

Anchor



Watch



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



Sep 2025

Annapolis, Maryland

Volume 84, Number 09



Commander's Message

Cdr Jeff Short, JN-IN

We've had a great boating season so far, and we're looking forward to the Fall. I, for one, have made use of my boating opportunities. I raced J70s in Charleston in April, sailed the Greek Islands on a 45' catamaran in June, raced in Newport, RI and cruised Smith Island Lake in July. Yesterday, I was sailing on Lake Huron to Mackinac Island. I write this message on my iPhone while heaving in 8 foot swells on a 45 foot sailboat on Lake Michigan. In September I'm racing up in Marblehead. In between, Lorrie and I are enjoying our little Ranger Tug on the Bay. I hope others of you are getting out on the water as well. Lorrie says that I've got to go back to work one of these days. But I say that's what the winter is for.

ASPS General Membership meetings start up in September. We're trying something new this year. We have appreciated the hospitality of the Elks Club for the past many years, but the Executive Committee has decided to try something new and exciting. Monthly meetings will be held at different restaurants around the area. In the winter months, there will



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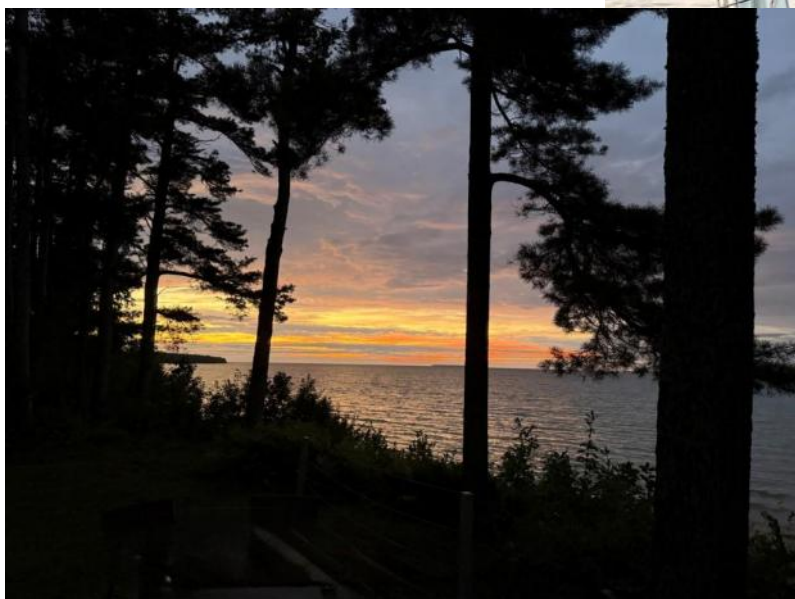
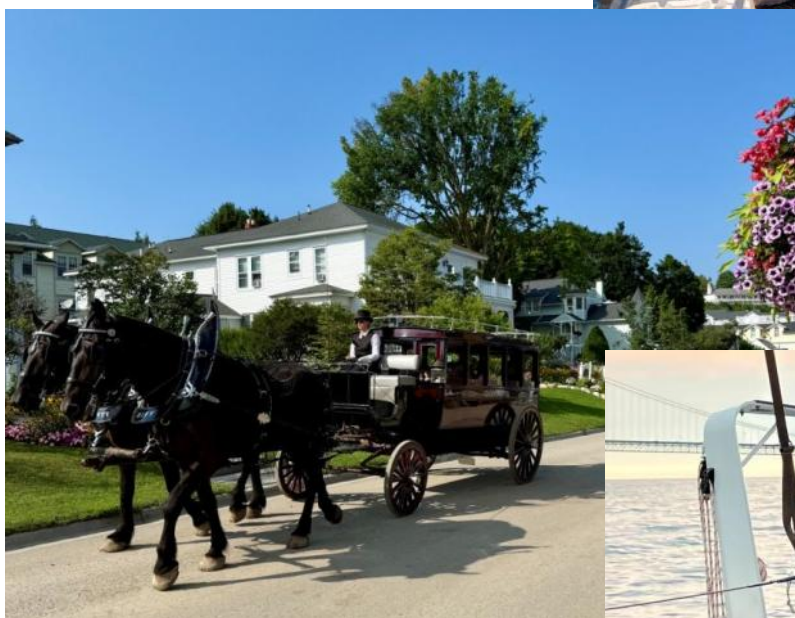
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be lunchtime meetings on the weekends. We hope this new concept will bring more of our ASPS members together. Peggy, Georgiana, Carol, Michael, Ralph and others have spent a lot of time and effort putting together an innovative itinerary for the year. I'm really looking forward to it.

