



# True Readings

## PATUXENT RIVER SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON A UNIT OF DISTRICT 5



### Mariner Trivia

#### Mind Games

Your mind can play tricks on your steering hand when meeting a vessel head-on. Which way to steer ~ left, right or something else? In a head-on meeting situation, both vessels must:

- A ~ Steer to Port
- B ~ Steer to Starboard
- C ~ Stop and shoot the breeze
- D ~ Stay the course

**V23/I1 Answer: C**



### Let's start 2024 out with some awesome news!



Our very own Robert 'Bob' Blevins is stepping up as our District 5 United States Power Squadrons Commander this March at the D/5 Spring Conference.

D5 Spring Conference  
Ocean City, MD  
March 20 ~ 24

See Page 17 for the registration form and let's all attend the conference to show Bob our support. What an honor!

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There are a few seats **still available** for this ABC class. Contact Lt/C John Torres, AP [educationofficer@abcsomd.org](mailto:educationofficer@abcsomd.org) today to secure your spot.

**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB**  
-Southern Maryland

will be teaching an America's Boating Course (ABC) beginning  
**Wednesday January 17<sup>th</sup>**

*ABC is designed to provide general information on boating safety, piloting, and navigation. Successful completion earns Maryland Boater Safety certification*

Course is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and recognized by the USCG

Course is eight (8) weeks long (In-person & virtual) on Wednesday's at Safe Harbor Zahnisers

(\$55pp/\$45 for additional family members)

Registration required by January 3<sup>rd</sup> (limited seats)

Call: 240-561-8910

Email: [educationofficer@abcsomd.org](mailto:educationofficer@abcsomd.org)

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB  
For Boaters, By Boaters™

### January Meeting

11 January @ 1730  
The Pier  
14575 Solomons Island Rd. S.  
Solomons, MD





**Commander's Report**  
CDR Brian Storey, S

**Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron (PRSPS)**

**PRSPS Squadron Pendant**



The Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron's Burgee depicts the Drum Point Lighthouse that marked Drum Point at the mouth of the Patuxent River. The Blue and Red represent the Water and the Land, with the Yellow focused rays of the oil lamp warning mariners of the danger of Drum Point. The Gold border signifies 50 years as a Unit of United States Power Squadrons. The colors Red, White and Blue are from the USPS Ensign, and the Black and Yellow are from the State Flag of Maryland.

**Who Are We?**

Our club, *America's Boating Club Southern Maryland (ABCsOMD) - Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron (PRSPS)*, is a member of America's Boating Club - United States Power Squadrons. We are located in Lexington Park, MD home of the Patuxent River Naval Air Station. The club serves Charles, St. Mary's and Calvert Counties. America's Boating Club Southern Maryland/PRSPS is a social & educational boating organization dedicated to providing year round boating education classes as well as water and land based social activities.

**Mission Statement:** To improve the competence, knowledge, and enthusiasm of the boating community by providing high quality boater education and enjoyable boating and social opportunities. We are a 501(c)3 Organization.

From the beginning USPS has been all about boating education and being a social group. We still have this same focus.

Classroom Instruction ~ On-The-Water Instruction ~ Web Based Instruction ~ Web Based Videos

**Squadron Focus for 2024**

Increase member numbers & participation by members.

**Our Theme will be "Just one"**

**Just do at least once, each of the following in 2024:**

- Attend one monthly meeting.
- Bring one non-member friend.
- Attend one non-boating social event.
- Participate in one overnight cruise.
- Participate in one local boating event
- Take one class.
- Initiate one, non-boating social event.
- Initiate one, overnight cruise to a destination of your choice.
- Initiate one, local boating event.





