



**NORTHERN VIRGINIA SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
13 July 2011**

The General Meeting of the Northern Virginia Sail and Power Squadron was convened at BoatUS Headquarters conference room, Alexandria, VA. Building access, security badges and refreshments were handled by Frank Shults and Michelle Dufay. NVSPS social time started at 1900 hours. Eighteen Squadron members were present. Cdr. John Karjala called the meeting to order at 1935 hours. A quorum was present. The minutes of the June 2011 meeting were accepted without objection. The invocation was given by P/C John Shivik. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lt/C Robyn Stewart. The business meeting followed and was adjourned at 2030 hours.

**BRIDGE MEMBERS PRESENT:**  
Commander, Cdr John Karjala, P  
Executive Officer, Lt/C Frank Shults, S  
Secretary, Lt/C Michelle Dufay, S  
Treasurer, Lt/C Robyn Stewart  
Education Officer, Lt/C Sean Gallagher

**MEMBERS AT LARGE ABSENT:**  
Lt. Steven Wanbaugh  
Lt. Frederick Zugay, JN  
P/Lt/C Cathleen Sheffield  
P/C Fran Williamson

**BRIDGE MEMBERS ABSENT:**  
Administrative Officer, P/C G. Jay Nelson, AP

**PAST COMMANDERS PRESENT**  
P/C George Nartsissov, AP  
P/C Richard Durgin, JN  
P/C John Shivik, AP  
P/C Gale Alls, AP

**MEMBERS AT LARGE PRESENT:**  
P/C George Nartsissov, AP

**Executive Officer's Report:** Ex/O Frank Shults requested all present to sign the sign-in sheet. He reported that *SpinSheet*, *PropTalk*, *The Ensign* and *Bay Weekly* are currently carrying articles about the NVSPS. Ex/O Shults again requested a volunteer to serve as the Public Relations Officer and/or Editor of the Tars & Terns. Both of these positions are currently being handled by Ex/O.

**Membership Report:** Ex/O Shults reported, in the absence of Membership Chair Lt. Fred Zugay, that membership applications had been sent out to eight "cyber members," who are people who have expressed interest in joining the USPS online. These people may choose one of the other Squadrons in their area. Cdr. Karjala sends each "cyber member" a welcome message and encourages them to consider NVSPS.

**Administrative Officer's Report:** Cdr. Karjala, reporting for the absent P/C Jay Nelson, confirmed that the NVSPS has reserved the American Legion Hall for the Holiday Party on 12/10/2011. Also, the Fairfax Yacht Club has tentatively been reserved for the Oktoberfest on 10/8/2011 or 10/15/2011. Cdr. Karjala reminded the members that the D-5 rendezvous will be held at Crisfield the weekend of July 29-31, 2011, and he has registration forms available for all who are interested. One member, Richard Curtis, indicated he plans to drive to Crisfield for the event. Cdr. Karjala reported that there will be no membership meeting and no "of Tars & Terns" for the month of August.

**Educations Officer's Report:** Lt/C Sean Gallagher reported that the ABC course is on-going in Springfield at Lake Accotink. He talked about the NVSPS to the students and plans to give out

membership applications at the next class. He indicated the students are interested in joining. Lt/C Gallagher further discussed other upcoming classes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nothing to report.

**Secretary's Report:** Nothing to report.

**Vessel Safety Examination (VSE) Committee Report:** P/C George Nartsissov reported that 119 vessel safety checks have now been accomplished for the year at several venues, including Herrington Harbor North, the Fairfax Yacht Club, the Old Dominion Boating Club, the Alexandria City dock, and Ft. Belvoir. He reported we have seven examiners and discussed the requirements examiners must fulfill to remain current. He reported that the PAX Squadron has performed 150 vessel safety checks, and the Smith Mountain Lake Squadron has performed 333 vessel safety checks.

**Ship's Store Report:** P/C John Shivik reported brisk sales. He also brought samples of shirts that are available and pictures of other items such as burgees, ensigns, etc. He said that the cost of the name tags had recently gone up to \$12.50 each.

**Flower Power Fund Report:** P/C Richard Durgin said there was nothing new to report.

**Commander's Remarks:** Cdr. Karjala reported that recent newsletter, "of Tars & Terns", carried a correction regarding the Nominating Committee and problems with that Committee that had been rectified. He urged all members to attend the September meeting because the membership will be asked to approve the Nominating Committee for 2011/2012. He also reported that the September meeting will feature Peggy Arnold speaking about making meals on board. Turning to other matters, Cdr. Karjala reported that there are numerous money-saving membership benefits available to USPS and BoatUS members and cited an on-line listing on the USPS website. He reported on an item from National indicating there is a new, faster method of checking in with Customs upon re-entering the U.S. from foreign waters.

**New Business:** Cdr. Karjala introduced a new member, Frank Elmore, who was sworn in. He was assigned a mentor, P/C Richard Durgin. New members, the Dinkins, were also assigned a mentor, P/C Nartsissov.

**Presentation:** Program Chairman P/C Gale Alls introduced David Kennedy, Program Coordinator, BoatUS Government Affairs, who discussed salient issues currently being addressed by BoatUS. He described a serious emerging issue with regard to a company, LightSquared, whose operations might affect maritime GPS efficiency in the area. He also talked about the change in renewable fuel standards which involves an increase in the percentage of ethanol in fuel and how that might affect boating. He talked about the need to use diligence in ascertaining the ethanol percentage in fuels when filling up cars as well as boats.

Cdr. Karjala adjourned the business portion of the meeting at 2030 hours.

Respectfully submitted  
Lt/C Michelle Dufay, S  
Secretary