

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

VALLEY FORGE



The Pilot

February-March
2020

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At the Feb. 5 ExCom:

- D/5 Conf. planning update
- Archive Committee update
- New members' party info
- Name tag update
- And more

Commander
Cdr Frank Visich, S



Boat show's coming!

Can you believe it is 2020? Seems like we just celebrated the change of the century. I hope everybody enjoyed the holidays with friends and family. I thought everyone who attended the holiday party at Glenhardie Country Club had a great time. The food was very good and having Pete Canella (aka Frank Sinatra) entertaining us put us all in a festive spirit. Using the main dining room this year gave us so much more room. The club manager told me they truly enjoyed us having our event with them.

A big thanks to all who donated to the Schuylkill River Sojourn. We collected \$375 to support their mentor program.

I am already dreaming of sailing on the Bay this spring. Although my boat is up on the hard, I have already started my "To Do List" of everything I need to have her ready to get back in the water. I did get down to the boatyard recently for those couple of 55-degree days, and started to sand off last year's bottom paint (my least favorite job). I finished most of it, but when the winds started to blow close to 30 knots, I chose to call it a day and not to be sanding under a 9-ton boat that was starting to shake on the jack stands.

The big project this winter is to add a real air conditioner to the boat. The marina has already started on this, and it should bring much needed relief to those unbearable nights this summer. I know Patti and Swabby are looking forward to a cooler boat too!

Even though we can't be on the water for a couple of months, plenty of events are on the calendar. In addition to some great dinner meetings, we have the Change of Watch ceremony on Sunday, March 22 at Downingtown Country Club. If you have never

Continued on Page 2

2019 - 2020 Bridge

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Asterisk (*) means the person has completed three or more elective courses after achieving AP grade.

Boat show's coming continued from Page 1

attended this special event, I highly encourage you to accept the invitation, which will be sent out shortly.

This year will be particularly special with our own P/R/C Bill McManimen, SN, presiding over the ceremony. Bill has recently been nominated as the National Educational Officer.

Another big event is the Greater Philadelphia Boat Show at the Expo Center in Oaks, PA March 6-8. We will have the Virtual Trainer at the booth again and it's always a big draw. In addition, we will promote America's Boating Channel along with information about our boating and safety courses. The boat show gives us the opportunity to attract new members and promote our new branding as "America's Boating Club® Valley Forge."

I have created a sign-up sheet for volunteering -- just follow this link to lend a hand staffing the booth: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044aa8a62ca0fe3-2020>.

When you joined our squadron, it was probably for the same reasons I did -- your love of boating and your need for more knowledge. That's why the mission of our squadron is so important. We emphasize boating safety by teaching boating classes and providing free Vessel Safety Checks (VSCs). We are trying to focus our activities on getting back on the water and what better place to prepare than with our courses and VSCs! This is what we do. This is what America's Boating Club® (ABC) is all about.

To do that we need good community involvement and public relations and that takes every single person in the squadron.

Just tell people you meet what we do and why we do it and spread the word. Sign up to work the booth at the boat show and meet people with a common interest. Encourage them to join us.

If you haven't participated in a squadron activity for a while, step up! We welcome -- to mix metaphors -- old hands and new blood. See the Wanted poster on Page 14 for another opportunity!

Click **here** to access us on Facebook.



Executive Officer
Lt/C Patty Pezely, AP



Help plan for the D/5 Spring Conference

I'm about a month away from being sworn in as Commander of our squadron I would like to thank outgoing Cdr Frank Visich for all his hard work, especially on establishing our branding to the new America's Boating Club® Valley Forge name. He has done a lot in 2019.

Over the next couple months, I will be working with several creative squadron members to develop an activity for the first night of the D/5 Spring Conference in Ocean City, MD, March 26-29. In past years, we have done skits, games and a variety of fun – and educational -- activities.

If you'd like to help plan this year's event, contact me or come to the meeting at my house at 2 pm Feb. 1.

The D/5 conference is both enjoyable and an excellent introduction to the various responsibilities of all the different squadron committees and positions.

Please come join us. Information can be found at <https://abc-midatlantic.org/>.

I am working on my 2020 vision for the

next year. (Thank you, Lance, for that pun.) We need to bring in new members and retain them. I'm not sure how this will happen, but I am looking forward to working with Megan Weber, Nick Montalto and Joe Pezely to come up with ideas involving social media, and I welcome ideas from other members on what keeps them interested in being part of an organization like ours. What grabs your attention?

In July I am excited about our Summer Cruise. We will start in the Baltimore Yacht Club on Sue Island, then the Lighthouse Point Marina in Baltimore. Next we head to the wonderful Castle Harbor Marina on Kent Island, then to the Chestertown Marina in the beautiful town of Chestertown, and we will complete our course in Haven Harbour Marina in Rock Hall.

You can come by boat (or car) for one or ore days. The full itinerary is on Page 16.

Be in touch! I look forward to hearing your ideas on how to grow ABC Valley Forge and how to keep it interesting.

New member joins ABC Valley Forge



Please welcome P/C Clarence W. Cramer as a member of our squadron. He has transferred here from the Kingsway squadron, which is disbanding.

You can reach him or his wife, Grace, at 609-410-9514 or at cramercw@gmail.com. His mailing address is:

727 Willow Valley Lakes Dr.
Willow Street, PA 17584-9443

Administrative Officer *Lt/C David Moretti, AP*



Speaker suggestions, please, and a transition

Hello, fellow members of America's Boating Club® Valley Forge.

WELCOME 2020. I hope that all of you had a very joyous holiday season and a Happy New Year. My wish for you is that whatever your aspirations, resolutions, or wishes may be for the year, that you are well on your way to realizing every one of them in a most fulfilling way!

