



**NORTHERN VIRGINIA SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2009**

The General Meeting was held at the Boat US conference room. The meeting was called to order at 1931. A quorum was present. The minutes of the January and February General Membership Meetings were approved.

**In attendance:**

**BRIDGE:**

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

**Members at Large:**

P/C Gale Ails, SN      P/C Richard Durgin, JN  
P/C G. J. Nelson, AP      P/Lt/C Cathleen F. Sheffield

**Absent:**

Members at Large: P/C John A. Shivik, AP

**REPORTS IN THE ORDER OF DISCUSSION:**

**Secretary, Lt/C George Nartsissov, P:** Lt/C Nartsissov presented the minutes of the February All Hands Meeting of February 11, 2009, and requested that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The attendance sheets for meetings for the past year have been reviewed and showed that average attendance for All Hands Meetings was 26.75 with the quorum requirement of 25. Thus our attendance is only borderline. Attendance at the February Meeting was only 18. Lt/C Nartsissov encouraged all members present to pass the word to other members in an effort to increase attendance.

New member Graham Henderson was recognized, sworn-in and presented his membership pin.

**Executive Officer, Lt/C Ronald H. Larson, P:** Reported that there will be a Boat Show at Chantilly, VA over the coming weekend March 13 – 15. The NVSPS will be represented by a booth manned by volunteers from the Squadron.

**Vessel Safety Check, Lt John von Senden, AP:** Reported that Vessel Safety Check events are currently scheduled for 11 April at Prince William Marina, May 2 at Herrington Harbour North, and May 9 at Galesville. May 16 through 23 is National Safe Boating Week and other VSC activities are being scheduled. Expect that a VSC event will be scheduled at the Fairfax Yacht Club in the near future.

**Public Relations, Lt Frank Shultz, S:** The NVSPS is advertising Advanced Courses in the Bay Weekly, with four insertions over eight weeks. Boating Safety Classes are being advertized on the Washington Post Calendar, Prop Talk and Spin Sheet.

**Boat Show, Lt Francis Williamson, AP:** Thanks to members who volunteered to participate in the forthcoming Chantilly Boat Show. The show will help publicize the requirement effective 1 July 2009, requiring persons under 20 years of age who operate Personal Water Craft to have completed a NASBLA recognized Boating Safety Course. In 2010, the law expands coverage to all PWC operators under age 35.

Course schedules will be available at the show and are available on the NVSPS website. USPS for Kids is also available on our website and will also be publicized. New members will also be recruited at the show since people can now join the USPS without completing a course.

**Administrative Officer, Lt/C John G. Karjala, P:** The Change of Watch Dinner will take place Saturday 14 March 2009 at the Fairfax American Legion Post.

Volunteers are needed to furnish refreshments at future All Hands Meetings. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

The District 5 Training Conference will take place on 26-29 March 2009 in Ocean City. The NVSPS will host a Hospitality Room.

The Spring Picnic will be held in May but the details are yet to be finalized.

Of Tars & Terns Articles from Bridge and Committee Chairs must be submitted not later than 15 March 2009 for the April edition.

The Cruise Chairman for the 2009-2010 Bridge is soon to be P/C George Degnon. If anyone has any ideas for a cruise or wants to participate in the Memorial Day Cruise contact George. The memorial Day Cruise is tentatively scheduled for Cambridge, MD.

COW: Copies of the draft script have been provided to the present and future Commander for review.

Meeting Rooms: Schedule for meeting rooms at Boat US and at GMU Offices have been confirmed.

Squadron Cruise: CDR George Degnon is proposing a cruise to Oxford on Memorial Day weekend.

**Education Officer, Lt/C Richard E. Unis, JN:** Recognized Bob Donohue, AP for his achievement of earning the USPS Educational Proficiency Award.

An Anchoring Seminar will be offered Saturday 25 April from 0900 to 1200 at George Mason University

A Boat Handling under Power Seminar will be presented in May.

A Knots, Bends and Hitches for Mariners Seminar will also be offered in May.

More details will be published in the April OT&T and at [www.nvsps.org](http://www.nvsps.org)

On 30 May, a Squadron Boating Course will commence at Chantilly High School.

