



**NORTHERN VIRGINIA SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON
2008-09 GENERAL METING
April 9, 2008**

In attendance:

BRIDGE:

Commander, CDR George K. Degnon, P	Administrative Officer, Lt/C John G. Karjala, P
Executive Officer, Lt/C Ronald H. Larson, P	Treasurer, Lt/C Steve Hall, AP
Education Officer, Lt/C Richard E Unis, JN	Secretary, Lt/C George Nartsissov, P

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

P/C G. J. Nelson, AP	P/C John A. Shivik, AP
P/C Gale Aills, SN	P/Lt/C Cathleen F. Sheffield, AP
P/C Richard J. Durgin, JN	Lt Francis Williamson, AP

The General Meeting was held at the Boat US conference room. The meeting was called to order at 1905 hours. A quorum was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and an invocation was given by P/C John Shivik. Minutes from the last meeting were distributed, Lt/C Ron Larson indicated his name should be added to the staff as attending; no other changes were recommended and the minutes were approved.

Commander's Report: CDR George K. Degnon, P, reported on attending the D-5 Spring Conference at Ocean City, MD. Our Squadron had 25-30 attendees. Jean Durgin, AP, was recognized for coordinating the set up of the Squadron "Hospitality Suite" with the theme being "The Bilge". Also recognized for their assistance were Richard Durgin, Robie and John Shivik and Sue Karjala. The exhibit highlighted the safety aspects of housekeeping and keeping the bilge clean. Several members participated in attending to the staffing of the suite. The NVSPS was awarded a plaque for new membership growth for a large Squadron. Tom Martin, AP, was given the Lifetime Membership Award for attaining 25 Merit Marks.

CDR Degnon has asked the Rules Committee to review the Squadron By-Laws and propose a change that would allow the nominating committee to identify prospective new officers early and announce the nominees by Christmas or before the end of the year. This would allow the new slate of officers to develop a plan for transition and begin to get familiar with the responsibilities of their office.

Work will begin on establishing better web site links between National and our Squadron as well as better organization of the Squadron site.

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Executive Officer's Report: Lt/C Ronald H. Larson, P, reported on a Vessel Safety Check at the Prince William Marina, April 5 – 6, 2008, that was co-hosted with the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Four examiners were recertified. There will be VSC the next two weekends. May 17 is Boat Safety Week and there will be many opportunities for vessel safety checks. Next Wednesday, April 16, there will be a class for VSC examiners. The class will be at Boat US starting at 6:30 PM.

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Administrative Officer's Report: Lt/C John G. Karjala, P, again highlighted that there will be VSC class next Wednesday, April 16, at Boat US.

May 17 Squadron Picnic: The Fairfax Yacht Club has graciously agreed to allow us to use their facilities for the NVS&PS Spring Picnic from 1200 to 1700 hours. The picnic is free to members and family members.

Summer Cruise, 14-16 July: The initial concept sign-up sheet for the Summer Cruise, tied to the D-5 Cruise/Rendezvous, was made available. The options are either a rendezvous at St. Michaels or Oxford and then proceed to Baltimore Inner Harbor and then possibly on to Rock Hall. More information will be provided later.

A Memorial Day Weekend Cruise has also been proposed. Similarly, the rendezvous would be at St. Michaels or Oxford. Updates will be provided as information becomes available.

A reminder was given that the "of Tars & Terns" articles are due by 15 April.

There are vacancies for "Cruise" and "Entertainment Committee" Chairs. Please contact Lt/C Karjala if you are interested.

- **Education Officer's Report:** Lt/C Richard E. Unis, JN, reported that there were 24 attendees at the recent Boating Safety Class. There is another class scheduled. There is a GPS Seminar scheduled for May 20 at the George Mason University Building, 4031 University Drive, Fairfax. Last month there was a Weather Seminar that was very well attended.

- **Secretary Report:** Lt/C George Nartsissov, P, discussed the possible methods of distributing minutes. The objective is to save on paper printing. It may be possible to post the minutes on the Squadron Web Site and bring a few copies to the General Meeting. It was suggested that the minutes could be e-mailed also. The e-mail option will be considered.

- **Treasurer Report:** Lt/C Steve Hall, AP, stated that the Squadron is solvent. He is looking for a Ship's Store Officer.

- **Junior Member Swearing in:** The following Junior members were sworn in, John Paul Watson and Mathew Watson.

- **Sea Scout Activities:** Tom Ballew, AP, introduced Quartermaster Sea Scout Julia Von Baumgarten and they explained a Sea Scout fund raising event, "A Car Wash & Rummage Sale", to be held at the St. George Episcopal church in Arlington, Saturday, April 12.

Meeting was adjourned at 1955 hours. A "Save The Skipper" class presentation followed the Business meeting. This presentation was open to non-members also. The presentation was done by P/Lt/C Rick Baker, AP.

Respectfully submitted

Lt/C George Nartsissov, P

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Secretary