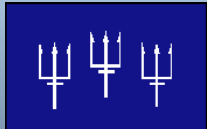




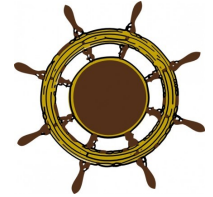
*Commander's  
Corner*



**Cdr Mark  
Barnes**



**Welcome to the  
2022 Boating Season  
Nansemond River Power  
Squadron Members!**



I have some early Spring flowers blooming in the yard. The temperatures are slowly warming as the days are getting longer. It looks as though we are finally coming out of the COVID restrictions. All good signs of a brighter 2022! It will be great to be able to finally get out and about the areas waterways to enjoy all the Chesapeake Bay watershed have to offer.

2022 will be a year like we have never experienced in the past. We held a Not Change of Watch Change of Watch (see photos on page 6 of this issue!). We will be Shifting Commanders quarterly, and have a smaller staff but we will not let our responsibility of promoting safe boating falter one bit! We have promoted boating safety for more that 60 years and we're not going to neglect that responsibility. We owe it to the boaters and ourselves, knowing that we have everyday made the effort to promote training in safe watercraft operations and being prepared for mishaps that may occur while on the waterways with all the required safety equipment needed to get your Vessel Safety Check decal.

Our first push this year will be Saturday May 21, 2022 with a Vessel Safety Check Day at the Bennett's Creek Park, 3000 Bennett's Creek Park Rd, Suffolk, VA, during Boating Safety week. Hot Dogs, Burgers, Chips and Drinks will be provided by



the Squadron. NRPS Vessel Inspectors will be performing Safety checks and presenting boaters that pass inspection with their 2022 decals. We'll have SeaVester and the NRPS Trailer on hand to educate all who stop by to see us. I can't recall when we had an event in Suffolk. I'm hopeful that we will have a good turnout of the membership. I'm looking forward to all involved having a great time.

Hoping to see you all at Amici's on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:00 for our monthly meeting. A gathering of friends for an evening of good food and fellowship, so please join us!

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out. Email: [a06nas-car@gmail.com](mailto:a06nas-car@gmail.com) or Telephone 904-742-6682

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## Administrative Officer's Report

Lt/C Bob Fino, AP



### ***Hello Power Squadron Friends,***

It is the beginning of March, and the official boating season is ready to begin. Looks like we are finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel with the Covid pandemic, and now we are facing higher fuel prices to run our boats. Another challenging year ahead, however, we will make it work. The fuel prices may make it harder for people to use their boats, so we may want to find other activities to do together. If we need to make road day trips or dinners, we will make it happen! The important thing is to keep the camaraderie going with-in the squad. I would like to personally thank all past Commanders for stepping up and taking their turn for the new year. I would also like to thank P/C Art Aikin, SN for taking charge of the fleet, and hopefully we can get a few cruises in for the summer.

On a positive note, with all the new boat owners, we should have a record year on Vessel Inspections. The one thing boat owners like to do is talk about their boats and show them off a bit. Let's make it fun, and a challenge, that all the vessel inspectors, try to do at least 10% more inspections than they did last year.

It was nice to see everyone at Amici's last Wednesday. I like that we called it a "Change of Watch" to keep the Squad going forward. That was thinking outside the box which is what we need to do until we get some new members for the Squadron.

Thank you

*If you have any questions or concerns call Bob (757) 620-4992 or email: [finobob@yahoo.com](mailto:finobob@yahoo.com).*



### ***Members Corner***

#### ***March & April Birthdays***

P/C Fred Bowen, JN-IN	March 7
Mary Ann Eure	March 11
Sarah Curling, S	March 16
Kevin Curling, S	March 19
Kim Fino	March 23
Mike Brinn, S	April 4
Linda Chapman	April 9
Bill Darden	April 15

## Educational Officer's Report

Lt/C Carl Smith, SN



### ***NRPS March Education 2022 Notes***

The leaves are getting ready to show themselves and, hopefully, we have seen the last frost of this winter.

Time to set up courses for the spring and summer. Do you know people that would be interested in an ABC course? If you haven't attended ABC in a decade or more it might be worth a refresher.

There is a Boat Operator Certification Program available which is a hands on program that can be done on your boat. It starts with an Inland Navigator check out and goes up through Coastal Navigator, Advanced Coastal Navigation, and Offshore Navigator.

Other courses available are Weather and GPS navigation.

Let's go out and play and learn.

*If you have any Educational concerns or ideas, please contact me at [captcrs@reagan.com](mailto:captcrs@reagan.com) or by cell 757-672-5893.*



### ***America's Boating Club Value Bundle Debut***

The latest marketing campaign for America's Boating Club Value Bundle went live on Feb. 15, 2022. The bundle offers prospective buyers a one-year membership and an online education bundle based on the boater's current skill set. Ads will appear in various e-newsletters and electronic digests of popular boating magazines and publications. Anyone who signs up will be forwarded to the closest local clubs for contact as well. Additionally, the Marketing Committee will make the digital ads available for download so that local clubs can use them to point to their own specific in-person memberships and education bundles on their individual club websites.

