

# Anchor



# Watch



Official publication of the Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron  
District 5, a unit of United States Power Squadrons®



May 2024

Annapolis, Maryland

Volume 83, Number 5



## Commander's Message Cdr Jeff Short, JN-IN

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of a great friend of ours, P/D/C Marty Lafferty. He is well known for being the brain and brawn behind the wildly popular safe boating channel, America's Boating Channel. For me, he was much more than that. He and his wife Sari were terrific friends and mentors. He gave me the confidence to take on leadership roles in the squadron and district. I will never forget his

infectious smile and how he always had to stoop over just a little bit to get down to my level. He was bigger than life, and literally seemed to be seven feet tall. He leaves a big hole in our lives, and will be sorely missed.



We had a great time at the 2024 District 5 Spring Council, Conference and Change of Watch. This event gets more fun every year. You really ought to think about attending in the future. Ocean City is quite nice in the off season. After many years at the Princess Royale, we tried the Holiday Inn this year. It is a very nice venue and puts all the daily events, including the banquet, on one floor, within close proximity to each other.

The weekend started out on Thursday night with a delicious ice cream social hosted by District Commander Joe Gibson and his Chief Aide Rosa Gibson. Friday was busy with officer training, instructor recertification training conducted by Mike Maszczenski, and other extremely interesting presentations. DEO John O'Reilly helped us understand how to get around National's website, which is chock full of information, but extremely frustrating to navigate if you don't know how. Fortunately, National is close to changing its IT systems over to IMUS, which will make navigating the website and their databases much easier.

Another interesting presentation was done by the folks at William and Mary's Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences (VIMS) about their Depth and Recovery Program. The program seeks to do two things. One is to locate and recover abandoned and lost crab pots (<https://www.vims.edu/about/search/?q=recovering+crab+pots>). There are tens of thousands of crab pots out in the bay which continue to catch all manner of wildlife. When Virginia

### Table of Contents

Commander's Message	1
Boat Show Sign-up	4
Executive Officer	5
Admin Officer's Report	6
May Dinner Meeting	8
April Meeting Pics	9
Dinner Delights	11
Boating Links	12
Educational Officers Report	13
Ladies' Lunch	16
Safety Report	17
Web Update	18
Wilmots Water World	19
Notices	20
Calendar of Events	21
Leadership	22

closed the winter crab dredging season, this program hired waterman to locate and recover these pots. So far, they have collected over 35,000 pots full of crabs, 41 species of fish, diving birds, muskrats and turtles, including diamondback terrapins. The abandoned pots are self baiting. As animals get trapped and die, they provide bait. The pots keep catching and killing endlessly.

The VIMS Coastal Resilience Project is designed to collect depth data in the shallow water tributaries of the bay in order to create models to help mitigate flooding and pollution from storm surge and rising water levels. Dundalk and Northern Neck squadrons, from District 5, are participating in a pilot program to assist with data collection, which entails collecting depth soundings in areas that are 6 feet or less. Initial volunteers would need a shallow draft boat, of course, but VIMS expects that they will eventually be able to expand their program to deeper waters so that any of us could participate if desired.



Friday night of the conference highlights the ever popular hospitality suites. The ASPS suite was one of the most popular as always. This year's ASPS suite theme was based on Gilligan's Island. Several of the characters were in attendance including Skipper, the professor, Ginger, Marianne, Thurston Howell III, and Mrs. Howell. Gilligan was not there because nobody had a red shirt. The correct name for the tropical themed suite was "Don't Be Like Gilligan - Be a Knowledgeable Boater." We had float plans, communication fliers and safety messages throughout the suite along with scrumptious food, desserts and beverages. Thank you, Georgiana Maszczenski, for brainstorming the theme and designing the room. Thank you, Carol Rechner, Lorrie Short and Michael Maszczenski for setting it up and Ralph Leasure for bartending. Thank you, Kent Narrows SPS, for sharing the cost and especially to Kathy Burke for the AMAZING cheesecakes, flip-flop cookies and humming bird cupcakes!

P/D/C Marty Lafferty, representing Kent Narrows SPS, and I got our steps in on Saturday collecting squadron hardware as District 5 gave out awards. Kent Narrows SPS cleaned up in the Cooperative Charting category, placing 33rd Nationally with several individuals making the National Honor Roll, including Dick Radlinski, John Locke, Chuck Wells, and Larry Miller. ASPS member Ron Ricketts made the Honor Roll as well, placing 37th individually overall in National ranking. Bill Eldridge received a District 5 award for performing the second most VSCs in the District with 164. He also received an award for 5 years as a Century Club member, which is awarded to those who have done at least 100 VSCs per year for 5 years. ASPS and KNSPS received honorable mention as top squadron performers in the VSC category. Thank you to ALL the KNSPS and ASPS vessel examiners.

ASPS and KNSPS both received the Distinctive Communicator Award in the outstanding newsletter category. ASPS received the 2024 National Communications Award for Newsletters. ASPS also received the Distinctive Communicator Award in the outstanding web site category. Congratulations ASPS webmaster John Wesley Nash and Anchor Watch editor Georgiana Maszczenski and her team.