Over the holidays, we had a great time at the Dec. 12 "Deck the Hulls Holiday Party" at Glenhardie Country Club. Not only did we enjoy catching up with each other, we also had a delicious, intimate dinner. Another highlight for me was Frank (aka Pete), the singer. Boy, did he have a smooth voice and eventually he inspired a few of you to get up and dance...and literally fall over each other (Ha, Ha, Sue and Rita). (Party photos are on Page 10.)

By the time of this publication, our January dinner meeting at Peppers Restaurant in King of Prussia will have already taken place. Bruce Fegan graciously volunteered to share his "Road Trip" experiences from towing his boat to the Sun Coast of Florida and cruising the Gulf of Mexico. Lots of laughs (and groans for Lisa) for sure.

Looking ahead, we'll conduct the Annual Meeting on Thursday, Feb. 20 at a new venue — Timothy's Restaurant of Lionville. They appear to offer a varied menu selection at a fair price.

At that meeting we'll also formally elect

officers for the upcoming year, along with the new nominating committee.

While I haven't yet identified a guest speaker, I'd be glad to hear any specific ideas you may have.

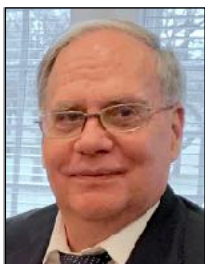
Look for an emailed flyer soon with additional details. In the meantime, SAVE THE DATE.

As for me, after much reflection, I've decided to pursue an opportunity that will take me out of the state for extended periods of time, beginning in early March. Embracing this opportunity is one of my aspirations for the year ahead.

While it is a tough decision, I've informed the nominating committee that I will not be transitioning into the Executive Officer role. I feel it is in the best interests of the squadron as I would be forced to serve much of the upcoming year in absentia. It's been a great experience and a pleasure to have been selected to serve as your Administrative Officer.

Although my immediate future will not include being a bridge officer, I look forward to joining future squadron events with the many friends I've made within ABC VF.

Wishing You a Nice (Quick) Winter Season!!!



Assistant Educational Officer D/LT James Heckman, SN

Good news: Nine ABC VF instructors recertified

Congratulations to the following members who recently completed the 2-hour Online Instructor Recertification Seminar. This is important because all instructors in the America's Boating Course must be certified. We are fortunate to have such a fine group of instructors.

Our reach is growing. David Bernard from Absecon Island Power Squadron participated in the seminar. As we notify other squadrons about our courses and seminars, I expect more guests will take them.

Thanks to Bill McManimen for teaching the seminar. Here are the recertifications. [IN stands for Inland Navigator; ON stands for Off-shore Navigator.]

P/C Gary E. Armstrong, SN-IN
Lt/C Wayne R. Barrett, JN
Cdr David R. Bernard, AP
P/C James R. Friedrichs, JN
Lt Susan M. Friedrichs, SN
D/Lt James L. Heckman, SN
P/C William R. Jones, SN-IN
P/C George M. Painter, JN
P/C Lance A. Parry, AP-IN
R/C William J. McManimen III, SN-ON

Instructor Development Course (ID)

Instructors will be Jim Heckman and Bill McManimen. Instructor Certification is mandatory for instructors teaching in the America's Boating Course (ABC) program. It is highly recommended that all instructors of United States

Power Squadrons® (USPS) courses complete this course and the recertification seminar.

The 8-week ID Course will run 7-9 pm beginning May 12 at Paoli Presbyterian Church. Please let me know if you plan to attend. The course schedule will depend on the number of students, to allow time for making required presentations.

ID is designed for all course instructors, assistant instructors, and proctors. Additionally, this course will benefit any person making a presentation before a group.

Thanks to Nick Montalto, Outgoing SEO

Our squadron members have been fortunate to have Nick Montalto as our educational officer. During the last three years he has planned, organized and scheduled our boating and membership courses. He has also taught many ABC classes during the last 6 years.

I know from experience that Nick is a very fine teacher. I was sitting in on one of our MLSPS courses when Nick was scheduled to give a 45-minute presentation. When Nick's time came, the instructor was still talking. Twenty minutes passed. Now Nick barely had half of his original time left. I decided that I could not possibly give the presentation in the remaining time. However, Nick, seemingly not stressed at all, gave a superb presentation. Only a talented instructor/speaker could pull that off.

Thanks again, Nick!

Educational Officer P/C Nick Montalto, SN



Take a course this Spring — or offer to help at one

Here are the spring classes being offered by our Valley Forge squadron instructors. Take one, and invite a friend or neighbor to enroll too.

USPS Piloting Course (Marine Navigation), 7 class sessions over 8 weeks, 7-9 pm Mondays at Bayard Rustin High School, West Chester

- Classes start March 16, 2020, and continue weekly through May 4. Note: There is no class April 13.
- Registration: Chester County Night School, <https://chestercountynightschool.org/>

America's Boating Course (ABC), 7 class sessions over 8 weeks*, 7-9 pm Tuesdays at Stetson Middle School, West Chester

- Classes start March 17, 2020, and continue weekly through May 5. Note: There is no class Tuesday, April 28.
- *Classes on April 14, 21 and May 5 are dedicated to VHF radio, knots and lines and Marine charts/plotting, and are held with the USCG boating Auxiliary class
- Registration: Chester County Night School, <https://chestercountynightschool.org/>

America's Boating Course (ABC), one day,

Saturday, April 4, 2020, Entire Course 8:30-4:30, at Clews & Strawbridge, Malvern

- Registration: See Note below

America's Boating Course (ABC), one day, Saturday, April 11, 2020, Entire Course 8:30-4:30, at Stoltzfus RV's & Marine, West Chester

- Registration: See Note below

America's Boating Course (ABC), one day, Saturday, April 25, 2020, Entire Course 8:30-4:30, at Clews & Strawbridge, Malvern

- Registration: See Note below

Instructor Development (ID), 8 weeks, 7-9 pm Tuesdays at Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli

- Classes start May 12, and continue weekly until June 30
- Registration: Jim Heckman at JLHeckman4929@gmail.com

Navigation (Celestial Navigation), one on-line class in May, the rest in September, 7:30-9:30 pm, date to come

- Registration: See Note below

NOTE: For details, contact either outgoing SEO Nick Montalto at nick.montalto@usps.com or incoming SEO Jim Heckman at JLHeckman4929@gmail.com.

