



Ahoy,

In Roman mythology, the god Janus is shown facing two directions as if looking to the past and the future. That image hit me during the District 5 Spring Conference in March at our squadron hospitality suite when we looked back at the 95 year history of our Potomac River Squadron while looking forward to our centennial in 2015.

We are all about boating. I challenged our most active captains to schedule more squadron cruises on both the Chesapeake and the Potomac this season. They came through in a big way with four events planned, the first of which is scheduled Saturday 22 May for a Chesapeake adventure.

If you boat on the Potomac, or don't have a boat, you are invited to the Chesapeake cruise anyway. Call our cruise captain and tell him you want to go. We'll see if we can make space for you. When our Potomac River cruise comes up later this season, we want our non-boaters and Chesapeake boaters to join us. So call the cruise captain with your interest and we'll try to find space for you. For details, see the calendar in this issue of The RIBBER and on our web site, www.uspsdc.org, and the Potomac River Power Squadron group page on SailAngle.

Speaking of SailAngle and facing the future, the Power Squadrons, local and national need to replenish our membership. Boaters under age 45 are a prime target. They network differently.

If you are my age, you network face-to-face in a meeting. But they network electronically by email, instant messaging and social networks like Facebook. And they are more connected that way. Power Squadrons have to get on board.

The national officers authorized squadrons to mass enroll members in SailAngle, an official USPS partner. Potomac River needs to take advantage of the communication and scheduling tools offered by SailAngle. All members will get a separate letter from me explaining the details. You may opt out of the program if you are concerned about spam and privacy. The Sail-Angle folks have a good handle on that, so I hope you will "opt in" with me.

Whether it's on water cruising, boating education and the new networking frontier, time for Potomac River to hop aboard.

Commander: *Anthony G. Brown, P*



Executive Officer's Report
By Lt/C Bonnie Gaskins

Timing is Everything!

May is the time to think about boating safety. Don't just think. Act.

Help the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) update the charts of our local waters through the USPS Cooperative Charting program.



Power Squadron members have for years fed new data to NOAA about boating facilities and depths in our home waters. District 5 is sponsoring its annual seminar on this high value activity on 1 May at NOAA's Atlantic Marine Center in Norfolk, VA.

Counting commute time from DC to Norfolk, Potomac River squadron members can earn a Merit Mark just for attending the all day seminar. We want you to get more than that. Learn how to validate information about marina facilities and update NOAA. Your squadron gets the credit. Your fellow boaters get current information. You expand your network of area boater. Win. Win. Win.

The D/5 Web Site at www.uspsd5.org and the D/5 MARK 5 newsletter has the reservation details.

If you really want to make boating friends and contribute to boating safety, become a USPS Vessel Safety Examiner. Help recreational boating captains understand what those friendly water police look for in a safety inspection. They'd rather get inspected



Cleveland Leggett, Jim Gorman, Eugene Roberson, Tony Brown and John Wilmot prepare Potomac River's hospitality suite at the D/5 Spring Conference.

by you than by them. A current Vessel Safety Check decal on their boat may help them avoid a stop by the Coasties or DNR, or to be better prepared if they are stopped--or face an actual emergency.

I've committed to become an examiner this season and invite you to join me. See me at our next meeting, or speak with the Vessel Safety Check chair P/C Harry Seeback at 301-530-4633 for details. The captains on your dock will thank you. So will we.



J.D. Williams, Pat Dillon and Ginny Heckhaus share a moment at the D/5 Spring Conference.

Potomac River Squadron's Hospitality Suite at the D/5 Spring Conference in Ocean City was another success, one that we would not have enjoyed without the help of our hospitality committee. Thank you, thank you, thank you to: John Wilmot, JD Williams, Jim and Nancy Gorman, Howard and Janett Gasaway, Cleveland and Arline Leggett, Eugene and Lorraine Roberson, ships store captain Cheryl Hoiler, and especially the crew who prepared and set up the delicious appetizers--Pat and Tom Dillon, Rich and Ginny Heckhaus, Betty Wedler, Beverly Pratt, Angie and Chris Pickwick.

Safe boating to all.

Publisher's Statement

The "Potomac Ribber" is the official publication of the Potomac River Power Squadron (PRPS). Its goal is to inform members of activities and developments at PRPS and the national and District 5 level of the United States Power Squadrons (USPS) and to carry other information useful to the members.

PRPS, District 5 and USPS are non-profit organizations dedicated to the promotion of safety on the water through boaters education.

The Potomac Ribber is published bi-monthly. Articles and submissions are appreciated and are due by the 15th of the prior month.