During the Saturday meetings, District 5 Commander Joe Gibson singled out Georgiana for special recognition and thanks for all of her hard work putting on the highly successful District 5 Summer Council and Rendezvous in Rock Hall last summer. She received a huge ovation from the assembled crowd even though she wasn't even in the room at the time. She and Carol were busy working the D5 raffle table of course. Speaking of the raffle table, thank you Carol, Georgiana, Linda Sweeting and the Leasurs for their donations to the table and thank you to Georgiana, Carol and Lorrie for staffing the table.



Lastly, during the formal District Change of Watch Ceremony, USPS National Chief Commander Ralph Bernard, District 5 Commander Joe Gibson, and Educational Officer John O'Reilly called our own Michael Maszczenski to present him with a special award for his Exceptional Service to the District 5 Educational Mission. Congratulations Michael, well deserved!



Until next time, stay well and be safe out there.

We are saddened by the passing of

## P/D/C Martin Lafferty,

a member of Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron,  
long-time member and Past Commander of Kent Narrows Sail and  
Power Squadron, and Past District Commander of District 5.

For more information, click this link to his obituary:



<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/martin-lafferty-obituary?id=54816029>



## Annapolis Spring Sailboat Show

Friday, 26 April - Sunday, 28 April  
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.



**Executive Officer**  
**Lt/C Ralph Leasure, P**

We've recently concluded our participation in the Bay Bridge Boat show. I want to thank everyone who volunteered their time and efforts to help make this show a success. We had quite a few people stop by and sign up for a Vessel Safety Check. Others are interested in taking courses. And, we'll see who may be interested in membership.

Please don't forget the upcoming Annapolis Spring Sailboat Show. We still need your help for this one. The sign up sheet is available on our website or you can sign up using the link in the Annapolis Spring Sailboat Show box on page 4, above. The dates are April 26, 27, and 28, 2024. Thank you in advance for volunteering to work at our booth.

After the collapse of the Francis Scott Key bridge, the Unified Command has set up a Maritime Safety Zone of 2000 yards around the site. I did hear that some recreational vessels were allowed access to the McHenry Channel for one-half hour at 7 AM and at 7 PM depending on direction of travel. Please check for specifics if you need to make that trip. Otherwise, it's a good place to avoid.

I was amazed to learn that since 2021 there have been over 40 reported incidents of large cargo ships reporting complete or partial loss of propulsion, power or steering in Maryland waters, according to U.S. Coast Guard reports. Let's give them a wide berth.

The D5 Summer Rendezvous and Council are scheduled for July 25-28. It should be a great time down in Solomons. Don't forget to register if you are planning to go. Also, please contact Chief Commander Ralph Bernard if you are interested in joining the cruise that he will be leading preceding the rendezvous.

Happy Boating, Ralph Leasure, XO

An advertisement for ASPS Logo apparel. The background is a decorative border of light blue flowers and butterflies. In the center, three models are shown wearing jackets: a man in a blue jacket, a woman in a purple jacket, and a man in a green jacket. The text "ASPS Logo apparel" is written in green, and the URL "http://asps.qbstores.com" is written in blue below it.

**ASPS Logo apparel**  
<http://asps.qbstores.com>



## Administrative Officer

Lt/C Bruce Arey, JN

Terry Slattery has agreed to speak at the May dinner meeting on how AI will affect boating and our personal life. That being said, I used ChatGPT to write my Admin message. I asked ChatGPT to report on Spring activities in boat care and benefits of attending boat shows. In less than 10 seconds, ChatGPT responded with the following:

As the spring season unfolds, boat owners across the country are gearing up for the much-awaited return to the water. This report aims to highlight the essential spring activities in boat care and emphasize the advantages of attending boat shows for both seasoned enthusiasts and newcomers to the maritime lifestyle.

### Spring Boat Care Activities:

**Inspecting Hull and Deck:** Spring marks the ideal time to carefully inspect the hull and deck for any signs of damage or wear accumulated during the winter months. This includes examining for cracks, blisters, or any other structural issues that may require attention.

**Engine and Mechanical Checks:** Conducting thorough checks on the engine and mechanical components is paramount to ensure the vessel's safe and efficient operation. This involves inspecting fuel systems, batteries, belts, and lubricating moving parts as needed.

**Electrical Systems Testing:** Testing all electrical systems onboard is crucial to identify any faults or malfunctions. This includes checking navigation lights, communication devices, and ensuring proper functioning of bilge pumps and other safety equipment.

**Cleaning and Maintenance:** Spring cleaning is essential to remove dirt, grime, and mold that may have accumulated during the winter layup. This includes washing the exterior, cleaning the interior, and performing routine maintenance tasks such as oil changes and filter replacements.

**Safety Equipment Inspection:** Inspecting and replenishing safety equipment such as life jackets, fire extinguishers, flares, and first aid kits is vital to ensure compliance with safety regulations and preparedness for any emergencies while out on the water.