Thanks to Clews & Strawbridge and Stoltzfus RV's and Marine for providing classroom space for our boating courses.



CLEWS & STRAWBRIDGE





Fleet Captain
P/C Jim Friedrichs, JN*

Shoals and holes — update your charts to show them

Good news: Dredging has restored access to some of the gunk holes on the Chesapeake. Here are the ones on the northern Chesapeake:

- Carr's Creek off the Severn River in Annapolis.
- Cattail Creek off the Magothy River.
- Cypress Creek to Shady Side, 39 deg 4 min 22.31 sec N, 76 deg 31 min 32.07 sec W, off of the Magothy River.
- Dogwood Harbor and Tongers Basin on the eastern side of Tilghman Island.
- Parish Creek off of the West River.

“The Lord giveth and The Lord taketh away.” These areas are experiencing shoaling:

- St. Peter's Creek from Entrance Light 1 SP to Day Beacon 2.
- Little Choptank River, Slaughter Creek Light 2 SC and Buoy 6 to Buoy 8.

Shoaling of the Northeast River continues. The fairway has always been narrow and continues to narrow such that the following changes have been proposed. No schedule for the work is currently available, so the prudent boater should make the changes on the appropriate chart and use them for navigation as they are the recommended navigation points.

- Change Susquehanna River Junction Lighted Buoy A to Susquehanna River Junction Light SN.
- Change Northeast River Lighted Buoy 2 to

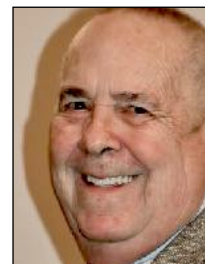
Northeast River Light 2 with 2.5-second red light and TR dayboards.

- Change Northeast River Buoy 4 to Northeast River Light 4 with a flashing 4-second red light and TR dayboards.
- Change Northeast River Buoy 5 to Northeast River Lighted Buoy 5 with a flashing 2.5-second green light.
- Relocate Northeast River Lighted Buoy 6 to 39 deg 32 min 36.410 sec N, 76 deg 58 min 22.280 sec W.
- Relocate Northeast River Buoy 7 to 39 deg 33 min 10.414 sec N, 75 deg 58 min 30.304 sec W.
- Change Northeast River Light 8 to Northeast River Lighted Buoy 8 at 39 deg 33 min 41.080 sec N, 75 deg 58 min 19.520 sec W with flashing 2.5-second red light.
- Discontinue Northeast River Buoy 9.
- Change Northeast River Light 10 to Northeast River Lighted Buoy 10 at 39 deg 34 min 21.480 sec N, 75 degrees 57 min 51.090 sec W.
- Discontinue Northeast River Daybeacon 12.
- Discontinue Northeast River Light 14.
- Discontinue Northeast River Buoy 16.
- Discontinue Northeast River Light 17.

Be advised that NOAA electronic navigational chart range lines may not reflect the true location of the range structure.

If you have any questions concerning the above, please contact me.

Safety Officers *Deborah and Bill Northey*



Banish winter blues with classes, videos

It's winter and you've got those winter blues thinking about what you did last season and what you hope to do this season. If the engine starts and the toilet flushes, life will be good.

There are more things you could do to get rid of those blues. Start looking at all those new catalogs and check out all the new play toys and the new safety items.

If that doesn't satisfy your need, how about signing up for some boating courses? As you know, America's Boating Club® courses are especially interesting and promote boating safety.

Our squadron is presenting several courses this spring. Check out the possibilities on Page 6

and on the calendar at the end of this newsletter.

If you want to take an online course, visit the americasboatingclub.org/learn web site. It is a great place to talk boating and compare sea stories.

Don't forget America's Boating Channel™ videos at <https://americasboatingchannel.com/> and on YouTube (some of which feature our own squadron members.) New videos appear Fridays. The channel is covering US Sailing Team as it prepares for the Olympics this year.

After checking out all those options, spring will have arrived and you'll ready to put what you have learned into action. Safe boating!

Don't be slip-sliding; walk this way to your mailbox or boat

By D/Lt/C Jeff Short, JN-IN
Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron

(This article is condensed and edited from the Anchor Watch newsletter of Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron. The full text is at <https://www.aspsmd.org/anchorwatch.htm>.)

As I was walking out to get the mail the other day, it came to me that one of the most dangerous places you can go this winter might be to your own mailbox. It had rained a bit, and the temperature had dropped to near freezing. Though I could not be sure, I suspected that my path to the mailbox could be slippery. In the

winter, simply walking to the mailbox can be very dangerous.

I consider myself an expert on safe winter walking. I have worked many shifts in a tiny emergency room in the Alaska Bush, most of it in the dead of winter, and I always walked to and from the hospital. The route is on unimproved dirt roads and tundra. In good weather it takes about 30 minutes. But when it is icy, that walk is nerve wracking, downright dangerous, and could take twice as long.

How best do we remain safe while simply walking in winter?

