



**NORTHERN VIRGINIA SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
July 9, 2008**

The General Meeting was held at the Boat US conference room. The meeting was called to order at 1932. A quorum was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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	Secretary, Lt/C George Nartsissov, P
Education Officer, Lt/C Richard E. Unis, JN	Treasurer, Lt/C Steve Hall, AP

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

P/C Gale Ails, SN	P/Lt/C Cathleen F. Sheffield, AP
P/C John A. Shivik	

Absent: P/C G. J. Nelson, P/C Richard J. Durgin, JN

Secretary's Report: Lt/C George Nartsissov, P, presented the June 11, 2008 minutes for review and approval. A motion was made, and seconded, to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

Commander George K. Degnon introduced Claire Wyngard, Boat US Public Affairs Officer.

Executive Officer's Report: Lt/C Ronald H. Larson, P, reported:

Public Relations: Lt. Frank Shultz, Public Relations Officer, reviewed the Boating Safety Course schedule. There is a course coming up in September and there will be media announcements. Members were asked to assist in the publicity of the upcoming course. In 2008 the Squadron had 49 students attend. Of these 38% heard about the course on the internet and 38% learned about the course from Boat US.

Legislative Affairs: Lt. Tom Martin, AP, indicated that there has been no action by Congress on the Clean Boating Act.

Vessel Safety Exams: Lt. John Von Senden, P, reported that we have performed 60 Vessel Safety Checks (VSC) to date. Robin Roberts, AP, is performing VSCs while traveling. There will be a class in the fall for VSC examiners.

Administrative Officer's Report: Lt/C John G. Karjala, P, discussed the following items:

July D5 Rendezvous: We remind you of the rendezvous with the United States Power Squadron District 5 in Baltimore. This is a time for all the membership to socialize, as well as meet and greet fellow boaters. Everyone is invited! For those interested, I have information on the rendezvous in Baltimore Thursday 17 July through Monday 20 July, 2008. The Commander has indicated that he will be attending the D5 Rendezvous. We hope to see you there.

Wounded Warrior Boat Rides: August 1 is still the primary day for the boat rides for the "Wounded Warriors". Volunteers should register to assist with this event, particularly those that have boats. Please contact our Commander for details and registration.

September of Tars & Terns: For those writing items for the *of Tars & Terns*, please remember to submit your articles for the September edition by 15 August, 2008.

Christmas Party and Change of Watch: We have confirmed the large room at the American Legion Post #177 in Fairfax City for both events. The Christmas party will be held on 13 December, 2008, and the Change of Watch will be on 14 March, 2009. A DJ will provide music at the Christmas party. Please put these dates and events on your calendar.

Clean Boating Act: At the last meeting I called on P/C Gale Alls, SN, for a short summary of legislation that affects all boaters. I have asked P/C Alls to update us on recent events in regard to the Clean Boating Act. P/C Alls read and summarized a statement provided to R/C William E. Husted, SN, Chairman, Government/Partner Relations Committee, U.S. Power Squadron, by Mr. Mathew Dunn, National Marine Manufacturers' Association (NMMA). The statement referred to the Clean Boating Act of 2008 and the bills in Congress (S. 2766/H.R. 5949). The statement encourages all Power Squadron members to contact their Senators and Representatives and express your support for a quick passage of the legislation. It is imperative that this legislation be passed prior to September 30, 2008. If the legislation is not passed, the EPA will be required to issue rules and require permits, for example, for such things as discharge of cooling water and rain water run off.

Education Officer's Report: Lt/C Richard E. Unis, JN, reported that there are two Boating Safety Courses scheduled (4 September & 20 October at the McLean Recreation Center). Piloting and Navigation courses are scheduled for 9 September.

Treasurer Report: Membership enrollment process has been completed. Of the 291 members that we had, 230 have renewed and 7 former members have returned. The membership is currently per our budget. We have approximately \$13,000 in the bank.

Commander's Report: CDR George K. Degnon, P, indicated that August 1 is still the primary day for boat rides for the "Wounded Warriors. There is a meeting scheduled for tomorrow to discuss the arrangements. The soldiers can not be transported in private vehicles. Military transportation will be required. Nine to ten Squadron members have signed up to participate.

New Business: None.

The formal meeting was adjourned at 1959.

Guest Speaker Presentations: P/C Gale Alls, SN, introduced Captain Phil Gallman, PhD, who made a very interesting presentation on use of radar on recreational boats.

Respectfully submitted

George Nartsissov

Lt/C George Nartsissov, P
Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron
Secretary