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Commander's Message

Commander Richard E. Hughes, JN

It is January 9, 2012 and I am trying to beat the deadline for the February issue of the Anchor Watch. I still have 24 hours before I am officially LATE, but my synapses have been affected by the snow flurries outside. I am running out of subject material for the Commander's Comments well before my term of office is concluded. If this message just appears to be a stream of consciousness, it is only because that is exactly what it is. On the horizon we have several events to look forward to that will help abate the winter blues.

The week of 25 to 29 January is the USPS Annual Meeting in Jacksonville Florida. I have not been to a National meeting before so I am not sure exactly what to expect so I am going to learn more about the mechanics and politics of the national organization. Several members of next year's bridge will be at the conference to attend leadership classes for their new positions. I am sure that they will come back with many ideas for the squadron and full of enthusiasm for their new positions. If you are interested in attending the National Conference in Jacksonville, it is not too late to make plans and register. If nothing else, I can't think of anything wrong with Florida in January to just walk on the beaches.

Our February meeting is the traditional Founder's Day Brunch. The brunch is an opportunity to socialize a little earlier in the day than our normal dinner meetings. I am hopeful that members that find it difficult to attend evening meetings will be able to join us at the earlier time. Last year we had an outstanding presentation from a Forest Service ranger from Ft McHenry. We are negotiating for a return performance. This should be a very interesting presentation as Fort McHenry prepares for the 200 year celebrations of the War of 1812.

As the weather begins to improve for spring, the March meeting will feature the election of the new Bridge and Executive Committee. The slate of nominations was presented at the January meeting. I am very optimistic about the proposed slate of officers. I know that Marianne Ponzio and her bridge are very enthusiastic and have many good ideas to engage members in the activities for next year.

The weekend of March 30th to April 1st, hopefully, will find many of us in Ocean City for the D/5 Spring Conference at the Princess Royale Hotel. If you have not been to a District event previously, the Spring Conference is a good one to "test the waters." There are many seminars to pick from, especially if you are interested in becoming involved in the leadership of the squadron. The squadron hospitality suites are always fun and a great time to socialize with friends from neighboring squadrons. The District Change of Watch will take place on Saturday evening of the Conference. And for those who are not drawn

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to the educational seminars, there are always the nearby outlets at Rehoboth Beach to “get down to some serious shopping”.

April will bring warm sunny days to begin the boat commissioning tasks as well as the squadron Change of Watch. This year’s Change of Watch is scheduled for April 14th at the Sheraton Hotel. It is a little later than usual this year to allow the incoming Commander time to fully enjoy her time in Florida over the winter. Mark the date on your calendars!



Executive Officer
Lt/C Marianne L. Ponzio, P

This time of year provides a down time for the Executive Officer as winter brings most of our activities from within the squadron. During this year my pleas for volunteers couldn’t have been met with more enthusiasm! I am very grateful to everyone in this squadron for making my year as your Executive Officer, productive, educational and fun.

As I reflect I realize that the impact of volunteer efforts have are not always apparent. For instance many of you may not know Alan Sager. As long as I have been a squadron member Alan has been updating our Web Site. We rarely see him and yet his impact on our squadron is immeasurable.

This brings me to the loss of two people one in our squadron and the other from the Dundalk Sail & Power Squadron. Both volunteered their time and most likely did not know their impact.

For many years prior to my acceptance into the Annapolis Squadron Bill & Ruth Schumacher organized our mid-week raft ups. I had never been on a raft up, but it sure sounded like fun. So off Al and I went up the bay and into Round Bay. We were told to look for a boat called “ 2 Shoes” (at least that is what we thought). With binoculars in hand we searched, and searched. Finally we decided that “Two Shus II” was close enough. Bill and Ruth grabbed our lines, told us to put fenders out, and welcomed us to our first raft up. We spent that afternoon and evening getting to know the Schumachers and upon our return to the South River, Al and I decided that when we grew up we wanted to be just like them!! A how to raft up lesson and a new friendship.