Administrative Officer's Report  
Lt/C Lenore Blevins, S

2023



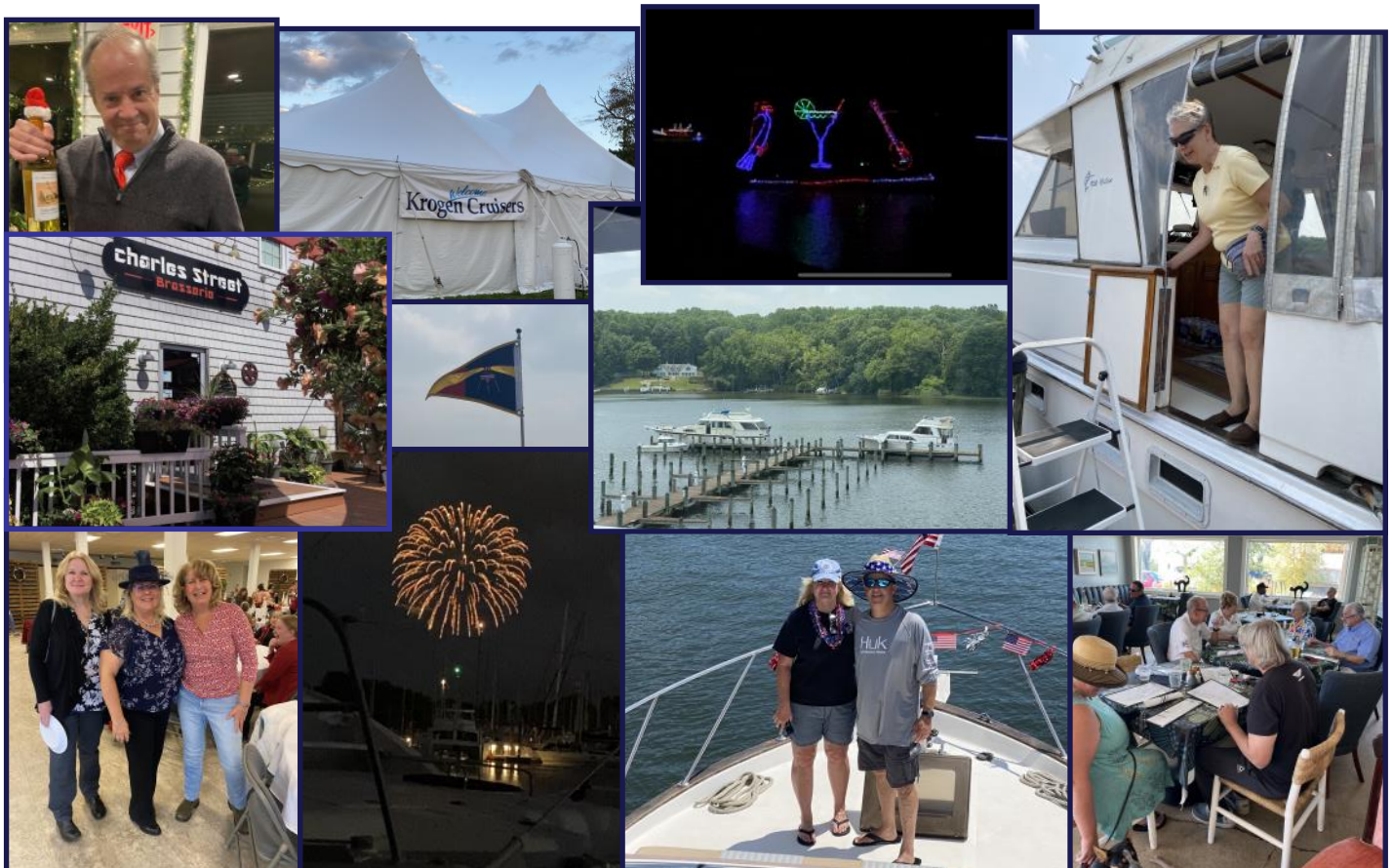
**Looking back at 2023**, it was a good year for the Squadron. We tried many Restaurants and everyone seemed to enjoy them. We had our Summer Picnic at Captains Pats in Drayden, Md and had very good attendance.

This year, 2024, we would like to see more members at "on water boating events" such as Raft-ups, restaurants by water, Blessing of the Fleet flotillas in Solomons Island, and the 4th of July Boat Parade. Away trips for new Destinations would be great. All ideas and suggestions for other boating activities and destinations are encouraged.

I would like to thank everyone for making the Christmas Party and Lighted Boat Show a Success! Thank You to Michelle and Chuck Beatty for the Sound System and all the Games. They truly are great Team Players!

Thanks to everyone for making all this happen, and I'm looking forward to seeing you soon!

Lt/C Lenore Blevins, S.





## Coast Guard Safety Alert

Published April 3, 2019

The U.S. Coast Guard has determined that an increasing number of navigation lights being used on sailboats do not meet the basic requirements for these lights, making them less visible to nearby ships. According to the Coast Guard's Inspections and Compliance Directorate, part of the problem is that some boat owners are retrofitting existing incandescent nav lights with LED lights, or LED components that were designed for powerboats. Navigation lights intended for use on power boats are different from sailing vessel navigation lights. Although the horizontal arc of visibility is the same for all lights, the vertical divergence (i.e. vertical arc of visibility) requirements for lights on vessels under sail are larger to accommodate greater heeling. Many boat owners do not realize the required +/- 25 degree vertical light divergence required for sailing vessels is different from the powered vessel +/- 17.5 degrees. When lights are sold, many manufacturers do not specify if the light is intended for a power or sail vessel, it's up to the buyer to determine if the light is proper for their vessel.

