

Anchor



Watch



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Annapolis, Maryland

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Commander's Message Cdr Ralph Leasure, P

The Summer Council meeting has come and gone, and, despite the extreme temperatures and the powerful thunderstorms, I think it was a great success. I am glad that we decided to sponsor the meeting as it reflects well on Annapolis Sail & Power Squadron.

I especially want to thank Georgiana Maszczenski and Peggy Slattery for their hard work in planning and executing a terrific get together for the district. Thanks also to all those who volunteered to help out with a variety of tasks during the meeting. The pot luck dinner was a big hit and it will be fun to see the recipes come together in a booklet as a remembrance.

Thanks also to Mike Maszczenski for an interesting and informative presentation about available boating applications and also To Terry Slattery for his work with attendees on crafts and helping Mike with boating applications. The presentations on America's Boating Channel were also valuable.

The Governing board will meet in Kansas City and despite the fact that I can't attend we will be well represented.

I'm looking forward to hear from Dick & Phyllis Radsinski at the September dinner meeting. Let's make an extreme effort to fill the room with guests and try to recruit as many new members as possible.

Happy trails,
Ralph Leasure, P
Commander

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Executive Officer
Lt/C Diane Leasure

In my July article, I mentioned some books that I enjoyed reading about boaters' experiences traveling the Great Loop or sailing across the oceans. A recurring theme in all the books I read was the many friendships these individuals made along the way.

I had the pleasure of connecting and reconnecting with boating friends during the District Five Summer Council Meeting and the ASPS's recent excursion to John and Betty Wilmot's beautiful home on the shores of Deep Creek Lake. One of the many benefits of membership in the ASPS are the friendships we make along the way. It is always fun sharing boating experiences, helping to solve a particular issue someone may be having with his/her boat, and to plan future boating trips and get-togethers.

What has always impressed me the most is the diverse nature of each person's life experiences. Although sharing the antics of grandchildren is a given, I always enjoy hearing about how someone spent his/her pre-retirement life at home or on the job. Hearing about someone's past profession and life stories adds a rich dimension to a person whom we may have simply labeled as a fellow boater. Like the friendships mentioned in the books I read, ASPS friendships are special.

I encourage you all to join your ASPS friends at the upcoming Annapolis boat shows. Signing up to work at the ASPS booth will provide another opportunity to learn more about the boater working the booth with you. The next page has links to the sign-up sheets.




You need an
ASPS Logo Jacket
<http://asps.qbstores.com>



Annapolis Fall Sailboat Show

Thursday, 12 October - Sunday, 15 October
Volunteer at the booth
sponsored by ASPS




[Sign up here](#)

Note: When you get to the sign up page,
Above calendar at the right you see  
Click  LIST VIEW and then select a slot.

Annapolis Power Boat Show

Thursday, 05 October - Sunday, 08 October
Volunteer at the booth
sponsored by ASPS

[Sign up here](#)

Note: When you get to the sign up page,
Above calendar at the right you see  
Click  LIST VIEW and then select a slot.



Administrative Officer
Lt/C Peggy Slattery, S

Just like that – it's September. As the days get shorter and the weather becomes milder, another great time for being out on the water starts. We've had some great days this summer, but I am hoping for even better times – without all that heat!

That said, I can report that Bill Museler did a great job with our raft up in Eagle Cove. We had 4 boats attending, with 1 boat passing by! Yes, the Hughes were out for the weekend, so they floated by to say hello! It turned out to be a beautiful day. We enjoyed great food and wonderful conversation.

The next weekend saw some of our members off to Deep Creek Lake. John and Betty Wilmot once again hosted a great weekend event. Attendees could try water skiing. Only Dick Radlinski, an associate member from Kent Narrows, was tempted into trying. The rest were happy to go for a boat ride or just enjoy the view.

Speaking of the Radlinskis – they will be our speakers at the September dinner meeting. They will share their adventures boating the Great Loop. It will be a great opportunity to meet up with members you might have not seen since May! We hope to see you there.