That winter found us working the Baltimore Boat Show representing Rinker Boats. A very jovial group came by our display. Engaging in conversation we met Howard & Connie Barry and Bernie and Kathleen Karpers. (our current District Commander) They were volunteering at the Power Squadron booth. They told us of their squadron and invited us to cruise with them anytime. They told us of a cruise they sponsor called “Top Gun”. It sounded like a great deal of fun and we decided that we might check into it. The following year brought us back to the Baltimore Boat Show and the desire to see if those nice people were there. Sure enough, there they were volunteering for the Power Squadron. They remembered us (or at least they made us think they did) and once again invited us to go on the Top Gun Cruise. We were interested but decided that perhaps we should attend a meeting prior to cruising with folks we did not know. Howard and Connie were at the meeting and told us of an event coming up called The Practice Nav Contest and invited us to come and observe. I was assigned to Howard & Connie’s boat a beautiful Grand Banks. Connie later told me it was his dream boat. I sat up top with Howard and learned much history of the Harbor in Baltimore and saw the red, white & blue marker outside of Ft. McHenry. I watched first hand as squadron members used age old mariner’s skills of time, distance, speed, winds & currents to navigate. Our Seamanship Course in action! Using our modern day tools we then attended Top Gun Cruises to Manteo, South Carolina, Cape May, New Jersey, and up the Hudson to West Point.

These are just two of the many examples of just everyday folks volunteering to share their love of the water and skills with others so that, that spirit can then continue through us.

I look forward to serving our Squadron again in 2012 and welcome your suggestions, help, and support.



Administrative Officer Report

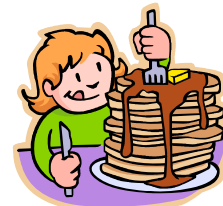
Lt/C Judy Michaelson, AP

Our next member meeting will be our annual Founders Day Sunday Brunch Buffet, 12 February, at the Sheraton Hotel on Jennifer Road.

We begin at **1130**. (\$29 payable at the door).

Sign up by telephone, 410-263-8777 # 4 or by using the link in the Lunch Hook.

Our program will be: The “American Flag” given by Vince Braise, the premier speaker from Fort Mc Henry.

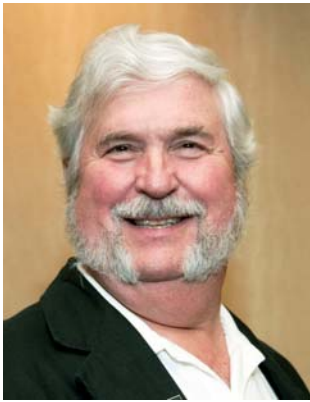


The Menu will be:

- Seasonal Fresh Fruit
- Assorted Fresh Breakfast Bakeries-Danish Pastries, Muffins, Croissants & Bagels served with Fruit Preserves, Butter & Cream Cheese
- Country Fresh Scrambled Eggs
- Crisp Bacon & Sausage Links
- Home-Style Breakfast Potatoes
- French Toast
- Assorted Desserts-Cakes & Apple Pie
- Cranberry, Grapefruit, Orange & Apple Juice

Dinner Meeting January 5, 2012





Education Officer's Report Lt/C Michael Maszczenski, Jr., AP

The Winter/Spring course offerings will be:

Member Course

Seamanship – Tuesdays 7:00 – 9:00 pm at the Pip Moyer Center, Instructors – Mike Maszczenski and Bill Klepczynski; February 7, 14, 28, March 6,13,27, April 3,10, 2012

A minicourse of three sessions: Advanced Boat Handling Under Power - Tuesdays 7:00 – 9:00 pm at the Pip Moyer Center, Instructor Al Ponzio, 24 April, 1 and 8 May 2012.

The following Seminars will be offered

Trailer your Boat - Monday, 2 April 2012, 7:00-9:00pm at the Pip Moyer Center, Instructor Mike Maszczenski

Basic Chart Reading - Monday, 9 April 2012 7:00-9:00pm at the Pip Moyer Center, Instructor Carol Rechner

Anchoring your Boat - Tuesday, 17 April 2012 7:00-9:00pm at the Pip Moyer Center, Instructor Terry Slattery

Remember - if you do not have Seamanship, it is the course that give you the terms and overall knowledge to proceed with your boating studies. If you have already had it and would like to take it again for review, it is an excellent way to keep basic boating safety and terms current.

ASPS will be offering the public ABC course. This course is in 4 classes and provides the MD State mandated safe boating certificate. There will be an announcement in the next Anchor Watch with details of where and when to take this course this spring.

