

The Lighthouse

Official Newsletter of the Northern Neck Sail and Power Squadron
A D/5 SQUADRON AND UNIT OF USPS®

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Squadron Calendar

June

- 6 Safety Booth, Irvington
- 13 Great Wicomico rendezvous
ExCom Meeting
- 15-19 Nail and Sail

July

- 18 Taylor's Creek rendezvous
ExCom Meeting
- 27 **Instructor Development**

Jul - Aug Deadline

Please submit all articles for the July-August 2009 *Lighthouse* to Dick Horn by 16 June, rhornva@yahoo.com. Photos of squadron activities are especially welcome.



Great Turnouts in April and May



And the Conga line kept growing. Right to left: Judy Cook, Cdr Helen Kelley, Angie Crown, Bonnie Brown-Murphy and Ron Murphy. More photos on page 5.

Thirty-six members attended the 17 April meeting with Dyan and Mike Warren serving as meeting managers. Mike gave an informative and entertaining presentation on his recent experience in the delivery of a new Kadey-Krogen 55' trawler yacht. Thanks to Dyan and Mike for coordinating a great meeting. And thanks to Dick Whittaker for his generous donation of winnings from the 50/50 raffle to the squadron.

Many thanks to Helen Kelley and her rendezvous planning committee, Angie Crown, Lou Wilcoxon, Daphne Montgomery, Ron and Bette Sowers for their efforts in putting together ***Dancing Under the Stars*** on 9 May. Special thanks to Bette who created the splendid table centerpieces and to Arthur Olsen who demonstrated his expertise in the role of Chief Grill Master. Although a storm rolled in, the spirits of our 37 members and guests were not dampened as they danced the night away. Jim Colston and Ron Murphy, the disc jockeys for the evening, kept the music flowing and entertained with their comedic skill. Everyone had a great time dancing to the tunes of the 1950's, Caribbean music, polkas, slow dances, and joined in a sing-along to Jimmy Buffet songs. Thank you Cdr Dave Teets of the Richmond Squadron who won the 50/50 raffle and generously donated his winnings to NNSPS. Cdr Teets has joined NNSPS as an Associate Member - Welcome Aboard. We gratefully thank Fred Olverson for providing the Lodge Creek Marina pavilion for our summer season kick-off rendezvous, and to his staff for their assistance.

Lt/C Norm Tadlock, S

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From the Helm

Let the good times roll

Do you hear the echo of the Executive Officer's "Bravo Zulu" from April? I do. NNSPS members are definitely telling our story as evidenced by the large turnout at our April and May meetings, and a good outlook for three potential new members. Additionally, we welcome Mike and Linda Steele, and Henry Slack as members, and Cdr Dave Teets of the Richmond Sail and Power Squadron as an associate member – Welcome Aboard! We may have to find a larger meeting place if this continues. At the April meeting we inducted Bob Binsky as a new member, and awards were presented to Barbara Hensler, Dick Whittaker, Anne Wolski, and Gene Wolski for their many, many hours of service to our squadron.


The Idea/Suggestion Jar at our April meeting was a big success with 17 recommendations and comments received. Your Executive Committee is busy researching and planning on how to implement these ideas. The suggestion with the most hits was "Buy those fans Ray has." In second place was a request for P/C Judy Cook's cheesecake. Hopefully we can get her to bring it to one of our meetings. However, she may need assistant chefs to help in accommodating such a large crowd.

The May meeting and social was a resounding success as you will see in the Administrative Officer's article on page 1. We enjoyed the fares of our master grillers Norm Tadlock and Arthur Olsen, enjoyed music and nautical insights presented by Mid-Potomac's renowned Disc Jockeys Jim Colston, and Nansmond River's Ron Murphy.

Your Bridge Officers have completed their plans for the upcoming year for public and member courses, safety booths, marketing strategies, member activities, membership handbook, and much, much more.

A heartfelt *'Thank You'* to the entire NNSPS membership for their continued support in making our squadron a successful one, sharing their techniques for having fun while working, and continuing to *Tell Our Story*. Let's continue to "Let the Good Times Roll."