We'll also have our annual picnic this month. Mark your calendar for September 30. We'll be at the Bay Ridge Clubhouse once again. It will be a fun time. It will be a **great** time if you consider volunteering to help out at this event. We'll need people to round up supplies, help with set up, help with clean up, and other various tasks. It's a one time event, so if you have considered how you can help out in the past, here is your opportunity! We look forward to working with you on this great event!



"Now and then we had a hope that if we lived and were good, God would permit us to be pirates."

— Mark Twain,
Life on the Mississippi



Congratulations to Captain Ralph Leasure

ASPS Commander Ralph Leasure successfully completed The Annapolis School of Seamanship's Merchant Mariner Credential Course in February 2023 and received his Coast Guard issued Captain's License. The following is an interview regarding the course.

Q: Why did you decide to take this course?

A: My main motivation for taking the course was to improve my boating and navigation skills. A secondary reason was to reduce the insurance premium on our trawler. Unlike some others who took the course when I did, I have no intention of chartering cruises for pay.

Q: What did the course involve?

A: There were 80 hours of classroom instruction followed by a four-part examination. To pass the course, a student needs to get a 90% or better score on the first two parts of the exam (Rules and Navigation) and a 70% or better score on the final two parts of the exam (Deck and General). All parts of the examination were closed book, but students have access to some resources, such as Chart I (NOAA chart).

Q: Do you obtain your Captain's License after you complete the course and pass all four parts of the examination?

A: No. After the course is completed and you pass all four parts of the examination, you need to apply to the United States Coast Guard for a Captain's License. In addition to completing an application, you must pass a physical and a drug test, and submit a verified log of your boating experience. You also need to obtain a TWIC card (Transportation Worker's Identification Card) and successfully complete an in-person CPR course. The Coast Guard reviews the application and submitted materials and decides whether to issue a Captain's License to the applicant and the type of license to be issued. I received a 50-ton Captain's License. If a student wants a sailing or towing endorsement, there are other exams that need to be successfully completed before either endorsement is issued.

Q: What were the classroom days like?

A: You receive a lot of information on Day #1 and that continues throughout the course. I felt very overwhelmed by the end of the first week of class, but it all started to come together by the middle of the second week. The periodic practice tests were very beneficial.

Q: What were the nights like during the time you were taking the course?

A: There was a lot of homework involved and I usually spent 4-5 hours a night studying, doing plotting, doing set and drift problems, and memorizing the various lights and flags patterns of vessels in different situations. It was intense, but the extra effort was well worth it.

Q: What was the hardest part of the course?

A: Memorizing the different lights and flags configurations. We needed to know the different configurations for sail, power, and commercial vessels in all kinds of situations. The course required us to know both the International Rules and the Inland Rules which differ when it comes to lights and flags configurations for the different vessels in various situations.

Q: If you had it to do all over again, would you?

A: Absolutely. The course was worthwhile, and I learned a lot that pertains to being on the water and doing it safely.



ASPS Raft-up
Eagle Cove, Magothy River
Saturday, August 5, 2023



Bill Museler hosted a lovely raftup. We had four boats, two of which stayed overnight. **Fantastic** sailed by, so I guess the count was actually five. Great eats and a fun time meeting up with other ASPS members.





Saturday, September 30, 2023
Bay Ridge Marina Clubhouse
on Lake Ogleton
80 East Lake Drive,
Annapolis, MD 21403
12:30 PM to 3:30 PM
Rain or Shine

Catered by Happy Chicken of Chestertown

Pulled Pork BBQ, Fried Chicken, BBQ Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Cornbread,
Macaroni & Cheese, Assorted Cookies, Iced Tea, Bottled Water.

RSVP by Wednesday, 27 September to gmaszczenski@hotmail.com

\$20, pay at the door or
Make checks payable to
"Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron"
Mail to:
Lorrie Short
1630 Stream Valley Overlook
Severn, MD 21144

You are welcome to contribute a side dish,
other beverages, or dessert. It is not required.

We need someone to organize the volunteers,
preferably someone who has been at the ASPS picnic before.

