



Let's meet at the Annapolis Boat Shows in October Tickets Are Day-Specific This Year

The Annapolis shows are slated to return to City Dock this October. The United States Powerboat Show will run Thursday through Sunday, October 1 – 4 and the United States Sailboat Show will run the following weekend, October 8 – 12, Thursday through Monday, the Columbus Day holiday.

“The health and safety of our exhibitors, sponsors, and attendees is our team’s highest priority,” said Paul Jacobs, President of Annapolis Boat Shows. “As we plan for our fall shows, we’re taking proactive steps in response to the public health situation.” One key to achieving maximum safety is to smooth the number of visitors across all show days, Jacobs said. Visitors will be able to purchase **day-specific tickets** in advance at the general admission price of \$20. “**Once a day’s ticket allotment is sold out, you may select an alternate day,**” he explained.

Continued on Page 9



Sea Scout Ship 1942

Powerwashing, waxing our Flying Scots employing small numbers of scouts over a number of days so that everyone could participate while keeping within Covid-19 guidelines.

Overview on Page 4

Special Events Membership and EC meeting Info on Page 2.
Sept 8-13, Fall National Governing Board Meeting, Raleigh, NC
Oct 17, Oktoberfest, Fairfax Yacht Club, VA
Nov 5-8, Mid Atlantic Fall Ed. Conference Gettysburg, PA. Info in Mid-Atlantic newsletter at <https://abc-midatlantic.org/>

<https://americasboatingclub.org/>

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

<http://nvsp.org/>

<https://americasboatingchannel.com/>

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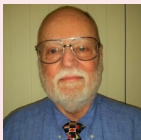
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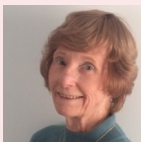
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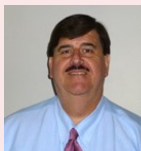
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Meeting Info. If you do not receive an email notice about meetings, please contact a bridge officer to confirm meeting will be held before heading out.

General Membership Mtgs are at Alexandria Police HQ Community Rm, 3600 Wheeler Ave, Alexandria, VA 22304, 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.

Please see previous issues online. If you do not have internet access, ask the editor to mail you a copy. For more information about anything in this newsletter, contact editor@nvsp.org

Find us on 

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Of Tars & Terns

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America's Boating Club Northern Virginia
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Volume LIII; Number 6: July/August 2020

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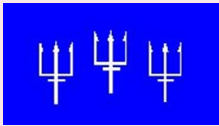
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Message from the Commander



Mid July 2020

Ahoy,

This certainly a historic time we live in these days. I hope and pray that you and your family is safe and healthy.

If you can stand the heat, this has been a great summer so far. No prolonged days of rain and then no surprise storms. I have had the opportunity to get out on the Potomac this last month. Swimming at Fairview Beach and dining at a classic Potomac spot, Capt Billy's. I must say that I had no cares in the world on those days. I hope to get a few more in soon.

Education, we are a safe boating education organization after all... with the public health concerns we have been, and are still very limited on in person classes that we can offer. We are currently having our Piloting Class via online and I hope we can expand that to other classes as well. As we look to the fall, what class would you like to take? What can you do to expand your boating knowledge? Please do let us know how we can help. Any ideas are very welcomed.

I know we haven't seen each other in awhile. Our regular meeting location is closed for the foreseeable future. As things free up and folks feel safer socializing, we will make some time to get together.

One last thing, if you are not feeling "Yachty" enough, SiriusXM has channel 105 Yacht Rock Radio to put you in that summer evening, back deck of the yacht mood.

Be safe out there,

Commander Sowers

Commander@TeamSowers.com

Visit the NVSPS Ship's Store



For our burgee on duffel bags hats, polos shirts, dress shirts jackets and fleece. They put our logo on whatever they sell! Great prices and shipping deals!



Also Burgee ordering info at <http://nvsp.org/stor.shtml>

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An Overview of Sea Scouts and Ship 1942



From Mike Taylor, First Mate, Sea Scout Ship 1942, MLFTaylor@att.net

Sea Scouts Ships are affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), and include boys and girls, ages 14 to 21. They emphasize the concept of youth leadership and Scouts training Scouts. I invite you to browse all the way to the end of the front page and visualize videos that show what Sea Scouting is all about at <https://www.seascout1942.com/>

Individual Sea Scout Ships are led by the Sea Scout members. Our Bosun (Scout leader) and the Quarterdeck (supporting staff of 5 scouts) organize the calendar, run the weekly meetings, training, and planning for the annual summer Long Cruise on the Bay. Our current 27 members (21 males and 6 females) come from a three-county area in Northern Virginia, plus one from Maryland, and attend a variety of high schools and home schools.

