

# Anchor Watch



Official publication of the Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron  
District 5, a unit of United States Power Squadrons®



Nov 2025

Annapolis, Maryland

Volume 84, Number 11



## Commander's Message

Cdr Jeff Short, JN-IN

I am constantly amazed by the talent and skill of the members of ASPS. It takes a lot to impress me anymore, but I just learned something about our current Safety Officer, Terry Slattery, that just blows me away.

Terry has been a long time active member and leader in ASPS. Prior to becoming the Safety Officer, he was the treasurer. He has also served in other roles, demonstrating longstanding commitment to boating safety, education, and community outreach. Terry is a member of Team LUX, a 40-foot Leopard catamaran that he and Peggy, Carol Rechner, Georgiana and Michael Maszczenski bought out of the charter fleet and renovated. Terry is an electronics wizard, and completely updated all the electronics on LUX. LUX is the flag ship of the ASPS cruising fleet.

Terry has given many presentations at ASPS general membership meetings including a presentation recalling the months-long trip down the ICW and over to Bahamas and back. He more recently gave a fascinating presentation demystifying artificial intelligence (AI) for us lay people.



I learn a lot personally every time I talk to Terry. One time, I was describing some electrical issue I was having on my boat. He was kind enough to spend the hottest day of the summer on my boat helping me to correct the problem. He even brought parts!

But what I learned about Terry at the last ASPS picnic/meeting blew me away. Terry has taken up eFoil Boarding! An electric foiling board is one of the coolest vessels on the water nowadays. An eFoil board looks like a small surf board, but it has a long vertical skeg with a horizontal foil at the



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bottom and a battery-powered prop. When you get the thing up to speed, it rises out of the water. You stand on the board flying along several feet above the water. It's crazy. For the past couple of years, there have been a couple kids scooting up and down Mill Creek where I keep my boat. I envied them, but alas, I felt I was too old to even think about giving that a try. Not Terry. He took some lessons while on a recent vacation, and then bought a used foil board. He is learning how to get up on the thing in the chilly waters of Whitehall Creek. He showed me pictures of him up on the foil. How cool is that? Keep it up Terry, and keep us posted on your progress.

Thank you to all those who volunteered to work the boat shows this year. Your efforts are appreciated by all of us. Thank you to those District 5 members who volunteered, including the USPS Chief Commander, Ralph Bernard. Most especially, thank you to the District 5 Executive Officer and ASPS Executive Officer, Ralph Leasure, for organizing the shows. Thanks to Linda Sweeting for running the sign-up sheets. Thanks to Diane Leasure and David Tower for setup and take down and spending more than their fair share of shifts keeping the ASPS/D5 booth open.

Time to splice the mainbrace.

Be safe and stay healthy.





# ASPS Brunch Meeting

Saturday, November 1, 2025,  
10 am - 12 pm

Park Tavern in Severna Park  
580 Ritchie Highway  
Severna Park, Maryland

Menu - You will be invited to order  
from a limited item menu.  
Any extras and alcohol  
will be your responsibility.

There will not be a formal speaker at this meeting.  
This intimate setting will provide us with  
the opportunity to chat with friends.

RSVP by Monday, October 27, 4 PM to  
[aspsdinnerreservations@gmail.com](mailto:aspsdinnerreservations@gmail.com)

\$20.00 per person by cash or check at the door.  
Reserve early to secure your spot.  
Seating is limited.

**Make checks payable to ASPS.**

Note: All no-show reservations  
are responsible for the cost of the meal.



# Ladies! Let's Do Lunch!



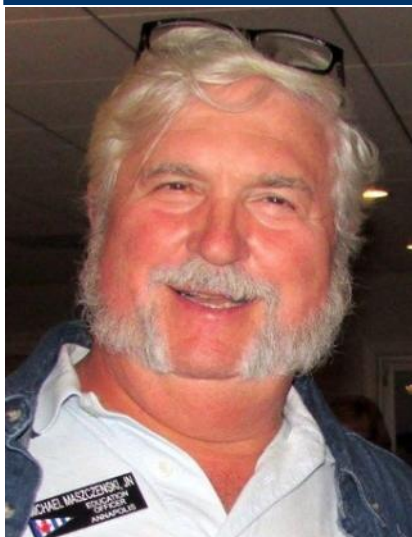
**When: Tuesday, November 11, 2025  
11:30 AM**

