



What CAN we do?

The State government websites are the direct sources for most updated rules regarding activity and travel restrictions due to the Coronavirus pandemic. We are not covering all the rules for each state here because they can change daily. Visit these sites for latest info:

Virginia: www.Virginia.gov

Maryland: www.Maryland.gov

District of Columbia: www.DC.gov

At press time in late April, we can kayak, canoe and SUP paddle for exercise. Social distancing must be observed in all states. Virginia waters are open for recreational boating, except where local restrictions are in place. In Maryland, recreational boating is banned with few exceptions. Remember the Potomac River south of the Wilson Bridge is MD waters. MD FAQs here: <https://news.maryland.gov/dnr/2020/03/31/frequently-asked-questions-about-governor-hogans-stay-at-home-order/>



Look out for these characters! (left:Walt in blue yacht. right: Rich in wooden yacht) see April 2019 newsletter

Check the nvsp.org website for last minute schedule changes or with any Bridge Officer.

Calendar—Other meetings TBA by email, if added

April 22, May 27, June 24, July 28 Executive Committee Mtg by Conference Call

July 20-23, Mid Atlantic Summer Cruise, Smith Mountain Lake, VA

July 23-26, Summer Council & Rendezvous, Smith Mountain Lake, VA

Oct 17, Oktoberfest, Fairfax Yacht Club, VA. A Saturday

Nov 5-8, Mid Atlantic Fall Ed. Conference Gettysburg, PA

<https://americasboatingclub.org/>

<https://abc-midatlantic.org/>

<http://nvsp.org/>

<https://americasboatingchannel.com/>

Find us on 



Bridge Officers

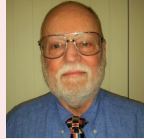
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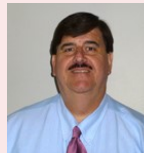
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TREASURER

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New Meeting Information. All are welcome.

General Membership Mtgs at Alexandria Police HQ Community Rm, 3600 Wheeler Ave, Alexandria, VA 7:30 pm, until further notice, are:

- on the **2nd Tues of each month** except no mtgs in Aug. and Dec.
- The May and Oct. mtgs are combined with other events on different days., normally Spring Picnic and Fall Picnic on Saturdays.

Executive Committee Mtgs, 7 pm: by Conference call or new location. Contact Executive Officer for conference call number and codes or location. Normally 4th Wed. of each month. There are speaking procedures for these meetings to be sure business has time to be discussed. Just ask about them.

Find us on 

MEMBERS AT LARGE– contact us about any issue or for us to bring project plans to the Executive Committee

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| P/C Alan Hart, AP | 540-898-6002, 1oldtar@gmail.com |
| P/Lt/C Cathleen Sheffield, AP | 703-370-4331, Carney1227@aol.com |
| P/C Richard E. Unis, JN, VE | 703-777-8378, SkipperUnis@gmail.com |
| D/Lt Walter Lazear, AP | 703-620-1821, lakematesw@comcast.net |
| Lt Denise Robinson | 202-729-0402, pinkdazzle05@gmail.com |
| Vessel Safety Checks Chair: | P/C Rich Unis, JN, 703-777-8378, SkipperUnis@gmail.com, Ask how to become certified as a VSC Examiner |

Facebook Team: Lt Claire Wyngaard, P P/C Alan Hart, AP

Of Tars & Terns

The official publication of the
Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron
America's Boating Club Northern Virginia
Posted online in color at 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 and mailed to all NVSPS members. July/August and January/February issues are combined. All Of Tars & Terns newsletters are published online at NVSPS.org in color. Submission deadlines are the 15th of the month prior to the issue month (in first issue month in combined issues) until further notice.

