



# The Pilot

**February-March**  
**2021**

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***Vote from Home!***

This year's Annual Meeting and election of officers will be virtual, with members voting via Zoom. Votes for officers and members of the Nominating Committee will be secret, and will be tabulated instantly.

**Commander**  
***Cdr Patty Pezely, AP***



## 2021 starts on a high note

We finished 2020 with a very festive virtual holiday party. Barb and Russ Jones wove members' holiday stories with clips of scenes from holiday movies. It was a fun way to finish off the year. See a photo of the Zoom event on Page 7.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Chester County Food Bank on behalf of ABCVF. We raised \$1,489. Earlier in the year members donated to a food cupboard at Paoli Presbyterian Church, bringing the yearly total to more than \$2,100.

At the 2020 Virtual Fall Educational Conference, our Education Department won 3<sup>rd</sup> Place for the Kenneth Smith Seamanship Award from District 5. This award recognizes the top squadrons in the Seamanship course. Congratulations to Jim Heckman and team for all their efforts to continue teaching in this virtual world. Please see Jim Heckman's article on our online courses.

We completed last spring's Change of Watch on Jan. 21. P/C Frank Visich gave awards to several members who contributed while he was commander in 2019-2020. Gary Armstrong presided as the Master of Ceremonies. (See more on Page 11.)

Now that we have figured out how to meet virtually, I am planning to have this year's Change of Watch on March 21, 2021 and it will be virtual. I agreed to continue as Commander for a second year, assuming I am voted in at our February Annual Meeting. Hopefully we can get our vaccines and start having in-person meetings and events this summer.

I am excited to announce we have a new member — James

*Continued on Page 2*



## 2020 - 2021 Bridge

### **Commander**

Cdr Patty Pezely, AP  
130 Oakwood Lane  
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[patty.pezely@gmail.com](mailto:patty.pezely@gmail.com)

### **Educational Officer**

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### **Asst. Educational Officer**

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C: 215-872-0340  
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### **Secretary**

Lt/C Cynthia L. Gorge, JN\*  
16 Richard Lee Lane  
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[aceclg@gorgefamily.com](mailto:aceclg@gorgefamily.com)

### **Treasurer**

P/C Wayne Barrett, JN\*  
33 Park Ave.  
East Fallowfield, PA 19320  
C: 484-678-5137  
H: 610-384-0744  
[wrfbarrett@comcast.net](mailto:wrfbarrett@comcast.net)

Asterisk (\*) means the person has completed three or more courses after achieving AP grade.

Click [here](#) to  
access us on Facebook.



## Commander's column

*Continued from Page 1*

Rory Tucker. Rory, I look forward to meeting you in person one day.

I know Sue Friedrichs is talking to several other individuals who are looking to join. If you are interested in joining, this year would be a good time to take the step. The Henry Sweet Committee has agreed to pay the District 5 portion of our dues in 2021 and 2022. I want to thank the Henry Sweet Fund trustees, Bill McManimen, Bill Selden and Warren Stevens, for their generosity. And thanks to Jim Heckman and Joe Pezely, you can now join online. Contact Sue Friedrichs at [sfriedrichs2@verizon.net](mailto:sfriedrichs2@verizon.net) for information on joining.

I am also talking to several members about joining our Executive Committee. The committee, informally known as the ExCom, is our de facto operating committee, at which ABCVF's activities, policies and strategies are discussed, debated and adopted. If you've ever said, "I wish ABC VF would do this," here's your opportunity to make your thoughts known.

If you are interested in joining the ExCom or attending an ExCom meeting as a guest, please let me know. In our last ExCom we officially voted to hold meetings both in person and virtually when we can resume face to face. This will allow members who want to be involved but who do not live nearby to attend the meetings. Members attending virtually will also be able to vote on issues.

This year will continue to look like last year for a while. The USPS/ABC 2021 Annual Meeting and the District 5 2021 Spring Conference and COW will be virtual.

The National and District Fall Conferences are still slated to be in person.

Our Valley Forge squadron will continue to have virtual meetings throughout the Spring. We do plan to have our annual summer cruise in person while practicing social distancing.

Stay safe and stay connected!



**Educational Officer**  
Stf/C James Heckman, SN



**Asst. Educational Officer**  
Lt Joe Gibbons, JN

## Virtual classes scheduled for Weather, ABC and AP

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays despite the limits to travel. Let's hope that at least a portion of the boating season will be without Covid restrictions.

As is customary during the first part of each year, ABCVF offers members and non-members courses related to boating. I have no doubt that knowledgeable boaters have more fun and are safer than those without basic boating knowledge.