Registering for a Class or seminar

There are now three ways to register:

1. Call the Hotline at 410-263-8777 opt. 1 for Seminars Option 2 for Seamanship
2. Register online – This link will be posted on our website, <http://bit.ly/qKN8ad>
3. Send an email to aspsmd.class@gmail.com. Please include your full name, the class you want to sign up for, and a phone number for me to call.

Please visit www.aspsmd.org for the latest information on classes and educational opportunities.

For those who have US Coast Guard Licenses and Courses, the following will be of interest to you!

At the September and December OCOM meetings, the following additions were approved for meeting the exam requirements for USPS membership:

1. Members of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary who have successfully completed any CGAUX course or certification program.
2. Any individual that has passed the following US Coast Guard license programs:
 - Launch Operator
 - OUPV (Six-pack)
 - Master's license

In addition, to assist with this migration, we will allow USPS grades for successful completion of the following CGAUX courses and CG licensing programs:

- CGAUX Boating Skills and Seamanship or Sailing Skills and Seamanship will receive credit for the USPS Seamanship course.
- CGAUX Basic Coastal Navigation will receive credit for the USPS Piloting course.
- CGAUX Advanced Coastal Navigation will receive credit for the USPS Advanced Piloting course.
- Coast Guard Launch Operator will receive credit for the USPS - BoatSmart course. (Note this will be the ABC Class as BoatSmart is no longer offered.)
- Coast Guard OUPV (Six-pack) will receive credit for the USPS Seamanship course.
- Coast Guard Master's license (up to 50 tons) will receive credit for USPS Seamanship, Piloting and Advanced Piloting.

♦ Any other credit will be based on a level of experience provided to the NEO for review and approval.

If you qualify for this, please let me know so we can get you the USPS grade course credit.

Captain Chess A. Peake



This section of our newsletter is the "Captain Chess A. Peake" column. Mostly serving as an educational and review column in keeping with the goals of the United States Power Squadron, Safe Boating through Education. Captain Chess A. Peake wants you to sharpen your nautical knowledge. Below are some educational and fun facts for you!

Nautical Knowledge

- Which statement is TRUE concerning small oil spills?
 - They usually disappear quickly.
 - They usually stay in a small area.
 - They may cause serious pollution as the effect tends to be cumulative.
 - A small spill is not dangerous to sea life in the area.
- The vessel's "quarter" is located _____.
 - Abeam
 - Dead astern
 - Just forward of the beam on either side
 - On either side of the stern
- The effect of wind on exposed areas of the vessel is most noticeable when _____.
 - Backing
 - Going slow ahead
 - Going full ahead
 - Turning

Trivia

- What is the most common aquatic mammal found in Chesapeake Bay marshes?
- How long can muskrats stay under water?
- How large do muskrats grow?
- How long do muskrats live.

Answers: Nautical Knowledge: 1. C, 2. D, 3. A
 Trivia: 1. Muskrat 2. Individuals have been seen swimming underwater for up to 17 minutes, surfacing for three seconds, then going back under for another 10 minutes without a breath. 3. Total length of about 16 to 24 inches, (including a 9 to 10 inch tail), and can weigh up to 4 pounds. 4. Most muskrats don't live more than one year, but under favorable conditions, a pair may raise 20 young during that time.

[Annapolis Sail & Power Squadron Logo Clothing](#)

Each Annapolis Sail & Power Squadron member may purchase Squadron logo clothing directly from the website of the Queensboro Shirt Company, the company we are currently using.

Each member will make their own choices on the website, submit to Queensboro their individual order, and then pay in whatever manner you choose from the options given on the website. Purchased items will be sent directly to the address you give. This way there is no "middleman" so you will receive your order more quickly.

To see the list of items in our Squadron account in order to make choices and to submit an order, type the following URL into the Internet address box at the top of your Internet screen (do NOT use Google) & follow the directions given on the website:

<http://www.asps.qbstores.com>

Hats with our Squadron's logo are now available on the website. There are several different styles of baseball caps as well as other types of hats available. For several of the hats there are 2 choices which appear to be identical. The difference is that the word "Annapolis" appears on the front with the burgee logo but the words "Sail & Power Squadron" are optional and appear on the back of the hat if that is what you choose. The hats without the writing on the back are \$5.00 cheaper than the hats which have the writing on the back. Please pay attention to what you order so you will be sure to receive what you want.

If you have any questions, please call Sherry Sandridge at 410-384-9101 OR email me at sherrysand@hotmail.com.



