



**NORTHERN VIRGINIA SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON
2007-08 GENERAL MEETING April 2007**

In attendance:

BRIDGE:

Commander, G. Jay Nelson, AP
Executive Officer, Lt/C William Blanding, P
Administrative Officer, Lt/C John Shivik, AP
Education Officer, Lt/C Rick Baker, AP
Treasurer, Lt/C Steve Hall

Secretary, Lt/C Clara L. Blanding, P
Assistant Admin. Officer, 1st Lt Ron Larson, AP
Assistant Secretary, 1st Lt Susan Sams-Grohoski

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

P/C Keith Segerson, P
Lt. Tom Martin, AP

The general meeting was held at the GMU Conference Room in Fairfax and called to order at 7:29 PM. Lt/C John Shivik, AP gave the invocation. CDR Jay Nelson, AP led in the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was present and the minutes from the last meeting were approved and distributed to those who requested a paper copy. Everyone was directed to the web site where the meeting minutes are now posted.

RECOGNITION OF PAST NVPS COMMANDERS:

Commander Nelson, AP recognized Past Commanders present as follows:

P/C Gale Alls, SN
P/C Richard Davis, AP (of another squadron)
P/C Richard Durgin, JN
P/C Keith Segerson, P
P/C John A. Shivik, AP

TREASURER REPORT: Lt/C Steve Hall—no report. Steve was inaugurated tonight

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS: CDR G. Jay Nelson, P

- The May meeting will be held at the GMU Conference room in Fairfax. Check OTT for directions and the following month's location.
- Thanks were given for the cake preserved from the Anniversary party which was brought by Jean and Dick Durgin. TASTY!

MEMBERSHIP: Membership Chair, Martha Jane Dodd, AP

- Bob and Jeanine Heckman were sworn in last month but introduced tonight. Bob has been boating 40 years, the last 3 in larger boats. He has taken his captains course but is getting his 90 hours this year. They plan to take more navigation classes. They keep their Cruisers Express 34 ft. Yacht in Harrington South in Colonial Beach where there are now three NVSPS members who have slips. Eventually they plan to head south in about 5-6 years to where it doesn't snow.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

Commander, CDR G. Jay Nelson, AP reports that there are 214 active members plus 49 active additional family members in the NVSPS.

Executive Officer, Lt/C William Blanding, P requests members to Check OTT for squadron Boating Safety information and vessel safety checks.

Education Officer, Lt/C Rick Baker, AP: Sat & Sun Mar 14/15 will be an All Hands Instructor Call out. Attendees will be initiated on everything needed when teaching boating class. Upon completion, individuals should be able to start with teaching Basic boating and advance to teaching seminars. Let Rick know you are coming so he can have enough handouts. He sent an email announcement to everyone in the squadron.

Administrative Officer, Lt/C John Shivik, P: The Summer Cruise is coming up. See Joe Jarocki for questions. Cruises are fun and recommended if you can make the opportunity.

May 19 from 1200-1700 the squadron will kick off the boating season with a picnic at the Fairfax Yacht Club. See *Of Tars and Terns* next month for latitude and longitude! Not just for 'us guys' invite kids and grandkids. It will be a good time for all. Planned activities include: BBQ, 5050 raffle, water balloon toss, navigation workshop, vessel safety checks for those at the club with boat. Other clubs in the area: Belmont Bay and Prince William Marine if you want to come in by boat. RSVP to John Shivik by email or form to be found in next Tars and Terns. jshivik@cox.net. Phone: 703-273-3351. Deadline May 14.

Basic Boating Course Examinations coming up in near future: forms handed out with pen attached for those signing up for basic boating course as examiner. Four interviewers at each event asked for: Dates – all to start at 1915 HRS. 19 April, 2 May, 3 May, 17 May.

Secretary, Lt/C Clara L. Blanding, P: Monthly minutes of the General Meeting are now available on the web site. They are currently a bit buried but she is working to get them in a more accessible location. Paper copies are available at the meeting if you want to read them. Need input next month on squadron response.

Copies of the 2007 Chesapeake guide and Intercoastal Waterway Facilities Guide 2007 were donated by the musicians at the anniversary party. Next month these will be raffled. 7 for \$5 or \$1 each.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Legislative Liaison, Lt Tom Martin, AP-- 30-40 years ago discharge from commercial ships became regulated. Recreational boats were mostly exempt until now. New legislation is that no discharge of any bilge, black, ballast, leech (anti-fouling) paint, engine cooling water may be dumped into any public waters. As this may make recreational boating obsolete, please write to your federal congressman. The states are mandated by court to come up with a program by Oct 1 to come up with permits but the state currently has no idea how to go about it. Currently some groups are working with congress, others are working to get temporary permits. Check www.boatblue.org for updates.

P/C Dick Durgin, JN: Copies of NVSPS history were given to anniversary party attendees. Tonight \$5 to purchase. He calls it a "Fantastic Book" and says, if you haven't read yet, 'shame on you'. It gives a lot of information. Written by Jean Durgin, Jay says it is an "amazing effort. It really is a keepsake."

GUEST SPEAKER: CDR G. Jay Nelson, AP spoke on Spring commissioning of your Vessels. Following are a few of the suggestions and points he made.

The purpose of this Spring Commissioning list is to Pre-empt expensive breakage and check safety condition of vessel,

Develop checklist: specific to your boat—cobble one together from suggestions from friends and professionals and practice on boat. It should mirror winterization checklist.

Make a Shopping list with quantity and type of materials to take to supply store so you have them in hand when you go to commission boat.

Engines and Generators:

Schedule what is changed yearly or bi-annually and keep track so you can have supply on hand for that year. Turn seacock safety OFF before changing protective anodes or anything in the heat exchanger. Protects internal metal parts of engine if anodes are changes. Every boat has 2-3 somewhere in engine.

Hull, Decking and Canvas –

Can wax boat by sections rather than entire boat at one time to reduce overworking self. Try marking where you leave off with tape. Aluminum foil polishes chrome well. Try to stick to low PH factor cleaners designed for boats.

Bilge: Pour a little Liquid Tide (has low PH) into the bilge, hose it down and go for a bumpy ride (works like a washing machine). Turn pump back on. If water is oily, you can pump it into a 5 Gallon bucket to dispose oily water safely rather than into natural water. 2/3 Part Chlorox Bleach to 1/3 water (reverse if really bad) removes mold.

AC Electrical Systems: At new harbor connection. Make sure polarity is not reversed.

Lead Acid and Gell cell batteries will still trickle power and dry cells if not shut off completely. Clean corrosion on terminals with baking soda and toothbrush and coat with Vasoline to keep working smoothly.

Air Conditioning: DOES probably have a filter – check it out. May need to be changed. If it doesn't have one, you may need to brush coils to clean off.

Water Systems: Remember to clean/disinfect (bleach is great) sump pump. Rinse with shower. Clean/disinfect black water systems.

Galley and Cabin: NOW would be a good time to replace all those batteries in clock, safety equipment, smoke detector, etc.

Mitts designed for car cleaning are good for oiling wood.

Trailer: Check tires for rot and inflation! Lube wheel bearings every time you put the trailer in water!

Miscellaneous: steering system reservoir might be behind steering wheel – check and fill if necessary. Lube steering cables in stern corners. Check trim tab for lube – one is often "weaker" than the other. TEST Navigation electronics before using them. Shake fire extinguisher – if goes "thump" needs to be replaced.

PRESENTATION:

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
L.T. Susan Sams-Grohoski

Lt/C Clara L. Blanding, P
Secretary

Lt Susan Sams-Grohoski
Assistant Secretary