Potomac River Power Squadron 2009 Merit Marks

The following members earned USPS Merit Marks for civic service in the 2009 membership year. Total Merit Marks are shown.

Congratulations and thank you, from the 2009 bridge officers, Potomac River Power Squadron.

Anthony Brown, P	5	Raymond A. Koppal	3
Edward T. Dillon, AP	43	Arline Leggett, P	17
Patricia M. Dillon	21	Cleveland Leggett	21
Richard Fidler	1	Elizabeth McLellan, S	5
Howard Gasaway, Sr., P	8	Scott C. McLellan, P	11
Janett Gasaway, S	8	Carl E. Muhlbauer, SN	18
Collesta (Bonnie) Gaskins	11	Daniel A. Parker	20
J. Kenneth Gibala, AP	26	Christopher Pickwick, AP	23
Laverne S. Glascoe	6	Charles Allen Poplinger, P	12
James A. Gorman, AP	8	Beverly B. Pratt,	25
Nancy Gail Gorman, S	7	Eugene Roberson, Sr.	7
Richard C Heckhaus, AP	26	Mary Lorraine Roberson	6
Virginia C. Heckhaus, S	18	Harry P. Seebach, SN	40
Cheryl M. Hoiler	1	Betty J. Wedler, AP	22
Edward "Chip" Hoiler, S	13	James D. Williams, P	24
Brian W. Horney, S	1	Alicia I. Wilmot	19
Laurin A. Knutson, AP	20	John C. Wilmot, JN	20

Education and Safety Report

Safety Flare Demo and Seminar 29 May

It's something you never expect to use. If you ever use it, it's likely to be in an emergency with you in a panic.

Safety flares. You can't boat without them, but you can make a dicey situation much worse by mishandling them.

Potomac River Power Squadron will sponsor a Safety Flare Demo and Seminar 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., Saturday, 29 May, 2010 at the Ft. Washington Marina, Ft. Washington, Maryland.

The Coast Guard requires boats over 16' length to carry a minimum of three approved signals. Safety flares aged past their expiration dates must be replaced.

That's the issue. Careful boaters may never be in need of rescue and will never get experience using their flares or other distress signals that may be bet-

ter than a hand-held flare. The Potomac River Power Squadron's seminar offers captains hands-on practice igniting and handling flares. There is no cost to attend, but captains are asked to bring their expired flares for use at the seminar. Family and crew members are also invited to attend.

The event concludes the Power Squadron's observance of Safe Boating Week May 22 - 28.

Ft. Washington Marina is located at 13600 King Charles Terrace, Ft. Washington, MD 20744. By water, the marina is on Piscataway Creek off the Potomac River at 38.70294N 077.02268W

Register with Howard Gasaway, Sr., 202-583-7121, gasawaysr@aol.com.

Boat safely.

[Signed]

Lt/C Howard Gasaway, Squadron Educational Officer
Lt Eugene Roberson, Squadron Safety Officer



2010-2011 Bridge

Potomac River Power Squadron

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Lt Richard Fidler
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The group celebrates during D/5 Spring Conference.

Administrative Officer's Report
By Lt/C Arline Leggett

Flag Raising Ceremony & Picnic

The next big thing for Potomac River Power Squadron is the Flag Raising Ceremony & Picnic, on **Saturday, 5 June**. It's the official start of the 2010 boating season. This year, the ceremony is on our namesake river at the Ft. Washington Marina. There is no "us" without "u."

We want you and your guests to join us for the party.

The \$5.00 charge is low by design as

our way to say "thank you" for all you do for the Power Squadrons. That's the best bargain on the water. And you'll get a bang out of the canon salute.



See the reservation on page 7 of this newsletter and join us.

The squadron Change Of Watch at Ft. Leslie J. McNair in Washington last March was a success by any measure. We thank the many people who pulled the event together, especially executive officer Bonnie Gaskins, flag officer Allen Jox, decorating committee

Jan Jox, treasurer J.D Williams and assistant treasurer Lorraine Roberson, Master of Ceremony John Wilmot, and especially our guests, district executive officer and Mrs. Chris Brown.



Got an idea for a meeting program or member event? Speak with me at the next meeting or event. We'd love to hear from you.



The Next Big Things

Otherwise known as the Calendar of Events

21 Apr - ALL-HANDS

Dinner Meeting, Speaker: P/C John Wilmot, "European Canal Cruise, Three Rivers, Five Countries." 7:30 PM, Rosensteel Hall, Knights of Columbus, Silver Spring, Maryland.

22 Apr - Registrations due for D/5 Co-op Charting Seminar at NOAA Atlantic Marine Center, Norfolk, Virginia. See the MARK 5 for the registration and other info.