Volume LIII; Number 4: May 2020

EDITOR

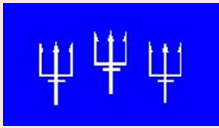
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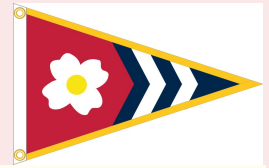
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Message from the Commander



Mid April 2020

Ahoy,

I hear a lot of people saying that we are all “In the same boat” right now. I understand what they mean, but I think it is like we are all on our own boat, facing the same storm. This current crisis is affecting all of us but in very different ways. For some it is a minor inconvenience and for others it is eroding the very foundation of our lives. It is my hope and prayer that you are all safe, healthy and riding this storm in a well-fortified harbor.

We as a Squadron are certainly sidelined for the duration of this situation as far as public classes and events. I personally cannot wait to get out to serve our boating community with education and safety awareness. I have been looking at the information on the Vessel Safety Check program and hope to be able to be more involved in providing those, as I know some others of you are. I have requested that the Bridge brainstorm on how we can expand our Public Safe Boating Course and attract more students. I have personally spoken to a few local boating organizations and businesses about how we can reach their membership and customers with our message. We may have to social distance at the moment, but this too will pass.

We all have the extra “time off”, and I hope you have had a chance to get your boat “ship shape” and ready for a great season on the water. The weather has been nice, and it is getting consistently warmer. We will update everyone as soon as we can set a calendar for the rest of year and get a chance to see each other once again.

Humbly at the Helm,
Cdr. Patrick J. Sowers

PJSowers@TeamSowers.com



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Sea Scout Ship 1942 fundraiser Date Still TBA.

Even though it has been postponed. These are valuable funds to keep the ships afloat and the classrooms open. To find out how to become a Scout or support our local Ship, visit <https://www.seascout1942.com/>



First Mate Mike Taylor with Sea Scouts

Returning Speaker, Date TBA

Mary Loose DeViney,

Regional Coordinator, Blue Ridge and Northern Virginia Area Boating Safety Education, VA Dept of Game and Inland Fisheries

Bring your questions.

Make the most of YOUR State Resources

<https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/boating/>

Learn about their mission:

CONSERVE. CONNECT. PROTECT.

Sea Scouts News

Sea Scout Ship 1942 Annual Merit Badges Afloat Program is still scheduled for April 2020, this year with a Virtual Education Base. These badge study programs can be started at home this year.

- Weather Merit Badge
- Oceanography Merit Badge
- Smallboat Sailing Merit Badge

Sea Scout units – called ships- are established all across the country on oceans, bays, rivers, and lakes. They provide limitless opportunities and exciting challenges that you won't find anywhere else. Sea Scouts is a place to grow and learn, find adventure, and build long lasting friendships. Programs for young men and women ages 14-20

Visit <https://www.seascout1942.com/>



Appy Hour!

Learn about these apps for your smartphone or tablet from their websites or find them on Google Play or The App Store

www.MarineTraffic.com

www.iNavX.com

www.FishWeather.com

MyRadar NOAA Weather Radar

US Coast Guard App

Navionics Boating

Compass Steel 3D (many compasses available)

www.SailFlow.com

BoaUS App

FishBrain

Something we shared on our Facebook Page:

The United States Lighthouse Society has news and videos at <https://www.uslhs.org>
and a YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/user/uslighthousesociety/featured>

Can't go sailing today?



From Alpha Mom—Rachel Meeks

Have fun with the kids at:

<https://alphamom.com/family-fun/crafts/sail-into-summer-with-ice-cube-boats/>

May Birthdays

Georgia DeBell 12
Patrick Sowers 13
Steve Hall 15
Alan Hart 16
Cameron Headtke 16



Ronald Bosco 20
Joan Burg 22
Jiangfeng Ye 30
Jean Durgin 31
Ann Hall 31

The National Weather Service wants to hear from YOU!

