



United States Power Squadrons®

Rockville Sail and Power Squadron

THE SKIPJACK



October

Monthly Newsletter

2017

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Last month:



The Annual Fall Picnic and Auction was a huge success. There was a small raft up, great food, loads of fun stuff to buy, and demonstrations by our own members. The Riviera Beach Volunteer Fire Company brought their fire boat and showed off her capabilities.



Commander's Corner

Cdr Brian Reed, JN

RSPS Web Site:

<http://www.rspsonline.org>

RSPS Facebook Page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/RSPS>

Come for the Boating Education.....

Stay for the FriendsSM

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

The SKIPJACK newsletter is published monthly except the combined July/August issue. Deadline for articles is the 20th day of the month for the following month's issue. The SKIPJACK is written by and published for the members of the Rockville Sail and Power Squadron (RSPS) Inc, a squadron and unit of District 5 of the United States Power Squadrons®.

Editor: Lt Gen McGlothlin Peterson 919-743-0023 or skipjack@rspsonline.org.

Distribution: Lt Lauren Cosgrove, P, Paula Sind-Prunier.

I just got my USPS 25 year pin in the mail. 25 years. What was I thinking? And there are 20 members of this squadron that joined before I did. What were they thinking? I can't answer for them, but I was reminded this evening why I'm still here. It is the people. Yes, the classes are good, safety demonstrations, dinners, speakers, vessel safety checks, all are excellent programs. But it is the individuals more than the programs that keep me coming back. Tonight was an executive committee meeting. In Chevron-speak, these are the do-ers. They are a great group to work with. Strangely I find the meetings fun, two words I don't often put next to each other. And afterwards, you talk to them because the last two hours weren't enough, and you find out they ride motorcycles, restore cars, build condos, or live in Florida and you didn't know it! And they all have the common boat disease.












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2017-2018 RSPS Executive Committee

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They'll share those stories too, and you'll learn something if you listen. Similarly, I've taught a lot of USPS classes, and every time I did, I learned something new from a student. Your squadron is a collection of very interesting, intelligent and successful men and women. Enjoy them. And thanks for making it a great 25 years. I'll stick around for a couple more.

I would be remiss if I didn't use this space to do some sales as well. Last month I was selling Engine Maintenance and Advanced Piloting classes. Those filled and started the first week of October, but we have two fall dinners coming up. One is on October 11 with great NOAA speaker, and Lobster Fest is on November 8th. There are also three seminars on Saturdays in Gaithersburg. The Weather seminar is October 14, VHF/DSC is November 4 and Medical Emergencies on Board is November 18. These are free two hour seminars that provide some light learning, the chance to meet some of our amazing members, and get you out of raking leaves. They are also open to non USPS members, so bring one along.

Last, we've had about seven new members join Americas Boating Club Rockville this fall. (Yes, ABC Rockville, the organization also known as RSPS). So if you see a new face in a class or at a dinner, make sure you introduce yourself. And listen. I bet they have an interesting story too!

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Treasury Notes

Lt/C Jeff Cornish, AP

Thirty-five RSPS members, guests, and Riviera Beach fire fighters gathered on a warm and sunny day at Maryland Yacht Club for the annual Fall Picnic and Auction.

P/C Chuck Wells did another great job as auctioneer. Twelve members and guests made 27 winning bids for flares, life jackets, books, and more. Proceeds totaled \$158 for the Squadron's safety programs. Thanks to all those who donated auction items nautical and not and to all those who joined in the fun.

A reminder that this is my third and final year as your Treasurer (yes, there's a term limit), so we're looking for a replacement for next year. QuickBooks is an easy program to learn and use with just a bit of bookkeeping familiarity. Email, call, or catch me at a meeting if you'd like to discuss this opportunity.

Questions (and volunteers) are always welcome at treasurer@rspsonline.org.

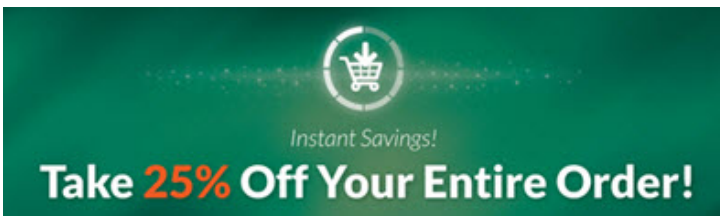
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MARYLAND/VIRGINIA CRUISING GUIDES

Williams & Heintz Maryland and Virginia Cruising Guides available at \$35 each or the set for \$68 at RSPS events or treasurer@rspsonline.org.