Cdr Helen Kelley, P



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Executive Officer

Busy, busy, busy

COMMUNITY SAFETY BOOTHS - Our squadron's Safety Booth will be at the Irvington Farmers Market Saturday, 6 June. The market runs from 0900 to 1300. We are looking for volunteers to be there at 0800. Our Point Man for Public Relations, Ray Reuter, has challenged us to:

- Increase boating safety awareness by motivating the public to visit our booth.
- Make the event more enjoyable to the volunteers by implementing a proactive rather than passive participation of squadron volunteers at public events.

To meet Ray's challenge, we plan to raffle several items from our Boat US Donation Collection. We will need members to not only fill "traditional" booth positions behind the table, but NNSPS volunteers to circulate and distribute free tickets to event participants, and to stand IN FRONT OF our safety booth to act as greeters to expound on our safety programs and check the tickets for completeness.

I bet some of you are thinking, "It's Saturday, I'd rather be boating." But, if you are out on your boat, and another boater appears to have his bow locked on your beam, wouldn't you rather that captain had taken a safety course taught by USPS? With increased visitations to our safety booths, we not only create public awareness of boating safety and the identity of the USPS squadrons as champions for boating safety, but the ticket information provides the names of potential boating course students, those desiring a VSC, and hopefully new squadron members.

The best way to get folks to join - whether it's our classes or our squadron - is to be a mirror and reflect the fun we have together. I look forward to seeing you there.

VESSEL SAFETY EXAMS - At our last meeting, several of our examiners reported running low on stickers and forms. What a great place to be in. Thank you, VSEs, for all your efforts.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MARKETING - Ray is working very hard on preparing for our first Safety Booth of the season and responding to

short notice opportunities that come our way.

CO-OP CHARTING - I attended the NOAA workshop in Norfolk and had a good time in spite of myself. In attendance were Districts from Maine to Florida. I came home with three types of NOAA reporting squadron members might be interested in: Small Craft Facility, Nautical Chart Update, and Coast Pilot updates.

Yes, Adopt a Chart is still being pushed. Yes, the Rappahannock Small Craft chart is one of the five. However, there are approximately 20 small craft charts between New York and Florida. These charts show captains nice to know information such as business phone number, website address, longitude and latitude, approach depth, services (gas, diesel, pump-out, number of transient slips, electricity) shore services (restaurant, lodging, toilets, showers, laundry), boat services (hull repair, motor repair, lift capacity), the things you need to know while transiting an area.

Both the Coast Pilot and Nautical Chart Updates take updated info on such things as aids to navigation, shoaling, missing landmarks and new ones. Our D/5 chairman, Steve Leishman, is great to work with and will do everything in his power to help you out. I have worksheet forms and contact information if anyone is interested.

Nautical Charts are now printed on demand with the latest information available. If you see a change, report it. Your fellow boaters will be glad you did.

Lt/C Bonnie Brown-Murphy, AP



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Educational Officer
Instructors needed!

We are expecting more and more people to take our public boating courses. We hope, after that experience, many will want to join USPS and avail themselves of our advanced and elective courses and/or seminars. We will need more instructors to meet that need.

We expect all of our instructors to complete the **Instructor Development (ID)** course. It is a way to improve already developed communication and teaching skills in a non-threatening environment. We have designed our course to allow each member to lead the teaching of a section of it. At the end of the course each student prepares and demonstrates one of the **ABC** or **Boat Virginia** sections. The class gets to see various approaches of all the students. It is a challenge and requires some preparation, but the sense of accomplishment is well worth the effort. And you then can be part of the squadron's instructor force - making boating safer and more rewarding.

Our next **ID** course begins on Monday, 27 July, at a time and place to be determined by the class (even the date can be changed). The class should conclude about the end of August.

So join up by letting me know of your interest.

Completed classes

By the time you read this, Dave Cook will have distributed take home exams to his **Piloting** class (Norm Tadlock and Barnaby Roberts) who have seven days to complete "the cruise" and other questions.

Ron Sowers, Arthur Olsen and I have passed the 100 question **Marine Electrical Systems** exam.

