



Online Basic Boating Safety ABC Class—Spring 2021 Dates To Be Announced— To sign up, see page 5



NVSPS Members Reunited at Annual Spring Picnic

After being on lockdown due to the pandemic, the Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron members were finally able to get together once again at the Spring Picnic and membership meeting held at the Fairfax Yacht Club in Mason Neck, Virginia. This is exciting news because it marked the second in-person gathering of the group since we went into quarantine. The last time we were physically able to meet up was the Fall Picnic and membership meeting held at Leesylvania State Park on the Potomac in Woodbridge, Virginia back in October of 2020. *(Photo below courtesy of Fairfax Yacht Club)*



Past Commander Robert Fitton, AP, Crossed the Bar on April 26. See article on page 4.

Save The Date!

General Membership Meeting via Zoom — Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Oktoberfest — Saturday, October 16, 2021 at Fairfax Yacht Club



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Meeting Info: If you do not receive an email notice about meetings, please contact a bridge officer to confirm in-person meeting will be held before heading out.

General Membership Mtgs are normally at Alexandria Police HQ Community Rm, 3600 Wheeler Ave, Alexandria, VA 22304, 7:30 pm, until further notice, are:

- on the **2nd Tues of each month** except no mtgs in Aug. and Dec.
- The May and Oct. mtgs are combined with other events on different days., normally Spring Picnic and Fall Picnic on Saturdays.

Executive Committee Mtgs, 7 pm: by Conference call or new location. Contact Executive Officer for conference call number and codes or location. Normally 4th Wed. of each month. There are speaking procedures for these meetings to be sure business has time to be discussed. Just ask about them.

Zoom Meetings: Login info for mtgs via Zoom or other mtg software will be distributed by email and available from Bridge Officers.

Please see previous issues online. If you do not have internet access, ask the editor to mail you a copy. For more information about anything in this newsletter, contact editor@nvsp.org

Find us on



We have 315 likes!

MEMBERS AT LARGE– contact us about any issue or for us to bring project plans to the Executive Committee

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of Tars & Terns

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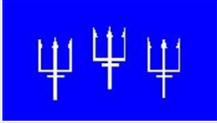
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Message from the Commander



Mid May 2021

Ahoy!

Spring is quickly fading into summer, and as the pandemic has ended, and we will be entering a much anticipated “normal” summer season - or as we like to call it “boating season” I know we are all excited!



One thing we have all learned through this is “safety”. Distancing, extra cleanliness out in public, maybe not standing so close to each other. But, as this may sound elementary, we can all translate that into everything we do, and for us, it’s boat safety. Remembering the basic steps when it comes to boating, docking, anchoring, and our fellow boaters out there.

I am sure that after a very long, very different year that we’ve endured, we are all very excited to get out there on the water with our friends and family, socialize a little closer to each other again, and do what we love - the freedom of feeling the wind, and the smell of the salt air. I cannot wait to see everyone again soon, and kick off the summer to a fun, and safe start.

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of Tars & Terns Has A New Editor

Since March of 2017, Lt Claire Wyngaard, P, has been our very capable and diligent newsletter Editor. Publishing our newsletter is only one of the myriad of services Claire has very graciously rendered to the Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron. Claire also continues to serve as our Public Relations Chair as well as our Facebook Team lead alongside P/C Alan Hart, AP.

As of May 2021, Denise Robinson became the new Editor with Claire’s tutelage and blessing. The newsletter will provide a snapshot of our activities, the membership and related items of nautical interest. We owe a debt of gratitude to D/Lt Walt Lazear, AP (Distribution and Webmaster), along with Dick and Jean Durgin. They play a pivotal role in publishing and distributing every issue of our newsletter. Thanks also goes to Commander Patrick Sowers for his Message from the Commander; Secretary Lt/C Evelyn Alls, P, for providing information and updates; and Treasurer P/C Fred Zugay, JN, for handling the financials related to the newsletter.

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IN MEMORIAM: P/C Robert L. Fitton, AP 1932 — 2021

Past Commander Robert L. Fitton, AP, passed away on April 26, 2021 at age 89. Bob joined the Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron in 1994 and immediately became an active member. He served as Administrative Officer in 1998 and Executive Officer in 1999 before becoming Commander in 2000.



Commander Bob and his wife Lindalee organized and led a very successful and enjoyable squadron year both on land and aboard their 52' Hatteras "Encore." They made sure that fun was a big part of every squadron activity. At the District 5 Spring Conference, the hospitality suite theme was abandon ship bags with a funny twist. Members dressed as characters from the old TV show "Gilligan's Island" and carried abandon ship bags appropriate for their characters. Bob played millionaire Thurston Howell, III and his abandon ship bag contained cash and a bottle of sherry. The squadron summer cruise

featured nightly parties and a scavenger hunt which had everyone carving mermaids out of soap and capturing flying insects. On the final night of the cruise, Bob hosted everyone onboard "Encore" with delicious refreshments served by Lindalee.

- Jean Durgin



Join The Sea Scouts

Sea Scout units—called ships—are established all across the country on oceans, bays, rivers and lakes. They provide limitless opportunities and exciting challenges that you won't find anywhere else. Sea Scouts is a place to grow and learn, find adventure and build long lasting friendships. Programs are for young men and women between the ages of 14 and 20. Visit <https://www.seascoutship1942.org>





Message from the Education Officer

Online Basic Boating Safety Class Coming Soon

Dates and times to be announced.
Sign up now to get information when available.
Contact NVSPS Education Officer Lt/C Dean Markussen, AP,
MMarkussen2@comcast.net
703-751-9178

National Safe Boating Week is May 22-28

Schedule a

Vessel Safety Check

for your boat by appointment in Northern Virginia

Contact P/C Rich Unis, JN at

703-777-8378 or skipperunis@gmail.com



June Birthdays

<i>Richard Unis</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Ben Fulton</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>William M. Russell</i>	<i>28</i>



A Date To Celebrate!

Many members of our Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron are married. In addition to announcing birthdays, we might like to also recognize wedding anniversaries in our newsletter. If anyone would like to share with us your wedding anniversary date (month and day only), we would be happy to publish your date to celebrate! Please submit your anniversary date to Editor Denise Robinson at editor@nvsp.org.





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General Membership Meeting — June 8 Via Zoom

America's Boating Club Northern Virginia