Visit <https://www.practical-sailor.com/blog/coast-guard-nav-light-safety-alert> to read the full article.

### Maintenance Spotlight

#### *Your boats bilge pump system may be the only thing keeping your boat afloat.*

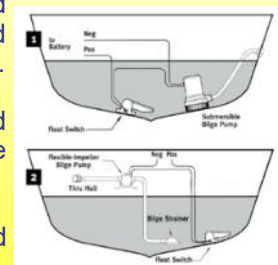
If you ever leave your boat unattended in the water, even for a short time, your boats bilge pump(s) may be the only thing keeping it afloat in the event of a serious leak. Leaky through hull fittings, dry rotted hoses below the water line, even your boat's internal plumbing system are all sources of potential leaks that could be catastrophic.

We all do our best to keep our vessels in sea worthy condition, but let's face it, no one likes climbing down to the bottom of a boat to do maintenance. Things down there are often difficult to reach, may be oily, dirty and may smell like, well...not roses. But that's where your boats bilge pumps live. So it stands to reason that we may not spend as much time with them as we should. Knowing that bilge pumps are our first and possibly last line of defense against sinking, we all need to be aware of their condition.



Bilge pumps like so many other boat systems, need to be checked and cleaned periodical-ly to ensure proper function when we need them most. Testing your bilge pumps by simply turning them on and listening will give you some peace of mind. But knowing for a fact that they will actually move water out of the boat is an essential safety feature not to be taken for granted.

On occasion, put enough water into the bilge to be sure your pumps do as they were intended. In automatic mode, the pump should come on once there is enough water to raise the float switch to activate the pump. Once the water has been removed to a point low enough to disengage the float switch, the pump turns off. While the pump is running, look for a strong stream of water coming from the outlet on the side of the boat. Bilge pumps are a safety device and are not intended to keep the bilge completely dry so they will not remove ALL the water from the bilge. The remainder will have to be removed with a shop vac or sponge. This is also a great time to do some cleaning. Add some bilge cleaner to the water at the beginning of the process to remove oily build up and dirt. Keeping the bilge as clean as possible is an important part of bilge pump maintenance. It only takes a small piece of debris or gunky build up to stop the impeller and render the pump inoperable. Check wiring connections for corrosion. Corroded wire adds resistance to current flow reducing the pump motor's effectiveness. Always use marine grade connectors and heat shrink tubing to prevent corrosion when making repairs.



These proactive measures will help protect your investment and make your boat safer. And you will sleep better knowing your boat will protect itself when things don't go as planned.

~ Chuck Beatty



Brunch/Lunch/Dinner Destinations Past and Future



**Webmaster's Report**  
LT. Dan Patke

The Squadron website, <https://www.usps.org/localusps/patuxent> has been undergoing some subtle changes recently. One of the goals is to be more consistent in our labeling as America's Boating Club and America's Boating Club of Southern Maryland, while maintaining our overarching legacy titles. We have been United States Power Squadrons for over 100 years and Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron for over 50 years. There are many references in the websites of other organizations to the United States Power Squadrons and our educational opportunities and public outreach, but hopefully our new labeling can make us more accessible to the public at large.

While that accessibility is the primary focus for the website, another goal is to be sure that there are features that are useful to squadron members. The squadron newsletter TRUE READINGS is available on the site. The calendar is up to date with upcoming activities and includes details and Google maps to the various venues. There are links to many boating related sites, such as the Coast Guard and NOAA weather. You can access the squadron Facebook page as well.

The website works fairly well on both Android & iPhones. One feature that is not working on smart phones is the squadron calendar, which accesses the Google calendar app. I'll be working on that as I can.

As the webmaster, I am interested in things for the website that would make it more useful and interesting. If you have any suggestions, please send them to me at [prspwebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:prspwebmaster@gmail.com) or track me down at the dinner meeting. If you have experience in website design or html programming, I'd like to ask some questions. In particular, how do I get rid of the annoying "Å" that inserts itself into text just before the registered trademark symbol (®)?