We need some people to set up before picnic,
assist during picnic, and clean up afterwards.

Please let us know in your RSVP
how you plan to help at the picnic!



Boating Links to Browse

From the Maryland Transportation Authority - An open house to discuss the [Chesapeake Bay Crossing Study](#)

From Practical Sailor - An article of interest to all of us: [how to stop mildew in our boat cushions](#).

From Chesapeake Bay Magazine - Travel the ICW on solar power!
<https://chesapeakebaymagazine.com/electric-motor-company-attempts-chesapeake-to-miami-endurance-record/>

For trip ideas in the Chesapeake Bay area: <https://www.findyourchesapeake.com/trip-ideas/article/featured-tips-this-week>

This site changes frequently. Bookmark it and return on a regular basis for all sorts of activities in the area.

Celestial Tools - Download the latest version of this application to gain access to the new features and ensure the most accurate results. A description of the code, including download instructions, can be found on the USPS website. Log in at www.usps.org/member-s-log-in and go to the Navigation Committee Page. Click on "Offshore Navigation" and then click on Celestial Tools. For those familiar with the application, you can download it directly from <https://github.com/unitedstatespowersquadrons/celestial-tools/archive/master.zip>. Email: [Mike Guler](mailto:Mike.Guler@usps.gov)

From Practical Sailor: How long will your [nylon rope really last?](#)

For more nautical-related links, see the "Links Page" on the ASPS website: <http://aspsmd.org/wrappers/pages.php>





Educational Officer

Lt/C Michael Maszczenski, Jr., N

From Marty Lafferty - America's Boating Channel is releasing the newest video on AIS. Several of the ABC-MidAtlantic members participated in this production. Here is a preview link to see it first - [INTRODUCING AIS](#). You will notice Terry Slattery and I participated in the production. In July [TOWED SPORTS SAFETY](#) was released. Check it out also, and don't forget to get the America's Boating Channel on ROKU.

The ASPS Education committee has met and we will be sending information out with the next Anchor Watch. ABC-Midatlantic is offering **Instructor Certification** starting in September, and a recertification seminar in October see ads below.

If you are interested in being a certified instructor there is a nine class course to become certified. This certification allows you to teach the ABC course and award the certificates that everyone needs to operate a recreational vessel in Maryland. The course will begin September 6, 2023, Wednesdays. The full schedule will be arranged after the first class. There will be nine classes. This will be a Zoom course. Please let me know if you are interested. Use the registration link or mail Edofficer@aspsmd.org or michaelm_aacps@hotmail.com.

For those who have or had an Instructors Certificate it can be renewed. The Instructor Recertification seminar will be held October 3, 2023 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Please use the registration link to reserve your spot.



Register for this course: [Register Here](#)

Registration for All ASPS Sponsored Courses

Please register as soon as possible. Materials must be ordered, and materials pick-up arranged for the virtual classes. [Click Here to Register](#) or email seo@aspsmd.org, or call 410-739-7800. If you do not get an answer, please leave voice mail with contact information. When registered, you will receive an email confirmation. Other information and directions will be emailed as the start date for the course or seminar approaches.

We are saddened by the passing of Philip L. Rondeau on August 4, 2023.

Phil joined the United States Power Squadrons in 1988 and was a 20 year member of the Annapolis Sail & Power Squadron.



**Ice Cream Social
Slattery Pool House
August 17, 2023**

A beautiful evening! A really fun time! About 30 folks participated. Many thanks go to Terry and Peggy Slattery for hosting the event.







Small Boat Safety

Lord of the Electrons, Terry Slattery, Safety Officer

Small boats have their own set of safety concerns that differ from those of larger vessels. You're probably thinking of something like a 14 foot runabout with a small engine. But a lot of the same concerns exist for smaller vessels like rigid inflatables, or for smaller craft like kayaks, paddle boards, and rowing/sailing dinghies.