Continued on Page 9

Walk this way to avoid slip-sliding Continued from Page 8

The single most important thing you can do is to wear appropriate footwear. Lace-up boots or shoes with grippy rubber or neoprene composite soles are best. Lace them up tight so your feet don't slide inside the shoe.

Slip-on foul weather sailing boots, or shoes with slick leather or plastic soles are not safe in icy conditions. I don't know how many times I have been told, as I was setting a fractured arm or suturing a lacerated forehead in an emergency room, "I was just going to check the mailbox. It was only going to take a second so I threw on my bedroom slippers."

Dedicate yourself to safely getting to your destination. Put away the cell phone. Do not carry anything in your arms; use a backpack to keep your arms free. Keep your hands out of your pockets; you may need them for balance or to break a fall. Better to land on an outstretched arm than on your head.

Adopt an athlete's stance: Bend slightly forward at the waist. Keep your stance wide, feet about shoulder width apart with your knees slightly bent. Hold your arms slightly out from your sides to help keep you stable and maintain

balance if one foot should slip. You should look much like a baseball shortstop or football line-backer ready for action.

Avoid walking heel-toe as you normally would. Instead, use more of a shuffling, slow, purposeful gait keeping your feet flat, increasing your contact with the ground. Keep your body weight directly over the foot that is in full contact with the ground. When negotiating stairs, use hand rails if available. And wear gloves or mittens to protect your hands if you do fall.

Before getting out of your car, open the door and look where you are about to step. If you see ice or slick spots, consider moving your car to a better location. When walking near traffic, be sure that your scarf and hat do not muffle sounds.

Give yourself plenty of extra time; you do not want to be in a hurry when it's slippery out.

Remember these tips when you check your boat in the boat yard or at the dock. Always wear a life jacket when down on the dock this winter and know where the ladder is to get out of the water in hurry if you accidentally slip and go in.

Be safe while walking this winter even if you're just walking to check the mailbox.

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Meridith and Wayne Barrett



Chuck and Debbi Pellegrini



Beth and Dave Moretti

ABC Valley Forge's Holiday Party drew nearly 40 party goers to Glenhardie Country Club in December. They enjoyed dinner and good times, dancing and singing. They also donated \$375 toward the mentor program of the Schuylkill River Sojourn.



Rita Rossi and Sue Friedrichs rock out to "Runaround Sue"



Megan and Brad Humphrey



Max and Sally Richter



Frank and Patti Visich



Patty and Cliff Shaw



Joe and Kathy Gibbons

Thanks to photographers Rita Rossi, Patty Pezely, and Meridith Barrett

Notice of Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

The America's Boating Club® Valley Forge Nominating Committee has submitted the names of candidates proposed for bridge offices and elected committees in the squadron for the 2020-2021 year. Members of our squadron will vote on the nominees, and the members to serve on the next nominating committee, at the Feb. 20 Annual Meeting at Timothy's Restaurant in Lionville. They are:

Bridge Officers

Office:

Commander
Executive Officer
Administrative Officer
Educational Officer
Assistant Educational Officer
Secretary
Treasurer

Nominee:

Patty Pezely
(no nominee)*
(no nominee)*
James Heckman
Joe Gibbons
Cynthia Gorge
Wayne Barrett

Executive Committee:

Includes 28 members at large, listed below, plus Bridge Officers and the most recent P/C

Gary Armstrong	James Friedrichs	Robert Long	Lance Parry
Meridith Barrett	Susan Friedrichs	William McManimen	Joeseeph Pezely
John Beardsley	Kathy Gibbons	Nicholas Montalto	Charles Rossi
Maryanne Boettjer	Michael Gibson	William Northey	Rita Rossi
Elizabeth Corbin	Barbara Jones	Deborah Northey	Patricia Visich
Bruce Fegan	W. Russ Jones	George Painter	Megan Weber
Lisa Fegan	John Juzbasich	Virginia Parry	Susan Woron

Audit Committee: (2-year terms, alternating) James Herron and Jan Painter

Rules Committee: (3-year terms, staggered) George Painter, Nicholas Montalto, W. Russ Jones

Procedure:

If elected, the candidates will assume their respective offices at the squadron's Change of Watch scheduled for March 22, 2020.

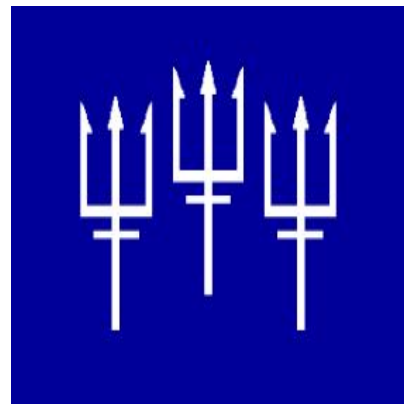
Additional nominations for elective offices may be made by petition in writing signed by at least five active members in good standing and filed with the secretary at least 15 days before the date of the election. *Nominees for vacant positions may also be made from the floor at the annual meeting.

Nominating Committee: Elect 5 of 7 nominees

At the regular squadron meeting on Jan. 23, 2020, seven persons were nominated to the 2020-21 Nominating Committee: Meridith Barrett, Susan Friedrichs, Lance Parry, Joe Pezely, Cliff Shaw, Frank Visich, and Susan Woron. Squadron members will vote for five of them at the Annual Meeting on Feb. 20, 2020. The five candidates with the most votes will constitute the Nominating Committee.

Change of Watch and Commander's Dinner in honor of Frank Visich Sunday, March 22, 2020

Cocktails 4:00 PM
Dinner 5:00 PM
Ceremony 6:00 PM



The Change of Watch ceremony is the America's Boating Club® Valley Forge members' opportunity to support our organization and to honor our leaders. The Change of Watch marks the official installation of the new Bridge Officers for the upcoming year. The ceremony also allows us to thank the outgoing officers, especially **Commander Frank Visich, S**, for a job well done.