**Ron & Chuck**  
**@ Baltimore Trawler Fest**

**Welcome to our newest 'Official' member:**  
**Karen Bizzarro - 04 August 2023**





## Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron Calendar 2024

Date/time correct as of press time;  
watch your email or Facebook for any changes or visit the squadron web site:  
<https://www.usps.org/localusps/patuxent>

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Contact</u>
1 JAN		<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b>	
4 JAN	1830	Executive Committee Meeting @ Robinson's Home	CDR Brian Storey, S <a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
11 JAN	1730	PRSPS Member Mtg @ The Pier, Solomon's Guest Speakers from the 'Sea Scouts'	CDR Brian Storey, S <a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
17 JAN	1800-2000	ABC Course @ Zahniser's Marina, Solomon's	Lt/C John Torres, AP <a href="mailto:educationofficer@abcsomd.org">educationofficer@abcsomd.org</a>
19 ~ 21 JAN	0900	3rd Chesapeake Bay Boat Show Lutherville Timonium, MD State Fair Grounds	<a href="https://thrchesapeakebayboatshow.com">https://thrchesapeakebayboatshow.com</a>
1 FEB	1830	Executive Committee Meeting @ TBA	CDR Brian Storey, S <a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
8 FEB	1730	PRSPS Member Mtg @ The Pier, Solomon's	CDR Brian Storey, S <a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
17 FEB	1030	PRSPS Luncheon @ 'The Local' 25188 Three Notch Rd, Hollywood, MD	Lt/C Lenore Blevins, S Administrativeofficer <a href="mailto:@abcsomd.org">@abcsomd.org</a>
7 MAR	1830	Executive Committee Meeting @ TBA	CDR Brian Storey, S <a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
14 MAR	1730	PRSPS Member Mtg @ The Pier, Solomon's	CDR Brian Storey, S <a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
20 ~ 24 MAR	1600	D5 Spring Conference Ocean City, MD <b>Bob Blevins D5 Commander!</b>	Lt/C Lenore Blevins, S Administrativeofficer <a href="mailto:@abcsomd.org">@abcsomd.org</a>
MAR	TBA	GREAT LOOP Q & A Guest Speakers	Michelle Beatty <a href="mailto:Milyn68@gmail.com">Milyn68@gmail.com</a>
MAR	TBA	Great Loop Send-off Party Members Embarking 2024	TBA



## Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron Calendar 2024 (Cont'd)

Date/time correct as of press time;  
watch your email or Facebook for any changes or visit the squadron web site:  
<https://www.usps.org/localusps/patuxent>

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Contact</u>
4 APR	1830	Executive Committee Meeting @ TBA	<a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
6 ~ 7 APR	TBA	SOMD Fishing & Outdoor Adventure Fair St. Mary's Fairgrounds <i>(Volunteers Needed, 2hr slots)</i>	TBA
11 APR	1730	PRSPS Member Mtg @ The Pier, Solomon's	<a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
12 ~ 14 APR	1000	Bay Bridge Boat Show Bay Bridge Marina, Stevensville, MD	<a href="https://annapolisboatshows.com/bay-bridge-boat-show/">https://annapolisboatshows.com/bay-bridge-boat-show/</a>
13 APR	TBA	Boating Season Kick-off Picnic TBA ~ Possibly in conjunction with Boat Show?	TBA
APR	TBA	PRSP Cruise #1 Herrington Harbor, MD	Cruise Host Needed
2 MAY	1830	Executive Committee Meeting @ TBA	<a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
9 MAY	1730	PRSPS Member Mtg @ The Pier, Solomon's	<a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
TBD MAY	1230	Vera's Luncheon <i>(by Boat or Land)</i> St. Leonard, MD	<a href="mailto:administrativeofficer@abcsomd.org">administrativeofficer@abcsomd.org</a>
MAY	TBA	MD Boater Safety Course	Lt/C John Torres, AP <a href="mailto:educationofficer@abcsomd.org">educationofficer@abcsomd.org</a>
MAY	TBA	PRSPS Cruise #2 Cambridge, MD	Cruise Host Needed
6 JUN	1830	Executive Committee Meeting @ TBA	<a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
9	0700	Great Chesapeake Bay Swim <i>Boats &amp; Jet Skis needed</i>	Chuck & Michelle Beatty <a href="mailto:Milyn68@gmail.com">Milyn68@gmail.com</a>
13 JUN	1730	PRSPS Member Mtg @ The Pier, Solomon's	<a href="mailto:commander@abcsomd.org">commander@abcsomd.org</a>
JUN	TBA	PRSPS Cruise #3 Deltaville, VA	Cruise Host Needed



**Member Activities & Cruises**

**Impromptu Raft Up  
Clarks Landing  
July 15**



**Mama Duck  
Leonardtownt Warf  
August 4**



**Daniel, Abigail  
& Family**



**Chuck & Michelle**



**David & Kathy**



**Steve & Karen**





## Member Activities & Cruises (Cont'd)



R/LT/C Kenny Perigo  
&

LT/C Bob Blevins  
going thru the receiving line at the  
D5 Flag Raising Ceremony at St.  
Michael's



Blevins' Attending D5 Cruise



Members  
Out  
&  
About





By Land

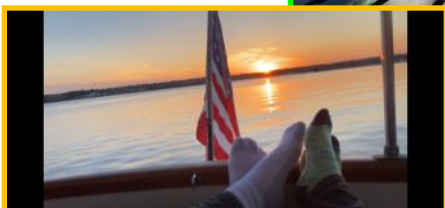
By Sea



Vera's



Relaxation!