In a move to simplify and potentially reduce misunderstanding of urgent weather messages used by recreational boaters to make critical boating safety decisions, the National Weather Service (NWS) has proposed renaming “Small Craft Advisory” to “Small Craft Warning” and is asking for boaters’ feedback. Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) urges [boaters to speak up now](#) by taking a NWS survey for recreational boaters at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VZGX6BF>. The survey closes May 24, 2020. Learn more at <https://www.boatus.com/news-room/release/shall-we-say-goodbye-to-small-craft-advisory>



Credit: Albert Barkus

New online courses, in addition to the list on page 8 Free previews online

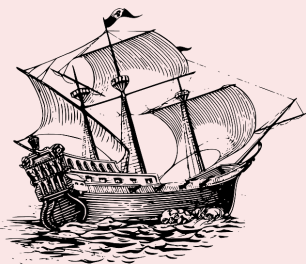
Learn to Sail—Designed by Colgate Offshore Sailing School with BoatUS Foundation For beginner or rusty sailors. Normally \$39.50. Discount for limited time.

<https://www.boatus.org/offshore-sailing/>

Modern Marine Navigation—Created by USCG Auxiliary and BoatUS Foundation Includes basics of plotting, reading charts, identifying ATONs, Introduction to electronic navigation. Completely reviewed by the USCG Navigation Center. Normally \$40.00. Discount for limited time

<https://www.boatus.org/navigation/>

Call or Email Editor@NVSPS.org for discount and deadline.



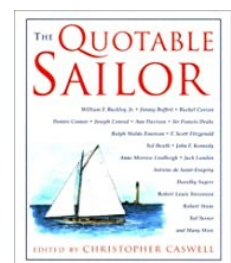
P/C Gale Alls and P/C Dick Durgin are on the lookout for new **interesting and educational** places for our group to visit.

Call Gale at 703-569-1511 or Dick at 703-560-9106 with ideas!

**“The art of the sailor
is to leave nothing to chance.”**

- Annie Van De Wiele

From the book “The Quotable Sailor” edited by Christopher Caswell



Boating Education Classes

Piloting. Inland water and coastal navigation using GPS, aids to navigation, and plotting on charts.

Dates TBD in Spring/Summer 2020

Possible day and times: Saturdays, 9 am to 1 pm.

At St. George's Episcopal Church, 915 N. Oakland St, Arlington VA.

No prerequisites. More course info at:

<https://americasboatingclub.org/courses/piloting>

For more information, to ask about other courses, and to register, contact Education Officer Dean Markussen, MMarkussen2@comcast.net, 703-751-9178



shutterstock · 109533224

Become a Certified Vessel Safety Check Examiner Study Manual is Available Online

The VSC program is a very important ongoing public service effort sponsored by the USCG Auxiliary, America's Boating Club and BoatUS. **Volunteers needed for more outreach to public.**

Visit <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=V-DEPT&category=welcome>

Come join the program! Contact P/C Rich Unis, JN at 703-777-8378 or at skipperunis@gmail.com

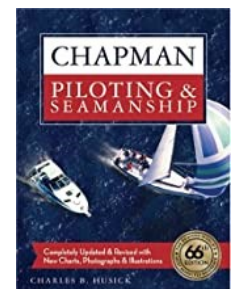


From "Chapman Piloting and Seamanship" 66th Edition

From the weather chapter

"When boat horns sound hollow, Rain will surely follow."

"A halo around the sun indicates the approach of a storm within three days, from the side which is the most brilliant. Halos predict a storm at not great distance, and the openside of the halo tells the quarter from which it may be expected."



Origami



Make this powerboat!

Visit Origami Boats here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33vR5sA-MGI>

Make this sailboat!

