



The Pilot

March 2023

**Congratulations to
the new bridge and
Excom members!**

**Join us and cruise the
Chesapeake June 2 - 10
Annapolis
Herrington Harbor South
Saint Michaels
Rock Hall**

Upcoming Events - Reserve the dates!

April 20, 2023 Pre-cruise dinner
Chesapeake Cruise June 2-10
June 10th Patriot Days Encampment

Newsletter Contents

Commander's Report	2
How I joined USPS	2
Fleet Captain's Report	3
ABC - VF Awards	4
Sea Scouts	5
Membership Best Practices	6
Summer Cruise Information	8
2023-2024 Bridge	9
Update Your Profile	9
Change of Watch Photos	10
Publications and Articles of Interest	11



Commander's Report

ABC Valley Forge

I am very proud to be the 57th commander of America's boating club Valley Forge. This is my second time in being commander and I'm looking forward to a very successful year. My preparations are well underway.

My main focus of this year is going to be building and sustaining membership. The theme of this year for me is going to be "Level up your boat boating experience". To me, this means someone should be able to get involved in boating, be as surrounded by experienced knowledgeable people and be able to enjoy boating a lot sooner than if they tried to do this on their own organically.

Nominating Committee

I would like to thank the nominating committee Sam Lyness, George Painter, Charles Rossi, John Beardsley and Meredith Barret, for putting a great bridge together.

Bridge

Please let me introduce the bridge for the 2023-2024 year.

Commander – Ed White

Executive Officer – John Juzbasich

Administrative Officer – Megan Weber

Secretary – Cynthia Gorge

Treasurer – Mike Gibson

SEO – Wayne Barrett

I would like to thank the bridge members for taking on these positions and we'll appreciate all of their efforts throughout the year.

Planning Committee:

I would like to thank the planning committee, Lance Parry, Patty Pezley, Russ Jones, Nick Montalto and Mike Gibson for their efforts and having a forward-looking plan for America's blue boating club Valley Forge. I will do my best to help build the squadron with the planning committee, get the membership engaged to assist in the growth, and to bring new ideas that will assist in building the future for America's boating club Valley Forge.

Other Committees

There are a number of other committees within the squadron to help us plan and build and I would like to thank them as well for all the work that they do.

Growing Membership, Membership Involvement and Education

I am looking at growing membership, membership involvement and education in a number of ways to include researching the top five total members in squadrons in the country, the top five squadrons in growth over the year, creating new programs, utilizing existing programs, networking with the booming industry, boating clubs and put it put and putting together events that would be very interesting for the membership at large.

- Ed White

How I joined USPS

Karen and I were volunteer water samplers for the Sassafra River Association. Along the way we met Lance and Ginny, who were also volunteers. We found out that we had homes very close to each other both at home and on the Bay. Lance mentioned the Squadron and invited us to a Reading Phillies ball game. I think that was our first event.

Mike Gibson



Fleet Captain's Report

Flag Harbor Yacht Haven entrance channel shoaling to less than 5 feet between Light 1 and Light 2.

Cheasapeake Beach shoaling to less than 7 feet between Light 1 and 3.

Knapps Narrows West Channel between Daybeacon 3 and 4.

Shoaling to 4 feet in Slaughter Creek Light 2SC and Buoy 8.

Crab Alley Bay shoaling to 2 feet between Buoy 6 and Daybeacon 7.
10North Approach Kent Island Narrows between North Approach Light 2KN and North Approach Light 8.

Queenstown Creek between Buoy 3 and Buoy 5. Shoaling to 3 feet.

Baltimore Harbor Harts Island Channel Daybeacon 3 shoaling to 2 feet.

Sassafras River between Daybeacon 8 and River Light 10 shoaling to 7 feet.

Northeast River, shoaling as shallow as 4.2 feet between Lighted Buoy 7 and Buoy 8
Jim Friedrichs Fleet Captain

Jim Friedrichs
March 21, 2023



ABC - VF Awards

Outgoing Commander Ginny Parry and outgoing Squadron Educational Officer Jim Heckman honored several members at our recent Change of Watch.

Ginny presented the highest honor – the Riddell Award – to P/C Patty Pezely, AP, as the member who made the greatest contribution to our club. Patty served for two years as commander and has been an invaluable resource, as well as connecting with members who have become inactive.

Jim Heckman presented the Excellence in Teaching award to P/C Nick Montalto, SN, for inspired teaching and flexibility in adjusting to quickly changing conditions.

Other awards presented by Ginny were: Spencer Award for contributions to the Education Department – P/C Wayne Barrett, SN*. Wayne filled in for Jim when Jim was on leave, teaches classes and is our new SEO.