**Preparing for Launch:** Finally, preparing the boat for launch involves tasks such as checking propellers, inspecting through-hull fittings, and ensuring that all required documentation and permits are up to date.

### Advantages of Attending Boat Shows:

**Exposure to Latest Innovations:** Boat shows offer attendees the opportunity to explore the latest innovations and technologies in the marine industry. From cutting-edge propulsion systems to state-of-the-art navigation equipment, boat shows provide valuable insights into emerging trends and advancements.

**Networking and Community Building:** Boat shows bring together a diverse community of boating enthusiasts, industry professionals, and experts. Attending these events allows individuals to network, share experiences, and forge connections with like-minded individuals who share a passion for boating.

**Educational Opportunities:** Boat shows often feature seminars, workshops, and demonstrations on various topics related to boating, navigation, safety, and maintenance. These educational opportunities provide attendees with valuable knowledge and skills to enhance their boating experience and safety awareness.

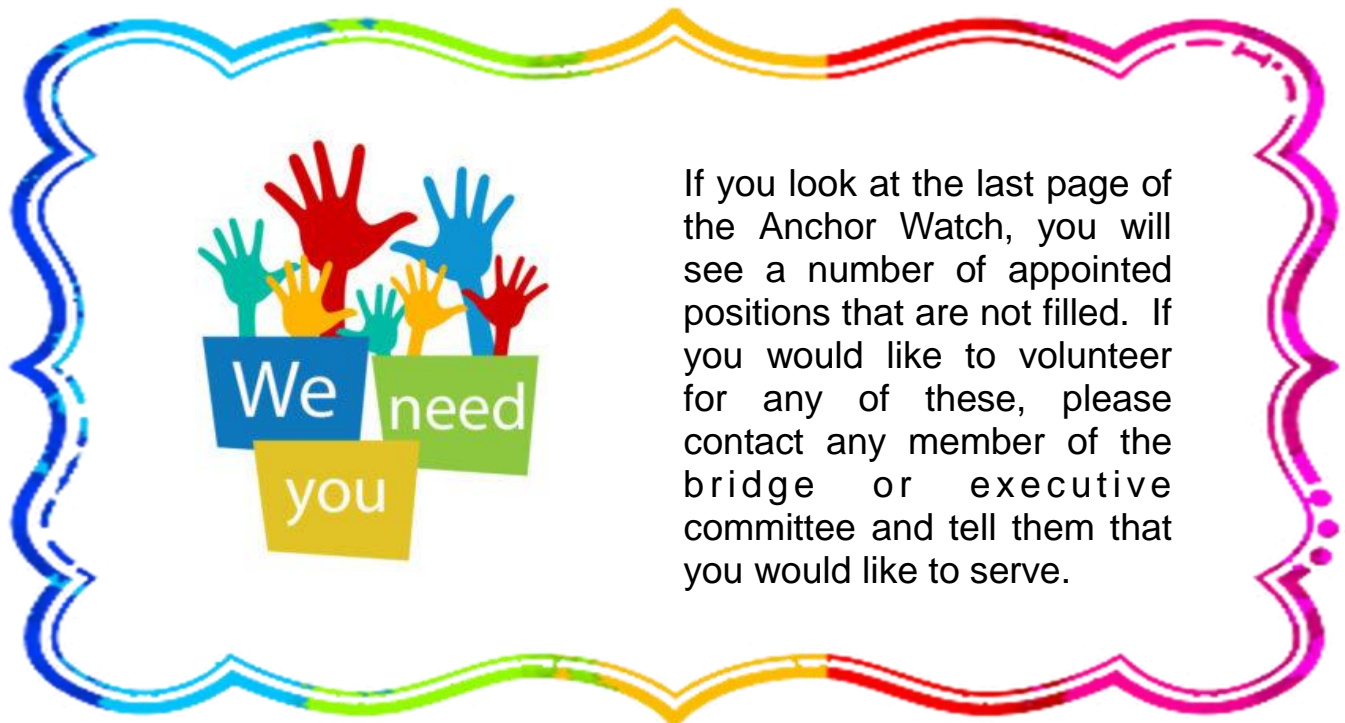
**Exclusive Deals and Discounts:** Many exhibitors at boat shows offer exclusive deals, discounts, and promotions on boats, accessories, and services. By attending these events, boaters can take advantage of special offers and save money on their purchases.

**Hands-On Experience:** Boat shows allow attendees to get up close and personal with a wide range of boats, from small recreational vessels to luxury yachts. This hands-on experience enables individuals to compare different models, explore interior layouts, and envision themselves out on the water.

### Conclusion:

In conclusion, the spring season presents an opportune time for boat owners to engage in essential maintenance activities to ensure the safe and smooth operation of their vessels. Additionally, attending boat shows offers numerous benefits, including exposure to the latest innovations, networking opportunities, educational experiences, access to exclusive deals, and hands-on exploration of various boats. By participating in these spring activities and attending boat shows, boaters can enhance their enjoyment of the maritime lifestyle while staying informed and prepared for the upcoming season on the water.