Difficult but better than the typical hat style

(Maarten Van Gelden) Made by Origami School

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fAiuF19Xz8>



***U.S. Power Squadrons and the
BoatU.S. Foundation have
teamed up***

to offer you these online courses:

1. America's Boating Course
2. Cruising Boats and Systems
3. Weather for Boaters
4. Planning for your Cruise
5. Propane Systems on your Boat
6. AIS Electronics for Boaters
7. How to Use Your GPS
8. All About Marine Radio
9. Rivers, Locks and Lakes
10. Crew at the Helm
11. Hurricane Preparation

**Take these courses at
www.AmericasBoatingClub.org**



Free Instructional Videos

1. Mooring and Shoreline Landing
2. Dangers of BUI
3. Safety Tips for Paddle Sports
4. Cold Water Survival
5. Situational Awareness
6. Electronic Navigation with GPS
7. Vessel Safety Checks
8. Stopping a Boat on Plane
9. Man Overboard
10. And many more!

<http://AmericasBoatingChannel.com>

S.S. John W. Brown Living History Cruise - August 8, 2020 (date as of press time in late April)

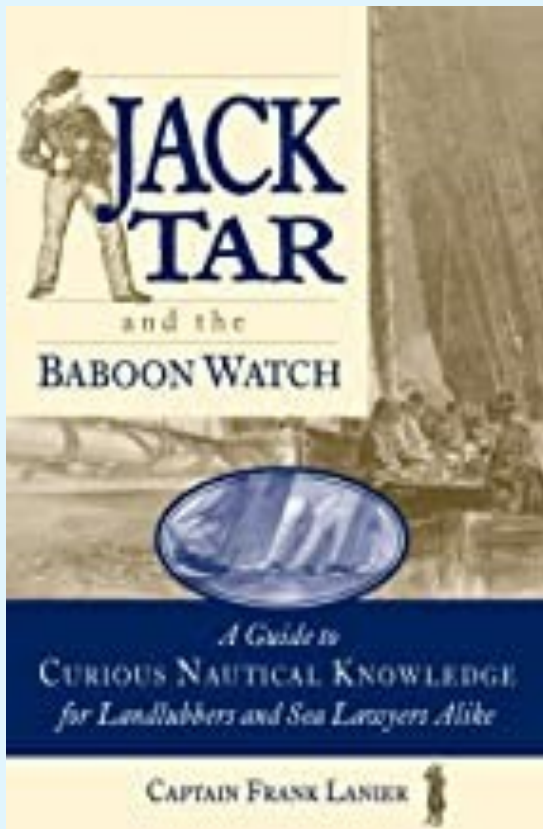
If you are a student of World War II history and love old ships, consider signing up for this cruise aboard the restored Liberty Ship S.S. John W. Brown, in Baltimore, MD.

- music of the 1940's,
- historical re-enactments
- fly-bys of vintage WWII aircraft with the ship's Armed Guard gunners manning the guns to defend the ship.
- tour the crew quarters, bridge, flying bridge, wheelhouse, radio room, mess rooms, troop berthing areas, stern gun deck and the magnificent 140-ton triple-expansion steam engine.

General admission for adults and children is \$225.00 (\$200 for groups of four or more). Lunch is included. check out www.ssjohnwbrown.org, call 410-558-0646 or email john.w.brown@usa.net. S.S. John W. Brown is one of only two operating Liberty Ships. remaining out of 2,710 built nationwide during World War II.



On the Great Lakes in year 2000



Available on Amazon.com

This book is A1! Captain Frank Lanier assembled a vast (not Avast) number of nautical nomenclature with their often humorous or surprising origins in “Jack Tar and the Baboon Watch—A Guide to Curious Nautical Knowledge for Landlubbers and Sea Lawyers Alike”. Here is the entry for

“Ahoy”. “Derived from the ancient Viking battle cry *Aoi*, “Ahoy!” is the traditional hail or greeting used between ships. It was also suggested by Alexander Graham Bell as the proper form of salutation when answering his newfangled invention, the telephone.

New Haven, Connecticut, which is located along the bustling shores of Long Island Sound, was the first area provided with regular telephone service and ahoy seemed appropriate in keeping with the area’s rich nautical heritage.”



ABCNV—May 2020
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Reston, VA 20191-4020

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



of Tars & Terns



Find us on

Online Course Lists Inside

America's Boating Club Northern Virginia

