



Online Basic Boating Safety ABC Class Spring 2021
Dates TBA. Sign up page 5



General Membership Meeting Tuesday, April 13

Members will receive an email with the Zoom website link and phone numbers. Members may participate by calling in by phone, smartphone or computer. Others wishing to attend may get this information from the Commander.

USPS District 5 has Awarded NVSPS

2020 Commander's Award—Advanced Courses

2020 Caravelle Award—2nd Place



For greatest percentage increase in completions of Advanced Grade classes of the previous year.

For greatest percentage increase in completions of core Boat Handling, Piloting and Advanced Piloting courses.



Save these Saturdays!

Spring Picnic — May 22, Fairfax Yacht Club
Oktoberfest — October 16, Fairfax Yacht Club



Bridge Officers

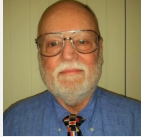
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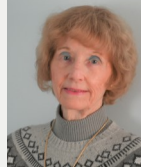
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SECRETARY

Lt/C Evelyn Alls, P
703-569-1511
secretary@nvsp.org



TREASURER

P/C Frederick D. Zugay, JN
703-815-1954
eaglebs271@cox.net



Meetings

If you do not receive an email notice about meetings, please contact a bridge officer to confirm in-person meeting will be held before heading out. Meetings will be held via Zoom unless otherwise noted in announcements.

General Membership Mtgs were normally 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.

Zoom Meetings: Login and call-in info for meetings via Zoom or other meeting software will be distributed by email and available from Bridge Officers.

Find us on 

**We have 311 likes!
347 followers!**

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
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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 and 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 or emailed 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 (or 15th of first issue month in combined issues) until further notice.

Volume LIV; Number 3: April 2021

EDITOR

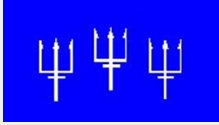
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Message from the Commander



Mid March 2021

Hello Boaters,

Summer is just days away and I, for one can't wait to get some time on the water this year. Are you and your boat ready too? As a kid, spring cleaning on the boat with dad was always a great bonding time for us. I learned so many valuable lessons on maintenance, and some life lessons too. The memories of spending time with dad on the water is something I will treasure for a life time. Educating and passing on our love of boating to the next generation is an incredible gift.



I am including in this edition of my letter, a picture of a project that I am working on. I loved Navigation Contests when I was growing up, and remember learning to use the tools. The sun compass in this picture was made by charter member Bill Abbott, and he and my father used it many years before I was born. I had been waiting for a package in the mail from mom with the contents of dad's boating briefcase. When I got the box in



the mail Friday, I ran in the house like a little boy (well, walked real fast anyway), I opened the box and the smell immediately filled my mind with youthful memories. As I carefully pulled out my father's navigation tools, I could see him leaning over the dinette table on our 1967 Chris Craft Constellation plotting course to the next waypoint. I hear him calling out "Mark" as my sister called out the time as he referenced a landmark on the chart. I carefully laid out the items and knew that my father will always be a part of me, the time he invested in me, and sharing the passion he had would not be lost.

As NVSPS is about to celebrate 54 years, do you have these sort memories with your parents or children? Please share them with us. If you don't, there is time to pass on your love of boating to the next generation. Get involved, make a difference, and pass on your passion. It may not be navigation contests, but your knowledge and experiences can help create a new boater.

Wishing you Happy Memories, and a Smooth Following Sea!

Yours truly,

CDR Patrick Sowers
Commander@TeamSowers.com

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IN MEMORIAM: Roberta “Robie” Shivik 1941 - 2021



Roberta Shivik, wife of Past Commander John Shivik, passed away on February 8, 2021 at age 80. She is survived by John, 6 children and their spouses, 12 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

John and Robie were active members of NVSPS for many years. When John became Commander, Robie was at his side charming everyone with her graciousness and sense of humor. She used her skills with ceramics to create decorations and gifts for the holiday party. They cruised the Chesapeake Bay in their 32' Silverton, *Grey Eagle*.