Visit [americasboatingclub.org/value-bundle](https://americasboatingclub.org/value-bundle) to learn more.

**Read more:** [americasboatingclub.org/value-bundle](https://americasboatingclub.org/value-bundle)

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# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

## Mid Atlantic



### **D5 Spring Conference**

Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City MD

March 31-April 3, 2022

#### **America's Boating Club® Mid-Atlantic Members...**

We've missed two annual America's Boating Club Mid-Atlantic Spring Conferences due to the COVID epidemic. Bummer! While we continued to meet virtually to conduct yearly business during those years we missed seeing members in the Friday evening hospitality suites. We missed the personal attention during squadron officer training sessions. We missed the raffle tables where we compete for the beautiful objects donated by members from our squadrons throughout the Chesapeake Bay/Mid-Atlantic region. And we missed the Sunday morning brunch where we recovered from those Saturday Banquet's side parties.

We now have the opportunity to recover. This year the Conference will be live in Ocean City Maryland at the Princess Royale Hotel. Ocean City can be beautiful in April. I recall refreshing walks on the beach in prior years. And the breathtaking ocean views from some hospitality suites prep us for many Summer on-the-water events.

Yes, we are recruiting. We are making sure that you are aware of conference plans. First, reserve March 31 through April 3 for the conference. Then take a look at a conference overview article published in the District 5 Spring Mark 5 newsletter. It's available on-line at <https://abc-midatlantic.org/squadrons/6243/mark5.pdf>. Then take a look at the published conference schedule. It's also on-line at [https://abc-midatlantic.org/events/2022/21489\\_schedule.pdf](https://abc-midatlantic.org/events/2022/21489_schedule.pdf). Then register for the conference. On-line registration is available from the <https://abc-midatlantic.org> home page or a printable form is available at [https://abc-midatlantic.org/events/2022/21489\\_registration%20form.pdf](https://abc-midatlantic.org/events/2022/21489_registration%20form.pdf). These forms explain the special hotel rates And the Deadline (originally March 1) has been extended for our group! Or you can rush to call the hotel at 800-476-9253 and use code 2203UNITED to reserve your room.

Then register for the conference. On-line registration is available from the <https://abc-midatlantic.org> home page or a printable form is available at [https://abc-midatlantic.org/events/2022/21489\\_registration%20form.pdf](https://abc-midatlantic.org/events/2022/21489_registration%20form.pdf). These forms explain the special hotel rates And the Deadline (originally March 1) has been extended for our group! Or you can rush to call the hotel at 800-476-9253 and use code 2203UNITED to reserve your room.

We also want you to know of a special event on April 1. The Safety Institute of Maryland is conducting a CPR and First Aid Course designed especially for boaters. The program, taught by American Heart Association Certified Instructors is described in an on-line document at [https://abc-midatlantic.org/events/2022/21489\\_cpr%20course%20announcement.pdf](https://abc-midatlantic.org/events/2022/21489_cpr%20course%20announcement.pdf).

Use the form at [https://abc-midatlantic.org/events/2022/21489\\_cpr%20course%20registration%20form.pdf](https://abc-midatlantic.org/events/2022/21489_cpr%20course%20registration%20form.pdf) to register for this training.

And last, plan your journey. Plot a course. Cross the Potomac River if needed and then the Chesapeake or Delaware Bays! And enjoy the travel though Maryland's eastern shore communities and farm lands to safely reach the Ocean City resort. I sure plan too! And I look forward to seeing you there.

*D/Lt/C Joe Gibson, AP*



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# USPS® Member Benefits

by Lt Cheryl Hanbury



**This month we've got two NEW member benefits. MyMedic and UPS shipping are new for 2022!!**

## MY MEDIC™



Through our partnership with MYMEDIC, USPS/ABClub members save 25% on all online store purchases (excluding sale and clearance items). First aid kits and supplies that can actually save your life are hand-picked by first responders & medical pros. Get equipped with the tools to always be safe. MyMedic offers kits for the specific adventure you are going on, if it's scuba diving, fishing, boating, or the open road on two wheels, they are sure to have a kit to suit your needs!

Visit [MyMedic.com](http://MyMedic.com) and use promo code USPSABC to save 25%.



America's Boating Club Members can **save up to 50%** on UPS shipping.

### **Program details:**

- \*Flat Discounts on Shipping
- \*Members now save up to 50% every time you ship.
- \*Members now have access to new flat discounts that include savings of:
  - 50% on Domestic Next Day/Deferred
  - 30% on Ground Commercial / Residential
  - up to 50% on additional services
  - UPS Smart Pickup® service for free.

Open a new account, or if you are already taking advantage of our UPS savings program, re-enroll and apply the new discounts to your existing account by visiting: [savewithups.com/usps/](http://savewithups.com/usps/) or call 1-800-MEMBERS (1-800-636-2377), M-F 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., ET.

Visit [savewithups.com/usps/](http://savewithups.com/usps/) for specific services and discounts.