**Where: Dock House Restaurant  
110 Piney Narrows Rd, Chester, MD 21619**



**R.S.V.P. to Georgiana Maszczenski at  
[gmaszczenski@hotmail.com](mailto:gmaszczenski@hotmail.com) or (410) 739-7799  
by Monday, November 10, at 4pm.**

**SAVE THE DATE for next lunch:  
Tuesday, December 9, 2025  
Red, Hot & Blue**

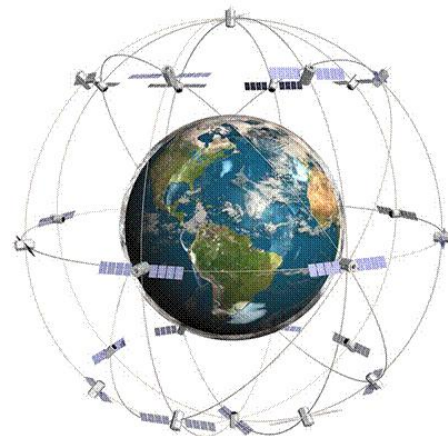


## Educational Officer

Lt/C Michael Maszczenski, Jr., N

A Virtual ABC (America's Boating Course) is being planned for Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2026. It will be over Zoom and run from 6:30 to 9:00 PM. If you need your Boating Safety Card and like Zoom classes, mark your calendar.

The GPS seminar has been rescheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup>. It will be over Zoom and free. You must register to get the login for the seminar. Please register soon.



### How to Use GPS

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Zoom 7-9 PM

Cost - Free

Instructor - John Locke



Nearly everybody uses GPS in the car or on a smart phone. But, your marine GPS is a different animal. In this seminar, you'll learn how to choose a suitable GPS chart plotter if your boat doesn't already have one. More importantly, you'll learn how to make the best use of it: how to create waypoints, build and execute routes, and monitor your progress along the way. And, there's more! The seminar will explain how modern GPS chart plotters integrate with other electronic systems onboard, including VHF marine radio, radar, and autopilot. Your GPS will tell you where you are and how to find your destination. Start learning how to use your GPS today!

### [Click Here to Register](#)

Let me know if you have an interest in a course or seminar, and we will investigate running it.

The next D/5 conference is in Lancaster PA, at the Hilton Doubletree on November 8 & 9. Saturday the 9th will be dedicated to seminars. There will be a **recertification** seminar. This is important for instructors whose certification needs to be extended for 4 years. It is also important for anyone teaching a seminar or course, as it introduces new topics in instruction. There will be a seminar on **Virtual Instruction** (Zoom and other online apps), as well as a **fire extinguisher and electronic flare use** session. Other sessions will be developed. Visit the D/5 web site as the date approaches for more details.

### [District 5 Home Page](#)

Finally, if you find yourself with some downtime, be sure to check out the America's Boating Channel for boating entertainment and shows. [America's Boating Channel](#)





## Administrative Officer

### Lt/C Bruce Arey, JN

Usually, November on the Chesapeake is a time to winterize your boat and think back on the fond memories of the sailing season. But, if you are somewhat adventurous, frostbite sailing around Annapolis is one of the Chesapeake Bay's most beloved — and quirkiest — sailing traditions. It's a mix of grit, camaraderie, and cold-weather fun that keeps sailors on the water long after most boats are hauled out for winter.

Here's a full picture of what frostbite sailing means in the Annapolis area:

★ Frostbite sailing is winter sailboat racing, typically held from November through March.

- ★ It's called "frostbite" because sailors brave cold temperatures — sometimes below freezing — to race in short, fast events close to shore.
- ★ Annapolis, with its sheltered harbor and strong racing culture, is one of the premier frostbite venues in the U.S.

## Where It Happens

### 1. Annapolis Yacht Club (AYC) Frostbite Series

The AYC Frostbite Series is the best-known winter racing program in the region.

Races take place on Sundays, usually starting in early November and continuing into February or March, depending on weather.

The courses are set up in Annapolis Harbor and the Severn River, often within sight of the Naval Academy seawall and the Spa Creek Bridge.

It's a point-to-point or short-course series — quick races, no long-distance sailing.