Our Ship is fortunate to have many engaged and qualified adult volunteers to ensure youth protection and safety, but moreover, to provide in-depth training across many areas, including Boy Scout and Sea Scout training and advancement; leadership; sailing on small and large sailboats; and rowing, canoeing, knot tying, boat maintenance, etc.

We have 6 exceptional boat captains, with 3 actively assigned to each of our 3 large boats based at Solomons, MD. Three of the boat captains are Coast Guard licensed, and the other 3 are in the process of getting their Coast Guard licenses.

St. George's Episcopal Church, Arlington, VA is our sponsoring organization and provides meeting rooms for our winter-time training meetings. In addition, we hold our annual Pasta Dinner Fundraiser in their Parish Hall with the use of the kitchen and another room in which to hold our Silent Auction. Although all space is donated, they provide no funding for our operations. However, as our sponsor, they serve as our fiduciary partner, receive tax exempt donations in our name, and hold title to our boats and trailers since individual Ships have no legal status.

ACHIEVEMENTS

We have been recognized as the number one Ship in the nation (out of 500 Ships) in both 2007 and 2014, the only Ship in the country to be so recognized twice in 108 years of Sea Scouting. Additionally, we have been recognized as one of the "Top 4 Ships" in the nation 6 times in the past 8 years.

We have produced 26 Quartermasters (Sea Scout equivalent to the Boy Scout Eagle Award and the Girl Scout Gold Award) – the largest number of any Sea Scout Ship in the country. Forty-three of our Sea Scouts have successfully completed SEAL (Sea Scout Afloat Leadership) Training. This is 3 to 4 times as many as any other Ship in the country. Covid-19 has temporarily stopped our current Bosun, James Ye, from becoming number 44. Our scouts have been selected to attend and graduate from every one of our military and maritime academies:

- 4 to the U.S. Navel Academy at Annapolis
- 3 to the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs
- 2 to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
- 3 to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy
- 1 to The U.S. Military Academy at West Point
- 4 to other Merchant Marine Academies

Other Sea Scouts attend colleges and universities around the country.

One Scout just graduated from the Coast Guard Academy and has been selected for flight training. One Scout is currently at the U.S. Maritime Academy, and one is at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. Another of our Scouts was just selected to attend the Coast Guard Academy. One of our past female Scouts is currently an officer in the Coast Guard, and we have Scouts serving as active officers in all the services.

One of the hallmarks of our Ship is our commitment to being an inclusive and supportive organization. In the past 10 years, we have had 6 scouts with "special needs" or "moderate to severe learning disabilities" – 3 currently and 3 more who have recently "aged out" (over 21). It is a testament to all our Scouts and adult mentors for making these kids feel at home in the Sea Scouts and working with them to gain advancement and skills in sailing and in life.

PHYSICAL ASSETS, LOCATIONS, AND USES

Washington Sailing Marina (on Dangerfield Island just south of the National Airport). *continued next page*

Sea Scouts—Continued

- 6 Flying Scots (19' fiberglass sailboats with main and jib sails, and a centerboard and rudder). These are our primary sail training boats throughout the year.

- 1 Capri sailboat (18' boat with mainsail and jib, fixed keel, and outboard motor). This is used as a safety boat and for scout parent orientation, as well as for parents to observe their kids while sailing.

During the sailing season, we meet there every Monday evening to hone our small-boat sailing skills

Solomons Island (on the Patuxant River) at the Navy Recreation Center

- 3 large sailboats, each having an internal Yanmar diesel motor: --*Reverent* – a 27' S-2 sailboat, --*Friendly* – a Cal-30' sailboat, --*Respite* – a 35' Allied Seabreeze sailboat

These boats are used primarily for our Long Cruise events with the Scouts in the summer. We sail for a week and a half on a third of the Chesapeake Bay (north, central or south). Additionally, these boats are used at Camp Able to train the Scouts in large boat handling, sailing, docking, anchoring, etc. We also use them to sleep aboard during Life Guard Camp unless it is more advantageous to have the Scouts tent camp.

Additionally, there is a small Scout-built boat rack at Solomons for storage of canoes, row boats, kayaks, and dinghies that are primarily used during Camp Able and Life Guard Camp. The canoes are also available for day trips on the Shenandoah River.

Storage facilities

- a small sail locker on site at the Washington Sailing Marina for sails, paddles, life preservers, etc.

- a small storage facility in Shirlington for sail storage over-winter and other gear

- a large storage locker in Lexington Park (near Solomons) for storage of Camp Able and Life Guard Camp gear as well as a winter storage site for our sails from our big sailboats.

