



of TARS & TERNS



Volume XLVII Number 1

February 2014



Mark Your Calendar

NVSPS Meetings and Events

FEBRUARY 2014

- 12 General Membership Meeting**
1900 - 2100: BoatUS Headquarters; 880 South Pickett Street, Alexandria, VA
Speaker: Jim and Robin Roberts
- 14-16 D5 Winter Training Session**
Maritime Institute
- 26 Executive Committee Meeting**
1930 - 2100: 4031 University Drive #200 Fairfax, VA 22030

MARCH 2014

- 12 General Membership Meeting and Annual NVSPS Meeting**
1900 - 2100: BoatUS Headquarters; 880 South Pickett Street, Alexandria, VA
Speaker: to be announced
- 22 Change of Watch & Founder's Day**
1130 - 1530: American Legion - 3939 Oak Street, Fairfax, VA 22030
- 26 Executive Committee Meeting**
1930 - 2100: 4031 University Drive #200 Fairfax, VA 22030
- 28-30 D/5 Spring Conference**
Princess Royal Hotel, Ocean City, MD

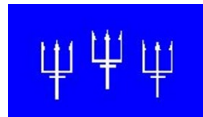
APRIL 2014

- 09 General Membership Meeting**
1900 - 2100: BoatUS Headquarters; 880 South Pickett Street, Alexandria, VA
Speaker: to be announced
- 23 Executive Committee Meeting**
1930 - 2100: 4031 University Drive #200 Fairfax, VA 22030

A detailed Squadron calendar including all meetings and educational courses can be found on our web site www.nvsp.org



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



Commander Sends...

Cdr. Richard P. Davis, AP

I hope everyone had a safe and happy Holiday season with your family and friends. So now we start the new year..

February the 2nd of this year will mark the 100th year of our highly respected organization. We will recognize this at our Change of Watch on 22 March.

The boating season is rapidly approaching, it is time to start thinking about launching, and launching is just around the corner. Be sure you have gone over everything thoroughly. There are a lot of launch checklists available from numerous sources.

Continued on Page 3

In this Issue:

Change of Watch / Founder's Day	Page 5
Guest Speaker - Jim and Robin Roberts	Page 6
Chantilly Boat Show	Page 6
Vessel Safety Check	Page 7
Nominating Committee Report	Page 8
Weather Seminar	Page 9
Boating Quiz	Page 9

100 Years of Service

Created on 2 Feb. 1914, USPS will mark 100 years of education, fellowship and community service in 2014. Based on the powerboat handling skills programs of businessman Roger Upton at the Boston Yacht Club in Marblehead, Mass., USPS offers boating education programs in cities and towns across the U.S., its territories and Japan. Today, nearly 40,000 members in more than 400 squadrons provide boating education in everything from seamanship and celestial navigation to marine electronics and engine maintenance.





Bridge Officers

COMMANDER

Cdr Richard P. Davis, AP
703 444-2772
rpdavis1702@comcast.net



EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lt/C Richard Unis, JN
703 777-8378
skipperunis@gmail.com



EDUCATION OFFICER

Lt/C Sean Gallagher, JN
703 548-5851
education@nvsp.org



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Vacant

(Contact the Commander if you would like to help)



SECRETARY

Lt/C Mary-Jane Hinkins, S
703 436-7931
mjhinkins@msn.com



TREASURER

Lt/C David Hinkins, S
703 436-7931



Scheduled Meetings:

Unless otherwise noted, the General Membership Meetings will be held at the BoatUS™ Headquarters facility at 1900. on the second Wednesday of each month except for the months of August and December. 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.