RSPS SHIP'S STORE

There are a number of new items available. Take a look at all the Squadron Pride items available for RSPS members.



Do you shop at Amazon.com? You can designate the **Rockville Sail and Power Squadron** as your Amazon Smile charity. Click the Amazon Smile button in the left column at www.rspsonline.org for details.



Fly an RSPS burgee on your vessel! You can get one for \$30 at RSPS dinners or through Jeff Cornish at jeffcornish301@gmail.com

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Executive View

Lt/C Gilbert Rose, P

As part from the (increased) threat of Hurricanes coming up the eastern seaboard, I really love this time of year. For a boater, fall means increased winds and cooler temperatures...and of course, the return of the boat shows!

On September 10, RSPS had our annual Picnic at the Maryland Yacht Club. Thanks to all who attended and helped to make it a great success! Kudos go out to Paula Sind-Pruner, our AO, for handling all the food/beverage logistics, Jeff McKinney, our grill master, Paul Mermelstein for securing the venue, Chris Smith, our fantastic photographer, and Chuck Wells, our able auctioneer!

A special treat this year was the participation of the Riviera Beach Volunteer Fire Company for our and live fire extinguisher demonstration. Led by Assistant Chief Bryan Gregg, his staff included Lt. Nick Curran,

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and Firefighters II Duane McKee, Ed Kiser, Brandon Phiefer, and Jay Porter. They even brought their fireboat and demonstrated its very impressive capabilities!

This year we also had an opportunity for a raft-up and Dennis Krizeck and I took full advantage of it, for two evenings. We had a fun time of it! Deb also fished but alas she had no luck, but with drink-in-hand she had absolutely the right attitude!



All you need to make sure you are ready for them is a **free, no-penalty** check by one of our team, another USPS examiner, or USCGA member.

We can do the exam at a raft-up, come to your dock, or even do the exam on land. Don't forget to ask fellow boaters you know if they want an exam. We just need you to tell us when and where to meet you or your friend. If you have forgotten or are not sure of all the things you need, please review the form:

https://www.usps.org/national/vsc/formtool_files/a7012.pdf

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Vessel Safety Checks

Stf/C Jeff McKinney, JN-CN
It's almost that time again

Fall has fell. How can you tell? It's finally cooling off, the remaining biting flies are staging one last assault on us before it gets too cold, and Vessel Safety Check season is drawing to an end.

Our VE team has done almost 150 VSCs this year, which is a little lower than this time last year. Jim Brown leads the team effort with an impressive 101 exams completed by the end of September. This qualifies him to receive another **Century Club Award** from National. Please congratulate him the next time you see or talk to him for a job well done! Even this late in the year you are not immune from getting stopped by the USCG or DNR (those new crew have to get training SOMEWHERE). I know you would feel awful if you got fined at the end of the season for not being in compliance with the regulations. It is still not too late to get one done, even though it is only good for a few more months.

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First Aid Support Team

Stf/C Jeff McKinney, RN, JN
Medical Officer, RSPS

Fall is finally here, although there are days when you think summer forgot to go home. This brings a lower risk of heat related illnesses, but for most of us this also signals the opening of flu season and colds that come from nowhere,

Flu: The flu (or influenza) sickens thousands of people every year, with a significant number winding up in the hospital or even dying from complications. I sure would not want you to be in that group.

The number 1 best move is get that flu shot as soon as possible! There is plenty to go around, and it is available. Check with your health care provider soon. Needle-phobic folks are out of luck, as the nasal spray versions previously offered have been found to be ineffective. As a result, that option is no longer available. You are just going to have to roll up that sleeve OR go without.

If you get the flu, check with your doc about a prescription medication called **Tamiflu**. It does not prevent or cure the flu, but if taken early enough it can reduce the severity or length of feeling terrible.