We're honored to have the honor of the presence of Bill McManimen, SN, the National Educational Officer, to assist in the installation of our next commander, **Patty Pezely, AP**. Please attend to show how Valley Forge members support our Squadron and District by coming out for the Change of Watch. The ceremony will be a brief highlight of an enjoyable evening.



Downingtown Country Club
93 Country Club Drive
Downingtown, PA 19335
610-873-0800

Please RSVP by March 10

Menu

Downingtown House Salad

Choice of: Chicken Marsala, Pesto Grilled Cedar Plank Salmon,
or Sirloin and mushrooms with seasonal vegetables and starch
Cheesecake

Reservation

Name(s) _____

Entrée Selection: ☐ Salmon ☐ Chicken ☐ Sirloin

Amount: \$49. pp ☐ (# of people) x \$49. = _____

RSVP to: Barb Jones at bjonesann@verizon.net or 610-873-1576

Mail checks to: 115 Oak St., Downingtown, PA 19335

Make checks payable to MLSPS

Anchors aweigh — Animations for boat handling seminars

By *James Heckman, SN*
Asst. Educational Officer

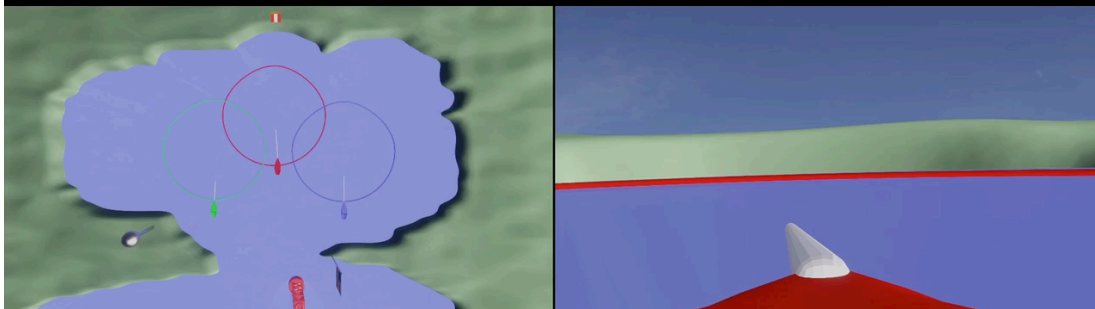
I am creating several animations as part of a group developing six online Boat Handling seminars.

Each seminar will have a student guide, a narrated PowerPoint and a discussion session with different scenarios.

The scenarios will be presented as text, static images, or as animations.

The students will be asked to review the scenarios and be prepared to participate in a discussion about them.

The adjacent animation will be one



At left, aerial view of three boats swinging at anchor in a tight cove. At right, the view from the helm of the red boat as it rotates.

of 10 animations which will be used to facilitate a discussion about anchoring.

Like all the scenarios, the animations will give the students a chance to apply what they've learned.

Please let me or Ginny Parry know if you would like to learn more about how the animations are created.



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WANTED: Administrative Officer

Our Squadron this year is looking for an Administrative Officer. This is an opportunity to become a member of the Bridge and help guide the Squadron in its activities.

It is a very important position but not a difficult one. Plenty of folks will work with you to make it an enjoyable and unforgettable experience.

Help plan meetings; help steer our ship!

Just think, you'll meet once a month with the squadron leaders at the Executive Committee meeting. (You'll even get a squadron pennant to display on your boat.)

**REWARD: It really is
a fulfilling position!**

Find out more from Cdr Frank Visich at
frank.visich@verizon.net
or at 610-551-4403

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wrenches13@aol.com

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Update your Roster info now

Have you changed your email address, ditched your land line, gotten a new cell phone number? Bought or sold a boat? Registered a MMSI?

If any of these things are true, contact Patty Pezely by April 1 at pattypezely@gmail.com to update your info.

Get Noticed in The Pilot

Place your ad where boaters will see it — in the newsletter of America's Boating Club® Valley Forge.

- Advertise in 1 issue or all 6. Your ad can start in any issue — February, April, June, August, October or December. Change the design for free between issues.
- Choose a size: 1/8 page — \$10 per issue or \$50 for a year; 1/4 page — \$20 per issue or \$100 per year; 1/2 page — \$40 per issue or \$200 per year.
- Contact pilot@mainlinesps.org for more information.



Operations Training

Learn how stuff works!

P/C Susan Woron will teach
Operations Training at her home
SUNDAY, Feb. 2 from 1 to 4 pm.



207 Chandler Drive, West Chester, PA 19380
Please contact Susan at sworon54@gmail.com
or 484-467-6705 if interested in attending.

You'll review the Operations Manual of the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) that contains guidelines and information for all members. It will assist you with becoming familiar with the procedures, programs, duties, methods of operation, and schedules of USPS so that our organization functions more efficiently, and you can be more knowledgeable.

*United States Power Squadrons®
Operations Manual, 2019*

Briefly Noted



US Space Force, Paramount Pictures via CNN.

Space Force logo — CNN reports that the new **U.S. Space Force** logo seems to boldly go where one logo has gone before.

President Trump posted an image on Twitter of the insignia for the newest branch of the U.S. military, drawing immediate comparisons of the new logo to the "Star Trek" **Starfleet Starship duty insignia**. The logo is also similar to the insignia of the Air Force Space Command, which was the precursor to the Space Force, **hosting 16,000 active duty airmen** and civilians.

A Space Force spokesperson confirmed in a statement that the seal, chosen and unveiled by Trump is, in fact, the new official logo.