Safety Article

Capt. Al Ponzio, AP, SSO

WaterWise

In full disclosure Marianne and I are doing our very own version of Co-op Charting in Florida during the winter months. In so doing we have just completed accurate soundings of 6 to 9 feet in the deep end of the pool and tomorrow we move to the more treacherous shallows of 3 to 5 feet and the associated obstructions of noodle dead heads and various flotsam consisting of water wings, balls and inflated animal rings.

As we enjoy our aquatic world surrounded by lounge chairs and bordered by brilliant sunshine and bright blue sky I watch the grandchildren of fellow tenants and it reminds me of some uncommon knowledge that I would like to share with you. An article by Kevin Falvey talks about the...

Drowning Defense

People drown fast, often in the close company of their companions. To get an idea of just how quiet and undramatic from the surface drowning can be, consider this: It is the number two cause of accidental death in children, age 15 and under (just behind vehicle accidents) – of the approximately 750 children who will drown next year, about 375 of them will do so within 25 yards of a parent or other adult. In ten percent of those drownings, the adult will actually watch them do it, having no idea it is happening. As boat owners, it makes good sense for us to recognize the signs of drowning. This is critical not only for safety, but also for executing the most effective rescue techniques should the danger threaten. So, what does drowning really look like?

“Unfortunately, most people get their idea from TV,” says Frank Pia, a former lifeguard and member of the American Red Cross’ Advisory Council on First Aid and Safety and Preparedness, who holds a doctorate in interdisciplinary studies. Pia’s advice should not be taken lightly — after all, he is credited with identifying the Instinctive Drowning Response (IDR), now used in standard training procedures for lifesavers worldwide, including the U.S. Coast Guard.

Forget Hollywood

The IDR blows away the stereotype of the flailing, screaming victim. Such behavior describes aquatic distress, and distressed persons can help themselves to a degree.

In drowning there is very little splashing, no waving, and no yelling or calls for help of any kind.

“Because breathing is the respiratory system’s priority, the brain doesn’t allow for speech during drowning,” Pia explains. Even though the victim’s head may be above the water, he or she can’t call for help and is instead relegated to gulping air. Graphic proof of this can be seen in the short film *Why People Drown* (\$19, www.pia-enterprises.com), which captures actual drowning rescues.

Additionally, a drowning person’s brain automatically instructs the arms to push down on the water, in an effort to get the mouth and nose above the surface. In survival mode, body and mind don’t allow for grabbing a rope or life jacket thrown nearby.

With the IDR embedded deep in the reptilian part of our brain, these autonomic responses can’t be overcome. The bottom line for us boatmen is that drowning crew members can’t tell us that they are drowning, and they can’t assist in their own rescue.

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Keys to Prevent Drowning

Pia maintains that drowning isn't an accident. Rather, it's a preventable injury. Here are five steps to prevent drowning on your watch.

1. Keep a sharp eye on crew in the water. Alcohol, exposure to the elements and unexpected bottom-structure drop-offs can cause even strong adult swimmers to suddenly drown.
2. Learn to recognize the primary signs of the IDR: a vertical orientation in the water, no speech or leg kicks and arms pushing down beneath the surface.
3. When tossing a lifeline or Type IV PFD, aim so that the apparatus lands beside the flapping arms. Remember, the person won't be able to reach and grab. Ditto for extending a gaff or mop to a drowning person — place it where the arms will touch it without reaching and allow nature's clutching instinct to take over.
4. Avoid a swimming rescue as your first response unless you are a trained lifesaver — double drownings occur this way.
5. If you must swim to save a crew member, don a life jacket and then perform a "wading rescue," in which you angle your body toward the boat or shore at arm's length from the victim, grab the wrist and then sidestroke to safety. Let go if the person tries to hug you.



Crew safety is seamanship's primary purpose. Learn to recognize drowning and then act decisively.

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Ruth Schumacher. A memorial service will be held in the spring. We will post details when they become available.