**Treasurer, Lt/C Steve Hall:** Presented the budget summary for 2009-2010. Member losses are projected to be 52. Thus we need 49 to 52 new members.

General Fund: The *Income* is projected to be \$16,002 and the *Expenses* at \$15,725

Education Budget: The total *Income* is projected to be \$13,739 and the *Expenses* are projected to be \$7,987.

"Flower Power Fund": 2008/2009, (3 – 31 – 2009): \$21,577 2009/2010: \$23,127

2008/2009 Net Worth is \$53,185

2009.2010 Projected Net Worth: \$63,303

On a motion made and seconded, the budget was approved.

**Commander George K. Degnon, P:** CDR Degnon stated that the planned Memorial Day Cruise will be to City Dock in Cambridge, MD. A summer vacation cruise will be planned to take place the week prior to the D/5 cruise. Beacuase of the success of the boat rides for veterans this past year, the Squadron will again collaborate with the Chesapeake Yacht Club to plan a similar event for 2009.

CDR Degnon called for a report of the Nominating Committee

**Nominating Committee: P/C Ails, SN** presented the report of the nominating committee which presented the proposed slate of officers for the coming year, 2009 – 2010:

**From: NVSPS 2008-2009 Nominating Committee**

**Subject: NVSPS Nominating Committee Report**

In accordance with Sections 6.8, 6.8.1, 6.8.2 and 11.1 of the NVSPS Bylaws, the following members of the Squadron are recommended for election by the General Membership at the March 11, 2009 annual meeting. The members listed below have agreed to serve their term as prescribed in the Bylaws for the year 2009-2010.

#### **BRIDGE MEMBERS**

Commander	Francis Williamson, AP
Executive Officer	George Nartssissov, P
Educational Officer	Richard E. Unis, JN
Administrative Officer	John G. Karjala, P
Treasurer	Steven D. Hall, AP
Secretary	Ralph R. Young, AP
Assistant Educational Officer	J. J. FitzGerald, JN
Assistant Administrative Officer	Sue Karjala, P
Assistant Treasurer	Joel P. Bailey, AP
Assistant Secretary	Stephen L. Shupack, AP
Assistant Secretary	Jerry O'Conner, P

#### **MEMBERS AT LARGE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

George K. Degnon, P	1 year
G. Jay Nelson, AP	1 year
Cathleen F. Sheffield, AP	1 year
John A. Shivik, AP	1 year
Russell S. Grasso, P	1 year
Frederick D. Zugay, JN	1 year

#### **RULES COMMITTEE**

Evelyn S. Ails, P	1 year
-------------------	--------

Richard J. Weinberg	1 year
Douglas E. Layne, AP	2 years
Yeuan –Ming Sheu, AP	2 years
Richard J. Durgin, JN	3 years
Brian K. Choate	3 years

**AUDITING COMMITTEE**

Dwight Bues, AP	1 year
William M. Russell, III, SN	2 years
Michael E. Card, S	3 years

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

George K. Degnon, P	1 year
Keith B. Segerson, P	1 year
Richard P. Davis, AP	2 years
Norbert P. Hymel, AP	2 years
Thomas J. Martin, AP	3 years
Ronald H. Larson, P	3 years

Respectfully submitted:

P/C Gale Alls, SN      Chairman  
 Lt Brian K. Choate  
 P/C Richard J. Durgin, JN  
 P/C G. Jay Nelson, AP  
 P/C John A. Shivik, AP

CDR Degnon called for a motion to approve the report of the Nominating Committee. P/C Richard Durgin made a motion for a unanimous vote. There being no objection, the motion was approved and CDR Degnon instructed the Secretary to cast a ballot for the slate presented.

CDR Degnon reported that 53 members had received merit marks this past year for their service to the USPS. Lt Ed Phillips, AP and Lt John von Senden, AP achieved Senior Member status.

There being no further business the general business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 2030.

**Guest Speaker: P/C Alls**, introduced P/C Jay Nelson who gave a very timely, interesting and useful presentation on Spring Commissioning.

Respectfully submitted

*1<sup>st</sup> Lt Stephen L. Shupack, AP*  
 1<sup>ST</sup>/Lt Stephen L. Shupack, AP  
 Assistant Secretary