The 'Color-less' Cruise



Chief Stew Dinkadoo on watch!



The sites you see on the sea



... 2 weeks later...  
The Color Cruise  
(persistence pays off!)



Anyone recognize this beauty?



Maybe ask Steve or Karen?



### Shore Activities



Hail, hail the gangs all here!



Who are you?  
Ron & Jane's  
Renaming Cere-



Pier450  
Luncheon



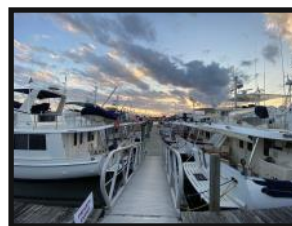
Tried &  
True  
With a  
Few  
New  
Friends



Krogen  
Rendezvous  
@  
Calvert Marina



Till  
we  
meet  
Again!





## Upcoming USPS National and District 5 Events

Put these on your calendar now and keep an eye on the D/5 web site ([www.uspsd5.org](http://www.uspsd5.org)) throughout the year for details and updates on these and other events.

### USPS Annual Meeting

Rosen Plaza, Orlando, FL  
6-11 Feb 2024

### District 5 Spring Conference

Holiday Inn – Ocean City in  
(as you may have guessed) Ocean City, MD  
20-24 March 2024

◇ See <https://www.uspsd5.org/> for details

◇

2024 D/5 Spring Conference fillable registration form:  
[https://www.uspsd5.org/events/2024/22634\\_fillable%20registration.pdf](https://www.uspsd5.org/events/2024/22634_fillable%20registration.pdf)

◇

◇ Hospitality Suite Reservation  
[https://www.uspsd5.org/events/2024/22634\\_hospitality%20suite%20reservation.pdf](https://www.uspsd5.org/events/2024/22634_hospitality%20suite%20reservation.pdf)

### Summer Rendezvous & Council

Spring Cove Marina  
25-28 Jul, 2024, 1900

### USPS Governing Board

Pittsburgh, PA  
25-29 Sep

#### ***NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT:***

A busy time is coming up for National and District 5. Our own District 5/Squadron mate, Ralph Benard will be installed as the USPS National Chief Commander at the National Spring Conference in Orlando, Florida the 1<sup>st</sup> of February. Shortly thereafter, the District 5 Change of Command will take place at the Holiday Inn in Ocean City during the D5 Spring Conference. ***Word has it that Bob Blevins is to installed as the D5 Commander for 2024/25. If you can attend, please do!***

Plans are ongoing for the D5 Summer Rendezvous/Council to be held at Solomons Island this coming 25 thru 28 July. If you have some time to support this event, please let me know. We need volunteers to make all the events happen. National XO Ralph Bernard (soon to be USPS Chief Commander) is leading a fleet of boats to Solomons from the northern part of the Bay and Jim Zigler is leading a flotilla of boats to Solomons from the southern part of the bay.

The Chapman Award is the most prestigious award given to the best teacher in all of USPS and is awarded at the National Spring Conference. However, the National Educational Committee evaluated all submittals from all USPS Districts and decided to not award the Chapman Award this year because they thought that none of the submittals met the Award expectations. There is a lot of controversy presently ongoing between all Districts and National about the lack of awards for this year. More as this develops...

V/R  
D-5 XO Bob Blevins, AP



**District 5** is currently working with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science Foundation (VIMS) for a pilot shallow water survey to be conducted with Northern Neck and Dundalk Sail & Power Squadrons for creating processes/procedures, prior to opening the project to the rest of District 5 Squadrons.

This program is a draw for trailer boaters up to 30 ft. to gather data in depths 6 ft or less tributaries, creeks, etc. This data when sent to VIMS will be used for soil management, hurricane erosion predictions, etc. and incorporated into NOAA graphs. See the VIMS article by Squadron member Richard Lafferty below.