New Member Award for contributions to the club – Lt Megan Weber, S. Megan handles our Facebook page, is our Safety Officer and our incoming Administrative Officer.

Member Involvement Award for outstanding contributions promoting member involvement and

activities – P/C Frank Visich, S. Frank has organized and staffed several club events, including Patriot Days, a summer Vessel Safety Check booth, and picnics and parties for veterans.

Past Commander's Award, for a member of less than five years, who has contributed significantly – Rich McLaughlin, P. Rich built much of last year's District 5 educational conference display, helps staff events, and is finishing details for this year's D5 interactive exhibit. He can fix virtually anything.

110% Award, for contributions to our club, as well as District and National organizations – P/C and St/C Jim Heckman, SN. Jim is chief animator for America's Boating Channel videos, helped update instructional material for America's Boating Club, and holds positions at the national and has held them at the district level.

Craig Muckle Award for contributions to the Education Department – P/C Russ Jones, SN. Russ arranges our courses for Chester County Lifelong Learning, teaches several of them, and has held most positions in our club, as well as organizing the annual summer cruise (with his wife, Barb).

Ginny thanked all of the award recipients, and all club members, for contributing to ABC Valley Forge in meaningful ways.



P/C Bobbie Doughty

Barbara Jean “Bobbie” Doughty, age 91, who was the commander of Main Line Sail and Power Squadron in 1997-98, passed away in February at her home in Phoenixville. She was the wife of the late Frederic C. Doughty, who had been a squadron commander in 1994-95.

Bobbie and Fred got married in 1952 in Florida and then settled in Pennsylvania. They lived for nearly 50 years on Valley Forge Mountain. They both enjoyed boating, and both attained the rank of AP* (Advanced Piloting plus additional courses). When Bobbie joined the boating community, women were not admitted as full members, so she joined the Mainstays. Later she gained full membership in what was then the Main Line Power Squadron.

“Bobbie was always a class act!” wrote Past Commander Chuck Pellegrini on her obituary tribute wall. “I followed her as the Commander of the Main Line Power Squadron.



She was a large part of any success I had as Commander. She was a gracious lady who was always willing to help and share advice. I miss her and her gentle smile. RIP, my friend and mentor!”

She participated in many aspects of the squadron, and received several awards and honors for her service.

Bobbie is survived by her two children, Denise R., wife of Harold Cheney, and Frederic C. Doughty; and many nieces and nephews. There will be a graveside remembrance sometime in the spring.



With the Spring weather arriving soon, the Sea Scouts will be starting our sailing season. The Sea Scouts, a division of BSA Boy Scouts, is a co-ed group of youth between ages 14-20 who specialize in water activities, including sailing, motorboating, paddle craft and large ship operations. Sea Scout troops, known as “Ships” are making a comeback following the pandemic, with new ships starting up all the time. To find a ship in your area, see <https://beascout.scouting.org/>



Research and outreach of the TOP 5 Squadrons by total members and the Top 5 growing squadrons by percentage

I'm taking a number of steps to grow membership which include researching all of the power squadrons in the country for the top five in number of total members and the top five and the total greatest growth per squadron in the country. To this end I'm looking for what they're doing to create such success and trying to mirror the efforts that they've done and also come up with some new ideas based on what they tell me.

I had the honor of talking to Barbara Wolfe who is the commander of the Sarasota power squadron. Sarasota power squadron is the second largest power squadron in the country which has 450 members. I asked Barbara how they were building and sustaining the membership and involvement in the group to be able to sustain such a high number of members. She told me there was a combination of holding specific events around the boating types she also mentioned that they have a jumpstart program assigned to a boating rental or boating rental club.

They are networked with other boating type groups such as fishing groups and in fact they have 60 specific members that are just local fishermen with you know local boats. There are 40 members that are specifically kayakers and they have their own events throughout the area. She says they have a newsletter that goes out to 900 people on a weekly basis she says they get a number of members each year from those additional 450 people that are not members but want to know about the squadron and the events that they currently hold.

To keep track of all of the events and notifications to make let people know that things are going on they use a texting program that they can load in the events and it'll go out to everyone's phone and remind them of what's going on as she says that there's a lot of they're very busy schedules with people and the best way is to use the texting program for that she says.

When it comes to e-mail they use MailChimp to make sure that the newsletter gets out to all the folks they also turn around and e-mail out a specifically designed birthday card for everyone when their birthday their actual birthday all in an effort to make everyone feel included and special.

I let her know of some of the things that we were doing in order to help build our membership including getting ourselves lined up with a boat dealer that would pay for the boating class of everyone that bought a boat from them.

