailboat racing completions aboard Flying Juniors (2-person crews). Flying Juniors are what all the colleges race with - these small craft are like small roadster high-performance race cars. You need to know what you are doing in these kinds of small sailing race craft to keep your boat from knock-downs, or to do a quick recovery and then keep racing. That first place crew was made up of our NVSPS CoW Flag Lieutenant, Skipper Philip Whittlesey and Crew Henry Wu.

Besides besting our Sea Scout competitors in friendly sailing and rowing events, the many NVSPS nautical winter training courses make our teen Sea Scout boys and girls the smartest boaters on-the-water anywhere. If any of our other NVSPS members have teenage children or grandchildren (13-years of age or above) they are literally 'missing the boat' by not having them join up with this nationally recognized Sea Scout program of "Ship 1942" -- very closely affiliated with the NVSPS (even if for only during our extremely busy summer sailing program). These Sea Scout teens are your NVSPS Power Squadron future.

*Don't Give up the Ship,  
Skipper Tom Ballew - AP  
Sea Scout 'Ship 1942'*



# NVSPS 2013 Wounded Warrior Cruise



Once again the NVSPS Wounded Warrior Cruise was a spectacular event. The weather could not have been better, the cruising on the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay was wonderful and the food was great. The wounded veterans and their families, and our Squadron member all had a terrific time. Our thanks to the Squadron skippers and shore party who donated their time and expense to this very special event.



Courtesy of Kim-Kwok Chu

Wounded Warriors, guests and Squadron Members



Courtesy of Rich Unis

Wounded Warrior aboard Windspiration



Courtesy of Francis Williamson

Wounded Warriors aboard Pegasus



Courtesy of Gale Als

Wounded Warriors aboard Sea Glory



Courtesy of Francis Williamson

Wounded Warriors and guests aboard Sea Glory



Courtesy of Francis Williamson

Dock Master



Courtesy of Gale Ails

L'Attitudes Docking



Courtesy of Kim-Kwok Chu

Family Fun



Courtesy of Kim-Kwok Chu

Good Food



Courtesy of Kim-Kwok Chu

Good Company



Courtesy of Kim-Kwok Chu

Wounded Warriors, guests and Squadron members



Courtesy of Kim-Kwok Chu

Second Helpings

**Skippers and their Boats:**

P/C Jay Nelson	Pegasus
P/C George Nartsissov	L'Attitudes
Don & Jean Carl	Donje
P/C Keith Segerson	Serenity
L/CDR Rich Unis	Windspiration
Peter Braun	Liberty II
P/C Francis Williamson	Sea Glory
Tom Ballew	Al Di La
and Sea Scouts	Friendly
	Reverent

**Shore Party Volunteers:**

Ed Phillips	Dock master
Dick Cohen	Shore party
Dave Hinkins	Shore Party
MJ Hinkins	Shore party
Manette Lazear	Shore Party
Walt Lazear	Shore party
Kim Chu	Photographer
John Shivik	Chaplain/Wx Man

**Event Coordinator:**

A very special recognition to Francis Williamson. Once again this year Francis lead the collections of donations, the organizing of the skippers and shore party volunteers and most importantly, coordinating with the Navy at Patuxent Naval Air Station, and the Wounded Warriors Program. A job very well Done, and thank you for your commitment.

We also want to sincerely thank the **Messiah United Methodist Church or Springfield, VA** for providing transportation for our Wounded Warriors and their families. We very much appreciate your gracious participation in our event.