### 2. Eastport Yacht Club (EYC)

Eastport sailors are just as enthusiastic; many compete in AYC's races or organize informal "beer can-style" frostbite sails.

The EYC crowd often sails smaller boats (like J/22s or Harbor 20s) and has a strong post-race social scene.

### 3. Severn Sailing Association (SSA)

SSA, known for dinghy racing, occasionally runs small-boat frostbite regattas — particularly for Laser (ILCA), Vanguard 15, and similar classes.

Dinghy sailors race in drysuits and often pull their boats up the beach at the end of each race day.

## Conditions and Safety

Frostbite sailing requires special preparation:

Cold Weather Gear: Drysuits, neoprene gloves, fleece layers, and boots are essential.



Short Races: Usually 30–45 minutes each — limits exposure and keeps racing lively.

Safety Boats: Always on the course for quick recovery if someone goes overboard (water temps in November can be near 50°F and drop to the 30s by January).

No Spinnakers Rule: In very cold weather, some fleets restrict spinnakers to reduce risks and gear tangles.

### **The Culture**

Frostbite sailing is as much social as competitive.

After racing, sailors gather at clubhouses or local pubs like the Eastport Yacht Club, Boatyard Bar & Grill, or Pusser's to warm up, share stories, and celebrate (or commiserate).

It's seen as a badge of toughness — you'll hear sailors proudly say, "We never put the boat away."

### **Schedule Snapshot (Typical Year)**

Early November: Series begins (AYC Frostbite Series kicks off first weekend).

December–February: Weekly Sunday races continue, weather permitting.

March: Final races and awards ceremony, often with a social event at AYC.

### **Where to Watch**

Naval Academy seawall and Spa Creek Bridge offer great public vantage points.

Ego Alley and City Dock also provide good views of the harbor starts and finishes.

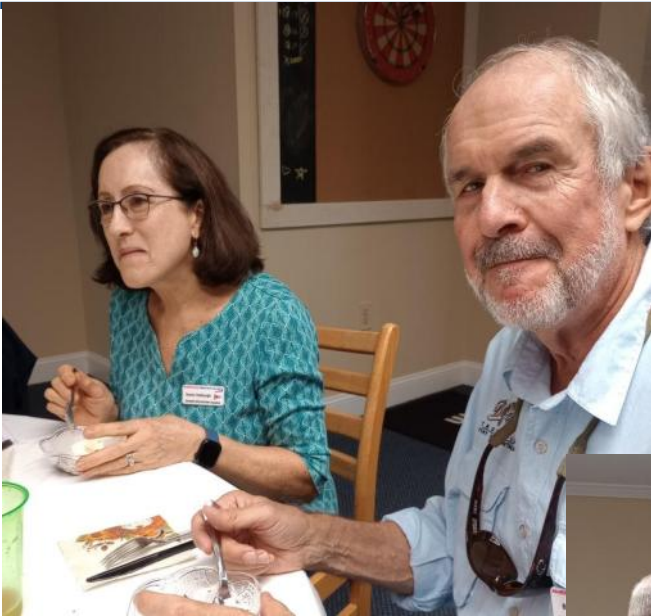
On windy days, it's a dramatic scene — whitecaps, tight starts, and bundled-up sailors.













## Executive Officer Lt/C Ralph Leasure, AP

As temperatures begin to fall and the thought of putting the boat away for the winter becomes a reality, it is a good opportunity to reflect on all the good times had on the water this season. I hope you have some great memories of boating adventures this year. We did not get to use the boat as much as we would have liked for a variety of reasons, but wait 'till next year.

My car is loaded to the brim with all the items from the last Boat Show. Many thanks to all of you who volunteered your time to cover shifts at the booths:

### Powerboat Show:

#### Set up

★David Tower

#### Volunteers:

★John Locke

★Lorrie Short

★Jon Juzbasich

★John Juzbasich

### Sailboat Show:

#### Set up

★ Jeff Short

★ David Tower

★ Diane Leasure

#### Volunteers:

★Chuck Welles

★John Schleicher

★Colleen Schleicher

★Ned Dexter

★Jeanne Galvin

★Scott Jordan

★Marja Jordan

★Toni Hughes

★Rich Hughes

★Jon Juzbasich

★John Juzbasich

★Edwin Sunderland

★Bruce Arey

★Bill Stickney

★Lisa Stickney

Thanks to Bill and Lisa for staying on to help with teardown (and Diane) in miserable weather.