Boating Accident Reporting

Federal law requires the operator – or owner, if the operator is deceased or unable to make the report – to file a boating accident report with the State reporting authority when, as a result of an occurrence that involves a boat or its equipment:

- A person dies
- A person disappears from the vessel under circumstances that indicate death or injury
- A person is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid
- Damage to vessels and other property totals \$2,000 (lower amounts in some states and territories) or more
- The boat is destroyed

The USCG Accident Reporting form can be obtained from the USCG website - http://www.uscgboating.org/safety/accident_reporting.aspx



Boat Smart Boat Safe



Of Tars & Terns

The official publication of the
Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron
www.nvsp.org



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

Of Tars & Terns is published ten months of the year—July/August and January/February issues are combined - Jan/Feb, May, Aug and Nov issues are printed and mailed to NVSPS members, all other issues are published online at NVSPS.org

Volume XLVII; Number 1: February 2014

EDITOR

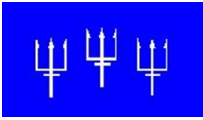
P/C G. Jay Nelson, AP
703 437-0064
gjaynelson@aol.com

DISTRIBUTION

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

WEBMASTER

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



Commander Sends...

.... Continued from Page 1

Cdr. Richard P. Davis, AP

Don't forget to take a course to update your skills, and get a Vessel Safety Check. Note, if you have inflatable PFDs, be sure they have been serviced / inspected within the last two years by the manufacturer. One of our members quipped that if you are going on a cruise, maybe you should take your own in your luggage.

I encourage you to attend the member meetings and you are always welcome to the EXCOM Meetings. There will be a General Membership meeting on 12 February and EXCOM on 26 February. The incoming Bridge has a number of open positions for Committee Chairs, and numerous education instructors are needed. If you want to get involved this is a good place to start.

There are several USPS events coming up that you need to know about and will hopefully find time to attend: NVSPS Change of Watch. Have you signed up yet? It's a great occasion to meet with NVSPS and other USPS friends, review the past boating season's events and network. A District 5 representative will be present. There will be a brief membership meeting followed up by good food and new Bridge installation. Plan now to enjoy the camaraderie and celebrate the successes of our Squadron over the past year. There is a copy of the flyer on our web site and page 5.

Other key events you want to be interested in are:

- D5 Winter Training Session; 14 – 16 February 2014
- NVSPS Annual Membership Meeting; 12 March 2014
- D5 Spring Conference; 28 – 30 Mar 2014

Have you visited our website recently? If not, you should. There you will find a lot of information on our organization to include the recent and past newsletters, course dates, schedules and pictures of recent events to include a few of the other items there. Our web site is: www.nvsp.org



Richard P. Davis

NVSPS Commander

Join the Fun, Share the Knowledge !



Executive Officer

Lt/C Richard Unis, JN

I'm back! Jeff Voudren and I successfully delivered "Windspiration", our Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 379 sailboat, to the Dream Yacht Charter Base at Harbour Towne Marina in Fort Lauderdale, FL. We left Annapolis on November 8th and arrived in Fort Lauderdale on November 24th. We sailed a total of 1,019 nautical miles through three low pressure systems that gave us 33 knot sustained winds and waves up to 15 feet. Our route took us from Portsmouth, VA down the Dismal Swamp canal, down the ICW to Cape Fear, offshore from Cape Fear to Charleston and then offshore again to the St. Mary's river and Fernandina Beach, FL on the Florida/Georgia border. From there we followed the ICW all the way to Ft. Lauderdale due to strong northeasterly offshore winds. The trip certainly gave us confidence in the boat and our ability to set sail for distant shores. I will give a presentation on our trip at an upcoming NVSPS general meeting this spring.

I want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of our Vessel Safety Check (VSC) examiners for an outstanding year. Through their diligence and hard work they conducted a total of 134 VSC exams. This is one area in particular where NVSPS members provide an extremely valuable public service. As a recipient of a VSC exam this year, I was extremely grateful for this service. Special thanks go to George Nartsissov for leading the following cadre of VSC examiners.

Gale Alls, George Degnon, Dave Hinkins, Norbert Hymel, Robin Roberts, John Shivik, Jon VonSenden and Francis Williamson.

Just a reminder that the Change of Watch ceremony will be held on Saturday, March 22nd. Also, the D/5 Spring Conference will be held from March 28-30 at the Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City. Mark your calendars and please start thinking about a theme for our NVSPS sponsored room at the conference. I encourage all of you to participate this year. It's a lot of fun and the conference is always very educational and rewarding!