ChatGPT is amazing! On a more personal note, please remember to think of activities that you think would be enjoyable for our members and let the squadron leadership know.



# ASPS Dinner Meeting Thursday, May 2, 2024

Elks Lodge - 2 Pythian Drive, Edgewater, MD 21037

6:00 PM - Social Hour

7:00 PM - Dinner

7:30 PM - Speaker - Terry Slattery - AI is starting to impact our daily lives. Terry will describe the different types of AI, how they are used, and how they can be applied to both personal life and boating.



Meal will include: Soup  
Chicken Fajitas or Shrimp Fajitas w/ Flour Tortillas,  
Spanish Rice, Fresh Cucumber Salad,  
Dinner Rolls & Butter, Desserts.

Vegetarian meals will be plated and served.  
Vegetarian Option: Pasta Primavera and Red Sauce.  
Please indicate vegetarian  
when you send your response.

RSVP by Monday, 29 April, 4 PM to  
[aspsdinnerreservations@gmail.com](mailto:aspsdinnerreservations@gmail.com)

\$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.









## Dinner Delights

### Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S

If you missed our March dinner meeting, you missed an interesting and informative presentation by Scott Berg. Scott Berg is a Marine Surveyor with 35 years of experience with marine repair. Here's some of the information Scott shared:

- A marine survey is an inspection and evaluation of a yacht or other vessel. It involves both the construction and the condition of the vessel.
- Every survey is based on standards. These standards guide the final detailed report for use by the buyer, the seller, banks, insurance companies, and more.
- Keep in mind that a survey is a snapshot of the day it was taken. It

can be useful for information later, but it isn't necessarily true for the days that have passed since the survey was done.

- This is a self-regulated industry. You don't have to have certification or accreditation to claim to be a marine surveyor.
- If you decide to hire a surveyor, look for ABYC certification and experience on boats like yours. You can also ask for additional educational certifications like HVAC.
- The **LAST** place to look for a surveyor is by asking for a referral from the broker listing your boat! The incentive for the broker is to sell your boat, not to make sure you have the best survey.
- The best place to look for a surveyor is a referral from someone local that you trust. This could be a member of a yacht club, marina offices, boat stores, or boating education classes.
- Make sure you know what kind of survey you want. You can get a pre-purchase condition evaluation, a mechanical/engine condition, and/or a survey that evaluates the electrical systems, electronics, and communication systems of your boat.
- Remember that buying a boat without a survey can lead to trouble getting insurance.
- If you get a request from your insurance company for a survey prior to insurance renewal, be sure to know what is needed. There's no such thing as a 'standard' evaluation. If you need information from your insurance company, be sure to speak to the underwriter, not the salesman!



If you were unable to join us, you missed a great presentation about marine surveying. As always, we are able to offer dinner meetings that bring together friends who love boating. We also always offer informative speakers, so you can learn something interesting about boating on the Chesapeake Bay and beyond. We look forward to seeing you soon.

# Boating Links to Browse

**Recycle the shrink wrap from your boat!**  
**[Here is where to do it.](#)**

Looking for a trip by sea or by land? The Deltaville Marine Museum is hosting a [100th year party for a 9-log workboat on June 15th](#). From Chesapeake Bay Magazine.

From Practical Sailor: [A day sailor's first-aid kit](#).

By sea or by land, [places to visit in Virginia](#) from Spin Sheet magazine.

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

**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](http://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)

Spring cleaning on board, especially the head. From Practical Sailor: <https://www.practical-sailor.com/belowdecks-amenities/cleaning-up-spring-cleaning>

[Another article about cleaning products.](#)

And while you are at it, check on the safety of your shore power system: <https://www.practical-sailor.com/boat-maintenance/keeping-the-shorepower-system-safe>

From Practical Sailor: [Mildew resistant caulk for boats](#).

OK! Boating season is nigh. Where should you take your family and friends for some fun ashore?

From Chesapeake Bay Magazine: <https://www.chesapeakebaymagazine.com/best-for-families-fun-filled-marinas-on-the-bay/>

Summertime on the Chesapeake brings a large chance of getting caught in thunder squalls. Here are some good tips about how to prepare from The Boat Galley: <https://tbgmail.theboatgalley.com/emails/webview/861946/116324913128671139>

Need some ideas about where to go this summer? From Chesapeake Bay Magazine: A guide for some of the marinas on the bay. <https://www.chesapeakebaymagazine.com/marina-guide/>

Also, if you want to go to Baltimore after the Key Bridge channels open up, Lighthouse Marina has been completely renovated. <https://www.chesapeakebaymagazine.com/lighthouse-point-marina-elevating-the-baltimore-waterfront/>