Our booth at the Power Boat Show was less covered, but we had more interest expressed in the Annapolis Sail & Power Squadron at that show than at the Sailboat Show. I can't explain the difference. The Sailboat Show was a bit more challenged with bad weather, including a strong Nor'Easter as we were trying to pack up. The rain and the strong winds were damaging to our 10 x 20 ft. tent and to some of the graphics. Many of these need replacing due to wear and tear anyhow, so it can give us a fresh look at what we need next, or if it all needs to be re-evaluated.

Diane got to put some miles on her camera as we completed a trip to see her brother in Grand Junction, Colorado. We put almost 1500 miles on a rental car visiting national parks in Southern Colorado and Utah. We were there at the time when the aspen trees were turning so she got some great shots for her photography studios, including some great close-ups of a herd of big horn sheep. I was more concerned with keeping the car on the road as we wound up and down huge mountains, mostly without guard rails, and potential drops of thousands of feet. Fortunately, we lived to tell the tale.

Enjoy the Holidays. Ralph Leasure, XO





Save the Date

# Holiday Brunch Buffet

Saturday, December 6, 2025  
10:30 AM

Pirates Cove Restaurant  
Galesville, Maryland

Link Sausage, Pecan Smoked Bacon,  
Potatoes w/ Onions & Peppers,  
Scrambled Eggs, Egg Strata Bake,  
French Toast, Fresh Fruit,  
Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks, + Cash Bar

RSVP by 4:00 PM  
on Monday, December 1, 2025  
by email to

[aspsdinnerreservations@gmail.com](mailto:aspsdinnerreservations@gmail.com)

Reserve Early - Limit of 50

Brunch Cost: \$20 per person  
Payable at the door by cash or  
**check made to ASPS**

Holiday Apparel Contest:  
Most Festive, Most Tacky,  
Best All-Around

Please bring a check for  
the Marine Corps  
Toys for Tots drive.



If you wish to participate  
in the gift exchange,  
please bring a wrapped  
gift whose value does not  
exceed \$20.



Ladies LUNCH  
Broad Neck Grill  
October 14, 2025





## Membership Recruitment Update

David Tower, AP

A huge shout out to the following members who have stepped up to deliver information about our Power Squadrons and its Vessel Safety Check program to 49 Annapolis area marinas and businesses – 44% of our goal!

- ★ Bruce Arey
- ★ Joe Burke
- ★ Ralph Leasure
- ★ John Locke
- ★ Tony Martin
- ★ Dick Radlinski
- ★ Lorrie Short
- ★ Ed Sunderland
- ★ Dave Tower

Thank  
You!

They encourage you to join them in volunteering to a visit a small group of 3-5 adjacent sites to distribute our brochures and posters. It will take no more than an hour, and it's truly enjoyable! Our outreach is universally welcomed by the sites our members have visited!

Packets of material with specific instructions are available at our monthly dinner meetings or by e-mailing Dave Tower at [dhtower@comcast.net](mailto:dhtower@comcast.net). Contact him to choose specific sites and arrange for supplying you with the material.

As we've often been reminded, seeking new members is the responsibility of all of us. A growing membership is a healthy membership!



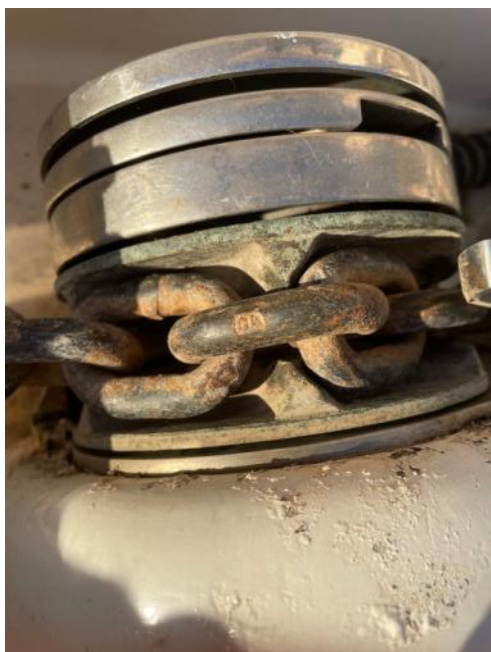
**ASPS Logo apparel**  
<http://asps.qbstores.com>



## When Should You Replace a Chain Rode? Lord of the Electrons, Terry Slattery, Safety Officer

I was at a boating event recently when someone asked “Do you know anything about when I should replace my all-chain anchor rode?” My short answer was “Yes,” having researched the subject several years ago when I began to question the integrity of our rusty anchor chain.