CONGRATULATIONS



The following members earned Merit Marks in 2011:

Ann T. Albrecht	Jonathan A. Jacobs	Ralph P. Michaelsen	Carol Rechner
Clinton R. Albrecht	William J. Klepczynski	Lyle J. Millan	Mary L. Rhodes
Gary P. Antonides	Denise L. Lindenhall	Phyllis L. Millan	Allan D. Sager
John Leonard Barberio	Lars S. Lindenhall	Maria Museler	Homer M. Sandridge
Gary W. Budesheim	Charlotte C. Lubbert	Leona S. Myers	Sharon M. Sandridge
Gretchen Cupples	Robert F. Lubbert	F. Steward Myers, Jr.	H. Clinton Shaffer
Howard P. Cupples	Joy Lyness	John Wesley Nash	Jeffrey E. Short
John Deutsch	Samuel S. Lyness	Kathy Nash	Peggy Slattery
Gordon H. Gaertner	Jean Maassel	Albert Ponzio	Terry Slattery
Louise P. Gaertner	Louis O. Maassel	Marianne Ponzio	Linda Sweeting
Jack M. Gottschalk	Georgiana Maszczenski	Janet Rapkin	Carole G. Tulip
Arthur L. Howard	Michael J. Maszczenski, Jr.	Jerome Rapkin	Carl E. Wick
Antonia B. Hughes	Edric M. McSween	Bruce A. Ratti	Linda Wilson
Alexandra F. Jacobs	Judith R. Michaelsen	Doris J. Ratti	

Calendar of Coming Events

Member Meetings

12 February 2012 Founder's Day Brunch, 1130
1 March 2012 Annual Meeting, 1800

Executive Committee Meeting

19 January 2012, 1900
23 February 2012, 1900
Ex Committee meeting at Pip Moyer Rec Center #3



District Events

30 March, 1 April Spring Conference, Ocean City, MD

USPS Events

25-29 January 2012, Annual Meeting
Jacksonville, FL



AS&PS Web site

<http://www.aspsmd.org/>

District 5

<http://www.uspsd5.org/>

National USPS

<http://www.usps.org/>



**For updates to your telephone number, address, e-mail, etc., please call the AS&PS
Hot Line 410-263-8777 and select option number 7**

Anchor Watch Deadline

When: 10th of each month
Direct all material to:
Lt Kathy Nash, kmnash1@verizon.net
Home: 410-956-2781
Cell: 410-703-9559



Members Save Money

Great Benefits available to USPS members include:

- ◆ Up to a 23% discount on boat insurance
- ◆ Boat U.S. Membership and Towing discounts
- ◆ Map and Navigation software discounts
- ◆ Up to 12% discount on Dell Computers
- ◆ Tax Deductions on Dues and some Travel Expenses

And more, go to the USPS web site for a full list of benefits:

http://www.usps.org/national/admin_dept/membenefits.htm

Bridge Officers

Commander:

Cdr. Richard E. Hughes, JN	fantastc@comcast.net	410-224-4155
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Executive Officer:

Lt/C Marianne L. Ponzio, P	MarianneLacey@comcast.net	410-990-0291
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Educational Officer:

Lt/C Michael Maszczenski, Jr., AP	michaelm-aacps@hotmail.com	410-643-5666
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Administrative Officer:

Lt/C Judith R. Michaelsen, AP	josie3201@msn.com	410-267-7553
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Secretary:

Georgianna Maszczenski, S	gmaszczenski@hotmail.com	410-643-5666
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Treasurer:

D/Lt/C Carole G. Tulip, JN	c2lip@aol.com	410-604-0402
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Assistant Educational Officer

1st Lt William J. Klepczynski, JN	wklepczy@comcast.net	443-949-7005
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Immediate Past Commander

P/C Samuel s. Lyness, N	sslyness@aol.com	410-263-2423
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Members-at-Large of the Executive

Committee:

P/Lt/C Ann Albrecht, AP
 Capt. John Wesley Nash
 Gretchen Cupples, S
 Art Howard
 Robert Lubbert, AP
 P/C Lee Myers, AP
 Peggy Slattery, S
 Linda Wilson

Audit Committee:

Maria Museler
 Steve Hench, Chairman
 Dennis Johnson

Rules Committee:

P/C Jean Maassel, AP, Chairman
 P/C Stu Myers, AP
 Jan Rapkin

Nominating Committee:

P/C Ron Albrecht, P, Chairman
 Peggy Slattery
 P/C Sam Lyness, N
 Sharon Sandridge, AP
 P/C Howard Cupples, AP

**Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron
1253 Still Woods Way
Annapolis, MD 21403
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



“SUNSHNE LADY”

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE SICK OR IN THE
HOSPITAL,
PLEASE CONTACT OUR “SUNSHINE LADY”,

Charlotte Lubbert
410-923-6425

cblubbert@comcast.net



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