ABCVF is offering three courses during the next several months, all of which will be virtual. Please help us by advertising them to friends, family, and colleagues. Two of them may be of interest to you as members.

I hope you pay particular attention to the **Virtual Weather Course**. Even inexperienced boaters recognize the impact of weather on their boating. We will be offering the latest version of the course, which will become available from National in May. It will have an entirely new, up-to-date chapter on weather forecasting.

The **Virtual ABC<sub>3</sub> Course** is designed for all boaters, including paddle boaters, sail boaters, power boaters, those who fish and those who enjoy personal watercraft. The

course is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and recognized by the United States Coast Guard. It meets Pennsylvania's requirements to obtain a Pennsylvania Boating Safety Education Certificate. All sessions will be recorded for student review. To find out more about the course and to enroll in it (deadline is Feb. 5) go to: [www.ABCValleyForge.org](http://www.ABCValleyForge.org) or contact the course chair, Nick Montalto

The **Virtual Advanced Piloting Course** is the second in the sequence of USPS courses on navigation. It continues to build coastal and inland navigation skills, allowing the student to take on more challenging conditions, unfamiliar waters, limited visibility, and extended cruises. GPS is embraced as a primary navigation tool while adding radar, chart plotters, and other electronic navigation tools. The prerequisite for the course is the successful completion of the Piloting Course exam. To find out more about the course and to enroll in it (deadline is Feb. 10) go to: [www.ABCValleyForge.org](http://www.ABCValleyForge.org) or contact the course chair, Russ Jones.

The **Virtual Weather Course** is a general weather course benefiting

### Congratulations to Piloting graduates

The three students who took the Piloting examination in December have all passed the course. They are Rory Tucker, a new member of ABC VF; Larry Hartman, and Jeff Hierholzer.

Russ Jones, the chair of the Piloting course, deserves a hearty thank you. He was the lead instructor for this virtual course.

*Continued on Page 4*



## Fleet Captain

P/C James Friedrichs, JN\*

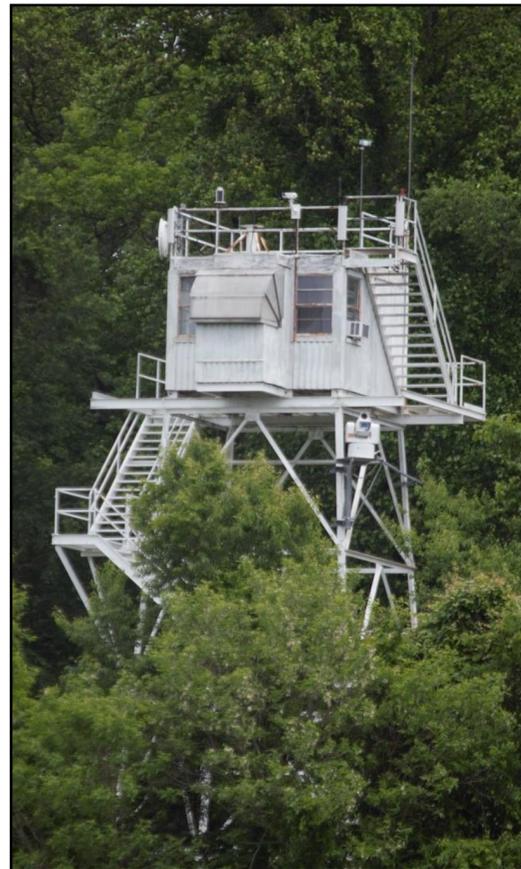
# These lights are now on the water

The Coast Guard has announced that it has discontinued Worton Point Light (LNR 8769), Howell Point Light (LLNR 8880) and Arnold Point Light (LLNR 9000).

All of these old-fashioned land-based lights have been replaced by water-based lights.

The Worton Point Light, at right, was housed in a multi-story structure that is across the Bay from Aberdeen Proving Ground. The tower also could have served other purposes, including observing the flight of the artillery shells on the Aberdeen Proving Ground test range and/or providing security for Aberdeen.

Look closely; can you tell which part of this structure is the light in this picture from 3 years ago? Bonus points for determining the purpose of the bump-out part with a fold-down cover.




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## Education Dept. *Continued from Page 3*

those sitting in their living rooms as much as those standing behind the helm. The safety and comfort of those who venture out on the water have always been weather dependent. Students will become keener observers of the weather, but weather observations only have meaning in the context of the basic principles of meteorology — the science of the atmosphere.