A good anchor system should be tailored to the expected anchoring environment. Boats that are expected to anchor in deep or abrasive environments like rocks or coral should use all-chain rodes. However, in the soft environment of the Chesapeake Bay, an anchor + chain + rope rode will work. Note: I think that the only anchoring system that doesn't have to include chain is a dinghy shore anchor.



There are multiple sizes and types of anchor chain. The links in quality chain will have a grade number stamped into the side of each link. The most common for use on boats is G4 (Grade 40), which is a high-carbon steel that is suitable for use in a windlass, due to strength and durability. You should avoid the use of less expensive grades like G3 (Grade 30), which is made from low-carbon steel for lighter applications. By the way, stainless steel chain exists but is not as strong as the high-carbon steel of G4 (yes, that's a 'G4' stamp on the link in the picture).

Carbon steel chains are galvanized to help protect them from corrosion. Galvanizing will eventually wear away, leaving the carbon steel subject to salt water corrosion. When that happens, you'll start to see flakes of rusty steel deposited on deck as the chain comes aboard after anchoring. When that happens, the chain's lifetime becomes questionable. You can slow the start of corrosion

by having the chain re-galvanized from time to time, but that's an expensive step that rarely works for very long. A better approach is to replace the chain. You can also periodically swap the chain end-for-end, provided that the chain is of sufficient length. Regularly washing the chain with fresh water will also extend its life.

Ok, so you've decided that re-galvanizing or swapping the chain end-for-end isn't an option, at what point should the chain be replaced? It took me a while to find an answer to this question. The short answer is that I decided that 11% erosion was my threshold for replacing the chain. A 10mm (3/8 inch) chain's nominal link diameter of .394 means that the minimum link diameter should be .350 inches. The long answer, which includes my analysis and references, can be found at our LUX blog:

<https://svlux.blogspot.com/2015/09/when-to-replace-anchor-chain.html>





I quickly found several chain links that were at my threshold for replacement, causing us to replace our anchor chain. If you're faced with a similar decision, I'd recommend a threshold of no more than 15% erosion. I recommend using the same rule to the shackles and to shorter lengths of chain in an anchor rode that's used in the Chesapeake Bay.

We anchor in depths less than 30 feet, so we purchased 200 feet of chain and took the old chain to a metal recycling facility. The new chain is working out well for us. We wash it on a regular basis to help reduce corrosion. We also periodically replace the galvanized shackle that connects the anchor to the chain allowing us to sleep soundly on anchor at night, even when it's windy.



## Meeting Plans for 2025-26

- ☆ November 1 — a Saturday brunch from 10-12 at Park Tavern in Severna Park. You will be invited to order from a limited item menu. Seating is limited, so you will need to remember to reserve early.
- ☆ December 6 — our holiday brunch party will be at Pirate's Cove.
- ☆ January 10 — Saturday the 10th—a lunch meeting at Maggiano's restaurant at the Annapolis Mall.
- ☆ February 7 — A brunch meeting on the 7th at the Golf Club at South River.
- ☆ March — our Change of Watch. We are returning to Carrol's Creek Café,
- ☆ April — We're still thinking about this one! Send in your suggestions!
- ☆ May — We're still thinking about this one! Send in your suggestions!
- ☆ June — Our bylaws do not require a formal June meeting. No decision has been made about a meeting or activity in June.

As you can see, we are still in the planning stages. We hope to offer a variety of venues, speakers and activities to encourage members to participate.