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Here's a link to a current CDC article about the upcoming flu season: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>

Colds: The good news is they usually clear up after a few days on their own. However, they are almost unavoidable with the crowds you encounter at boat shows, sporting events, airplane trips, and going to those fall blockbuster movies. Kids and grandkids will pick them up at school then unintentionally share them with you. This is a great way to beef up your immune system, but not much fun. If you have immune system issues (e.g., chemotherapy or are taking steroids), or just seem to get sick at the drop of a hat, really try to avoid those disease breeding grounds as much as you can.

If you do get sick, please to help protect others. Do simple things like covering your nose & mouth with the inside of your elbow (instead of your hand) if you sneeze, washing your hands frequently, and stay home if you are sick.

Cold germs can survive for hours to days on the hard surfaces of work or home environments. Make sure to clean your keyboard, mouse, TV remote, and phone with disinfectant wipes on a regular basis, especially if you share these devices with others. Keep those countertops and cooking areas clean as well.



Education Log

P/C Dennis Krizek, AP

I am pleased to report the Engine Maintenance Class has set sail with six students and the Advanced Piloting class has seven. Thanks to Jeff McKinney and Chris Smith for volunteering to explain the working of internal combustion engines to the class. Special thanks to Mike Collins for continuing with his Piloting student and teaching Advanced Piloting. Giuseppe Topa completed the Piloting Course "Self-Study".

Please Note: Fall Seminars Series dates have changed to the following:

- Basic Weather and Forecasting - October 14
- VHF/DSC Marine Radio - November 4
- Emergencies On Board - November 18

All Seminars are held on Saturdays, 1030-1230, at Atlantic Edge Scuba, 211 Perry Parkway, Gaithersburg, MD, 20877.

For additional information, please contact: Dennis Krizek- denniskri@msn.com.

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Administratively Speaking

Lt Paula Sind-Prunier

The Rockville Sail & Power Squadron's 2017 Picnic may well go down in history as the event with the best safety demonstration *ever!* A shout out to Gil Rose for orchestrating a fabulous event—and to Chuck Wells for being the auctioneer extraordinaire... And, that Captain-Admiral thing going on between Chris and Pat Smith not only boosted the proceeds to the Squadron, but proved entertaining and demonstrated the ebb and flow dynamic of sailing/boating couples that explains why the Squadron has so many family memberships! Thank you to all who attended and had a great time!

I'd like to extend a special welcome to our new and "encore" members: Teodor Brumeanu and Sofia Casares, Vincent Ferrer, Jacqueline Geyfman and Matthew Gonzalez, John and Karen Reilley, and Charlene Deaver-Vazquez and Luis Vazquez. We'll see those of you who've signed up for fall courses in class—but Squadron members who come for the boating education, stay for the friends—so we hope to meet all of you at our November Dine & Learn dinner meeting, which will be held at Nantucket's Reef, 9755 Traville Gateway Drive, Rockville MD. This is our annual Lobster Feast, so the food will be grand, as will the speaker.

At our November 8, 2017, meeting, we will welcome Ryck Lydecker, former Assistant Vice President of Government Affairs at BoatUS. Mr. Lydecker also served as a member of the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council at the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

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Despite retiring, he remains a key activist and authority within the sailing, boating, and fishing communities. His presentation will give us a peek at federal legislative issues on the horizon that all sailors and boaters need to be aware of. Join us for cocktails at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 7:00 p.m., and Mr. Lydecker's presentation to follow.

Call for volunteers – host holiday party

Every year, the Squadron hosts a festive holiday party in December (most of our boats are on the hard—we must find some way to have fun!) If you'd be interested in hosting this year's December Holiday Celebration, please cruise forward. The Squadron will provide most of the logistical support—it's typically been a potluck event and the Squadron supplies the beverages. All we really need is a venue. If you're interested in hosting, please contact a member of the bridge... and don't be shy. Winter is hard on sailors and boaters... we're looking for a hero to help us carry on to Spring launching.

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Upcoming Events:

2017 Events in District 5

Event	Date	Location	Venue
Annapolis Sailboat Show	5 – 9 Oct	Annapolis, MD	City Dock
Annapolis Powerboat Show	12 – 15 Oct	Annapolis, MD	City Dock
District 5 Fall Educational Conference	27 – 29 Oct	King of Prussia PA	TBA

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Make sure to put these very important dates on your calendars. Some of the best times and greatest memories are made during these events!