The course focuses on how weather systems form, behave, move, and interact with one another and reflects the availability of all sorts of weather reports and forecasts on the Internet. The course will begin in early May. You will receive information about the course in *The Pilot*

and on our [www.ABCValleyForge.org](http://www.ABCValleyForge.org) website. Contact the course chair, Nick Montalto, if you have questions.

Thanks to all of those who participate in presenting the educational programs that we offer. Not only do we rely on our great instructors but also on those who help in other ways. I would particularly like to thank Joe Pezely for his help in updating our website. If you haven't seen it recently go to: [www.ABCValleyForge.org](http://www.ABCValleyForge.org). The website plays a critical role in our advertising because it describes our courses and helps students enroll in and pay for them online. We need to make the whole process easy and seamless, as does the website.

**Safety Officer**  
**Lt. Megan Weber**



## *Build muscle memory: Plan to practice safety drills*

How often do we practice safety drills around our recreational activities? We know that the armed forces and many workplaces do.

The advantage of being part of a group is to be able to practice in person what we have learned. Last year bombarded us with online learning. It's a start, but we shouldn't feel this is a one-and-done in our safety operational procedures. Those who feel that way are depriving themselves the advantage of muscle memory and learning spatial relations in emergency settings.

I know 2020 may have cheated us out of those in-person experiences. So before the boat-

ing season starts, plan to enlist your crew to practice some drills for emergencies.

There's not space here to outline all the issues to consider, but these are among the most important:

- Make sure your crew knows where all the safety items are on your boat and on the dock.
- Appoint different crew members to different responsibilities.
- Make sure crew members know how to use the VHF radio.
- Find a way to do these drills in person.

## Safe or sorry? Attend the Annual Meeting for the answer



**February 18, 2021**

**6:30 pm socializing**

**7 pm business meeting**

- Elect officers (see Page 6)
- Enjoy videos on safe boating in congested waters

Look for an email with the Zoom link to the meeting.

At the meeting, cast a secret ballot for officers and choose the next Nominating Committee.

The videos highlight the importance of following rules of the road. You'll wince just watching!



## Notice of Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

The America's Boating Club Valley Forge Nominating Committee has submitted the names of candidates proposed for Bridge officers and elected committees in the squadron for the 2021-22 year. Members of our squadron will vote on the nominees, and the members to serve on the next nominating committee at the Feb. 18, 2021 Annual Meeting to be held virtually. They are:

### Bridge Officers

<b>Office</b>	<b>Nominee</b>
Commander	Patty Pezely
Executive Officer	Ginny Parry
Administrative Officer	Rita Rossi
Educational Officer	Jim Heckman
Assistant Educational Officer	Wayne Barrett
Secretary	Cynthia Gorge
Treasurer	Mike Gibson

### Executive Committee

Composed of 31 at-large members, including Bridge Officers and the most recent past commander

Gary Armstrong	Lisa Fegan	Barbara Jones	Lance Parry	Megan Weber
Meridith Barrett	James Friedrichs	Russ Jones	Joe Pezely	Ed White
Wayne Barrett	Susan Friedrichs	Robert Long	Patty Pezely	Susan Woron
John Beardsley	Joe Gibbons	Bill McManimen	Charles Rossi	
Maryanne Boettjer	Mike Gibson	Nick Montalto	Rita Rossi	
Betty Corbin	Cindy Gorge	George Painter	Rory Tucker	
Bruce Fegan	Jim Heckman	Ginny Parry	Frank Visich	

**Audit Committee: (2-year terms, alternating)** James Herron and Jan Painter

**Rules Committee: (3-year terms, staggered)** George Painter, Nicholas Montalto, Russ Jones

### Procedure

If elected, the candidates will assume their respective offices at the squadron's Change of Watch scheduled for Mar. 21, 2021. Additional nominations for elective offices may be made by petition in writing signed by at least five active members in good standing and filed with the secretary at least 15 days before the Annual Meeting on Feb. 18. Nominees for vacant positions may also be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

### Nominating Committee: Elect 5 of 7 nominees

At the Executive Committee meeting on Jan. 6, 2021, seven persons were nominated to the 2021-2022 Nominating Committee: Gary Armstrong, Lisa Fegan, Mike Gibson, Nick Montalto, Charles Rossi, Ed White, and Susan Woron. Squadron members will vote for five of them at the Annual Meeting on Feb. 18, 2021. The five candidates with the most votes will constitute the next Nominating Committee.

## Parry steps down as Pilot editor; Armstrong up next



Photos by Lance Parry

Above, editor Ginny Parry at the controls. At right, new editor Gary Armstrong.



Dear *Pilot* Readers,  
I've enjoyed editing issues of *The Pilot* for several years, with major assistance from Lance Parry, (my helpmeet at home as well).

