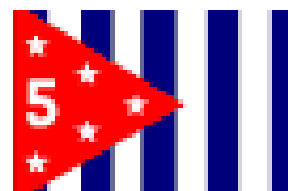




# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB MID-ATLANTIC **MARK 5**

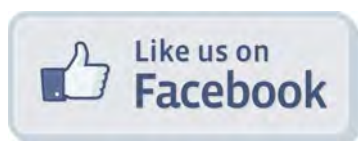


VOLUME 72 No. 2

SPRING 2022 ELECTRONIC ISSUE

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## 2022

### America's Boating Club Mid-Atlantic Summer Council

**It's hard to believe but Summer will be here before you know it. Details are coming, but make sure to mark your calendars for the Summer Council meeting to be held July 29 to the 31st in the Rock Hall area.**

**This is a nice central location for our membership on the Upper Eastern Shore with accommodations both on land and water.**

**If you've never attended a District event, this is the one to try which includes lots of time for socializing and relaxing with old and new District friends!**

**Stay tuned for more information in future Mark 5 editions.**

**Cdr John O'Reilly, JN-CN**

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## Commander's Message

D/C Michael Payne, AP

It seems that this year has flown by, but in spite of that I had a lot of fun heading this district. As my remaining time as your District Commander winds down, I am prepared to join the ranks of the Past District Commanders who came before me. My thanks to everyone for trusting me with your district leadership during these uncertain times.

When I began my year as District 5 Commander, we continued to face many challenges due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In spite of this, I could see how America's Boating Club and District 5 were rising to meet those challenges and how we continued setting ourselves up to succeed. We were reaching a larger portion of boating enthusiasts through our marketing efforts as America's Boating Club. Successful member recruitment and retention efforts were ongoing. Our America's Boating Channel & online training opportunities continued for more people than ever before. I truly believed that District 5 was "On Course for the Future" in 2021, so I chose that as my slogan for the year. As I look back on this year, including our emergence from the pandemic & resumption of many in-person activities, I see I could not have chosen more wisely, for as we begin 2022, I believe that we remain "On Course for the Future!"

My thanks to all the District Commander's aides and D/5 members who attended the USPS® Annual Meeting in Florida. Thanks to their capable assistance, we hosted a District 5 hospitality room on 25 February which was well attended. As usual, everyone who attended enjoyed the warm hospitality & good food provided by District 5.

I would like to take a moment and thank all of the District 5 Bridge officers and committee members for all of their hard work this past year. In particular thank you Treasurer Nick Montalto, Secretary Penn Hess, Educational Officer Joseph Gibson, Administrative Officer Charles Wells, Executive Officer Stephanie Ward and Assistant Secretary Apryl Bernard for keeping me straight and providing excellent advice, institutional knowledge, and lots of help throughout the year. I can honestly say I couldn't have done it without you!

I am looking forward to attending Changes of Watch at squadrons around the district through the month of March, as do the many loyal District 5 representatives. Looking back, one of my favorite parts of this year has involved my visits as America's Boating Club & District 5 have resumed many in-person events. I was excited to once again have face-to-face time with many of you during Changes of Watch, parties, cruises, and other district & national events. I look forward to continuing these visits in the years to come.

(Continued on page 3)

As my year serving as your District Commander comes to a close, let me again express my continued appreciation and thanks to everyone who has helped me along the way. Please join me in welcoming D/Lt/C Stephanie Ward, AP as your next District Commander; you will be in great hands! Finally, let's all continue to enjoy 2022. It's going to be a great year!

Best Wishes,  
D/C Michael Payne



## AMERICA'S BOATING CHANNEL<sup>®</sup> UPDATE

### America's Boating Channel Is Coming to Television

America's Boating Channel's mission is to fully develop United States Power Squadrons' boating safety and boater education video service into a mainstream media offering by 2025.

As one of the efforts to move towards that goal, the service is continuing to cross-promote the US Sailing Team's high-profile activities as a key channel partner emphasizing the aspirational, glamorous, and patriotic appeal of the Olympics with periodic video cross-promotions on America's Boating Channel's Facebook page.