Lt/C Rich Unis JN

NVSPS Executive Officer

Skipperunis@gmail.com



Education Officer

Lt/C Sean Gallagher JN

Welcome to 2014. Time to tune up your training. We have the courses below ready for your registration. We are also working on an offering of Cruise Planning and will put it on the schedule as soon as we identify a suitable spot and an instructor. Speaking of instructors, we'd really like to expand our instructor base so please contact the SEO if you are interested in joining the instructor ranks. We'll conduct a special instructor training course and get you certified with Virginia State so you can teach state courses as well. Please contact the SEO if you are interested in becoming an instructor.

USPS has brought their second seminar online. The seminar, Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes is available online at www.usps.org/edonline with a special introductory price of \$31.60 for members and \$40 for non-members. As these products are new, we would like to hear your feedback on them and we will gladly share your comments with District and National.

Don't forget to check out the latest Apple and Google apps on the USPS website. Some of these apps are really neat and will save you some time. They are available as iTunes and Google apps. Here are links to apps on the USPS website - <http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/misc/apps.htm#itunes>

Astronomy	Education	Life Style	Medical, Healthcare & Fitness
Multi-Purpose	Navigation	Reference	Sailing
Travel	Utilities	Weather	

Have friends? Invite them to participate. We need a minimum number of students enrolled in each course in order to make the course viable.

Got questions, email them directly to seo@nvsp.org

Lt/C Sean Gallagher JN

NVSPS Squadron Education Officer

seo@nvsp.org



Upcoming NVSPS Educational Courses

America's Boating Course

18 Feb14	ABC-12
08 Apr 14	ABC-12

NVSPS Course Schedule

08 Mar 14	Cruise Planning
27 Feb 14	Advanced Piloting
04 Mar 14	Marine Electrical Systems
20 Mar 14	Seamanship

NVSPS Seminar Schedule *

8-Feb-14	Basic Weather and Forecasting
8-Feb-14	Emergencies onboard
8-Mar-14	Marine Radar
8-Mar-14	How to use a chart

** Saturday classes*

Contact **Sean Gallagher** at **703 548-5851** to register for a class

Change of Watch and Founder's Day

22 March 2014 - 1130 to 1530

American Legion Post 177
3939 Oak Street, Fairfax, VA 22030

Uniform of the Day - USPS Blazers or Suit with Tie

Lunch Choice of Baked Honey Glazed Ham or Chicken Cordon Bleu with vegetables and sides; Two New Appetizers; and the Commander's Liquor Locker will be open. Beer, wine, set-ups and soft drinks will be available from the American Legion for a nominal charge.

✂

RESERVATION

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Spouse / Guest(s) _____

YES! I will attend the Change of Watch on 22 March 2013.

Number of _____ persons at \$25.00 each, \$_____ Total.

NOTE: Please make your check payable to NVSPS and mail it with this half of the form prior to 14 March 2013 to: Cathy Sheffield at 200 N. Pickett, #512, Alexandria, VA 22304 Questions? Call Cathy at 703 370-4331 or E-mail to carney1227@aol.com.



In Memory of our Fallen Comrades

Ron Larson On 15 December 2013 Ronald H. Larson passed away at Fairfax Hospital. Ron succumbed to pneumonia following heart surgery. Ron was a senior member of the Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron, having twenty-five merit marks, a Past Lt Commander and served on the Commander's Advisory Committee. Ron was an active member within the Squadron and he will be very much missed.

Elbert Sevier Maloney On 05 January 2014, Ret. Colonel Elbert Sevier "Mack" Maloney, USMC, who served as a contributor, author, and senior editor, from 1965 to the present, of Chapman Piloting and Seamanship, passed away in Pompano Beach, Florida. He was 94. Recognizing that boaters needed training in the new areas of marine electronics and radio communication, Col Maloney developed a course for the USPS, and he continued to work with the group, culminating in his appointment as USPS Director of Education from 1971 to 1976.