Now it's time for a change, and P/C Gary Armstrong, SN, has volunteered to take over. Gary brings extensive boating experience and sharp writing skills with him. He'll be a great editor.

I began as an assistant editor to Susan Woron, who turned over the editorship to me in 2015. Since then, I've redesigned the Pilot, and the newsletter has gone from being a printed publication to digital, with just a few copies being mailed to a few members. For a while, we had a

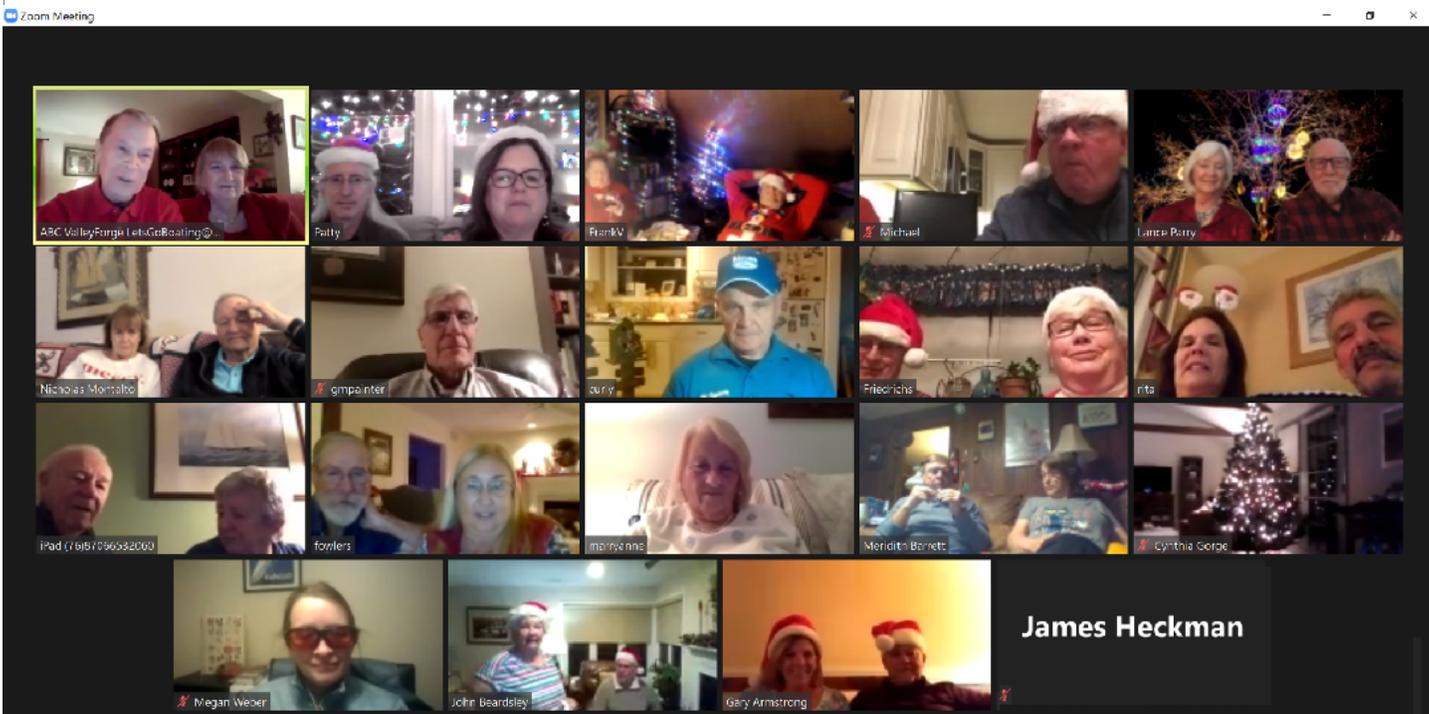
virtual library that allowed members to swap books. We added ads. We became able to add live links to websites and other internet content.

The quality of photos has improved dramatically, as Lance edited those submitted by readers and shot many of his own. And as iPhones and other equipment improved, so did the quality of the photos. Along the way, *The Pilot* received the Distinctive Communicator award nearly every year.

It's been a delight to see the many changes in our squadron and work with so many of you on each issue. Thanks again for the ride. I look forward to seeing what course Gary charts for *The Pilot*.

— Ginny Parry, Editor

## Holiday party was virtual, but Zoom brought members together



# Time running out for current GPS system?

By Lance Parry  
Past Commander

Are all your devices that use GPS — cell-phones, tablets, laptops, watches, marine navigation systems — about to become obsolete? Maybe not next week, but possibly in a few years, because the federal government, which developed and operates GPS, recognizes that the current technology is increasingly vulnerable to enemy action.