At Robie's funeral the priest told a story of how she and John met in Cuba. John was stationed at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station where her father worked as a civil service employee. Robie's parents invited the handsome young ensign to their home for Christmas where he first saw the beautiful coed who was home for the holidays. According to the priest, eight days later John proposed and Robie said "yes." They were married for 60 years.

Submitted by Jean Durgin



Thanks to Jeff Foulk with Argo for speaking at our March Membership Meeting about the Argo Navigation App

Argo is a free boating app that helps you make a route to your destination, share local knowledge and connect with other boaters. Designed for the Chesapeake Bay, choose your chart, manually choose route points or auto-route your path. It will show your speed and calculate ETA, let you keep logs, mark areas of interest, chat with friends, and share photos. It provides real-time reporting with notifications from other users, for example if they reported floating debris along your route, you can be notified. If it moves (which it always does) and others report its new location, then you have that updated info too. Visit <https://www.argonav.io/>





Message from the Education Officer

Online Basic Boating Safety Class in Spring

Dates and Times TBA. Sign up now to get information when available.
Contact NVSPS Educational Officer Lt/C Dean Markussen, AP,
MMarkussen2@comcast.net, 703-751-9178

Visit ABC Mid-Atlantic website for these conferences/events:
at <https://abc-midatlantic.org/>

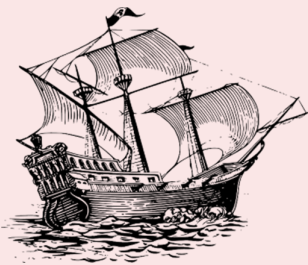
- District 5 Virtual Spring Conference April 5-9
- Delmarva Cruise Aug 20-23
- ABC Governing Board Meeting Aug 29-Sept 5, Raleigh, NC
- District 5 Fall Educational Conference, Nov 11-14, Lancaster, PA

Schedule a Vessel Safety Check for your boat by appointment in Northern Virginia

Contact P/C Rich Unis, JN at
703-777-8378 or skipperunis@gmail.com



VSC Info: <http://nvsp.org/vsc.shtml>



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!

21st Anniversary Celebration of Sailing
Sign Up! Show Up! Sails Up!



SUMMER SAILSTICE

June 19, 2021

summersailstice.com

Find us on 

You Help Keep Our Sea Scout Ship Afloat!

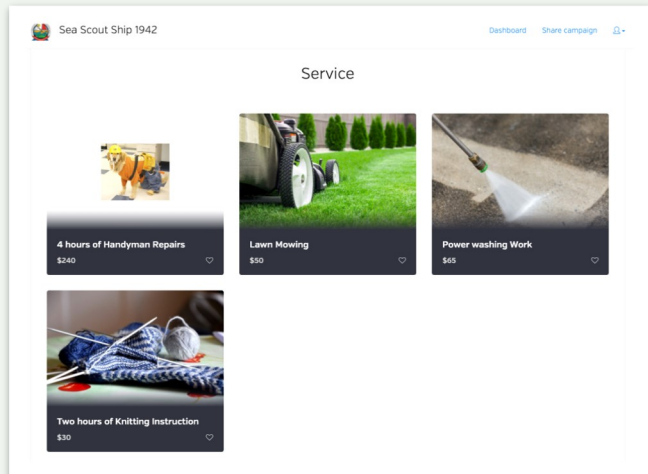
By Thomas Ackleson, Sea Scout Ship 1942, Boatswain



Sea Scout Ship 1942 typically holds a silent auction-style fundraiser in March of each year. We collect various items and services our Ship is able to provide, put them together in a big auction, and hold a massive dinner where invited guests can come to bid.

This event is about as COVID unfriendly as possible: shared food, confined space, yelling, person-to-person contact - the whole shabang. So, as with everything this past year, Ship 1942 moved it's annual auction *online* this year.