America's Boating Channel has also invited other U.S. Coast Guard non-profit boating safety advocacy organizations to join it in a new venture that will start later this year.



The venture involves developing, launching, and operating a free-to-the viewer on-demand smart TV app that will offer more than two-thousand safe-boating titles at launch, and bring America's Boating Channel's complete catalog of videos to the more than one-hundred million cord-cutters in the United States.

For its subscribers, the America's Boating Channel's app will sit on their television screens right next to the icons for Netflix, Prime Video, Hulu and other smart TV apps to which they also subscribe.

Prospective suppliers of the additional video content for launch include American Boat & Yacht Council, American Canoe Association, American Whitewater, Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation, Future Angler Foundation, JSI Research and Training Institute, National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, National Safe Boating Council, Safe Kids Worldwide, Sea Tow Boating Safety & Education Foundation, Spirit of America, Water Solutions Group, and Water Sports Foundation.



After launch, this content will be supplemented by the addition of US Sailing Team videos along with boating news and entertainment video content.

(Continued on page 4)



(Continued from page 3)



In the fullness of time, the stable of safety and education videos will serve as public service announcements or PSAs for highly viewed boating themed television programs as America's Boating Channel's videos have been doing since 2020 for newscasts on Caribbean Broadcast Network.

The America's Boating Channel on-demand smart TV app will also be complemented with a linear video channel that, like broadcast television stations and cable or satellite TV channels, will present boating sports, news, educational, and entertainment shows in real-time along with boating safety messages interspersed throughout the program schedule.

Meanwhile the immediate focus of America's Boating Channel is on field production for Season Six videos and the service's new inlet drone videos offering. D/5 members and squadrons are invited and encouraged to join in those activities. Please contact Grant Project Manager Marty Lafferty at 410-725-7820 [Marty.Lafferty@AmericasBoatingChannel.com](mailto:Marty.Lafferty@AmericasBoatingChannel.com) if you are interested in participating.



**P/D/C Marty Lafferty, AP**  
**Grant Project Manager**  
**America's Boating Channel™**  
**Phone 410-725-7820**



**Past District 5 Commander**  
**United States Power Squadrons®**

America's Boating Channel is a registered trademark of United States Power Squadrons



## JOIN US FOR AN EDUCATIONAL CRUISE ON THE DELAWARE RIVER



Aboard the Benjamin Franklin Yacht  
Enjoy a Narrated Cruise and  
Buffet Dinner

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

Boarding: 1800

Departure: 1830

Rain or Shine

Traditional and electronic methods of navigation will be presented.

During this trip you will enjoy a delightful, full course dinner on the lower dining deck of the Ben Franklin. The informative and exciting narration will focus on aids to navigation, piloting, and chart work using a hand-held compass, GPS, and plotting our position on Delaware River Chart 12312. On the return trip you will see lighted aids, ranges and navigation lights on the big ships.

### **Bring your neighbors and friends**

Make reservation by sending a check in the amount of \$35.00 for each adult payable to ABC-DV to Lt/C Robert Tafel, PO Box 585, Hatboro, PA 19040 (215-441-4154).

List the name of each guest and e-mail address. (Sea Scouts & children under 12 at \$15.00).

Directions: The Ben Franklin departs from 101 S. Columbus Blvd. which is just south of the Ben Franklin Bridge. South on I-95: take the right-hand lane at exit 22 for Callowhill St. At the bottom of the off ramp, turn left on Callowhill St. and then right on N. Columbus Blvd. Turn left onto Penn's Landing and the yacht will be on the left. There is ample parking at the location.

Uniform of the day = America's Boating Club Casual

**.Sponsored by Americas Boating Club --Delaware Valley**

## AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB Annual Meeting



The 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of USPS/ABClub was held at the Marriott Resort Sawgrass, Ponte Vedra, Florida from 20 February to 26 February 2022. Leadership of USPS/ABClub held its Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday of that week. On Wednesday evening the social event was a "Friends Night" where Chief Commander Abbott had the audience fill in the words to Jimmy Buffett's song "Margaritaville." It was amazing to the attendees as to how many times they have heard and sung that song but did not know all the words.