Congratulations to Ron and Arthur.

Five people were awarded their USPS and Virginia certifications on 25 April 2009 after completing the **Americas Boating Course**. Instructors were Judy and Dave Cook, Helen Kelley, Jim Harris, and Nancy and Twy Williams.



From the left, Twy Williams with ABC graduates Charles Gillmer, Maureen Gillmer, John Verrier, Judith Epps, Pete Epps, and Cdr Helen Kelley.

Four people completed the **Boat Virginia Course** given on 16 May in Callao. They were awarded Virginia wallet cards. Instructors were Dave and Judy Cook and Nancy and Twy Williams. We were disappointed that of eleven registrants only four showed up for this free boating course.

Many thanks to our instructors who taught and to Ray Reuter and each of you who helped advertise our public courses - fourteen more of our fellow boaters are safer on the waters we all enjoy.

Lt/C Twy Williams, SN

Poster Contest winners



Lancaster MS contest winners ((from left): 1st place, Justin Hudnall; 2nd place, Noah Hook; and 3d place, Joel Spiers.

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Secretary
ExCom meeting news

The ExCom meeting was held on 9 May, attended by Helen and John Kelley, Bonnie Brown-Murphy, Twy Williams, Norm Tadlock, Bette Sowers, Judy Cook, and me. Agenda items not covered in detail elsewhere in this issue include:

- Twy will contact the Omega Protein Co, offering a no charge **Boat Virginia** class for their employees. A similar offer is under consideration for Potomac Supply and Rappahannock General Hospital. A minimum of six students is required for each class
- Dyan and Mike Warren will attempt to get a speaker from Chesapeake Bay Magazine for our November meeting.
- The squadron will participate again in Kilmarnock's Scottish Days on 17 October. We will have the D/5 safety trailer and Seavester for the kids.

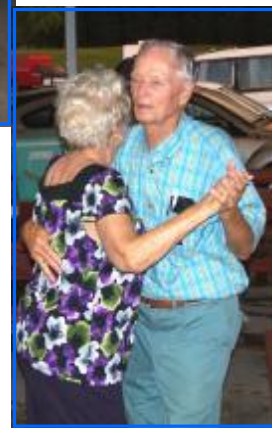
The next ExCom meeting will be on Saturday, 13 June, prior to the rendezvous.

Lt/C Angie Crown, P

Dancing under the stars



Cass and Fred Olverson (left) hosted the May rendezvous at the Lodge Creek Marina.



Ginny and Dick Whittaker (right) "cut the rug." Story on page 1.

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Nail and Sail

Call for volunteers
15-19 June (Monday- Friday)
1330-1600 each day

This is a great opportunity to teach and share your nautical experiences of sailing, canoeing, and kayaking with the younger folk of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. This is our way to say 'Thank You' for the church's most generous contribution to the squadron last year, and for the use of their building when we teach public boating safety courses. We supported this activity last year and everyone involved had a great time. Please contact Twy Williams, 804-529-5093, and let him know which days you can help. Looking forward to seeing you there in support of this significant youth work/play program.

Cdr Helen Kelley, P

Safe Boating Week Proclamation

On 20 May, approximately 40 USPS members of the Northern Neck, Colonial, and Richmond squadrons gathered at the newly renovated Virginia State House in Richmond. We were greeted by L. Preston Bryant, State Secretary of Natural Resources. The purpose of this meeting was the presentation of a Proclamation by Governor Timothy Kaine, declaring the week of 16 May as Safe Boating Week in Virginia. Gov Kaine was unable to attend due to a prior commitment in Washington, DC.



Ron Sowers presents the NNSPS burgee to Sec L. Preston Bryant as part of the USPS squadrons' visit to the Capitol for the Safe Boating Week Proclamation.

Secretary Bryant received a Northern Neck burgee on behalf of the Governor. He stated the importance of the Power Squadrons in teaching and promoting safe boating and how "our work has just begun." He also stated the

Continued on Page 7

Citizen Corps Council

USPS has signed a Statement of Affiliation with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Among other things, FEMA and USPS agreed to work in collaborative partnership to promote participation on State and local Citizen Corps Councils to support community-based, multi-sector preparedness planning for all hazards.