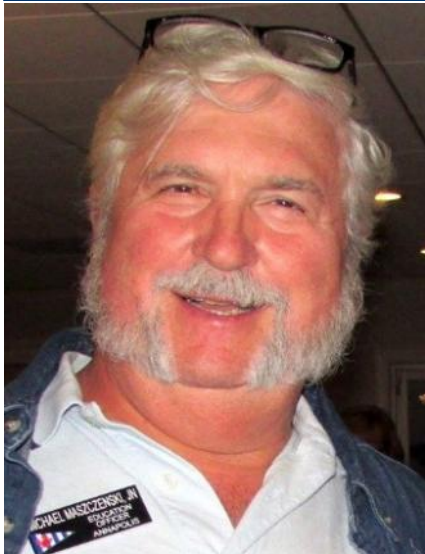
And some more marina reviews: <https://www.chesapeakebaymagazine.com/check-out-these-bay-marinas-where-the-party-doesnt-stop/>

For trip ideas in the Chesapeake Bay area:

[https://www.visitmaryland.org/unique-experiences/chesapeake-bay-loop?gad=1&qclid=EAIaIQobChMI0ZzYzfvzgAMV9E1HAR2ebgfREAAyAiAAEgldkvD\\_BwE](https://www.visitmaryland.org/unique-experiences/chesapeake-bay-loop?gad=1&qclid=EAIaIQobChMI0ZzYzfvzgAMV9E1HAR2ebgfREAAyAiAAEgldkvD_BwE)

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





## Educational Officer

Lt/C Michael Maszczenski, Jr., N

ASPS's instructor Kathy Nash had a successful Emergencies on Board seminar. There were ten participants, and everyone got great information on how to prepare and be ready for emergencies that can occur while boating. Our next seminar is a two-part session on GPS-driven chart plotter apps. OpenCPN will be featured, and some of the other apps will be reviewed.

As summer comes and you are spending an evening on your boat or looking for more boating-related activities to do, remember that America's Boating Channel has lots of boating education and entertainment. If you haven't looked it up, go to

<https://americasboatingchannel.uscreen.io/catalog>.

Also, look for the America's Boating Channel's free smart TV app on Apple TV, Roku, Fire TV, and on [AmericasBoatingChannel.com](https://AmericasBoatingChannel.com).

As you wander through the America's Boating Channel, take a moment and remember Marty Lafferty- a member of Kent Narrows and Annapolis Sail and Power Squadrons. His leadership as commander at both squadron and district level led him to become the driving force for the development of the America's Boating Channel.

### OpenCPN GPS-Driven Chart Plotting

**Dates:** Part 1, Tuesday May 21, 2024; Part 2 Tuesday May 28, 2024

**Time:** 6:45 pm - 9:15 pm

**Where:** ZOOM - Login information provided after registration

**Materials:** Provided through emails

**Instructor:** Stf/C Michael J. Maszczenski Jr., N

**Cost:** Free

OpenCPN is an Open source free application for Windows PCs, MacIntosh, Android Phones and tablets. It is GPS driven and the charts are free from NOAA as downloads. It is the core application used by USPS to teach all the navigation courses. Its skills are immediately transferable to most all other navigation apps including Chart Plotters. This seminar will cover installation and basic operation. Part 2 will cover simple navigation and a review of other apps that do similar tasks, like Aqua Maps, InavX, Argo and more, as time permits.

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



### AIS Electronics for Boaters

**Date:** Thursday, September 19, 2024

**Time:** 6:45 pm - 9:15 pm

**Where:** ZOOM - Login information provided after registration

**Materials:** Provided through emails

**Cost:** ASPS Members - \$10.00, Non-Members - \$20.00

**Instructor:** P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN

Automated Identification System (AIS) provides ID information and location data for all commercial boats and many recreational boats. The cost of the transmitters and receivers has gone down and are now affordable. This system will put an icon for a vessel on a chartplotter, and will give potential collision data as well as position, speed, etc. It also can be used to place virtual marks on the water for navigation. Learn more about this technology September 19th, 2024.

With AIS for marine vessels, you can avoid collisions in crowded waters by knowing the name and locations of other boats and ships, how close they will come, and when to act. Many AIS systems also broadcast your boat's information to other boats so they can also make better, safer boating decisions.

Our AIS Electronics for Boaters seminar can help you decide if an Automatic Identification System is right for you, and show you how AIS and radar differ. AIS electronics are not just for commercial vessels. More recreational vessels are employing this technology for safer cruising.

What You Will Learn:

- What does AIS do and how does it work?
- Do I need an AIS System?
- How is AIS different from radar?
- How do I use AIS to navigate more safely?
- How do I integrate AIS with my existing electronics?

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

### Marine Navigation Course

**Date:** Tuesdays - October 1, 2024 to December 10, 2024

**Time:** 6:45pm - 9:00pm

**Where:** ZOOM - Login information provided after registration

**Materials:** Provided through emails

**Instructor:** Mike Maszczenski

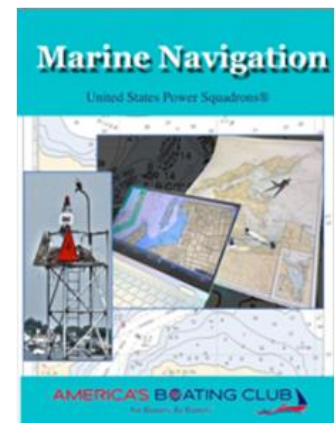
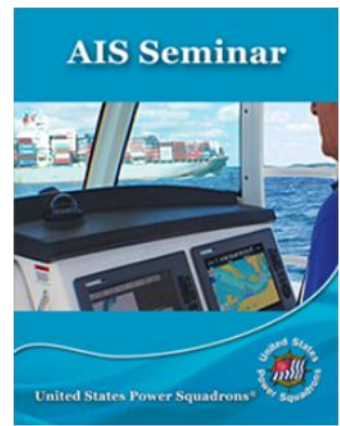
**Fee:** Member ASPS - \$80.00, Non-Member - \$90.00. Fee covers book and plotter. Dividers can be provided for an additional \$15.00.