"The U.S. Space Force seal honors the Department of the Air Force's proud history and long-standing record of providing the best space capabilities in the world," the spokesperson said. "The delta symbol, the central design element in the seal, was first used as early as 1942 by the U.S. Army Air Forces; and was used in early Air Force space organization emblems dating back to 1961."

Merit Mark update — Cdr Frank Visich has been awarded a Merit Mark for his efforts in 2019, bringing his total to 3. His name was not included in the list in the December 2019 Pilot.

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2020 ABC VF Commander's Summer Cruise

Permission to come aboard the America's Boating Club® Valley Forge 2020 Commander's Summer Cruise.

Incoming Commander Patty Pezely has chosen three new ports for this year's cruise, in Baltimore, Kent Island and Chestertown. See the full list below. The cruise is July 10 to 18.

We estimate that 15 to 20 boats will join us. Plan now to be among them! Sign up for a day, a weekend or the whole trip. Or drive and meet us.

Look for an array of activities, including

a beach party, dinner at several great restaurants, more of our celebrated boat crawls, the infamous "forward throttle award" ceremony of course, and others still in development. Details will appear in a subsequent article.

You can sign up for activities, all of which are optional, at our May 21 pre-cruise dinner.

Don't miss this annual cruise! Something exciting always provides wonderful memories.

If you are new to boating, please join us for all or part of the cruise. We can team you with another similar boat if you like.

Please complete this form and indicate the nights for which you will require a slip. Then send it to P/C Russ Jones, 115 Oak Street, Downingtown, PA 19335. (We'll talk about money later.)

Boat Name: _____ Captain: _____ Cell number: _____

Boat Make: _____ Boat Model: _____ Length: _____ Beam: _____ Draft: _____

Type: ☐ Power; ☐ Sail **Electric:** ☐ Single 30; ☐ Dual 30; ☐ Single 50; ☐ Dual 50

- ☐ **Friday, July 10 – Baltimore Yacht Club – Sue Island**
- ☐ **Saturday, July 11 – Baltimore Yacht Club – Sue Island**
- ☐ **Sunday, July 12 – Lighthouse Point Marina – Baltimore**
- ☐ **Monday, July 13 – Lighthouse Point Marina – Baltimore**
- ☐ **Tuesday, July 14 – Castle Harbor Marina – Kent Island**
- ☐ **Wednesday, July 15 – Castle Harbor Marina – Kent Island**
- ☐ **Thursday, July 16 – Chestertown Marina – Chestertown**
- ☐ **Friday, July 17 – Chestertown Marina – Chestertown**
- ☐ **Saturday, July 18 – Haven Harbour Marina, Rock Hall**

Highlights from minutes of Dec. and Jan. ExComs

December — Bill McManimen has been nominated to be National Education Officer. Jim Heckman received an award from D/5 for his animation.

ABC VF has 112 members, the third largest in D/5. Annapolis leads D/5 with 164 members. Some D/5 clubs are disbanding and we may be able to recruit members from them.

Cdr. Visich reported that new ABC VF stickers are available at two for \$5.

Nick Montalto, outgoing SEO, reported that Jim Heckman is the incoming SEO and will need instructors and teaching assistants.

Also needed: PR person and a social media guru.

AO Dave Moretti floated the idea of bowling as a fun activity.

January — Christmas party was a success at Glenhardie CC. Members' donation of \$375 will go to the Schuylkill River Heritage Sojourn.

Change of Watch will be March 20 or 21 at Downingtown CC. (*Editor's Note: Date is now Mar. 22.*)

John Beardsley reported the Nominating Committee has not identified anyone to stand for executive officer, administrative officer or secretary. Russ and Barb Jones, John Beardsley and Chas Rossi offered to help arrange some dinner meetings in coming year. Cindy Gorge agreed stay as secretary but miss a few meetings. It was decided that these new measures would complete the officer slate for the coming year.

The Vanguard Fund Committee determined \$1853.26 in dividends will be available to the incoming commander, Patty Pezely, and it will transfer up to that amount to the operating budget.

Members' birthdays — light some sparklers!

JANUARY

Robert F. Alexander	01/01
Katherine Dix	01/01
Kathryn E. Gibbons	01/01
Tom A. Payne	01/01
Marjorie W. Peterson	01/16
Gary E. Armstrong	01/17
John K. Sheldrake	01/19
Wayne R. DiFrancesco	01/22
Patricia A. Visich	01/22
Robert H. Heyser	01/23



FEBRUARY

Christine A. Blake	02/07
Elizabeth Corbin	02/07
James R. Friedrichs	02/10
William Northey	02/10
David A. Moretti	02/11
Clifford Shaw	02/11
David Bell	02/13
Richard A. McLaughlin	02/20
William A. Cozzens	02/22
Janet L. Louvet	02/24



The Pilot
February-March 2020



RESERVATION FORM
United States Power Squadrons D/5 Spring Conference
26 - 29 March 2020
Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City, Maryland



MEMBER: Rank _____ Name _____ Grade _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
SQUADRON _____ POSITION _____ FIRST TIMER? _____
E-mail _____ PHONE _____

SPOUSE/OTHER ATTENDEES:

Rank _____ Name _____ Grade _____ First Timer? _____
Rank _____ Name _____ Grade _____ First Timer? _____

MENU SELECTIONS

SATURDAY LUNCH:

Lunch Sandwich Buffet:

Sliced Meats to include Roast Beef, Roast Turkey, Baked Ham, and Salami with American, Swiss and Provolone Cheeses, Lettuce, Sliced Tomatoes and Onions, Pickles with Assorted Rolls and Breads, Pasta Salad, Potato Salad and Potato Chips Brownies and Blondies, Coffee, Tea, Decaf Coffee & Iced Tea Stations # ____ @ \$25.00 = \$ ____