- a small shed on site at the Navy Recreation Center's Point Patience Marina for paddles, life vests, sailing gear, etc.

FUNDING

We receive no financial support from the BSA or St. George's Church. The BSA does provide insurance for our Scouts and adults, which our dues pay for. We pay for our wet and dry boat slips, storage facility rentals, and liability insurance for our boats. All Scouts and adult volunteers pay annual dues and, additionally, pay for individual events (Camp Able, Life Guard Camp, and Long Cruise). Our goal is to try to keep the cost of being a Sea Scout as low as possible.

Twice a year, we sponsor and host a training event in support of local area Boy and Girl Scout troops, providing training (and merit badges) for sailing, weather/meteorology, and oceanography over the course of a weekend. They also get in a night of tent camping while engaged in this training.

Our main fundraising event is our annual Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction Fundraiser, held in the late winter, early spring of the year.

CURRENT SITUATION

After the postponement of our annual fundraiser in March, we developed a plan to cover our overhead expenses (slip, insurance and storage costs), based upon quarterly payments and the hope of a healthier climate in the fall in which to hold our Fundraising Dinner.

However, circumstances changed suddenly when we received an email from Solomons Island Navy Recreation Center stipulating that we would no longer get a Sea Scout discount on our slip rentals, and although we thought we had negotiated a quarterly payment plan, the original payment schedule in the contract was going to be enforced.

This meant that the annual slip rental for our three boats and small storage shed would be due by the end of June. We did have that amount available but are now left with insufficient resources to cover ongoing maintenance expenses and other rental obligations coming due in August and October.

We are currently prioritizing our assets, in order to downsize any identified as unnecessary, while we continue to maintain our on-going core programs in support of our mission – to teach leadership through sailing.

I hope this information will give you some perspective on the breadth and depth of our Sea Scout program and answer your questions about Ship 1942 and our current funding situation. Thank you for your interest and consideration for support.

To Donate, make any amount check payable to “Sea Scout Ship 1942” and mail to Mr. Shawn Mickey (Ship 1942's volunteer Treasurer) at 3805 Prosperity Ave, Fairfax, VA 22031-3327

Time to Become a "Stinkpotter"? - Part I of II

By P/C Rich Unis, JN

My sailing buddy, Jeff Voudren, and I decided to try our hand at powerboats...just in case one or both of us decide to forgo pulling on "strings" on a sailboat and venture into the "stinkpot" realm. I know... that's blasphemy for sailor dudes like us! Maybe we shouldn't have gone to the Powerboat Show in Annapolis last year. But we did, and we connected with Marcus from Anacortes Yacht Charters (AYC).

So, we headed up to Seattle on June 18, 2020 and then onward to Anacortes, WA (65 miles north of Seattle and the gateway to the San Juan Islands) to AYC. We both signed up for AYC's Power Cruising – Single Engine class, taught aboard *Moondance*, a Grand Banks 36 trawler.

We each had some pre-course work to do before we arrived, including reading *Powerboat Handling Illustrated*, by Bob Sweet, reading AYC's course



supplement training materials, taking pre-exams and working navigation problems. I must say that all of the USPS courses I've taken have prepared me well. The class started with a Friday afternoon classroom session to meet our crew and instructor and to go over the written materials. After the classroom session, we had some time to review some of the systems onboard so we could get settled in overnight and to store provisions aboard the boat, which were provided by AYC.

We spent Saturday reviewing the boat systems particular to our classic Woodie Grand Banks trawler, including engine checks on the 140hp Ford Lehman diesel engine, doing some on-the-water navigation, picking up a mooring ball in Eagle Harbor off of Cypress Island (one of the San Juan Islands), circumnavigating Guemes Island, anchoring several times and of course practicing docking...and more docking at both Cap Santé Marina and Anacortes Marina (where AYC keeps their vessels). It was a very successful first day on the water.



Continued next page

Time....Continued

Sunday was spent doing more docking in various dock locations and on both port and starboard sides, docking for fuel, docking for a pump-out and doing man overboard drills. There were only three of us in the class so we changed positions frequently and got plenty of practice maneuvering the boat and handling the lines. Our classmate was a Vice-President of AIG from Seattle. He lives on one of the islands and is wanting to venture into larger powerboats. He was a great guy and we got along exceptionally well. After we got back to the dock and got the dock lines tidied up, we met one-on-one with Capt Larry, our superb instructor (who by the way is both a sailor and powerboater who does instruction and deliveries up and down the west coast). He was very experienced and mentioned that he and his wife once left Seattle in his Passport sailboat and ended up in New York City, where he sold the boat and returned back to Washington. He reviewed our performance on an individual basis and then handed each of us our graduation certificates.