I also let her know that I am intend to network with a group called fishbrain.com which is made-up of over 15 million members nationwide that enjoy fishing and the group actually outlines all the hot fishing spots and all the waterways and lakes and rivers across the country. We will have to buy a membership to the fishbrain.com that will give us the ability to network with all of their different subgroups within their 15 million members and also potentially put out notice as to what's going on there.

Barbara really didn't even know about that group and sees that as a new avenue for her group to help build membership and also help the members that are already currently fishermen be able to get to the fishing hotspots better.

I told her about our parade and how we are going out with you know we did it parade last year and she thought that was a great idea.

- Ed White



Bob Long was Commander of Main Line Power Squadron in 1991-1992. He joined MLPS in 1983 and contributed to Main Line in many capacities, including hosting Main Line's 50th Anniversary celebration in 2014. Most recently he was the historian of our club, now known as America's Boating Club Valley Forge. Bob was a long-time friend of many Main Line members. He always had a pleasant disposition and a cheerful smile for everyone, offering sage advice to every new officer and member. Bob's advice was always spot on and given with a warm heart.

Russ and I have many fond memories of boating with Bob and his wife, Carolyn, in the BVI's and on the Chesapeake Bay. Bob was a consummate sailor but would join us on a power boat for a good time. We will all miss a good friend in Bob Long. Bob will not be forgotten. Thanks for the memories, Bob. If you would like to send a sympathy card to Carolyn, you can send it to her at the address below, which is the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Sandy and Steve DePasqua:

1413 Appleberry Way
West Chester PA 19382

- P/C Barb Jones

Our Main Line Sail & Power Squadron **2023 Summer Cruise** itinerary is set. This year we sent a questionnaire to the members who participated in the 2022 and 2021 Summer Cruises asking which month and which marinas they prefer. The month and four marinas were overwhelmingly chosen by our cruisers. The top four vote getters are listed below and we plan to go to all of them. We are estimating that about **10 boats will join us this summer**. If you would like to crew on a boat, please let me know.

There will be **many interesting activities** on the cruise, all of which are optional. Look for details about the cruise activities in a subsequent Pilot article. We always have fun activities, and hopefully that will influence your decision to join us this year. These will include **a beach party, a cookout, dinner at great restaurants, and several guest speakers, more of our celebrated boat crawls, the infamous “forward throttle award” ceremony of course, and other interesting activities still in development**. You can sign up for the activities at our May pre-cruise dinner meeting.

Don't miss this annual cruise! Something exciting always provides wonderful memories. **If you are new to boating, we can team you with another similar boat.**

The marinas have requested a list of the boats that will require slips. **Please complete this form** indicating the marinas for which you will require a slip.

Please email your response to wrjones3@verizon.net or send the completed form to P/C Russ Jones, 115 Oak Street, Downingtown, PA 19335. No deposit required.

Boat Name: _____ Captain: _____ Cell number: _____
Boat Make: _____ Boat Model: _____ Length: _____ Beam: _____ Draft: _____
Type: [] Power; [] Sail Electric: [] Single 30; [] Dual 30; [] Single 50; [] Dual 50

- [] Saturday, June 3 – The Yacht Basin, Annapolis
- [] Sunday, June 4 – The Yacht Basin, Annapolis
- [] Monday, June 5 – Herrington Harbour South, Herring Bay
- [] Tuesday, June 6 – Herrington Harbour South, Herring Bay
- [] Wednesday, June 7 – CB Maritime Museum, St. Michaels
- [] Thursday, June 8 – CB Maritime Museum, St. Michaels
- [] Friday, June 9 – Haven Harbor Marina, Rock Hall
- [] Saturday, June 10 – Haven Harbor Marina, Rock Hall

We will be in Annapolis on Saturday, June 3 and Sunday, June 4, departing the following day. We have toured the Lighthouse on a Main Line cruise previously and it was well worth the cost. We just received notification that the Thomas Point tickets are for sale now. To buy tickets go to: <https://uslhs.org/about/thomas-point-shoal-lighthouse/tour-calendar>

2023-2024 Bridge

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Open

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Asterisk (*) means the member has completed three or more courses after achieving AP

Update Your Profile

Please review your information by going to <https://www.usps.org/member-s-log-in>. Enter your USPS Certificate number and password.

On the right-hand side of the page, you will see your member Profile. Click on Manage Profile. Here you can change your address, phone number, email address, MMSI and more.

If you forgot your password, click on the forgot password link.

If you need a name change please email me at patty.pezely@gmail.com.



- Nationwide Shipping - Free under 75lbs
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- New Tail Lamp Sales

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Publications and Articles of Interest

Chesapeake Bay Magazine

<https://chesapeakebaymagazine.com/>

MD Department of Natural Resources

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

has a wide variety of articles that may be of interest



The Pilot

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