SATURDAY BANQUET ENTREE CHOICES:

Beef Bourguignon with Red Wine, Mushrooms, Onions and Carrots Served with Mashed Potatoes # ____ @ \$38.00 = \$ ____

Marinated Salmon Filet served with a Lemon Dill Sauce and Rice Pilaf # ____ @ \$36.00 = \$ ____

Vegetarian / Gluten Free Vegetable Stir-Fry served over Rice # ____ @ 27.00 = \$ ____

Selections served with:

House Salad w/ choice of Dressings or a Spinach Salad with Balsamic Vinaigrette Dressing, Seasonal Vegetable, Rolls & Butter and Chef's Selection of Desserts Coffee, Tea, Decaf Coffee, & Iced Tea Stations

Dietary Restrictions: _____
(Gluten Free Option Available)

Children: Chicken Tender and Fries # ____ @ \$17.00 = \$ ____

Total Enclosed: \$ ____

Make Checks Payable to: DSPS

SEND TO: P/C Douglas Riley, AP

623 Wilton Road

Towson, MD 21286

E-mail: DouglasBRiley@outlook.com

**MEAL RESERVATIONS must
be received by 18 March 2020**

Recommended Dress for Banquet: Uniform A with bowtie or suitable civilian attire.
Dress Code for other portions of the Spring Conference will be published separately

MAKE ROOM RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY WITH HOTEL - Call Reservations Dept. at 800-476-9253

Use the Reservation ID Code: U.S. Power Squadron, District 5. Our group rate is 4844.

Princess Royale Hotel

9100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Maryland

Non-Smoking Venue - Handicapped Rooms available on a request basis

Rates: Ocean view/pool view Suite: \$121.00 per night Ocean Suite: \$167.00 per night
2BR/2BA Oceanfront Condo: \$259.00 per night, 3BR: \$289.00 per night
(Rates listed above do **not** include taxes)

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 15 MARCH 2020 TO ENSURE USPS RATES

50 years of boating adventures

James Affleck of Gladwyne was recognized for a half century of membership in the Main Line Sail and Power Squadron (now America's Boating Club® Valley Forge) at our annual holiday party. He and his wife, Sally, both avid boaters, attended.

Later Jim reflected on some of their experiences. Following are excerpts from what he wrote. The full text is on our web page at <http://mainlinesps.org/affleck.aspx>.

My family and I have had boats since around 1950; first at Neshaminy Creek, and since 1963 at Duffy Creek Marina in Georgetown, MD.

It was a cold rainy day on Memorial Day weekend 1963 when I wrote my first check for a small cabin boat. That proved to be good practice for the hundreds, if not thousands, of checks I have since written for boats, dockage, electricity, parts, oil, gasoline, batteries, boat clubs, marine apparel, sandpaper, paint, tools, diesel fuel, entertainment, and more.

The first of several wood boats was a 20-foot open boat with an inboard motor which served as a good "learning" boat. Partly made of oak, the boat was seaworthy. A later boat was a 21-foot Chris Craft kit, largely plywood. It was not the strongest boat, but we cruised the upper Chesapeake and the Jersey Shore in it. Later we acquired a dual engine 38-foot Chris Craft, and cruised the middle and upper Bay.

In 1983 we bought a Chris Craft houseboat. It was not especially seaworthy but had many conveniences -- dishwasher, washer, dryer, on-demand generator, garbage disposal, air conditioning and heat. It sank at its slip one winter, was eventually restored, then sold. Then we bought a wonderful 55-foot Chris Craft, which was a lot of work. We also had a diesel-powered sailboat, and raised the sails several times.

About 10 years ago we bought a 36-foot Sea Ray Express, which is much easier to maintain.

While cruising was fun, we also enjoyed the challenge of maintenance, accruing an array of tools and parts. Now we cruise a lot less and my desire to per-



form maintenance on anything has waned.

We also were fortunate to have several smaller boats to use for swimming in the Sassafra River. "Swimming" is a nautical expression which involves walking in the water, drinking wine, eating hors d'oeuvres and generally getting ready for dinner. Very little actual swimming is involved.

Many rules and procedures have changed in our boating years. In an early Coast Guard class it was suggested to puncture soda and beer cans at both ends so the cans would sink. In rough water the textbook suggested hanging an open oil can over the bow so the film of oil would prevent waves from breaking. My boats were not large enough to hang 55-gallon oil drums over the bow so we were unable to employ this procedure. Heads were direct discharge.

We were fortunate to go on several MLSPS cruises with our children and their friends. They were all fun but never without some problems. One involved a trip to the Red Eye Grill at Kent Narrows where my son and his best friend, Minshall Painter, ate so many shrimp and crabs that the grill gave up its all you-can-eat policy.

I always enjoyed the Christmas dinners which reviewed the many cruise events that had gone awry; nearly everyone won an award for something. Some were the equivalent of a six-way tie for the seventh runner-up for the most awkward event.

We have been on a number of trips to South Carolina and Florida. Our remaining boating days will be largely restricted to the Sassafra River.

Best regards to everyone from us both!