Thursday and Friday began all the seminars/presentations with the Executive Department involving the District Commanders and Executive Officers informing them of the changes that may be on the horizon, Reorganization. Great feedback was given to further hone the proposal that will be presented to the Governing Board at a future date. There was also a Cooperative Charting adventure where members actually found a geodetic marker and the Safety Committee had a fire extinguisher demonstration. The Educational Department had its committee updating the members on all the educational opportunities available to the members. The Administrative Department had presentations on membership and retention which gave squadrons/clubs ideas how to attract members and keep them. Member benefits were also presented and some members were surprised by the number of benefits available to members. Captain T. Glendye, US Coast Guard, presented a Town Hall which allowed members to ask questions directly and was very informative.

Social events were available every evening with the Awards Dinner on Thursday evening. This was for Life Membership (25 merit marks), growth awards and educational awards. District 5 fared quite well in both these categories. Al and Kay Simkins were on hand to receive their Life Membership award.

Friday night brought the traditional District Hospitality Suites for everyone to visit. Leaving the hotel for an enjoyable stroll to the "Villas" was also very well attended.

Saturday's Governing Board meeting amassed over 300 attendees. The main business, other than the reports from the various departments and committees, was to elect new leadership for USPS/ABClub. Craig Fraser, now Chief Commander Craig Fraser, was elected, and District 5's Ralph Bernard was elected as the Executive Officer. District 5 was well represented at the meeting with District Commander Michael Payne and Executive Stephanie Ward in attendance, along with a host of other members. During the meeting, P/R/C Warren Stevens received Governing Board Emeritus status after receiving his 50<sup>th</sup> merit mark: What an achievement!

It was a fantastic meeting and if you've never attended a National Meeting, I invite you to do so. You have really missed a good time. The next chance will be in Raleigh, North Carolina from 11 to 17 September, 2022. Make plans to attend and let your voice be heard about the direction of USPS/ABClub.



# Annual Meeting Photos





# ABClub Cruise Photos





## In Memorium:



Michael Lebeduik, III, 73, of Bethlehem Township, passed away on December 25, 2021.

Born on September 23, 1948, he was the son of Antonette (Kolchin) Lebeduik and the late Michael Lebeduik, Jr.

Michael graduated from Liberty High School in 1966 and went on to proudly serve in the United States Navy. Following his honorable discharge from the military, he went on to own TJA Associates and Goosie Gander Four. He also worked at Mac Trucks, Bell Telephone, Champion Spark Plugs, ultimately retiring as a lineman with Verizon.

Outside of work, Michael enjoyed spending time with his friends, boating, fishing, traveling and life as a whole. His joys extended to the many memberships he held: Kiwanis, The Lions Club, The Wanderers, Shriner's, the Hellertown Legion, DelHigh Boating organization, Chesapeake Cruiser's Club, NRA, Veteran's Yacht Club, and the Freemasons.

Michael was preceded in death by his father, Michael Lebeduik, Jr. He will be greatly missed by his wife: Nilsa Lebeduik; son, Jason Michael Lebeduik; daughter, Allison Lebeduik (Jason Spangler); two step-sons, Nelson Rivera and David Rivera, Jr.; sister, Susan (Joseph) Polenchar, IV; six grandchildren, Jaylyn June Spangler, Bella Rivera, David Rivera, III, Inocencio Rivera, Killian Rivera, and Daviana Rivera; and his nephew, Joseph Polenchar, V (Julie).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

31 Mar-2 Apr	D/5 Spring Conference	Ocean City, MD
29-31 July	D/5 Summer Council	Rock Hall, MD
11-18 Sep	ABClub Governing Board	Raleigh, NC



### **Mark 5**

Official Publication of District 5  
United States Power Squadrons®



Published Four Times Annually

Articles, opinions and advertisements  
do not necessarily reflect USPS® policy  
or endorsement unless so designated.

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