See all of the pictures from the 2013 NVSPS Wounded Warrior Cruise at: [nvsp.org/pix/2013wwc\\_index.html](http://nvsp.org/pix/2013wwc_index.html)

Please Join Us  
for  
**Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron's**  
**Holiday Dinner**

**Saturday, 14 December 2013 from 1800 to 2300**

at the  
**The American Legion Post 177, 3939 Oak Street, Fairfax, VA 22030**

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**1830: Social /Cocktails (Commander's Locker & cash bar)**

Free martinis and manhattans, Soda/setup: \$1.00 per glass; Beer & Wine at Legion Prices

**1930: Dining**

Delicious Ham or Chicken Cordon Bleu, Salad, Green Beans Almandine, Mixed Vegetables, Potatoes Au Gratin, Rolls, Dessert, & Coffee

**2030 to 2300: Music and Socializing**

**Santa and Mrs. Santa – FUN!**

**Just \$35.00** (\$40.00 at the door) **per person for an evening of Holiday Celebration.**  
**Bring your friends and relatives – all are invited! Space is limited, so sign up early.**

**Share the holiday spirit! We will be sponsoring Toys for Fisher House again this year, so please bring an unwrapped toy for donation to a child in need.**

-----Cut here-----

**NVSPS Holiday Dinner Reservation**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ persons X \$35.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total

**NOTE:** Please make your check payable to NVSPS and mail it with this form prior to 23 November 2013 to: **Cathy Sheffield at 200 N. Pickett #512, Alexandria, VA 22304-2125.**  
**Questions?? Call 703 370-4331 or carney1227@aol.com**





We certainly didn't realize the magical powers that sailing had on her. During the sail she enjoyed learning about sailing terms and how to make the sailboat go and turn. For her, sailing was an opportunity for her to forget about her problems. She mentioned that this was the first time that she had been able to relax and enjoy herself in over a year! What we take for granted while sailing, the wind, waves, birds, etc., was exceptional therapy for her recovery.

When she found out that the entire crew was Air Force Veterans, she said it meant a lot to her that Veterans were showing compassion and caring about fellow Veterans who needed help. She was extremely appreciative. Little did she know that she had just as powerful an effect on the crew. For me personally, the roles could easily have been reversed. But, I was one of the fortunate ones. I spent some time in a combat zone in Iraq and had a few close calls with small arms fire and rockets/mortars. Fortunately for me...they missed. I count my blessings every day. The very least I can do is give back to those military members who were less fortunate. A big hug from the Army Sergeant at the end of the day was my reward. My hope for her is that participating in the Wounded Warrior Cruise will open the door for her to assimilate back into society and overcome her emotional stress.

Thanks and have a safe time on the water!

*Lt/C Rich Unis JN  
NVSPS Executive Officer  
Skipperunis@gmail.com*



## ***Changes to the Of Tars & Terns Newsletter***

There are changes coming in the way in which we will publish the Of Tars& Terns newsletter. Going forward we will reduce the printed versions of the "Of Tars & Terns" newsletter to four issues annually and provide the remaining six issues electronically on our website at NVSPS.org. This action was voted on by the NVSPS Executive Committee at our July meeting as a means of reducing NVSPS expenses.

The Of Tars & Terns newsletter has historically been published ten months of the year, with the months of July/August and January/February combined into a single issue. After this issue of the newsletter, we will still publish the newsletter at the same schedule, with the four months of January/February, May, July/August and November being a printed version mailed to each of our members, and the months of March, April, June, September, October and December being published online at NVSPS.org.

This was a tough decision for the Executive Committee as we all agreed the best means of communicating with our members is through our newsletter. The issue before the committee was the increasing cost of printing and mailing the newsletter each year. As our membership continues to decline our cost must be tighter controlled, so the committee was forced to take prudent action. However, recognizing the value of our newsletter in printed form, the committee opted to reduce, but not eliminate, the number of printed issues of the Of Tars& Terns.

We are examining methods of emailing the electronic version of the newsletter each month to our members in a PDF format, the same format that is currently used on our website, as a means of continuing to communicate to our members. For those members who have provided their email address, look forward to receiving the Of Tars & Terns newsletter next month in your email inbox. For members who would prefer not to receive the newsletter via email, you will be able to opt out of the monthly delivery.



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Reston, VA 20191-4020

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**America's Boating Club**