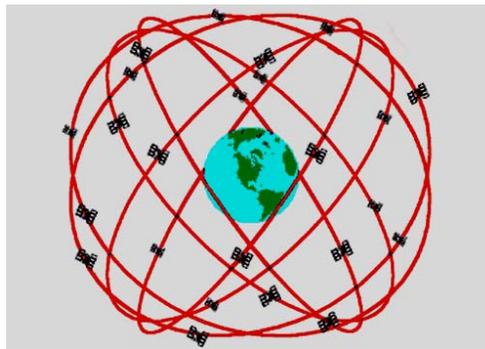
In a recent *New York Times* Op Ed, Kate Murphy reported that “the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security and Transportation ...jointly conduct(ed) demonstrations of various alternatives to GPS, which were concluded last March. Eleven potential systems were tested, including eLoran, a low-frequency, high-power timing and navigation system transmitted from terrestrial towers at Coast Guard facilities throughout the United States.”

“China, Russia, Iran, South Korea and Saudi Arabia all have eLoran systems because they don’t want to be as vulnerable as we are to disruptions of signals from space,” said Dana Goward, the president of the Resilient Navigation and Timing Foundation, a nonprofit that advocates for the implementation of an eLoran backup for GPS, according to Murphy.

Also under consideration are “systems delivered via fiber optic network and satellite sys-

tems in a lower orbit than GPS, which therefore have a stronger signal, making them harder to hack. A report on the technologies was submitted to Congress” in recent weeks, said the article.

A key issue for public — i.e., non-military — users of GPS is that the government is likely to develop standards for GPS backup systems and require their use in critical sectors, like the military, but not feel obliged to wholly fund or build such systems for public use.



[Olive-Drab.com](http://Olive-Drab.com)

**GPS nominal constellation of 24 satellites in six orbital planes, four satellites in each plane. Altitude is 13,800 miles (22,200 km) at 55 degree inclination.**

Last February, President Donald Trump signed an executive order titled [Strengthening National Resilience Through Responsible Use of Positioning, Navigation and Timing Services](#) that essentially put GPS users on notice that vital systems needed to be designed to cope with the increasing likelihood of outages or corrupted data and that they must have their own contingency plans should they occur.

“They think the critical infrastructure folks should figure out commercial services to support themselves in terms of timing and navigation,” said Mr. Goward. “I don’t know what they think first responders, ordinary citizens and small businesses are supposed to do,” according to Murphy’s article.

Add recreational boaters to that list of GPS users who may be left out in the cold.

“The fear is that debate and deliberation will continue, when time is running out,” according to Murphy.

# Merit Marks awarded for 2020 service

Congratulations to our squadron members for stepping up to help keep ABC Valley Forge humming. Hosting a virtual meeting, teaching a class, recording the minutes, scrutinizing the books, orchestrating events, taking photos and writing articles for The Pilot — these are among the tasks our members tackled to help our squadron, District 5 and America's Boating Club®.

In the past year, 32 members of our squadron earned Merit Marks for contributing time and energy to the squadron, district or national organization. A person can receive just one merit mark per year. Members with 25 or more marks are Life Members, and are exempt from paying dues, but always contribute significantly.

Think about what you'd like to do to earn a Merit Mark this year, and contact an officer to help.

P/C Gary E. Armstrong, SN	21	P/C Samuel S. Lyness, SN	21
P/C Meridith Barrett, AP	28	R/C William McManimen, SN	43
Lt/C Wayne R. Barrett, JN*	21	D/Lt/C Nicholas R. Montalto, SN	14
P/C John Beardsley, S	8	P/C George Painter, JN	16
Lt Maryanne J. Boettjer, AP	24	Lt Jan Painter, JN	11
Elizabeth Corbin, AP	33	P/C Lance Parry, AP	12
Christopher Dome, SN	2	Lt Virginia Parry, S	8
P/C Lisa Fegan, P	11	P/C Joseph F. Pezely, N	17
P/C James R. Friedrichs, JN*	34	Cdr Patty M. Pezely, AP	17
P/C Susan M. Friedrichs, SN	29	P/C Charles Rossi, AP	7
Lt Michael Gibson, JN	9	Rita Rossi	4
Lt/C Cynthia Gorge, JN	8	P/C Frank Visich, S	4
Stf/C James Heckman, SN	44	Patricia Visich, S	4
P/C Barbara J. Jones, AP	19	Megan Weber, S	1
P/C William R. (Russ) Jones, SN	21	P/C Ed White, S	19
P/C John Juzbasich, AP	7	P/C Susan Woron, P	9