2014 National Capitol Boat Show Chantilly, VA

07 - 09 March 2014

It is that time of year again - The 2nd weekend in March - Time for the annual National Capitol Boat Show in Chantilly, VA. As always, the NVSPS will have a booth to explain how we serve the boating public, promote our public and advance boating courses along with the benefits of membership.

We cannot successfully promote our organization without you. So here is the traditional offer; if you sign up for a two hour slot at our booth to represent the NVSPS to the boating public, you receive free admission to the show and more importantly, a tremendous opportunity to promote marine safety.

The show hours are Friday: Noon - 8 pm, Saturday: 10 am - 7 pm, and Sunday: 11 am - 5 pm. The show will be at the Dulles Expo Center in Chantilly, VA. The Expo Center is close to Rt. 28 with generous free parking. For further information on the boat show, check out the show website at: <http://www.gsevents.com/shows/display.cfm?showID=65&showtypeid=5&src=286&sfid=76> for further information.

Please consider volunteering for a two-hour slot at our boat show booth. We need to have a minimum of two people in each two-hour slot. We can also use help with the set up on Thursday afternoon prior to the show opening and tear down after the show closes on Sunday afternoon. If you are interested and/or need additional information, please contact Ed Phillips at potter339@earthlink.net

Ed Phillips, AP
2014 Boat Show Chair
potter339@earthlink.net



Guest Speaker

Jim and Robin Roberts - 12 February 14

Did you know that members of NVSPS are full-time cruisers? After cruising for over 27,000 nautical miles up and down the east coast from Nova Scotia to the Bahamas, Jim and Robin Roberts put their DeFever 49 trawler (their only home) on a freighter and shipped her to the Pacific Northwest this past spring. They will give a presentation about their adventures cruising in British Columbia, the San Juan Islands, and Puget Sound this past summer and fall. Orcas, whales, eagles, ravens, and countless sea birds combined with mountains and fjords to make for a fabulous first season cruising these northern waters. Jim and Robin will be visiting us for the February meeting to share some of their professional quality photographs and stories. They are spending this winter in Victoria, B.C., and will head north to Alaska in April.

It is very easy to charter power or sailboats in the Pacific Northwest. Distances between the San Juan Islands, Canada's Gulf Islands, and Desolation Sound are relatively short, and the Island Passage provides protected waters for cruising. There's no reason you can't experience this area for yourself! Please join us on 12 February 14.



Secretary

Lt/C Mary-Jane Hinkins, S

Here it is February and we seem to be deep in the freezer still. Went to the Boat just last weekend and could hardly believe that the Occoquan River is partially iced over! They tell me the weekend before was even icier.

Good thing the boat is on the 'Hard'! We had considered leaving it in the water this year, but at the last minute we did not. How I wish for spring! I am so ready to be back on board! Though I have much to do, I still have zippers to put in and rugs to wash before spring.

Speaking of Upcoming events; there is the Change of Watch coming up on March 22. Please get your reservations into Cathy soon. We need to get ready. Also, we have the D/5 Spring Conference at the Princess Royale Hotel & Annual Meeting in Ocean City, MD. Hope to have a planning committee started after the meeting in February. Anyone with ideas or anyone wanting to be on the committee or the head of the committee should give me a call so we can get going. We have had great success throughout the years. You really should not miss this event. Its great fun and it happens March 28-30. Put on your thinking caps and bring some ideas for the Conference.

Lt/C Mary Jane Hinkins

NVSPS Secretary

mjhinkins@msn.com

Vessel Safety Checks

The NVSPS VSC team conducted 134 safety checks in 2013. Of the vessels checked 118 passed and received a VSC Decal. We were limited in the number of checks we could do by the number of available decals. As the 2014 boating season gets under way, I encourage ALL of the squadron members to get a Vessel Safety Check. As you visit your ship periodically this winter for a checkup, include a review of the mandatory state and federal safety items:



- Visual Distress Signals (flares)-check expiration date;
- Fire Extinguishers (needle in the green);
- Personal Flotation Devices (life jackets)-for inflatable check CO2 cartridges;
- Boats over 40'- don't forget the navigation rules book and trash disposal plan;
- Navigation Lights (as the weather permits);

just to name a few items to get you started.