We all did very well and no one crashed into the dock! I was quite surprised how well the single engine Grand Banks handled. It was a breeze to dock and I don't think I even used the bow thruster. After the class I was very confident in my ability to handle an equivalent yacht. Mission accomplished!



Stay tuned to the next oT&T newsletter to see what we did next. Of course we couldn't go all the way to Anacortes just for a 2 ½ day class. Did we fish for whales, buy a boat, sink a boat? Tune in to find out!

P/C Rich Unis, JN, started sailing with the Pentagon Sailing Club in 2004 and earned certification from the US Naval Sailing Association as a Level D - Cruising Skipper (D-CS). He also earned certification from US Sailing in Coastal Passagemaking. He and his sailing buddy, Jeff Voudren, bought a new Jeanneau 379 monohull sailboat, Windspiration, in 2013 and sailed it from Annapolis to Ft. Lauderdale in 2014 before returning to the Chesapeake Bay where they sailed it for several years. They sold Windspiration in 2016 due to work commitments. Yes, they are both "boatless", with the exception of kayaks.



Message from the Educational Officer

America's Boating Course offered Saturday 17 Oct through 7 Nov.

We have arranged to conduct a Basic Boating Course - ABC-3 class on Saturday mornings for four sessions (17 OCT, 24 OCT, 31 Oct and 7 NOV from 0900-1230) at St George's Episcopal Church in Arlington. The students and instructor can discuss option of conducting class online or combo of class and online to meet comfort levels and convenience for the same dates. Proctored test is required in Virginia to meet state education requirement.

America's Boating Course teaches: terms, safety equipment, fueling, casting off, navigation rules, aids. Lights and sound signals, regulations, charts and electronic navigation, anchoring, handling emergencies, communications, watersports safety, trailering, PWC operation, knots and lines, and more. See <http://www.americasboatingcourse.com/courseoutline.cfm> The cost is \$50 and participants need not be members of America's Boating Club.

I've been reworking the Piloting class presentation and exercises so they are a bit more user-friendly for an online environment. It's one thing to sit through PowerPoint presentation in person but to do the same online approaches cruel and unusual punishment for the one on the receiving end. I've been testing it with colleagues so we will have a Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron quality online version for Piloting for Jan 2021 in the event meeting in person is not an option.

Piloting includes Inland water and coastal navigation using GPS, aids to navigation, and plotting on charts. No prerequisites. More course info at:

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

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



Become a Certified Vessel Examiner and learn how to conduct Vessel Safety Checks – 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 are 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



S.S. John W. Brown Liberty Ship Cruise Cancelled

Our planned cruise on the S.S. John W. Brown Liberty Ship out of Baltimore on Aug 8, 2020 has been cancelled due to the COVID pandemic. Please see their website at www.ssjohnwbrown.org if you would like to contribute to the upkeep of the ship. I'll keep everyone posted on the schedule for next year. Follow on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. From P/C Rich Unis, JN



Photo courtesy National Maritime Historical Society

July

Samuel Barr 1
Edward Jones 3
Michael D. O'Dell 11
Douglas E. Layne 24
Thomas Ye 31

August

Fred Zugay 4
Christine McKeown Burry 11
Susanna K. Tisa 16
Mary Jane Dodson 23
Denise L. Robinson 23

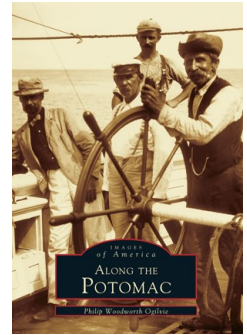


A Wealth of Maritime and Lighthouse History Books are published by Arcadia Publishing Including Images of America Series

<https://www.arcadiapublishing.com/maritime-history-books>

Pictured here: Along the Potomac

Find these in stores. If you do not have web access, ask the editor to read you a list.



Annapolis Shows—continued from Page 1

Experts will provide seminars on a wide range of topics in Cruisers University, and novices can get their feet wet with the First Sail Workshop and the Take the Wheel program.

Tickets are available for advance purchase on the Annapolis Boat Show website. Admission is \$20 per person and \$10 for children 12 and under. Tickets are valid for one day only, and only for the specific day for which they are purchased. All ticket sales are final. For more on the Show Health Policies please visit [our policy page](#) which will be updated regularly. Shows Site: <https://www.annapolisboatshows.com/>



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Sea Scout Ship 1942 Overview

America's Boating Club Northern Virginia