If your small boat is equipped with a motor, it should have a kill lanyard that you clip onto your clothing. It stops the motor if you fall overboard, preventing the boat from continuing to run. The main safety concern is to keep the boat from circling around and running over you, or from hitting other vessels. I talked about a new kill switch law in the May, 2021 issue of the Anchor Watch.

You should also make sure that your small boat is outfitted with the proper lighting if there's even a remote chance that you'll be out after dark. There's a short discussion of the requirements and a link to the US Coast Guard regulations here: <https://www.boatingmag.com/navlightregs/>.

The regulations vary according to the vessel size and propulsion, so read carefully. If in doubt, more lights are better as they'll help avoid larger vessels spot you in poor visibility situations. There are many lighting solutions available from online sellers, so there's no excuse for not being well lit. In an emergency, you can even flash the light from your cell phone back and forth at an oncoming vessel.

When towing, use two lines that connect to different connection points. The goal is to handle the situation where a line chafes through or a towing attachment to the small boat fails. Then unload the dinghy before towing. We've seen waves and wind suddenly pick up dinghies and spill their contents, including fuel jugs, motors, and bags of trash. It makes sense to tow in settled weather and short distances. Otherwise, bring it aboard. In cases where the tender is too big to bring aboard, remove anything you don't wish to lose. It's also a good idea to check the towing configuration on a periodic basis so that you can address developing problems early.

Use the drain plug! Install it before launching the small boat and remove it when retrieving or hoisting it to allow residual water to drain. If necessary, create a checklist and use it to make sure that you don't miss the essential step of installing or removing the drain plug.

You should take the time to outfit your small boat with appropriate safety equipment. PFDs with whistles and lights are always a critical item. Carrying a small waterproof flashlight is good insurance against being out after dark. It's a great idea to carry a DSC enabled VHF handheld radio for more serious emergencies. The new models include GPS capability so it can issue DSC emergency calls to nearby vessels. Don't forget to carry a means of bailing. Kayaks often carry a small hand pump. Dinghies can be equipped with a milk jug scoop that includes a built-in handle for tying to the boat. <https://www.familyhandyman.com/article/milk-jug-scoop/>



**Wilmot's Water World
Home of
John and Betty Rouse Wilmot
Deep Creek Lake
August 11 - August 14, 2023**



It was a wonderful weekend. The weather cooperated with temps in the 70s and a lovely breeze the entire time. We ate good food., went for boat rides, played word games, laughed, chatted, sang songs, and enjoyed ourselves thoroughly. About 20 folks participated in the event.

Many thanks go to John and Betty Rouse Wilmot for hosting the weekend.





Changes to your phone number, address, e-mail?
Please contact P/C Gary Budesheim, SN
at roster@aspsmd.org or (302) 538-5276.



Check out our web site at
<http://aspsmd.org/>



P/R/C William C. Eldridge, SN

Vessel Safety Check

To arrange for a VSC for your boat,
contact Bill at ysc@aspsmd.org.



**Distict 5 Council
Lankford Bay Marina
Chester River
July 28 - July 30, 2023**

It was a hot weekend. But, over sixty folks participated in activities and meals. A Boating Apps seminar was well attended and craft sessions were a hit.



ASPS Dinner Meeting

Thursday, September 7, 2023

Elks Lodge
2 Pythian Drive, Edgewater, MD 21037

6:00 PM - Social Hour

7:00 PM - Dinner

7:30 - Speaker - Phyllis and Dick Radlinski

**Cruising America's Great Loop, a 6,000-mile trip by boat
around the Eastern half of the US & parts of Canada.**

Meal includes: Soup, Meatloaf, Pulled Chicken BBQ,
Red Bliss Potatoes, Green Beans,
Dinner Rolls and Butter, Desserts
Vegetarian Option (select when reserving dinner) -
Pasta Primavera w/red sauce

RSVP by Monday, September 4, 4 PM to
aspsdinnerreservations@gmail.com
or call Lorrie at 410-305-0232

\$25.00 per person by cash or check at the door.
Make checks payable to Annapolis Elks.

Note: All no-show reservations are
responsible for the cost of the dinner.