24 Apr - Anacostia River Clean-Up

Contact P/C Howard Gasaway or 1st/Lt Cheryl Felenz for information.

30 Apr - 1 May - District 5 Co-Op Charting Workshop, Norfolk, VA

11 May - PotRiv Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 PM, Rosensteel Hall, Knights of Columbus, Silver Spring, Maryland.

19 May - PotRiv ALL-HANDS Dinner Meeting, Speakers: Steve Lichtenberg, EMT, and Sheila Williams, EMT, "CPR and First Aid Demo." 7:30 PM, Rosensteel Hall, Knights of Columbus, Silver Spring, Maryland.



22-28 May - SAFE BOATING WEEK

22 May - PotRiv BAY DAY Cruise, Maryland Yacht Club, Pasadena, Maryland. Destination; Chesapeake. Contact: Fleet Captain P/C Chip Hoiler, 301-963-7545, ehoiler@mcsheaco.com.

29 May - PotRiv Safety Flare Demo & Seminar, Learn the proper way to use those safety flares and emergency signals. Bring your out-of-date flares.

Noon to 3:00 PM. Ft. Washington Marina, 13600 King Charles Terrace, Ft. Washington, Maryland. Contact P/C Howard Gasaway, 202-583-7121, gasawaysr@aol.com.

5 Jun - Flag Raising and Picnic, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Ft. Washington Marina, 13600 King Charles Terrace, Ft. Washington, Maryland. By water: Piscataway off the Potomac River, 38-42'09" N 077-01'30" W. \$5/person to 1st/Lt Lorraine Roberson, 11003 Kencrest Drive, Mitchellville, MD 20721, 301-262-5609, Mlproberson@verizon.net by 1 June.

8 Jun - PotRiv Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 PM, Rosensteel Hall, Knights of Columbus, Silver Spring, Maryland.

12 Jun - No Excuses RendeVous Extravaganza (N.E.R.V.E.) Raft-Up and Pig Roast., The Wilmot estate on the shores of Glebe Bay, South River off the Chesapeake Bay LAT 38° 55.6N LON 076° 32.4W. For Landlubbers 3301 Lertz Lane, Edgewater, MD 21037. Each boat/ attendee asked to bring a dish. Contact: P/C Rich Heckhaus, 410-263-4446, richard.heckhaus@verizon.net.



16 Jun - PotRiv ALL-HANDS Dinner Meeting, Rosensteel Hall, Knights of Columbus, Silver Spring, Maryland.

10 Jul - PotRiv Practice Navigation Contest, Rock Hall, Maryland. Fleet Captain P/C Chip Hoiler, 301-963-7545, ehoiler@mcsheaco.com.

31 Jul - PotRiv Potomac River Cruise Day, Ft. Washington Marina, Ft. Washington Maryland. Fleet Captain P/C Chip Hoiler, 301-963-7545, ehoiler@mcsheaco.com.



Around District 5

District 5's annual Co-operative Charting Workshop takes place 1 May at NOAA's Atlantic marine Center in Norfolk, Virginia. Squadron members who will volunteer their time validating nautical charts for our waters are strongly encouraged to attend. The

District asks that you register by 22 April to give them time to plan materials and boxed lunch. Group rates (\$82.00 per night) at the Governor Dinwiddie Hotel are available to attendees who call the hotel (757-392-1330) by 22 April. See the D5 Web Site at <http://www.uspsd5.org/>.

USPS District 5 will be involved with the National Boy Scouts 100th Anniversary Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia, 26- July through 4 August 2010. Volunteers are needed to work the Power Squadron exhibit. The District is working on a waiver of the \$35 exhibitor's fee charged each volunteer. P/D/C/ Brian Becker (Patapsco River) is the District's point man on the project. Participate and support two great organizations. See the Spring 2010 MARK 5 or the District Web Site, <http://www.uspsd5.org/>, for details.



The District Summer Council and Rendezvous is in Solomons, Maryland, this year. It is moved to 12-15 August to avoid the schedule conflict with the big Boy Scouts Jamboree. While there are business matters to be dealt with at the Council, that's what you have officers for. Members are encouraged to come by boat or auto just for the fun and camaraderie. The D/5 Web Site has links to the registration form and hotel information. Make your reservation by 22 July please.

Batchelder, Schatz to be honored for Golden Anniversary of membership

District Five is honoring two Potomac River Power Squadron members for 50 years of USPS membership. Philip Batchelder, P, and Clarence Schatz, P, will receive a plaque to commemorate the occasion at the All-Hands meeting, 21 April. Meeting at held at the Knights of Columbus Rosensteel Hall in Silver Spring. Dinner is served at 7:30 PM, followed by the program.