Printed text orders need to be in by September 1, 2024.

Marine Navigation, the replacement for Piloting, starts October 1, 2024. It presents the use of GPS electronic chart programs, as well as basic paper chart piloting. Even if you have taken the Piloting course, this is a great intro into electronic navigation.

Marine Navigation is the first of the navigational classes, focusing on techniques for piloting a boat in coastal and inland conditions. The course emphasizes planning and checking, along with the use of GPS and other electronic systems for determining position, and introduces digital charting along with traditional charting, compass and dead reckoning skills. Plotting, use of the compass, aids to navigation, electronic tools and a host of related topics are included in this all-new approach to coastal, inland and river piloting. This course uses the Bowditch Bay practice chart and local charts, the USPS 4"X15" plotter and dividers. A computer with OpenCPN must be student-provided.

The Student Kit includes the Student Manual, the Plotting and Labeling Standards Learning Guide and instructions for downloading, installing and using OpenCPN. OpenCPN is a free marine navigation



program that is state-of-the-art, and in wide use by commercial and recreational boating enthusiasts. OpenCPN runs on a variety of environments, including Windows, Android tablets and phones, and MAC OS, but not iPhones or iPads. (The larger screens of desktop or laptop computers work best.)

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

### Radar for Boaters

**Date:** Thursday November 7, 2024

**Time:** 6:45pm – 9:15pm

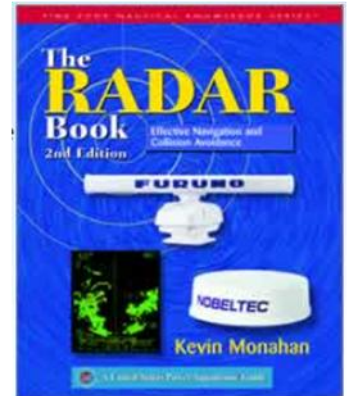
**Where:** ZOOM, Login Information Provided after Registration

**Materials:** Provided through Emails

**Instructor:** P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN

**Fee:** Member ASPS - \$80.00, Non-Member - \$90.00. Fee covers book and presentation materials.

Welcome to Radar for Boaters. Developed by the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, this course is up to date for radar technologies available now and into the near future. The course covers the different types of radar equipment, their capabilities and limitations, as well as their features and how they apply to students' needs. It covers what you need to know about radar, from how and where to mount the antenna to how to interpret the displays, so you can use your radar for collision avoidance and for navigational purposes.



Students attending this course preferably should have completed *America's Boating Course* (or another NASBLA-approved boating safety course). However, this is not a requirement to sign up for the course. It is also suggested that the following courses should be taken before this course: *Marine Navigation* and *Advanced Marine Navigation*. Participants should also have boating experience. Previously required for BOC-Offshore Navigation certification, as of May 4, 2019, *Radar for Boaters* is a required course for its BOC-Advanced Coastal Navigation certification.

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



### Registration for All ASPS-Sponsored Courses

Please register as soon as possible. If you are planning to have a printed text, shipping time is 3 to 4 weeks. So, early registration is mandatory to have your book in time. Materials must be ordered, and materials pick-up arranged for the virtual classes. [Click Here to Register](#) or email [seo@aspsmd.org](mailto: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 for prep and fee payment will be emailed as the start date for the course or seminar approaches.

### Courses and seminars from our neighbors:

Remember you can also go to <https://www.abc-midatlantic.org> to find course listings from all the squadrons in the district.





## Ladies! Let's Do Lunch!



**When: Tuesday, May 7**

**\*\*11:30 am\*\***

**Where: The Jetty**

**<https://jettydockbar.com/>**



201 Wells Cove Rd. Grasonville

There were 9 of us last month for lunch at "Bridges."

The food was excellent, and we had an *outstanding* server!

We hope that you will be able to join us at our **May** lunch!

Please **R.S.V.P.** to Kathy Burke at [kab2016dec@gmail.com](mailto:kab2016dec@gmail.com) or  
(410)279-0818 by Monday, May 6, 2:00 p.m.

**SAVE THE DATE: June Lunch will be Tuesday, June 11**







## Common Reasons Boats Fail a VSC

Lt Dick Radlinski, AP-CN

A VSC (Vessel Safety Check) is a voluntary safety inspection performed by a qualified Vessel Examiner (VE). The inspection follows a procedure specified by the US Coast Guard and is typically done annually. You can request a VSC on your boat on the US Power Squadrons website or by talking directly to one of the VEs in our squadron.