## Welcome to our newest squadron member



James Rory Tucker, M.D., has joined our squadron. An avid scuba diver and instructor, he has an interest in undersea medicine. You can reach him at:  
1268 Auburn Ave.  
Hummelstown, PA  
610-864-4801 [Rorytucker@gmail.com](mailto:Rorytucker@gmail.com)



## Who can't wait to cruise, to see water from a boat?

By *Russ Jones*  
*Past Commander*

Let's get back on the water! Our America's Boating Club Valley Forge 2021 summer cruise itinerary is set for July 9-18. As you probably know, we call this the **Commander's Cruise** since the commander decides which ports of call we will visit. Cdr Patty Pezely has chosen five ports. We estimate that **between 10 and 15 boats will participate.**

If you would like to crew on a boat, let me know. If you're new to boating, we can team you with another boat.

You can choose from many interesting optional activities on the cruise. Look for details about them in a subsequent article. Hopefully reading about them will influence your decision to join us. They will include a performance by the renowned **Eastport Oyster Boys**, a beach party, dinner at great restaurants, our celebrated boat crawls, the infamous "forward throttle award" ceremony of course, and others still in development. You can sign up for them at our pre-cruise dinner on May 20.

Don't miss this annual cruise! Something exciting always provides wonderful memories.

<i>July 9 &amp; 10</i>	<i>The Yacht Basin, Annapolis</i>
<i>July 11 &amp; 12</i>	<i>Herrington Harbour South, Herring Bay</i>
<i>July 13 &amp; 14</i>	<i>Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum Marina, St. Michaels</i>
<i>July 15 &amp; 16</i>	<i>Castle Harbor Marina, Kent Island</i>
<i>July 17</i>	<i>Haven Harbor Marina, Rock Hall</i>

The marinas have requested a list of the boats that will require slips. **Please complete this form** indicating the marinas for which you will require a slip. Send the completed form to P/C Russ Jones, 115 Oak Street, Downingtown, PA 19335. No deposit required.

Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Captain: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell number: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Boat Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Length: \_\_\_\_\_ Beam: \_\_\_\_\_ Draft: \_\_\_\_\_

**Type:** [ ] Power; [ ] Sail      **Electric:** [ ] Single 30; [ ] Dual 30; [ ] Single 50; [ ] Dual 50

- [ ] Friday, July 9 – The Yacht Basin, Annapolis
- [ ] Saturday, July 10 – The Yacht Basin, Annapolis
- [ ] Sunday, July 11 – Herrington Harbour South, Herring Bay
- [ ] Monday, July 12 – Herrington Harbour South, Herring Bay
- [ ] Tuesday, July 13 – Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum Marina, St. Michaels
- [ ] Wednesday, July 14 – Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum Marina, St. Michaels
- [ ] Thursday, July 15 – Castle Harbor Marina, Kent Island
- [ ] Friday, July 16 – Castle Harbor Marina, Kent Island
- [ ] Saturday, July 17 – Haven Harbor Marina, Rock Hall

## *Final ceremonies and awards complete the 2020 Change of Watch*

The arrival of the pandemic impacted the 2020 Change of Watch, when outgoing Cdr Frank Visich was to be honored, and in turn honor several squadron members.

During that virtual meeting, new officers were installed, but the festivities were put on hold until last month's January meeting.

P/C Russ Jones offered a tribute to Frank, noting that Frank agreed to become commander after his wife, Patti, had to bow out because of work and educational commitments. Russ commended Frank for his great creativity, and for successfully developing the annual veterans' picnic to a new level of connection with vets and their families.

Frank announced awards to several members. (The bowls, plaques and trophies can be claimed from Chas and Rita Rossi.) They are:

Riddell Award for greatest contribution to the squadron — Pilot Editor Ginny Parry

Small Riddell bowl, given to the previous year's Riddell awardee, to SEO Jim Heckman

Excellence in Teaching Award— Jim Heckman

Spencer Award to the Education Department member who has made the greatest contribution to the squadron — Gary Armstrong

Flora A. Price Award for significant contributions to squadron activities — Jim and Sue Friedrichs

New Member Award to the new member making the greatest contribution to the squadron — Megan Weber

Founder's Day Honoree to the person who contributed well beyond a Merit Mark — Susan Woron

110% Award for contributions to the squadron, District 5 and the national organization — Nick Montalto

Past Commander's Award to member(s) of less than five years who have made a difference — Bill and Deb Northey

Member Involvement Award for promoting new member activities — Lisa Fegan

Craig W. Muckle Award to a person who has served five years or longer in the Education Department — Russ Jones

Russ Jones also thanked Nick Montalto, the outgoing SEO, for all his work in the three-year position.