As always, we welcome new members to the Vessel Examiner team! Please give me a call or e-mail me for details on how to qualify to become an examiner. - George Nartsissov, 703 425-7044; ganh@verizon.net

Quiz: Display of Registration Numbers

1. Sailboats without auxiliary machinery power are exempt from the numbering requirement although states may require them to be numbered. (T or F)
2. Must be in plain vertical block characters of not less than three inches in height. (T or F)
3. Must read left to right on the Port side and right to left on the Starboard side. (T or F)
4. A boat is required to be registered in the state of principal operation. (T or F)

Answers:

1. True; 2. True; 3. False, must read from left to right on both sides; 4. True, even if owner lives in another state.

Nomination Committee Report

Dear Lt/C MJ Hinkins:

In compliance with the Bylaws of the Northern Virginia Sail & Power Squadron, the Nominating Committee nominates the following members for the positions listed on the 2014 - 2015 Bridge:

Commander:	P/Lt/Cdr Richard E. Unis, JN
Executive Officer:	Cdr Richard P. Davis, AP
Education Officer:	1st Lt Ed Phillips, AP
Administrative Officer:	Kim-Kwok Chu
Secretary:	Lt/Cdr Mary Jane Hinkins
Treasurer:	Lt/Cdr Dave Hinkins
Assistant Treasurer:	1st Lt Ann Nartsissov

Members at Large of the Executive Committee:

LT/C Cathy Sheffield, AP
Richard E. Cohen, P
P/C Francis Williamson, AP
P/C Jay Nelson, AP
Vacant

Rules Committee:

P/C John Shivik, AP	3 Years
P/C George K. Degnon, P	2 Years
Margaret E. Degnon,	2 Years
H. Sue Karjala	1 Year
Lt/C Cathy Sheffield, AP	1 Year
Vacant	

Auditing Committee:

P/C Francis Williamson, AP	3 Years
Robert Donahue Jr., AP	2 Years
Don Benedetto, AP	1 Year - Chair

Nominating Committee:

P/C George Nartsissov, AP	3 Years
P/Stf/C Richard Davis, AP	3 Years
P/C G Jay Nelson, AP	2 Years
P/C John G. Karjala, P	1 Year
P/C Alan Hart, AP	1 Year
Vacant	

Respectfully Submitted, P/C John G. Karjala, P --- Chair

P/C Alan Hart, AP
P/C G. Jay Nelson, AP
P/C Francis Williamson, AP
P/C George Nartsissov, AP

Did you know....

Boating education has been a mainstay of the United States Power Squadrons' charter and mission. All of the USPS educational courses and seminars are rooted in what is often referred to as the "Bible of Boating" or more formally, **Chapman Piloting & Seamanship**. This boating reference has been the leading reference book for both power and sail boaters for nearly 100 years, with more than 3 million copies printed. It is often used as the text for private boating schools throughout the U.S., and is officially recommended book for the U.S. Coast Guard's boating education classes.

Did you know that in 1914, Roger Upton, Holman F. Day, Worthington Scott, Bryan L. Perman and Charles F. Chapman became the original founders of the United States Power Squadrons.?

Later, during World War I, the U.S. Government needed to train men in the Navy, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine to become operators of small boats, including landing craft, utility craft, gigs, patrol craft. Then Assistant U.S. Secretary of the Navy, Franklin D. Roosevelt, commissioned Charles F. Chapman, a member of the newly formed United States Power Squadron, to write a manual that could be used to help provide that training. Chapman did this in just three days. The result was Practical Boat Handling, the first edition, published in 1917 as a 5 in x 7 in, 144 page pamphlet.