Wilmot to speak at April Meeting

P/C John Wilmot, JN, will regale members attending the April All Hands meeting with tales of cruising through the canals and locks of Europe. Wilmot made the trip last fall with wife Alicia on a journey that took them through five countries on the Continent. It's a story worth hearing as only John can tell it and the next best thing to being there.

Looking for Harvey Gram

The Power Squadron, local and national, has lost touch with member Harvey B. Gram, III, P. If anyone is in touch with Mr. Gram, or knows how



to reach him, please call the squadron secretary, Lt/C Janett Gasaway, with the updated contact information. 202-583-7121, gasawaysr@aol.com.

What's Up With Potomac River?

Want updated information about PRPS between newsletters? Check up out online at www.uspsdc.org. We are also on the Power Squadron community of SailAngle.com. SailAngle is designed for the special interests of boaters on the web to form groups, discussion forums and topics like cruising destinations. Power Squadron member should register through the USPS national web site at www.usps.org and click the SailAngle button. You will need your Certificate Number and Zip Code for access to the private Power Squadron community.

Where is Dr. Bennett's Bell?

Potomac River has lost track of the ship's bell from Aragon II, vessel of its founder and first commander, Dr. A.B. Bennett, Jr. No doubt, it's in someone's closet waiting to find its way home. If you have Dr. Bennett's bell, or other squadron equipment (coolers, movie screen, etc.), please contact the squadron treasurer, J.D. Williams at 301-785-8600.

Order Your 95th Anniversary Shirts

Potomac River Power Squadron observes its 95th Anniversary in 2010. Order your polo shirt commemorating the accomplishment from the Ship's Store now so that you have it for the boating season. The shirt is cotton/polyester in royal blue emblazoned with the squadron burgee and 95th Anniversary embroidery. Available in Men's Large or Extra Large at cost, \$32.45 each. (Hey, it's a really nice shirt!) Send your order with shirt size to the treasurer, J.D. Williams, 6309 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 204, Riverdale, MD 20737. The squadron will place the order with the embroiderer when we've received orders for four or more shirts.

Passed The Bar

Alicia I. Wilmot, 19 Merit Marks, wife of P/C John Wilmot, December 2009.

Another honor for Beverly Pratt

The honors keep piling up for squadron member Beverly Pratt. Pratt was recognized for her 25th year of membership last November and honored for her 25th Merit Mark at the national annual meeting in Orlando in February. That accomplishment comes with a Life Member designation by the National. And with that, District 5 presented Pratt with a Certificate of Appreciation at the Spring Conference in March in Ocean City. Pratt now serves as squadron Good and Welfare officer. Congratulations (again), Beverly.



Beverly Pratt received a commemorative plaque for USPS Life Membership at the District 5 Spring Conference in Ocean City last March.

2010 FLAG RAISING CEREMONY & PICNIC

Saturday 5 June 2010,
 1100 - 1500
 (11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.)
 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.: Cook-out and Picnic
 1:00 P.M.: Flag Raising Ceremony with Canon Salute
 \$5.00 per person



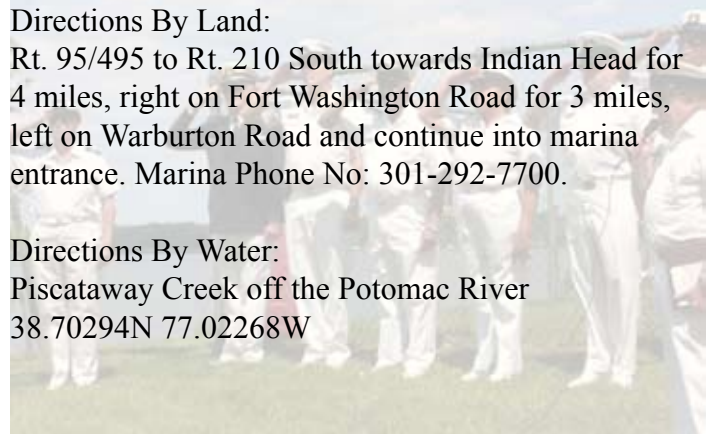
Ft. Washington Marina
 13600 King Charles Terrace
 Ft. Washington, MD 20744

Directions By Land:

Rt. 95/495 to Rt. 210 South towards Indian Head for 4 miles, right on Fort Washington Road for 3 miles, left on Warburton Road and continue into marina entrance. Marina Phone No: 301-292-7700.