Using the online auction website Betterworld, Ship 1942 youth and adults were able to organize and host a full-fledged auction. We even went so far as to create a promotional video to advertise the event. To get the word out, each youth and adult member of the Ship crafted invitation emails that were sent to all of their friends and family - one Scout sent out over 170 invitations! Once we had enough attendees, the floodgates opened and the auction began.



Betterworld auction site presented a variety of services.

We had some pretty interesting things for people to bid on too: a mysterious bronze ship's wheel, various nautical artwork, and even handyman repairs! We received many of these items from NVSPS members; thank you all for your generosity in donating these items for our auction.

In the end we surpassed our fundraising goal, for which we are extremely grateful. The money raised goes directly towards our boat slips, maintenance costs, insurance, and keeping the price of Sea Scouts low for our members.

On behalf of everyone from Ship 1942, thank you to everyone who visited, donated items, bid, and gave cash donations to our cause. As we like to say: *you help keep our Ship afloat!*

About Sea Scouts

Sea Scout units – called ships- are established all across the country on oceans, bays, rivers, and lakes. They provide limitless opportunities and exciting challenges. Sea Scouts is a place to grow and learn, find adventure, and build long lasting friendships. Programs focus on sailing skills, safety, navigation and boat maintenance and leadership with youth-led activities under adult leader guidance, for young men and women ages 14-20. Sea Scout Ship 1942, located in Northern Virginia, visit

<https://www.seascoutship1942.org/>

*At our Annual Meeting
on March 9, 2021,
the following officers were
elected for the coming year:*



Open positions may be filled by the Executive Committee if and when a member who is willing and able to serve becomes available.

BRIDGE OFFICERS

Commander Cdr Patrick Sowers
Executive Officer P/C Charles Hurley, JN
Education officer Lt/C Dean Markussen, AP
Administrative Officer VACANT
Secretary Lt/C Evelyn Alls, P
Treasurer P/C Frederick Zugay, JN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT LARGE

P/C Alan Hart, AP
D/Lt Walter Lazear, AP
Lt Denise Robinson
P/Lt/C Cathleen Sheffield, AP
P/C Richard Unis, JN

RULES COMMITTEE

P/C Gale Alls, SN
P/C Richard Durgin, JN
P/Lt/C Cathleen Sheffield, AP
P/C Richard Unis, JN
POSITION VACANT

AUDITING COMMITTEE

P/C Richard Unis, JN
P/C Francis Williamson, AP
POSITION VACANT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

P/C Jere Dando, AP
P/C G. Jay Nelson, AP
P/C Richard E. Unis, JN
P/C Alan Hart, AP
POSITION VACANT

Submitted by P/C Alan Hart, AP



April Birthday!

Anna Torchinsky 19



Visit the NVSPS Ship's Store

For our burgee on duffel bags, hats, polo 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>

USPS Member Benefits

As a member of America's Boating Club®, you can save on many products and services. Due to our exclusive relationship with these terrific organizations, you can receive discounts on boating products, insurance, travel and lodging, and many more items. Scroll down to view all of our member benefits. See list of discounts online: <https://americasboatingclub.org/benefits>

Office Depot and Office Max - Office Depot and OfficeMax are now one company! Members save up to 80% off over 93,000 products. Shop online or in stores. <http://www.officediscounts.org>

Sea Tow - Sea Tow is now offering a 60 day free Sea Tow membership for any students who take any America's Boating Club® course. Members are eligible for a \$20 discount on their Sea Tow membership. Sea Tow also offers a free Automated Radio Check, a free mobile app and expert knowledge and advice from their captains. <https://www.seatow.com>

America's Boating Club Boat Insurance Program - Our Boat Insurance Program – created to meet the unique needs of America's Boating Club® members with discounts up to 38%. It is administered by McGriff, Seibels, & Williams, Inc. and underwritten by the Travelers Companies, Inc. <https://www.abcboatinsurance.com>

Vistaprint - Vistaprint offers an assortment of discounted business card templates for general members and Vessel Examiners – easily edited and promotes America's Boating Club® <https://americasboatingclub.go.customprintcenter.com/>