**Changes to your phone number, address, e-mail?**  
**Please contact P/C Kathy Nash, AP-IN**  
**at [roster@aspsmd.org](mailto:roster@aspsmd.org) or 410-703-9559**



**Check out our website at <http://aspsmd.org/>**



**Follow the ASPS facebook page at**  
**[www.facebook.com/aspsmd.org](http://www.facebook.com/aspsmd.org).**

**Forward information and comments to**  
**[facebook@aspsmd.org](mailto:facebook@aspsmd.org).**



**P/R/C Bill Eldridge, SN**

## **Vessel Safety Check**

**To arrange for a  
VSC for your boat,  
contact Bill at**  
**[vsc@aspsmd.org](mailto:vsc@aspsmd.org).**



[www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org)[www.uspsd5.org](http://www.uspsd5.org)[www.aspsmd.org](http://www.aspsmd.org)

America's  
Boating Club/  
Baltimore/  
Dundalk  
[Web Page](#)

## Calendar of Coming Events

### United States Power Squadrons® Events

9-15 Feb USPS Annual Meeting - Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

### District 5 Events

6-9 Nov Fall Educational Conference at the Doubletree Hilton in Lancaster, Pennsylvania

26-29 Mar D/5 Spring Conference - Ocean City, Maryland

### Squadron Events for Annapolis

01 Nov Brunch - Severna Park Tavern

20 Nov ASPS Exec Board Meeting

06 Dec Brunch - Pirates Cove

For a complete list of ASPS Squadron Events, see:

<http://www.aspsmd.org/calendar/month.php>

### SUNSHINE LADY

If you know of anyone sick or in the hospital,  
please contact our sunshine lady.

Betty Rouse Wilmot

[sunshine@aspsmd.org](mailto:sunshine@aspsmd.org)





## ASPS Squadron Leadership 2024 -2025

### Bridge

**Commander:** P/D/C Jeff Short, JN-IN

**Chaplain:** Phyllis Radlinski, AP

**Flag Lieutenant:** P/C Stu Myers, AP

**Merit Mark Chairman:** P/C Lee Myers, AP

**Law Officer:** P/C Anthony Martin, JN

**Executive Officer:** P/C Ralph Leasure, AP

**Vessel Safety Chair:** P/R/C Bill Eldridge, SN

**Safety Officer:** 1st/Lt Terry Slattery

**Communications Chair:** P/C Anthony Martin, JN

**Coop. Charting Chair:** P/C Ron Ricketts, AP

**Administrative Officer:** P/C Bruce Arey, JN

**Asst Admin Officer:**

**Membership Chair:** Lt/C Lorrie Short

**Boating Activities Chair:**

**Educational Officer:** St/C Michael Maszczenski, Jr., N

**Asst Educ Officer:** 1st/Lt John Locke, SN-ACN

**BOC:** 1st/Lt John Locke, SN-ACN

**Operations Training:** P/C Stu Myers, AP

**Secretary:** Lt/C Carol Rechner, SN

**Asst Secretary:** 1st/Lt Linda Sweeting

**Webmaster:** P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN

**Historian:** P/C Peggy Slattery, S

**Newsletter Editor:** P/Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S

**Treasurer:** Lt/C Lorrie Short

**Asst Treasurer:**

**Executive Committee:**

Susan Gilbert, S

P/Lt/C Diane Leasure

P/C Anthony Martin, JN

P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN

P/C Kathy Nash,

P/C Peggy Slattery, S

Edwin Sunderland, JN

David Tower, AP

P/C John Wilmot, JN-IN

### Immediate Past Commander:

P/C Ralph Leasure, P

### **Audit Committee:**

William Klepczynski, JN

Homer Sandridge, N

### **Nominating Committee:**

P/C Ralph Leasure, AP, Chair

P/C Bruce Arey, JN

Diane Leasure

P/C Peggy Slattery, S

P/C John Wilmot, JN-IN

### **Rules Committee:**

P/C Stu Myers, AP, Chair

P/D/C Jeff Short JN-IN

P/Lt/C Diane Leasure

### **Budget Committee:**

P/D/C Jeff Short, Chair

Lt/C Lorrie Short

P/C Ralph Leasure, P

### Roster Contact:

P/C Kathy Nash, AP-IN

### Information Technology Contact:

P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN

### ASPS Facebook Editors:

P/C Kathy Nash, AP

P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN



**Anchor Watch**  
**Deadline for December Newsletter:**  
**Wednesday, November 19, 2025**

**Direct all material to:**  
**Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S**  
**[anchorwatch@aspsmd.org](mailto:anchorwatch@aspsmd.org)**