## **THE COASTAL RESILIENCE “PILOT PROJECT”**

A Collaboration with (1) Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS)– Center for Coastal Resources Management (CCRM) & (2) Virginia Institute of Marine Science Foundation

Collect “SHALLOW WATER” depth data for: Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model Phase 7  
By Richard Lafferty, Member; Delaware River Power Squadron,  
Treasurer; Virginia Institute of Marine Science Foundation

Two District 5 Squadrons have requested to conduct the “pilot” program for shallow water depth surveys in their local areas to collaborate data gathering/transferring to **VIMS**. Volunteers of these two squadrons in their own trailer/small boats equipped with various brands of GPS/chart plotters will cruise in shallow water areas (less than six feet deep) to create “track lines”, while their transducer “pings” for depth to get accurate depth readings along coasts, bays, and tributary rivers of the Chesapeake Bay. The sonar systems creating the track lines are estimated to collect depth data over a track that is approximately 150 feet wide each. As this project entails transiting shallow water, where there could be hazards to navigation, each survey vessel will need to exercise extreme care to operate at safe speeds at all times.

**The VIMS Center for Coastal Resource Management (CCRM)** has been asked to explain how volunteer crews are to conduct their survey, presently only general guidance can be given. Each squadron will select a survey area of their own choosing. Each squadron should contribute a maximum of up to five boats, each boat manned by at least one observer who communicates by marine radio with the entire survey group, while the captain concentrates on navigation. It would be helpful in the survey of a tributary river, for the survey team to survey to the “head of navigable water” (depending on the draft of the survey vessel) probably to a depth of no less than three (3) feet. Logically, going “UP RIVER,” teams should hug the starboard side of the river, and the port side on their “DOWN RIVER” track. If charts of the river suggest that the shallow depth area of less than six feet is broad, then pairs of boats abeam is more ideal area coverage than a “follow the leader” strategy. When transiting along the shallow water coastline of a major river, to maximize the coverage area it would be important for the group to cruise in “line abreast” formation where all of the boats are on each other’s beam. If four survey vessels are in this formation the combination of transpond, when a specific hazard to navigation has been discovered to more completely document the rack widths could fully cover a width of approximately 600 feet. The fifth vessel can trail behind to exact geographic position and nature of the hazard.

Surveying an expanse of shallow water adjacent to a shoreline is more valuable than transiting an area of equal depth further out in the middle of the river - but the ideal is to accurately identify bottom depths in all survey zone areas that are less than six feet deep. The group effort will result in comprehensive depth data in the minimum amount of time for the area that the survey teams covered. (**Don’t break formation**). Each team should also compose an “after action report” to help inform future effort.

There will need to be coordination between the volunteer teams and **VIMS CCRM**. Specifically, each survey vessel’s unique configuration of the distance between the transducer, it’s depth location and the GPS unit needs to be measured and that data given to **VIMS Center for Coastal Resource Management (CCRM)**. Volunteers will be able to download track data from their SD CARD in the GPS unit directly to **VIMS** and able to see their TRACKS at a **VIMS** web address. **VIMS** will have the underlying depth data and which will enhance the effectiveness of the **VIMS SCHISM MODEL** already selected by the **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY** as the NEW standard hydro-graphic model of the Chesapeake Bay starting 2025.

To learn about the SCHISM MODEL:

<https://www.vims.edu/newsandevents/topstories>

(EPA selects VIMS model as bell weather for Bay health (Jan 18, 2022).

*Cont’d on pg 11*



## THE COASTAL RESILIENCE “PILOT PROJECT” *Cont'd from pg 10*

In addition to enhancing the effectiveness of the SCHISM model **VIMS** is a “trusted (data) node” to NOAA (National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration) If the Pilot Program succeeds and subsequently District 5 conducts a broad depth data gathering project throughout the Bay, **VIMS** will be sending this data to (1) NOAA INTEGRATED OCEAN & COASTAL MAPPING PROGRAM; (2) NOAA NATIONAL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION and; (3) INTER-NATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION DATA CENTER FOR DIGITAL BATHYMETRY. For instance, parts of the Potomac River were last surveyed in 1910.

The shallow water depth data project is potentially, a major multi-year public service project for all **District 5** Squadrons on the Chesapeake Bay. We hope to publicize the project - to encourage greater “on the water” member involvement for trailer/small boats. Any individual member, armed with the right GPS/chart plotter equipment could submit their own home creek track data to the **VIMS** website, not from just a single track in and out, but from numerous trips over a period of time, the same result a team effort could produce in hours. Volunteer teams are needed to cover areas that are more remote, to rapidly do a proper survey. The member squadrons of District 5 are the ideal source of volunteer teams, equipped with their own boats, using their boating experience and local knowledge, distributed around the bay, with the sonar gear to complete this essential data collection effort.