5-9 October: United States Sailboat Show at the Annapolis City Dock

12-15 October: United States Powerboat Show

20 May: Day-On-The-Bay, meet at the Smokehouse in Eastport afterwards.

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October Birthdays

03	Jacque	Ferrante
03	Phillis	Gayman
04	Mary A.	Alvarado
11	Atria	Peter
21	Jon H.	Griffin
21	Eric	Mendelsohn
26	D1ane	Woodside
29	Jon	Van Winkle
30	Linda K.	Hofberg

If your birthday does not appear in THE SKIPJACK in its proper month – please check if your personal data is up to date on the RSPS web site.

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Membership Renewals

Received a renewal notice from National recently? Renew online with your certificate and invoice numbers. Your prompt renewal from the email saves trees, fuel, and the cost of mailing a renewal notice.

<http://www.usps.org/dues/>

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RSPS Food and Fun Gen McGlothlin Peterson, Editor Curried Pumpkin Coconut Soup

This flavorful, comforting soup is ideal for chilly weather and evenings when you want something simple and healthy. Pumpkin is extremely nutritious because it is rich in Vitamin A, which is important for keeping your eyesight sharp. Pumpkin is also a good source of fiber, which keeps you feeling full for longer on fewer calories. Coconut milk gives the soup a creamy consistency without the use of heavy cream. A touch of curry powder gives it the slightest hint of warm Indian spices without being overly spicy.

This soup has a silky texture because all of the ingredients get blended together until smooth. It is preferred to use an immersion blender to puree the soup, but you can use a regular/traditional blender instead. Here are two safety precautions to take when using a traditional blender to blend **hot** liquids:

1. Blend the hot liquid in batches and only fill the blender up until it is halfway full. Any more than that can cause a serious accident.
2. Before you start blending, remove the center insert in the lid of your blender. Then, place your hand over top the lid with a dish towel and keep most of the hole covered. This is done to allow the hot steam to escape and prevent any splashes while the blender is running.



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This easy Curried Pumpkin Coconut Soup recipe is **gluten-free, dairy-free, vegan, paleo** and ready to eat in just 20 minutes!

Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon coconut oil
- 1 yellow onion, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon minced ginger
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- 1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin purée (not pumpkin pie filling)
- 2 cups vegetable broth
- 1 (14-ounce) can coconut milk
- Optional garnishes: Extra coconut milk, pumpkin seeds

Instructions:

1. In a large pot, heat the oil over medium heat. Add onion and sauté for 4 minutes until softened. Add garlic, ginger and curry powder and cook for 1 - 2 minutes until fragrant.
2. Stir in the pumpkin purée, broth and coconut milk. Increase heat to high and bring to a boil.
3. Reduce heat to low, cover and simmer for about 10 minutes.
4. Remove from heat. Using an immersion blender, puree soup until smooth. Alternatively, transfer to a traditional blender and puree in batches until smooth.
5. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Serve hot, garnished with a drizzle of coconut milk and pumpkin seeds if using.

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10 Tips to Keep Your Boat Safe This Winter



You know how boats are. Little problems compound quickly into big ones. If we had to give only one piece of advice this winter, it's this: Visit your boat. Snow, ice, wind, rain, and damp air can take their toll on both of you. If guilt is a good motivator, think of it this way: You can sit by a warm fire drinking hot cocoa while winter rages, but your boat has to be outside, enduring winter's worst, so make some time to visit. Here are 10 tips from the BoatUS Marine Insurance claim files that can help prevent damage to your boat over winter.

1. **If your boat's in the water, take a walk around it at the dock.** Are there any changes in the waterline? If so, check the bilge for water, a good practice at any time. If you find any, locate the source. It might be a leaking thru-hull or stuffing box, or be coming from the deck through a hatch or port light.
2. **Verify that all seacocks are closed, except for the cockpit.** Also check that leaves don't clog the cockpit scuppers, which could fill the cockpit and force drains underwater, back-flooding the boat.
3. **Check your docklines for security and chafe.** Winter storms can put a lot of strain on docklines so make sure you use a good chafe guard, and make sure the boat is tied so it can't get caught under the dock during tide changes.