Speakers for the Dinner Meeting September 7, 2023

Phyllis and Dick Radlinski, members of the Kent Narrows Sail and Power Squadron, America's Great Loop Cruisers Association, and associate members of the Annapolis and Sarasota Power Squadrons.

Cruising America's Great Loop, a 6,000-mile trip by boat around the Eastern half of the US & parts of Canada.

Dick and Phyllis will talk about making the Great Loop trip on their 34 ft. trawler-style boat *Wye Tug*. The trip started (and ended) at their home dock on the Wye River. In the course of the Loop they travelled many major rivers, including the Hudson, Illinois, Mississippi, Ohio and Tennessee. They passed through 18 states, 2 Canadian Provinces, and 3 Great Lakes, encountering and passing through 160 locks along the way.



Phyllis and Dick in Peterborough Lift Lock



Calendar of Coming Events



www.usps.org



www.uspsd5.org



www.aspsmd.org



America's
Boating Club at
Kent Narrows
[Web Page](#)

America's
Boating Club/
Baltimore/
Dundalk
[Web Page](#)

United States Power Squadrons® Events

District 5 Events

05-08	Power Boat Show
12-15	Sailboat Show

Squadron Events for Annapolis and Nearby Squadrons

07 Sep	ASPS Dinner Meeting
09 Sep	Raft-up - Shaw Bay
28 Sep	ASPS Exec Bd meeting - ZOOM
30 Sep	ASPS Picnic
05 Oct	ASPS Dinner Meeting
26 Oct	ASPS Exec Bd meeting - ZOOM
02 Nov	ASPS Dinner Meeting

For a complete list of ASPS Squadron Events, see:

<http://www.aspsmd.org/calendar/month.php>

SUNSHINE LADY

If you know of anyone sick or in the hospital,
please contact our sunshine lady.

Betty Rouse Wilmot
sunshine@aspsmd.org



ASPS Squadron Leadership 2023 -2024

Bridge

Commander: Cdr Ralph Leasure, P

Chaplain: P/C Howard Cupples, JN

Flag Lieutenant: P/C Stu Myers, AP

Merit Mark Chairman: P/C Lee Myers, AP

Law Officer: P/C Anthony Martin, JN

Executive Officer: Lt/C Diane Leasure

Vessel Safety Chair: P/R/C William C. Eldridge, SN

Safety Officer: 1st/Lt Terry Slattery

Communications Chair: P/C Anthony Martin, JN

Coop. Charting Chair: P/C Ron Ricketts, AP

Administrative Officer: Lt/C Peggy Slattery, S

Asst Admin Officer: P/Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S

Membership Chair:

Boating Activities Chair:

Educational Officer: St/C Michael Maszczenski, Jr., N

Asst Educ Officer: 1st/Lt Patrick McGeehan, P

BOC Chair

Operations Training: P/C Stu Myers, AP

Secretary: Lt/C Carol Rechner, SN

Asst Secretary: 1st/Lt Linda Sweeting

Webmaster: Cdr Ralph Leasure, S

Historian: P/C Peggy Slattery, S

Newsletter Editor: P/Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S

Treasurer: Lt/C Lorrie Short

Asst Treasurer:

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P/Lt/C Susan Gilbert, S

P/Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S

P/D/C Jeffrey Short, JN-IN

Edwin Sunderland, JN

P/C John Wilmot, JN-IN

Immediate Past Commander:

P/C Bruce Arey, JN

Audit Committee:

William Klepczynski, JN

Homer Sandridge, N

Nominating Committee:

P/C Bruce Arey, JN

Diane Leasure

Cdr Ralph Leasure, P

P/C Peggy Slattery, S

P/C John Wilmot, JN-IN

Rules Committee:

P/C Stu Myers, AP, Chair

P/D/C Jeff Short JN-IN

Budget Committee:

P/D/C Jeff Short, Chair

**Anchor Watch
Deadline for October Newsletter:
Tuesday September 19, 2023**

**Direct all material to:
Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S
anchorwatch@aspsmd.org**