**It is planned that District 5 Squadrons** will begin this project in summer 2024. This data would:

- \* Enhance the resilience of communities, making them safer from storm water surge and is a worthwhile public service project.
- \* Shallow water depth data is critically important for (a) Chesapeake Bay Watershed Model Phase 7; (b) shoreline erosion studies (c) wave attenuation programs (d) more accurate computation of sea level changes and computations for storm surge.

For more information contact Bob Blevins @ [bob.blevins@corpemail.biz](mailto:bob.blevins@corpemail.biz)





**RESERVATION FORM**  
*America's Boating Club – Mid-Atlantic*  
**United States Power Squadrons® D/5 Spring Conference**  
**21 – 24 March 2024**  
**Holiday Inn Oceanfront, 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:**

Chicken Marsala: served with seasonal vegetables and rice pilaf. # \_\_\_ @ \$35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Vegetable Lasagna: served with seasonal vegetables and rice pilaf. # \_\_\_ @ \$35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Selections served with: House Salad, Regular and Decaf Coffee and Tea

**SATURDAY BANQUET ENTREE CHOICES:**

Atlantic Salmon: Marinated in soy sauce and ginger. # \_\_\_ @ \$47.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Tri Tip Steak: Served with red wine demi-glaze. # \_\_\_ @ \$47.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Vegetarian Spinach Ravioli: Served with roasted wild mushrooms, vodka sauce, and shaved pecorino cheese. # \_\_\_ @ \$47.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Selections Served with: House Salad, Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls & Butter, Apple Pie, Regular and Decaf Coffee and Tea.

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Children: Chicken Tenders with honey mustard or BBQ sauce, milk or chocolate milk, caffeine-free soda, cookies and brownies # \_\_\_ @ \$20.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Checks Payable to: Rockville Sail & Power Squadron**

**SEND TO:** D/Lt/C Gene Danko  
 24892 Magnolia Circle  
 Millsboro, DE 19966  
 (860-214-4779) (gene.danko@snet.net)

**MEAL RESERVATIONS must  
 be received by 1 March 2024**

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

**MAKE ROOM RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY WITH HOTEL - Call Reservations Department at 410-524-1600**

**Use the Reservation Group Code: US Power Squadron Spring Conference 2024**  
 Holiday Inn Oceanfront Hotel 8600 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842

- Non-Smoking Venue - Handicapped Rooms available upon request
  - Baggage handling, if applicable, is \$8.00 per person, round trip.
  - Check-in 1600 hours, checkout 1100 hours.
- Rates:** Thursday 21 March: \$89.00. Friday 22 March: \$134.00. Saturday 23 March: \$134.00.
- Reservations will automatically be billed for one night.
  - Rates listed do not include taxes.

**ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 20 FEBRUARY 2024 TO ENSURE USPS® RATES**



Members needed to man the booth in 1 ~ 2 hr blocks during the fair. Earn Merit Marks while having fun!

# Southern Maryland Fishing & Outdoor Adventure Fair 2024

St. Mary's County Fairgrounds  
Leonardtown, Maryland

April 6 – 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
April 7 - 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM



### Fishing & Outdoor Vendors

Rods/Reels, Lures, Umbrellas, Tackle,  
Outdoor Sports Gear, Paintings, Crafts & More

**Featuring  
Speakers**

**Food**

**Wine Tasting**

**Kids Casting Contest**

**50/50**

**Door Prizes**



**Admission \$5 Cash at Entrance**  
**Kids age 12 and under Free**

### Maryland Boater Safety Course

**Class Starts, Saturday 09:00 AM**

**Exam and Certification, Sunday 09:00 AM**

**America's Boating Club**

**Register at: 240-561-8910 or  
contact@abcsomd.org**



Sponsored by the  
Southern Maryland Recreational Fishing Organization, Inc.  
[Facebook](#)

**Vendor Registration at:  
flypax@md.metrocast.net**



## Editor's Report Michelle Beatty

### Welcome to True Readings Newsletter 2024!

What you will find in our newsletters are squadron business as well as photos of activities, cruises, pop-ups and more from our Squadron members both scheduled and unscheduled. We will also bring you news from District and Nationals.

Please send pictures (with photographer name and short blurb about it), recipes, product reviews, before/after photos with story, or anything else you feel might be of interest to our readers. Activities could include family boating & community events outside of squadron activities in addition to squadron organized functions.

Our last newsletter we featured "Member Vessels" and "Member Adventures". This newsletter has "Maintenance Spotlight". We will alternate our spotlights so Chuck Beatty is looking for a member to interview about their vessel for February's newsletter (ANY vessel, large or small). Please email us if you'd like us to spotlight your vessel.