4. **Check the operation of the bilge pump.** It should work even if the battery switch is off. Manually turn on the switch to verify the pump comes on.
5. **Inspect the shore power cord for damage and make sure the battery charger is operating.** Verify the battery electrolyte hasn't evaporated and add some if needed. If you spot corrosion on battery terminals, clean it off now.
6. **Look for fuel, oil, or coolant leaks.** You don't want your bilge pump to spew oil into the water. In addition to polluting the environment, you could be in for a big fine.
7. **If you haven't already removed expensive electronics, now's the time.** Boatyards are like ghost towns in the winter, and can be easy pickings for thieves.
8. **Make sure the boat is well-ventilated.** Air circulation prevents mold and mildew from forming down below and keeps the boat smelling fresh. Treat any mold that you find now, before it gets worse.
9. **If your boat is stored ashore, check that jackstands haven't shifted or sunk into the ground, and are chained together under the boat.** Tell the boatyard if something doesn't look right.
10. **Make sure that water isn't pooling on deck or in the cockpit.** Nothing good ever comes from standing water inside or outside a boat; water can damage the gelcoat and cause stains.

Fort, Charles. "10 Tips To Keep Your Boat Safe This Winter." *BoatUS*. December 2014.
<http://www.boatus.com/magazine/2014/december/tips-to-keep-your-boat-safe-this-winter.asp>

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Volunteers Needed for Annual Holiday Party

The Squadron hosts a festive holiday party in December. We simply need a host home. Be a HERO and help us get to spring. Contact any Bridge Member.





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Oyster Season Starts October 2

Opening Month Reserved for Divers and Tongers

Maryland's 2017-2018 public oyster harvest season kicks off Oct. 2 and runs through March 31, 2018. The opening month is reserved for divers and watermen using patent and shaft tongs, as well as recreational oystering.

The [recreational harvest](#) of oysters in Maryland is open to any resident during the season. Each harvester may take up to one bushel of oysters per day as long as they are only for personal, noncommercial use.

“Oysters are ingrained in Maryland’s culture, diet and heritage,” [Maryland Department of Natural Resources](#) Secretary Mark Belton said. “Since the time of Captain John Smith and the skipjacks of yesteryear, these beloved bivalves have been intrinsically linked to the brackish bay, as well as to the state’s economy and environment. This iconic species’ management is vitally important to industry, stakeholders, our state and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay.”

Last season, 1,086 licensed watermen harvested 224,609 bushels of oysters with a dockside value of about \$9 million. The oyster industry provides funding to invest in its own future – oyster seed and shell plantings – through the state’s license surcharge and oyster tax revenue, as well as through funding from the Maryland Department of Transportation.

New this oyster season, the department has established the [Commercial Shellfish Harvester Closure Area Information Portal](#). This interactive, online tool assures that harvesters have access to maps showing where aquaculture leases are located as well as the corner coordinates so these areas can be avoided when harvesting oysters. More information about the portal is included in the Shellfish Closure Book that harvesters receive when purchasing their oyster authorization.

Throughout the season, the [Maryland Natural Resources Police](#) is activating its oyster enforcement plan to protect

the species, aquaculture leases, public fishery areas or sanctuaries. Officers on patrol boats and along the shoreline will monitor harvest activity, conduct aerial sweeps with radar from the agency’s reacquired helicopter, Natural 1, as well as inspect seafood buyers and sellers.

The busiest portion of the oyster season will kick off Nov. 1, when harvest methods expand to include power and sail dredging in designated areas of Calvert, Dorchester, Somerset, St. Mary’s, Talbot and Wicomico counties.

Commercial watermen may work Monday through Friday from sunrise to 3 p.m. in October, and again from January through March. In November and December oysters may be harvested from sunrise to sunset. The minimum harvest size is 3 inches. The daily limit is 15 bushels per person, not to exceed 30 bushels per boat for divers and tongers. For power dredging the limit is 12 bushels per person, not to exceed 24 bushels per boat.

Maryland Department of Natural Resources (2017). *Oyster Season Starts October 2*. [online] Available at: <http://news.maryland.gov/dnr/2017/10/02/oyster-season-starts-october-2/> [Accessed Sept. 2017].