**NOTE: You can log on to [americasboatingclub.org](http://americasboatingclub.org) and click on the member benefits button to learn more about these and other benefits!!**

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*Editor's Note: We (your editors and The Bridge) have decided to take our newsletter, The Nansemond Light, down to 1 issue every other month until such time as more is actively done within, and without the squadron. Any and all photographs and articles will be eagerly accepted!!*

## Safety Officer's Corner

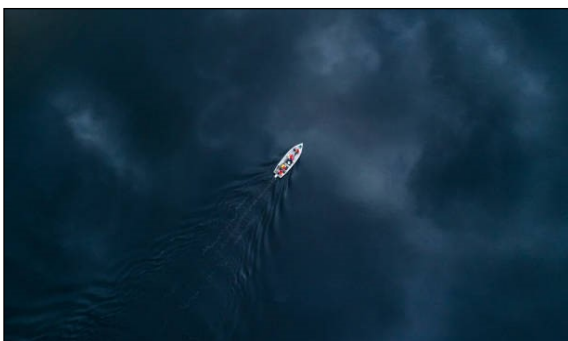
Lt/C Carl Smith, SN



## ***Safe operation is our first concern when we are on or near the water***

As enjoyable as the waterfront and the maritime environment are, there are some significant dangers that are always with us. With proper equipment, maintenance, and training the risks are manageable and acceptable. After five decades of hanging around ships and boats and marinas, a few lessons have really stood out to me. There are two key concepts on safety that I would like to share with you.

**Number one:** Nearly all accidents are chains of events that lead up to the incident and the resultant damage or failure or injury or death. Break the chain of events and the accident doesn't happen or is less severe than it could have been. The accident precursor chain can be broken in many ways. A crew member or passenger might ask a question that prompts you to check on a system or the source of a noise or a smell. You see another boat doing something and it prompts you to look at your boat to make sure you are not committing the same error. Your assessment of the trip changes because the weather gets worse, you realize that you are fatigued or the situation is exceeding your ability, or a passenger is not feeling well. The boat doesn't "feel right." Your inner gut alarm is going off. Anything that causes you to check what you are doing and make sure it is still safe can break an accident chain.



**Number two:** The most critical decision you make all day is to go or not go. There are many things leading you towards going—don't want to disappoint your guests, it is your only day free for a while, you want to play with your pride and joy, beautiful weather, and so on. If you are not feeling well, the boat is not mechanically sound, weather forecast is not good, and other factors are negatives in your assessment of whether it is a good choice to go. If the factors add up to no go, then it is the captain's responsibility to not embark on the voyage. Not going can prevent sailing into much more hazardous circumstances that could really ruin your day. The best form of seamanship is to not get into situations where you need to exercise your emergency training.

## ***Stay safe out there***

### ***The Inheritance***

A very wealthy man has three sons. He is getting on in years and decides he wants to give the sons their inheritance while he is alive so he can see what they do with it. He gives each one 10 million dollars, and asks them to report back to him in exactly 365 days.

The anniversary arrives and the first son, who is a doctor, reports that he had always wanted to give back by helping the truly impoverished peoples in Africa by providing safe drinking water and medical clinics in remote villages and brought pictures and stories to show.

The second son is a lawyer, and having gotten into law in the first place from a strong sense of defending the poor and downtrodden, he fostered a nation wide chain of inner city law offices, providing top flight legal representation for free. He had newspaper clippings from all across the country of victories he had made possible.

The father, seeing his sons utilizing their inheritances so selflessly is beaming with pride. The youngest son now begins his report saying, "Well Dad, you know I am a boatbuilder, and I reckoned I'd just keep building boats until the money was all gone."

*Reprinted from [www.yachtforums.com](http://www.yachtforums.com)*

# Our 2022-2023 "First Quarter" Bridge...

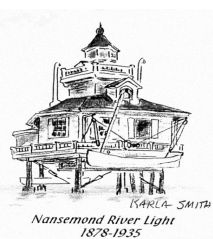
## Photos from our March General Meeting, our "Not Change of Watch"!



More informal than formal, our "Not Change of Watch" Change of Watch was held at our General Meeting Wednesday March 2 at Amici's Restaurant in Portsmouth. The squadron sprung for appetizers, then all ate Amici's wonderful fare for dinner. At left is a photo of our "current" Bridge, which will change in 3 months, as per a vote of our immediate past Bridge and many past Commanders.



## NRPS 2022 Calendar of Upcoming Events



- March 29 NRPS Bridge Meeting, ZOOM format, 7 PM
- March 30 - April 3 D5 Spring Conference  
Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City MD
- April 6 General Meeting, 6 PM,  
Amici's Restaurant on Airline Blvd., Portsmouth
- April 26 NRPS Bridge Meeting, ZOOM format, 7 PM



### 2022-2023 Bridge Officers

Commander	Cdr Mark Barnes
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Bob Fino, AP
Education Officer	Lt/C Carl Smith, SN
Secretary	P.C Butch Baxter, P
Treasurer	Lt/C Linda Barnes

### Publisher's Statement

THE NANSEMOND LIGHT newsletter is published monthly. Deadline is the 24th day of each month for the following month. We welcome articles & photographs of interest to our members. THE NANSEMOND LIGHT is published for the members of America's Boating Club Nansmond River.

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