"Member Adventures" are to be written & submitted by members with photos of their adventures. Don't worry if you're not a good writer, we will edit your story for you. Just make sure to have all the details and we will edit it as needed.

"Maintenance Spotlight" suggestions can be emailed & as well as photos for quality printable photos to the editor. We will pull some photos from Facebook but prefer emailed photos. [prpseditor@gmail.com](mailto:prpseditor@gmail.com) is our email address and anything newsletter related, or questions should be sent to this address. ~ Lt Michelle Beatty, Editor

**"He calmed the storms to a whisper and stilled the waves." – Psalms 107:29**



### Fun Facts

During World War II over 3,000 USPS members entered the armed forces.

USPS developed courses in first aid, signaling, motor mechanics, air navigation, weather, seamanship and instruction techniques. Classes provided instruction for both service personnel and civilians.

### TRUE READINGS

The monthly newsletter of the Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron,  
a unit of District 5  
United States Power Squadrons®

#### Editorial Staff

Michelle Beatty, Editor  
Chuck Beatty, Editorial Support

PO Box 173, Lexington Park, MD 20653

Copy deadline is the 25th of the month preceding the issue date.  
Send all articles, ideas and comments to: [prpseditor@gmail.com](mailto:prpseditor@gmail.com).  
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# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

For Boaters, By Boaters™

PATUXENT RIVER SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON  
A UNIT OF DISTRICT 5

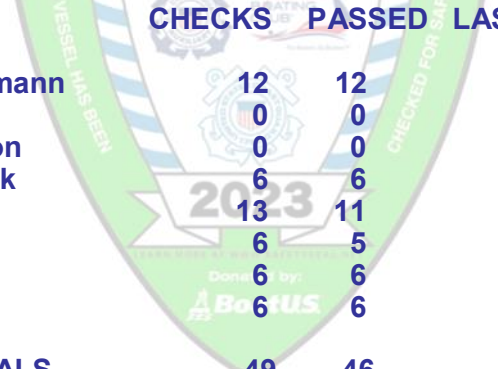
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS  
VESSEL SAFETY CHECK FOR YEAR- 2023

DATE: 1/03/2024

DIST# 05

SQUAD: Patuxent River Sail & Power Squadron

DECALS SENT: 55



The decal is a shield-shaped emblem with a green border. At the top, it says 'VESSEL SAFETY CHECK'. Inside the shield, there are two columns of numbers: 'CHECKS' and 'PASSED'. The year '2023' is prominently displayed in the center. At the bottom, it says 'Done by: A BoatUS'. The left side of the shield has the text 'THIS VESSEL HAS BEEN' and the right side has 'CHECKED FOR SAFETY'.

NAME	CHECKS	PASSED	LAST CHECK DATE
James A. Brueggemann	12	12	7/01/2023
James W. Dawson	0	0	5/25/2022
Patricia Ann Dawson	0	0	4/12/2022
Donald W. Kilpatrick	6	6	6/29/2023
Daniel Allen Patke	13	11	7/01/2023
Kenneth T. Perigo	6	5	7/01/2023
David A. Robinson	6	6	8/27/2023
John Torres	6	6	8/13/2023
<b>PRSPS TOTALS</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>46</b>	

## Squadron Bridge

2023 - 2024

### Commander

CDR Brian Storey, S

[commander@abcsomd.org](mailto:commander@abcsomd.org)

### Executive Officer

Lt/C Steve Bizzarro, P

[executiveofficer@abcsomd.org](mailto:executiveofficer@abcsomd.org)

### Administrative Officer

Lt/C Lenore Blevins, S

[administrativeofficer@abcsomd.org](mailto:administrativeofficer@abcsomd.org)

### Assistant Administrative Officer

1st/Lt Steve Lyle, P

### Education Officer

Lt/C John Torres, AP

[educationofficer@abcsomd.org](mailto:educationofficer@abcsomd.org)

### Treasurer

Lt/C Kathy Robinson, P

[treasurer@abcsomd.org](mailto:treasurer@abcsomd.org)

### Secretary

Lt/C Michele Torres, P

[secretary@abcsomd.org](mailto:secretary@abcsomd.org)

### Newsletter Editors

Lt Michelle Beatty

Lt Chuck Beatty

[prpseditor@gmail.com](mailto:prpseditor@gmail.com)

### WEBMASTER

Lt Dan Patke

[prpswebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:prpswebmaster@gmail.com)

Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron  
(240) 561-8910

[contact@abcsomd.org](mailto:contact@abcsomd.org)

The opinions expressed by contributors to True Readings are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or official policies of the Patuxent Sail & Power Squadron or the United States Power Squadrons®.