Specifically, Citizen Corps is looking for USPS squadrons to assist in promoting education, training and exercises, and volunteer service opportunities that support first responders, disaster relief, and community safety, to include support for Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training and other safety courses. I know Virginia Beach Power Squadron has participated in local planning and simulated disaster events.

John Kelley volunteered to look into this further on our squadron's behalf and I look forward to his report.

Lt/C Bonnie Brown-Murphy, AP

Did you know?

Vessel Safety Checks (VSC) can be made on all sorts of vessels, including personal water craft, canoes, rowboats, kayaks, and Zodiacs.



When you have your major boat(s) examined, why not have your other craft checked as well?

Mike Warren, 804-725-9344, mvwarren@esgi.net, would be happy to have one of our Vessel Safety Examiners make a free "house call" for your VSCs.

D/5 and NNSPS summer season events

- Plan to attend a **Late Spring Picnic on the River** on **13 June** hosted by Ray Winkel and Anna Roelofsen. Come by land or sea to the Great Wicomico River and enjoy fried chicken, hamburgers, bratwurst, corn on the cob, potato salad, broccoli salad, baked beans, fresh fruit, and homemade desserts. Let's have a wonderful turnout again in June! Specific directions to the rendezvous will follow in an e-mail, but for those coming by sea, note the 55 foot clearance on the Route 200 bridge.
If you will be joining us for dinner, please send in your RSVP by **6 June** to Paula Reuter, 804-453-3642, or reuters@northernneck.com, and mail your \$15.00 check to her at the following address: 44 Marina Point Road, Reedville, VA 22539.
- Dundalk Sail and Power Squadron invites D/5 squadrons to their **Northern Chesapeake Practice Navigation Contest and Rendezvous 26-28 June**. For Information call Howard and Connie Barry at 410-962-5482. Reservation must be in by June 12.
- **Richmond Sail and Power Squadron 3-5 July**, Olversons' Marina - Callao, Virginia. Register Early! The Deadline is 25 June. The contact is Cdr Dave Teets, 804-746-8664.
- Reminder: **D/5 Southbound Cruise Starts 17 July** at Annapolis Yacht Basin and ends at Cape Charles, Virginia **23-25 July**. NNSPS Coordinator is John Kelley. Give him a call for information, 804-436-0190.
- Also mark your calendar for the **18 July** rendezvous on Taylor's Creek hosted by Dave and Judy Cook.

*Cdr Helen Kelley, P
and Lt/C Norm Tadlock, S*

Seavester needs your help!

The National Safe Boating Council is sponsoring a "Floato" contest in support of boating safety. They hope to get out the message, "You can boat safely and have fun too."

The Floato receiving the most votes at the end of the contest will receive an iPod Nano. Seavester will put this to good use in his Safety Trailer for more asset base. Voting takes about 2 minutes and you are allowed to vote once a day.

If you click on the website below, you are taken directly to the Seavester page. Seavester is the cute Viking on the right of the web page. Click on the yellow rectangle under the picture,



fill in your name (first name is fine), add your e-mail address, click VOTE and you're finished.

One voter will also be selected for a prize, so if you give fictitious information and your name is drawn, you'll never know.

The contest ends midnight ET Monday, 7 September 2009. At this writing, Seavester is in first place by less than 75 votes. He needs your help.

VOTE EARLY AND OFTEN:

<http://floatoyourselfcontest.com/gallery/floato.php?guid=octeeekueicyyaaaaseo>.

Lt/C Bonnie Brown-Murphy, AP

Safe Boating Week Proclamation

Continued from page 6

importance of protecting the State's waterways.

We were treated to a guided tour of the Capitol building, including the historical rooms and memorabilia. Following the presentation, the group retired to Senate Room #3 for a delicious box lunch. Thanks to the Richmond Power Squadron for coordinating the tour and the presentation of the Proclamation. No small feat indeed!

Lt Ron Sowers, JN