Having been a VE for a number of years, I find that although the majority of boats that I inspect pass and earn an annual VSC sticker, many of those that do fail do so for similar reasons:

**Expired Visual Distress Signals (VDS)** – Pyrotechnic devices typically expire three years after their manufacture date. While there are now US Coast Guard approved battery powered strobe lights that can replace pyrotechnic devices, batteries can go dead over time and need to be checked. In one case, I found a brand new device where the owner had failed to install batteries.

**Expired Fire Extinguishers** – Fire Extinguishers over 12 years old are considered out of date. The date of manufacture is usually stamped on the bottom of the extinguisher canister. Regardless of age, they must also have a pressure gauge that reads in the green.

**Inoperative Navigation or Anchor Lights** - Bulbs can burn out, or corrosion in the wiring or bulb socket can render the light inoperative. Fixtures with LED bulbs draw significantly less current and are less likely to fail due to longer bulb life. Changing from incandescent bulbs to LEDs, particularly for anchor lights, which are operated overnight, conserves battery power, and is a worthwhile upgrade. Just be sure LEDs are rated for marine navigation use.

**Out of Date Documents and Stickers** – Boat owners forget to renew their registrations or forget to put the updated paperwork onboard their vessel. Also, the corresponding updated stickers must be placed on the outside of the boat. USCG Documented boats need a current State of Maryland Documented Vessel sticker on both sides of the vessel.

**Documented Vessel lacks Permanent Numbers** - USCG Documented vessels are required to display their documentation number in 3 inch high numerals on a visible interior structure of the hull. The number must be preceded by “NO.” to identify that it is the documentation number. Many boat dealers provide this on new boats, so it is a good idea to check that your boat complies with this requirement. (I was the third owner of a boat that did not have a documentation number when I purchased it, despite the fact that the documentation paperwork was current).

**Vessel Lacks Trash Disposal Plan** – If your boat is over 40 ft. long, you must carry a written trash disposal plan onboard. This can be a simple one or two page document that explains what you are going to do with your trash. A fill-in-the-blanks document can be downloaded from the internet here [waste\\_management\\_plan.pdf](#).

**Vessel Lacks Official Copy of the Rules of the Road** – Also, if your boat is over 40 ft. long you must carry an **official US government copy of the entire Rules of the Road** onboard. If you have the US Coast Guard App on your phone, it provides this document, or you can purchase a hard copy of the document online or in most boating supply stores.

While there are additional requirements that must be met to pass a VSC, the above items are the most frequent reasons boats fail VSCs. Why not check your boat at the beginning of each season to make sure it complies with the requirements discussed above? Navigation and anchor lights can fail at any time during the season and should be checked more frequently.



## ASPS Website Update

### Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S

Check out the changes!

Our website, [aspsmd.org](http://aspsmd.org), has been undergoing upgrades! PC John Wesley Nash, SN-IN has been hard at work updating and adding to our website. If you haven't visited lately, be sure to surf on over. One big addition is that you can now find all our newsletters back to January 2013. Want to know about us? Our newsletters are a great place to start. Need a Vessel Safety Check for your boat? You'll find the link to contact our Vessel Safety Check Officer. Looking for one of our officers? You'll find not only their names but pictures as well.



Our website is also the perfect place to send prospective members. If you meet someone interested in our squadron, be sure to let them know [aspsmd.org](http://aspsmd.org) is the perfect website to answer all their questions about us.

Be sure to visit soon!

## Member Benefit



Whether you are looking for an upscale hotel, an all-inclusive resort or something more cost-effective, US Power Squadron members can save on rooms at nearly 7,000 participating hotels worldwide. Wyndham Hotels are offering *USPS Members 20 percent off* the "Best Available Rate" at participating locations every time you travel.

Visit [Wyndham Rewards](http://Wyndham Rewards) or call our special member benefits hotline **1-877-670-7088**. Be sure to mention **Corporate Code # 100008696** and reserve your room today!

# Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron – America’s Boating Club Wilmot’s Water World - Aug 9-11, 2024

Join Betty Rouse Wilmot and John Wilmot for a fun weekend at  
Deep Creek Lake, 104 Hawthorne Lane, Oakland, MD 21550



### Friday, August 9

- ★ Drive to Deep Creek Lake (about 200 miles from Annapolis)
- ★ Arrive in the area by noon if you would like to try WHITE WATER RAFTING  
Call **Betty @ 301-616-6609** to arrange a reservation
- ★ Come to Betty’s house by 5 pm for burgers, hot dogs, and drinks on the back deck

**Dinner- # \_\_\_\_\_ @\$20.00=\$ \_\_\_\_\_**

### Saturday, August 10

- ★ Morning - Arrive at Betty’s house about 10 am
- ★ Paddle boards or kayak till noon **Lunch - by the Host**
- ★ Afternoon – water skiing, boat rides, and yard games
- ★ If you would like a water ski lesson, we can arrange a lesson with Greg Rouse (Betty’s son who owns the water ski school) or
- ★ Betty will take you for a ski ride behind her Malibu ski boat or
- ★ John will take you for a tour of Deep Creek Lake on the pontoon boat - Late afternoon
- ★ Evening: Barbecue Ribs with drinks and all the trimmings