"Teaching has always been my interest," said Nick. "Thank you."



Photo by Frank Visich

*Santa stopped by early at the Whitehall Apartments in Spring City as ABC VF members Frank Visich and Ed White delivered 50 pies to resident veterans and their families for the holidays. Funds came from the squadron budget for the annual veterans' picnic, which was cancelled because of the pandemic. "We look forward to our continued friendship," Whitehall residents and the services coordinator said in their thank you note.*



*Cindy Gorge took this photo on the Chester River and posted it on the Chesapeake Bay Life Facebook page. The next day the page administrator got her permission to use it as the cover photo for the Facebook page, where it has been since Dec. 30. Nice work, Cindy!*

## *Highlights from December and January ExCom meetings*

### **December**

- Megan Weber volunteered to become Safety Officer, filling a vacancy. Cdr.Patty Pezely approved her appointment.
- Nominating Committee Chairman Frank Visich reported that the committee is finalizing the slate of officers.
- P/C Russ Jones reviewed early plans for the Commander's Cruise July 9-18, 2021. The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum Marina in St. Michaels will be a new stop on the cruise. Russ urged members to charter now if they are interested in the cruise and need a boat.
- Legislative Officer D/Lt/C Nick Montalto noted that labeling changes on life jackets have changed from weights in pounds to metric units.
- Cdr Patty Pezely discussed the idea of com-

binning in-person and virtual meetings even after the pandemic. The format would be inclusive and could attract a wider audience. It was suggested that the squadron contact P/C George Painter to check if the bylaws allow for combined meetings.

### **January**

- ExCom members acted on the December suggestion, and voted to permit meetings incorporating both people attending in person and virtually, even after the pandemic ends.
- Cdr Pezely noted that the personnel roster will be available after the Change of Watch. To update your roster info, contact Patty.
- P/C Joe Pezely reported that visitors to our website can use PayPal. PayPal may also be used to pay for membership and (in person) dinner meetings.



## Operations Training

Operations Training will be taught online by P/C Susan Woron this year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Please contact Susan ([sworon54@gmail.com](mailto:sworon54@gmail.com) or 484-467-6705) if interested, so she can coordinate a time for the workshop.



**Operations Training** reviews the Operations Manual of the United States Power Squadrons (USPS) which contains guidelines and information for all members. It will help you learn the procedures, programs, duties, methods of operation, and timetables of USPS so that our organization functions more efficiently, and you can be more knowledgeable.

## Members' Birthdays

### FEBRUARY

Elizabeth Corbin	02/07
James Friedrichs	02/10
Clifford Shaw	02/11
James Rory Tucker	02/11
Richard Mclaughlin	02/20
William Cozzens	02/22
Janet Louvet	02/24

### MARCH

Scott Borzell	03/02
Jan Painter	03/04
Kathleen Borzell	03/07
Harris Brody	03/20
Jonathan Fowler	03/25
Morris Disston	03/26
John Juzbasich	03/28



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Malvern, PA 19355

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FAX 610-296-9660  
[wrenches13@aol.com](mailto:wrenches13@aol.com)

**Pete's Auto Service**  
Mechanical & Autobody Repairs  
State Inspection & Emissions  
New & Used Car Sales

Peter Foster - Owner [petesautomalvern.com](http://petesautomalvern.com)

## Get Noticed in The Pilot

Place your ad where boaters will see it — in the newsletter of America's Boating Club® Valley Forge.

- Advertise in 1 issue or all 6. Your ad can start in any issue — February, April, June, August, October or December. Change the design between issues to feature seasonal specials or events.
- Choose a size: 1/8 page — \$10 per issue or \$50 for a year; 1/4 page — \$20 per issue or \$100 per year; 1/2 page — \$40 per issue or \$200 per year.
- Contact Lisa Fegan at [lbfeagan@verizon.net](mailto:lbfeagan@verizon.net), or [pilot@mainlinesps.org](mailto:pilot@mainlinesps.org) for more information.

## JOIN US FROM YOUR HOME

At the

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB  
For Boaters, By Boaters®



<sup>(v)</sup> Virtual Annual Meeting

February 15-26, 2021

## FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

Free, Everyone Is Invited, Pre-registration Is Not Required for Majority of the Meetings  
Attend One or Attend All! All sessions recorded and available after the meeting.