Joseph E. Gibbons & Company

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AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

VALLEY FORGE

2020-2021 Calendar

February

- 1 D/5 planning meeting at the Pezelys' house, 2-4 pm
- 2 Operations Training Class at Susan Woron's house, 1-4 pm; info on Page 15
- 5 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm
- 8 New Members' party at the Fegans' house, 4 pm; RSVP to Lisa
- 9-15 America's Boating Club® National Conference, Ponte Vedra, FL; signup link on Page 23
- 20 Annual Meeting and Election of Officers, Timothy's Lionville, 120 Eagleview Blvd.,
Exton, PA 19341, cocktails at 6, dinner at 6:30; details to come

March

- 4 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm
- 6-8 Greater Philadelphia Boat Show, Oaks, PA; signup link on Page 2
- 16 Marine Navigation CCNS week 1, Bayard Rustin H.S., West Chester, 7-9 pm; see Page 6
- 17 America's Boating Course CCNS week 1, Stetson Middle School, West Chester, 7-9 pm; see Page 6
- 22 Change of Watch – Downingtown Country Club, 4-8 pm; signup form on Page 12
- 23 Marine Navigation CCNS week 2, Bayard Rustin H.S., West Chester, 7-9 pm
- 23 *Pilot* articles deadline
- 24 America's Boating Course CCNS week 2, Stetson Middle School, West Chester, 7-9 pm
- 26-29 D/5 Spring Conference, Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City, MD; registration form on Page 18
- 30 Marine Navigation CCNS week 3, Bayard Rustin H.S., West Chester, 7-9 pm
- 31 America's Boating Course CCNS week 3, Stetson Middle School, West Chester, 7-9 pm

April

- 1 Deadline to send roster updates to Patty Pezely: pattypezely@gmail.com
- 1 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm
- 4 America's Boating Course, Clews & Strawbridge, Malvern, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; see Page 6
- 6 Marine Navigation, CCNS week 4, Bayard Rustin H.S., West Chester, 7-9 pm
- 7 America's Boating Course, CCNS week 4, Stetson Middle School, West Chester, 7-9 pm
- 11 America's Boating Course, Stoltzfus RV's & Marine, West Chester, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; see Page 6
- 13 **No** Marine Navigation
- 14 *America's Boating Course CCNS week 5, Stetson Middle School, West Chester, 7-9 pm
- 16 April Dinner Meeting, TBD
- 20 Marine Navigation, CCNS week 5, Bayard Rustin H.S., West Chester, 7-9 pm
- 21 *America's Boating Course, CCNS week 6, Stetson Middle School, West Chester, 7-9 pm
- 25 America's Boating Course, Clews & Strawbridge, Malvern, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; see Page 6

Continued on next page

2020-2021 Calendar, continued

27 Marine Navigation, CCNS week 6, Bayard Rustin H.S., West Chester, 7-9 pm

28 **No** America's Boating Course

May

4 Marine Navigation, CCNS week 7, Bayard Rustin H.S., West Chester, 7-9 pm

5 *America's Boating Course, CCNS week 7, Stetson Middle School, West Chester, 7-9 pm

6 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm

12 Instructor Development Course, week 1, Paoli Presbyterian Church, 7-9 pm Tuesdays, 8 weeks through June 23; see Page 6

16-22 Safe Boating Week

20 Educational Cruise on the Delaware, Philadelphia, boarding at 6 pm

20 *Pilot* articles deadline

21 Pre-Cruise Dinner Meeting, Peppers Italian Restaurant & Bar, 175 Town Center Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406

June

3 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm

13 Summer Kickoff Rendezvous at Skipjack Marina; RSVP Gary Armstrong; bring your boats!

July

1 **No** ExCom meeting

10-19 Commander's Summer Cruise; itinerary and marina signup on Page 16

23 *Pilot* articles deadline

23-26 D/5 Summer Council, Smith Mountain Lake, VA; info on Page 23

August

5 Commander's Picnic and ExCom

September

2 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm

TBD A picnic has been fun the past two years — seeking volunteers to help plan one

21 *Pilot* articles deadline

October

7 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm

15 Monthly Dinner Meeting (being planned by John Beardsley)

November

4 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm

5-8 D/5 Fall Educational Conference, Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel

19 **No** dinner meeting

20 *Pilot* articles deadline

December

2 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm

11 Holiday Party, Downingtown Country Club (being planned by Barb and Russ Jones)

Continued on next page



Last call for annual meeting in Florida

You can still register for the USPS® Annual Meeting Feb. 9-15 at the Sawgrass Marriott Resort in Ponte Vedra, FL.

There's an array of activities for everyone, including first timers. Find out how to register and all the details at <https://www.usps.org/index.php/memb-home>.

Don't have a week? Most meetings begin Feb. 13.

District 5 News — conference and rendezvous

Mark your calendar for the District 5 Spring Conference, and register for several summer activities in the works.

The conference will be March 26-29 at the Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City, MD. The registration form is on Page 18. Look for details at <https://abc-midatlantic.org/>.

The conference includes several seminars for members and officers along with social gatherings, and the popular Friday evening hospitality suites each squadron hosts. (To help plan our

squadron's event, contact Patty Pezely.)

Also on the District 5 calendar are the Summer Cruise July 20-23, and the Summer Council and Rendezvous July 23-26, both at Smith Mountain Lake, VA.

You need to reserve lodging or charter a houseboat for those events now; July is a busy time on the lake. Details and registration info are at uspsd5.org.



2020-2021 Calendar, continued

January 2021

- 6 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm
- TBD D/5 Spring Conference Hospitality Planning Meeting
- TBD 2021 Budget meeting
- TBD New Members party at the Fegans' house
- TBD Change of Watch planning meeting at the Pezelys' house
- 20 *Pilot* articles deadline
- 21 Dinner Meeting – Founder's Day and nomination of officers

For more information on any calendar items, please contact Lt/C Patty Pezely, AP, our Executive Officer, at patty.pezely@gmail.com.



VALLEY FORGE

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The Pilot

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The Pilot is a publication of America's Boating Club® Valley Forge, a unit of United States Power Squadrons®. The Pilot is published in February, April, June, August, October and December. It is on the web at www.mainlinesps.org and on Facebook at Main Line Sail & Power Squadron. Contact us at pilot@MainLineSPS.org.

The April 2020 issue deadline is March 23.