Directions By Water:

Piscataway Creek off the Potomac River
 38.70294N 77.02268W



RESERVATION FORM

2010 Flag Raising Ceremony & Picnic

Please make checks (\$5.00 per person) payable to "PRPS" and **reservations to:**

1st/Lt Lorraine Roberson
 11003 Kencrest Drive
 Mitchellville, MD 20721

Member Name(s): _____

Member Name(s): _____

Guest: _____

Guest: _____

Guest: _____

Guest: _____

Show other guests on separate sheet.

NOTE, Attire: Bridge officers and past commanders - UNIFORM "D" (summer whites); USPS members - USPS or PRPS-logged polo shirt; Guests: Comfortable picnic or deck party attire.



Bay Day *May 22, 2010*

The Potomac River Power Squadron has set two events for its members to participate in boating Activities to include Boat Rides on the Chesapeake Bay, Patapsco River, and the Potomac River. Bay Day-Saturday, May 22nd and River Day, July 23rd.

The first of these events is **BAY DAY!**

Place: The Maryland Yacht Club, 1500 Fairview Beach Rd.,
Pasadena, MD 21122
www.mdyc.org

Time: 1:30pm

Details: Come by Sea or come by Land. For slip reservations contact the Maryland Yacht Club (MYC) at 410-255-4444.

The plan is to meet at the Maryland Yacht Club at 1:30pm. At that time we will take a count of boats and people, assign each person to a boat and get underway to touch a piece of the Chesapeake Bay then cruise up the Patapsco past Fells Point into Inner Harbor, see the sights by water then head back to the Maryland Yacht Club.

This event will be BYOB perhaps bring a small cooler. We will have light hors d'oeuvres and soft drinks available.

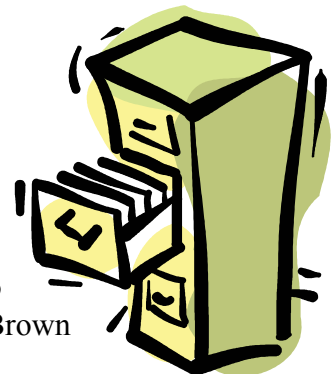
Once back at the Maryland Yacht Club we have reservations for dinner at 5:30pm. We'll be ordering off the menu. Please remember the MYC is a "no cash club". All purchases at the club must be charged to a major credit card.

RSVP by May 17th.

Brother, Can You Spare A Storage Cabinet?

The squadron needs a better way to protect its property. The good folks at the Knights of Columbus allow us to keep our audio and other equipment in their hall, but it is not secure.

If you have an unused steel cabinet, about 4 ft wide, 18 to 24 inches deep and up to 6 ft. high, that you could donate to Potomac River Squadron, please call us. Tony Brown at 301-649-9643, or Tom Dillon at 301-564-0372.



N.E.R.V.E

No Excuses Rendez Vous Extravaganza

Saturday, June 12, 2010 • 1400 – until
 Wilmot’s House, Glebe Bay, South River
 3301 Leritz Lane, Edgewater, MD 21037 • (410) 798-5102

LAST YEAR’S ROAST PIG WAS SUCH A BIG HIT THAT WE’RE GOING TO DO IT AGAIN! COME BY BOAT OR BY CAR. Tie up at our dock or park at the end of our street. Festivities start about 2pm with Drinks, Beer, Wine, and Soft Drinks plus Appetizers and a few games in the afternoon. The **ROAST PIG** will arrive about 5 and after the proper ceremony, Rich and I will carve. We will also have baked beans, coleslaw, and rolls.

We would like each boat or group to bring an appetizer or a desert. Call Ginny Heckhaus for suggestions. This year we will have entertainment in the afternoon- singer/guitar player John Morini will play and hope you will sing with him.

Adults & Near Adults (14 & older) - \$16.00 per person
Children (7 to 13) - \$8.00 under 7 – no charge

Tear Off and Mail _____

No. of adults _____ @ \$16.00= \$ _____ No.of Children _____ @\$8.00= \$ _____

Name _____ + _____ Tel No _____ Total enclosed _____

Make check no later than June 7, payable to “PRPS” and mail to:

P/C Rich Heckhaus, AP, 769B Fairview Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403
 Tel. No. 410-263-4446 email- richard.heckhaus@verizon.net



Yearbook Correction Form

Potomac River Power Squadron



Please make corrections from the 2009 -2010 PRPS Yearbook.

Name: _____ Rank: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Family Member (Spouse): _____

Boat Make & Size: _____ Boat Name: _____

Please send to: Nancy Gorman
 10013 Biscayne Lane
 Damascus, MD 20872

or e-mail: JAGNG4@aol.com
 or call: 301-253-5050

The Potomac  ***Ribber***