BoatUS - America's Boating Club® members enjoy premium discounts on BoatUS marine insurance policies, are eligible for a 10% discount on all water towing service levels. <https://www.boatus.com/business/cooperating-group-program>

Wyndham Hotel Group - Whether you are looking for an upscale hotel, an all-inclusive resort or something more cost-effective, America's Boating Club® members can save on rooms at over 7,500 participating hotels worldwide. Save 20% on Wyndham and Wyndham Group hotels. Ramada, Super 8, Days Inn, and more! <https://www.wyndhamhotels.com>

Boat Fix - As a member of America's Boating Club®, you will enjoy a \$20 discount off the one-time Boat Fix membership fee of \$149, which includes the Boat Fix monitoring device. <https://www.boatfix.co>

Autotether - As a member of America's Boating Club®, you will receive a 10% discount off your purchase. <https://www.autotether.com> (If you have trouble with this link, please contact USPS HQ)

DAN Boater - As part of America's Boating Club® membership, your membership includes the full protection of DAN Boater travel health and safety benefits at no additional cost* to you. When it's time to renew your annual membership, you may keep these valuable traveler safety benefits as part of your Individual or Family membership for only \$25.00*. <http://www.danboater.org/abc/>

AVIS - You can save up to 25% off your next car rental while experiencing the comfort and reliability that come with renting from Avis. <https://www.avis.com>

Budget - Make your budget go further by getting a great deal on a great car from Budget. As a America's Boating Club® member, you'll get an amazing deal every time you rent – up to 20 percent off Budget's great rates. <https://www.budget.com>

Maritech Industries - Maritech Industries manufactures a variety of essential boating safety gear and is offering a 25% discount to America's Boating Club® members on their products. <https://www.powerboatsafety.com> (if you have trouble with this link, please contact USPS HQ)

Hamilton Marine - A popular source for traditional marine hardware and supplies. Receive up to a 10% discount which is available on most items (excluding electronics) through their online store. <https://hamiltonmarine.com>

Virginia Bans Release of Non-Biodegradable Balloons

In February 2021, Virginia legislators approved fine for intentional release of all non-biodegradable balloons. Foil and latex balloons can harm marine wildlife. — <https://apnews.com/article/virginia-beach-legislation-virginia-environment-bills-94e8b8f41591bbb02b63a2382c5d58c4>

Boating Safety News

U.S. Coast Guard Announces New Law Requiring Use of Engine Cut-off Switches April 1— <https://www.boatus.com/news-room/release/new-boat-engine-cutoff-switch-law-goes-into-e>

Tom and Mel Neale's East Coast Alerts. Notices along the ICW— <https://www.boatus.com/subscribe>

If You Lose kayaks, canoes, surfboards, SUPS or any safety equipment such as life jackets, please report it to the Coast Guard to help our search and rescue specialists deconflict possible distress reports. <https://www.uscg.mil/Responsive/>

News

Thomas Point Lighthouse Tours Schedule Available — <https://uslhs.org/about/thomas-point-shoal-lighthouse/tours>

Emirates Team New Zealand Wins 36th America's Cup— <https://www.americascup.com/>

Bay Bridge Boat Show April 15-18. Sail and Power. Bay Bridge Marina, Stevensville, MD— <https://www.annapolisboatshows.com/annapolis-spring-sailboat-show/>

Oak Island Lighthouse, Caswell Beach, NC is the First LED lighthouse — <https://www.marinelink.com/news/us-coast-guard-upgrades-first-lighthouse-483744#:~:text=The%20U.S.%20Coast%20Guard%20said,Caswell%20Beach%2C%20N.C.%2C%20Monday>

Podcasts

NOAA Ocean Podcasts. Connect with ocean experts and explore topics from corals to coastal science — https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/podcast/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=GovDelivery

United States Lighthouse Society Podcasts— <https://news.uslhs.org/category/light-hearted/>



Claire Wyngaard found a floating balloon every day on two-week cruises in 2019 and 2020



Oak Island Lighthouse. Credit: U.S. Coast Guard