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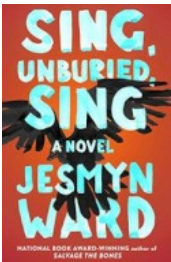
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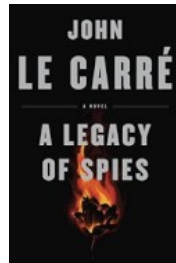
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The Most Anticipated Books Fall 2017

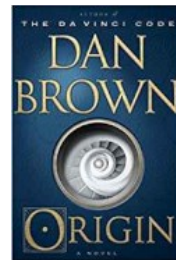
Drawn from the 14,000+ titles in [PW's Fall Announcements issue](#), we asked our reviews editors to pick the most notable books publishing in Fall 2017. Book titles are links to reviews.



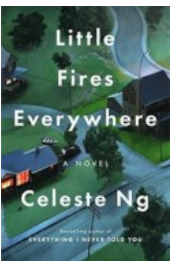
[Sing, Unburied, Sing](#) by Jesmyn Ward (Scribner, Sept.) When the father of Leonie's children is released from prison, Leonie packs her kids and a friend into her car and sets out for Parchman farm, on a journey rife with danger and promise.



[A Legacy of Spies](#) by John le Carré (Viking, Sept.) George Smiley returns in this spy novel from MWA Grand Master le Carré, though it's Peter Guillam, Smiley's devoted assistant from MI6, who takes center stage.



[Origin](#) by Dan Brown (Doubleday, Oct.) The author of *The Da Vinci Code* brings back Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon for another adventure that mixes religion, science, history, and art.



[Little Fires Everywhere](#) by Celeste Ng (Penguin Press, Sept.) Mia Warren, an enigmatic artist and single mother, rents a house from the picture-perfect Richardson family. Soon Mia and Pearl become more than tenants: all four Richardson children are drawn to the alluring mother-daughter pair and Mia's mysterious past.



[Gold Dust Woman: A Biography of Stevie Nicks](#) by Stephen Davis (St. Martin's, Nov.) Davis's candid, energetic book reveals the life of the woman who's arguably one of rock's greatest singer-songwriters.



[Manhattan Beach](#) by Jennifer Egan (Scribner, Oct.) Anna, sole provider for her mother and her severely disabled sister, meets a man who may hold clues to her father's disappearance.

"The Most Anticipated Books of Fall 2017." Publishersweekly.com. (2017). <https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/tip-sheet/article/74331-the-most-anticipated-books-of-fall-2017.html> [Accessed Sept. 2017].

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[Forest Dark](#) by Nicole Krauss (Harper, Sept.) The author of *The History of Love* offers a novel of metamorphosis and self-realization. In present-day Israel, two visiting Americans—one a young wife, mother, and novelist, the other an elderly philanthropist—experience existential crises and transcendence.

More Picnic Pictures



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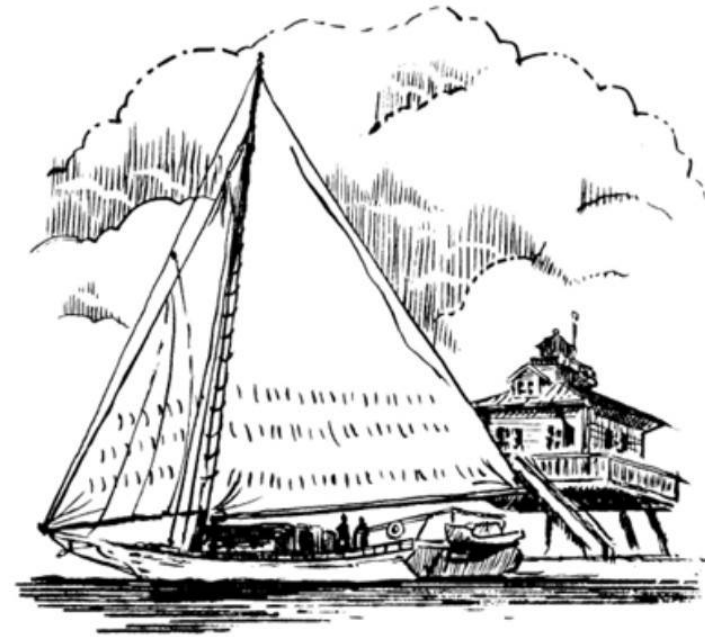
Watch For Our Holiday
Party Date!
Can't wait to see you and try
your favorite dish.



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THE SKIPJACK



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