**Dinner- # \_\_\_\_\_ @\$20.00=\$ \_\_\_\_\_**

### Sunday, August 13

- ★ Coffee and Donuts on the deck – Coffee & Donuts – by the Host
- ★ Hike at Swallow Falls State Park or leave for home

**WE HAVE RESERVED 6 ROOMS AT THE GARRETT INN, OAKLAND, MD 301-387-6696**  
Friday (August 9) and Saturday (August 10) 2 nights - (price \$319 for both nights- incl. taxes)  
2 Q beds/room. Motel has 30-day cancellation policy, therefore **July 9, 2024** is room deadline.

If you want a House rental- Call Railey 866-544-3223 or Taylor-Made at 301-387-4700  
Some houses have 5 bedrooms, rent for 3 days only and cost between \$1700 and \$2100

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Please RSVP to Betty by Aug 1 if you plan to come on Friday \_\_\_\_\_ or Saturday \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail check for **dinners** to Betty Rouse, 104 Hawthorne Lane, Oakland, MD 21550 301-616-6609



Changes to your phone number, address, e-mail?  
Please contact P/C Kathy Nash, AP-IN  
at [roster@aspsmd.org](mailto:roster@aspsmd.org) or 410-703-9559



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



Follow the ASPS facebook page at  
[www.facebook.com/aspsmd.org](http://www.facebook.com/aspsmd.org).

Forward information and comments to  
[facebook@aspsmd.org](mailto:facebook@aspsmd.org).



P/R/C William C. Eldridge, SN

### Vessel Safety Check

To arrange for a  
VSC for your boat,  
contact Bill at  
[vsc@aspsmd.org](mailto:vsc@aspsmd.org).



## Calendar of Coming Events

### United States Power Squadrons® Events

#### District 5 Events

25-28 Jul Summer Rendezvous and Council -  
Spring Cove Marina, Solomons, MD

#### Squadron Events for Annapolis and Nearby Squadrons

02 May ASPS Dinner Meeting  
07 May ASPS and KN Ladies Lunch  
21 May Seminar - OpenCPN GPS-Driven Chart Plotting - Part 1  
23 May Executive Board Meeting  
28 May Seminar - OpenCPN GPS-Driven Chart Plotting - Part 2  
06 Jun ASPS Dinner Meeting  
27 Jun Executive Board Meeting

For a complete list of ASPS Squadron Events, see:

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



[www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org)



[www.uspsd5.org](http://www.uspsd5.org)



[www.aspsmd.org](http://www.aspsmd.org)



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

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

### SUNSHINE LADY

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

Betty Rouse Wilmot  
[sunshine@aspsmd.org](mailto:sunshine@aspsmd.org)



Remember  
our fallen heros.  
They are the reason  
that we are free.



**ASPS Squadron Leadership 2024 -2025****Bridge****Commander:** P/D/C Jeff Short, JN-IN**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:** P/C Ralph Leasure, P**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:** P/C Bruce Arey, JN**Asst Admin Officer:****Membership Chair:** Lt/C Lorrie Short**Boating Activities Chair:****Educational Officer:** St/C Michael Maszczenski, Jr., N**Asst Educ Officer:** 1st/Lt Patrick McGeehan, P

BOC:

**Operations Training:** P/C Stu Myers, AP**Secretary:** Lt/C Carol Rechner, SN**Asst Secretary:** 1st/Lt Linda Sweeting**Webmaster:** P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN**Historian:** P/C Peggy Slattery, S**Newsletter Editor:** P/Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S**Treasurer:** Lt/C Lorrie Short**Asst Treasurer:****Executive Committee:**

Susan Gilbert, S

P/Lt/C Diane Leasure

P/Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S

P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN

P/C Kathy Nash,

P/C Peggy Slattery, S

Edwin Sunderland, JN

David Tower, AP

P/C John Wilmot, JN-IN

**Immediate Past Commander:**

P/C Ralph Leasure, P

**Audit Committee:**

William Klepczynski, JN

Homer Sandridge, N

**Nominating Committee:**

P/C Ralph Leasure, P, Chair

P/C Bruce Arey, JN

Diane Leasure

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

P/Lt/C Diane Leasure

**Budget Committee:**

P/D/C Jeff Short, Chair

Lt/C Lorrie Short

P/C Ralph Leasure, P

**Roster Contact:**

P/C Kathy Nash, AP-IN

**Information Technology Contact:**

P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN

**ASPS Facebook Editors:**

P/C Kathy Nash, AP

P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN"



**Anchor Watch**  
**Deadline for June Newsletter:**  
**Sunday, May 19, 2024**  
 Direct all material to:  
 Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S  
[anchorwatch@aspsmd.org](mailto:anchorwatch@aspsmd.org)