Weather Seminar

“Some people are weather-wise, but most are otherwise.” Benjamin Franklin

So true! How many boaters check on the weather conditions before venturing on the waters? A few. Yes, they may look at the sky and note that it is blue and the sun is really bright. Does this portend a great day on the briny? No! There are ways to check on conditions that could impact your safety and fun on the water. Without doubt, check with the National Weather Service in our immediate area on-line at <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/lwx//> and / or the UHF Weather broadcast on 162.550 MHz. What channel is it on your VHF Marine Radio? But, there's more!

Do you know that you can predict local weather conditions by reading the clouds, temperature, barometer, dewpoint and wind direction and speed? Yes, you can! NVSPS will be offering a Weather Seminar at 0900 on 26 April 2014 that will open your eyes to the wonderful world of weather and how it impacts you and your love ones. Location is Room 441, 4031 University Drive, Fairfax City, VA. Instructors Lt Ed Phillips and P/C John Shivik will give you the tools that you need to know. The Seminar is two and one half hours in duration.

Now is the time to sign up for the Seminar. Contact the SEO, Lt/C Sean Gallagher, on email at education@nvsp.org or call 703-548-5851. Don't hesitate, be weather-wise, and contact him now to enroll in this course!

Test Your Boating Knowledge

1. Which of the following is required on federally controlled waters for boats less than 39.4 feet (12 meters)?

- a) A VHF radio
- b) Whistle
- c) Paddle or oar
- d) First-aid kit

2. According to the Navigation Rules, which of the following is true?

- a) A boat under power is always a stand-on boat.
- b) A personal watercraft is always a give-way boat.
- c) An overtaking boat always gives way to the boat being overtaken.
- d) A boat under sail is always a stand-on boat.

3. Which of the following must follow Navigation Rules for a powerboat?

- a) Any sailboat equipped with an engine
- b) All sailboats under sail alone
- c) A sailboat with sails up but no engine
- d) A sailboat with its engine engaged

4. A float plan should contain what information?

- a) A date and time to contact the authorities
- b) A national weather service storm advisory signal listing
- c) Coast Guard emergency radio frequencies
- d) A pre-departure checklist

5. Which of the following will increase the effects of alcohol and drugs when boating?

- a) Food
- b) Vibration
- c) Spray
- d) Temperature

Answers:

1. It's always smart to carry a VHF, a first-aid kit, and even a secondary means of propulsion, such as an oar. But the regulations require that you carry a sound-making device, which will help you get attention from nearby boats if you need help. The correct answer is b.

2. When overtaking another boat, the rules are clear: The overtaking boat must give way to the boat it's passing, and that means it needs to keep its wake down, and mustn't force the slow boat into any uncompromising navigation position. Lots of folks get confused about right of way between sail and power vessels — even a sailboat under sail alone must give way to a powerboat when the sailboat is passing. The correct answer is c.

3. When a sailboat turns on its motor, and is using it to make way, it then essentially becomes a powerboat under the Navigation Rules. It can sometimes be challenging to tell when a boat with sails up is motor-sailing, so if you see a sailboat with sails up, treat them as if they're under sail alone and restricted in their ability to maneuver. But, if you're the sailboat with your manuevers clear to other boaters. The correct answer is d.

4. The purpose of a float plan is to let others know the specifics of your trip so they will know when to alert the authorities if you haven't returned and to provide additional information that might be helpful should the unexpected occur. The correct answer is a.

5. Research has shown that the stressors of boating including sun, noise, vibration and the motion of the water all contribute to a type of fatigue called "boater's hypnosis," which, when combined with alcohol, can dramatically increase the effects of intoxication in both the operator and passengers. While a designated driver is the safest bet on land, on the water everyone needs to play it safe and sober. The correct answer is b.



Lt W. Lazear, AP
2014 Lakebreeze Way
Reston, VA 20191-4020

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID



of Tars & Terns



Dated Material

America's Boating Club

Official Publication of the
Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron
In District 5
A unit of the
United States Power Squadrons®
www.nvpsps.org