### Highlights:

- Keynote Speaker** – Capt. Nori Ann Reed, USN, Retired shares her experiences as a Navy Captain
  - Recruiting and Retaining Members Through Effective Marketing of Educational Programs
  - Understanding the National Website Information Center
  - Treasures Found in Commanders Kit for All Members
  - Create Partnerships & Maintain Contracts with Local Business and Government Agencies
  - “Why Won’t They Do What I Want”
  - Instructor Recertification (Pre-registration required)
  - Environmental Stewardship in the Boating Environment

What is your favorite area of interest in America’s Boating Club? We have a session on that!  
Find more details at [https://www.usps.org/php/reservations\\_new/meetings.php?mtg\\_id=42](https://www.usps.org/php/reservations_new/meetings.php?mtg_id=42)



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### Interested in Attending But Need Help Connecting?

Check out the Attendee Instructions page

on this page: <https://www.usps.org/php/reservations> for detailed, step-by-step instructions.

Know someone who would like to attend? Invite them over and watch together while social distancing!



## News from District 5

Due to the uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2021 District 5 Spring Conference and Change of Watch will be conducted virtually, April 5-8, 2021 via Free Conference Call.

Monday evening will be the usual Squadron Commanders' meeting. Officers and committee chairs will conduct their training and committee meetings at their discretion throughout the week. Stay tuned for a final schedule during the month of March.

The event will culminate with the Change of Watch ceremony Thursday evening, April 8 at 1900.

Plans currently call for the fall Educational Conference to be at the Hotel Doubletree in Lancaster Nov. 11-14.

As plans develop, you'll find them on the District 5 website at [www.uspsd5.org](http://www.uspsd5.org).



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### *Maximize your video presence*

If you don't like the face you see on your Zoom calls, try these tips:

- Place your laptop or device as close to eye level as possible. You may need to stack it on some books or a box on a table to achieve this.
- Keep your distance; place the phone or camera a short distance away so it doesn't distort your face.
- Arrange the lighting so the main light source is in front of you. If it's behind you, you'll appear in silhouette.
- Try to have a simple background that does not distract from you.
- Mute your mic when you're not talking.
- Smile!



# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

## VALLEY FORGE



### 2021 Calendar

Events may be changed or cancelled as conditions warrant. Check your email regularly and stay in touch virtually if you can't join in person. Links for Zoom and Free Conference Call meetings will be emailed before each meeting.

#### February

- 3 Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm
- 3 Deadline to submit names of additional nominees for elective offices; see Page 6
- 5 Deadline to enroll in Virtual ABC<sub>3</sub> Course; go to [www.ABCValleyForge.org](http://www.ABCValleyForge.org)
- 9 Virtual ABC<sub>3</sub> course begins
- 10 Deadline to enroll in Virtual Advanced Piloting Course; go to [www.ABCValleyForge.org](http://www.ABCValleyForge.org)
- 15-27 Virtual America's Boating Club® (USPS) Annual Meeting, Ponte Vedra, Fl.
- 18 Virtual squadron Annual Meeting – officer elections; socializing at 6:30 pm, meeting at 7. Voting will occur via Zoom. Please attend!

#### March

- 2 Virtual Advanced Piloting course begins
- 3 Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm
- 12-14 Greater Philadelphia Boat Show, Oaks — **cancelled**
- 21 Virtual Change of Watch, socializing at 6:30 pm, meeting at 7
- 22 *Pilot* articles deadline

#### April

- 5-8 Virtual D/5 Spring Conference, Lancaster, PA
- 7 Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm
- 15 Virtual Dinner Meeting, details to come

#### May

- 5 Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm
- 20 Pre-Cruise Dinner Meeting, get cruise details; sign up for activities; details to come

#### June

- 2 Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm

*Continued on next page*

## 2021 Calendar, continued

17 Virtual Dinner Meeting, details to come

### July

No ExCom meeting

9-18 [Commander's Annual Summer Cruise](#), details and marina signup on Page 10

No monthly meeting

For more information on any calendar items, please contact Cdr Patty Pezely, AP, at [patty.pezely@gmail.com](mailto:patty.pezely@gmail.com).

## Need a Valentine's Day idea?



Calorie-free (you supply the chocolate) — a shirt from the ship's store. Contact Mike Gibson at [michaelgibson0789@gmail.com](mailto:michaelgibson0789@gmail.com) to order.



Colors shown are (from left) eggplant, red, turquoise, light blue, Mediterranean blue, gray. Additional colors may also be available. Contact Lt/C Mike Gibson for more info, or to place an order. Men's and women's sizes and colors are available.

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### *The Pilot*

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Contact incoming editor Gary Armstrong at [garmstro55@gmail.com](mailto:garmstro55@gmail.com) with questions and submissions for the April-May issue.