Have a wonderful Fall boating season.

Stay healthy and be safe.



Fall Boat Shows October 2025



**Volunteer for the Booth
America's Boating Club
Reserve Your Spot Now!
Volunteers receive
free admission to the boat show
for the day they work.**

**Volunteer Sign Up Sheet
for the Powerboat Show
October 02 - 05, 2025
[Click Here for Powerboat Show](#)**

**Volunteer Sign Up Sheet
for the Sailboat Show
October 09 - 12, 2025
[Click Here for Sailboat Show](#)**

**Having problems signing up? Click the
reload page symbol on your browser.**



Ladies! Let's Do Lunch!



When: Tuesday, September 9, 2025

11:30 AM

**Where: Momma Mia's Italian Bistro
219 E Water St, Centreville, MD 21617
(410) 758-2222**

Menu: <https://www.mammamiacentreville.com/menu>

**R.S.V.P. to Kathy Burke
at kab2016dec@gmail.com or (410) 279-0818
by Monday, September 8 at 4pm.**

SAVE THE DATE for next lunch:

Tuesday, October 14, 2025





Administrative Officer

Lt/C Bruce Arey, JN

When I was living in New England, I was familiar with the Newport to Bermuda Race, which is the oldest regularly scheduled ocean race in the world. I was not aware of the Annapolis to Bermuda Race (A2B) until I moved to Maryland.

Origins & Evolution

The very first Annapolis to Bermuda Race took place in 1979, with just seven yachts participating in an informal competition. (<https://www.bermudaoceanrace.com/>) Due to its success and growing interest, the race became a biennial event starting in 1980.

Race Structure & Highlights

The A2B is unique in combining both inshore and offshore racing. Competitors start down the Chesapeake Bay, navigate the Gulf Stream, and finish in Bermuda, covering approximately 753 nautical miles—one of the longest ocean racing courses on the U.S. East Coast.

It is co-hosted by Eastport Yacht Club (Annapolis) and the Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club (Bermuda).

Accessibility & Community

A2B is known for welcoming both seasoned racers and enthusiastic cruisers, encouraging broader participation and navigation skill development.

Organized seminars—focusing on Safety at Sea, navigation, and boat prep—are offered by Eastport Yacht Club to prepare entrants.

Milestones & Memorable Moments

In 1986, the first all-women crew participated aboard the Swan 37, William Tell. Despite skepticism, they completed the race, earning a special trophy and marking a milestone in inclusivity and gender representation in sailing.

The 2020 race was cancelled, the first cancellation since the inaugural race, due to COVID-19, border closures and logistical challenges.

The race resumed in 2022, overcoming a 24-hour delay caused by Tropical Storm Alex, with a competitive fleet of roughly 25–29 boats.

Legacy & Future

Over the years, the race has seen participation from over 600 yachts and thousands of sailors who have experienced its technical and navigational challenges.

Registration is now open for the 2026 Mustang Survival Annapolis to Bermuda Ocean Race, scheduled to start June 5, 2026.





September Dinner Meeting Speaker

The speaker for our September meeting will be Christopher Snizek. He is the Executive Director of the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House and Museum in Baltimore, Maryland. He will be giving a presentation on Mary Pickersgill who once resided in the house.

The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House in Baltimore, Maryland, is a significant historical site where the American flag that inspired the national anthem was crafted.

Built in 1793, the house became the residence of Mary Young Pickersgill in 1807. In 1813, she, along with her daughter Caroline, mother Rebecca Young, and 13-year-old African American indentured servant, Grace Wisher, sewed a massive 30-by-42-foot garrison flag. This flag flew over Fort McHenry during the British bombardment in 1814, inspiring Francis Scott Key to write "The Star-Spangled Banner," which later became the U.S. national anthem.

Today, the Flag House operates as a museum preserving early 19th-century American history. Visitors can explore:

The Historic House: Restored to reflect the period when the Pickersgill family lived there.

Modern Museum Wing: Features exhibits on the War of 1812, the Battle of Baltimore, and the flag's creation.

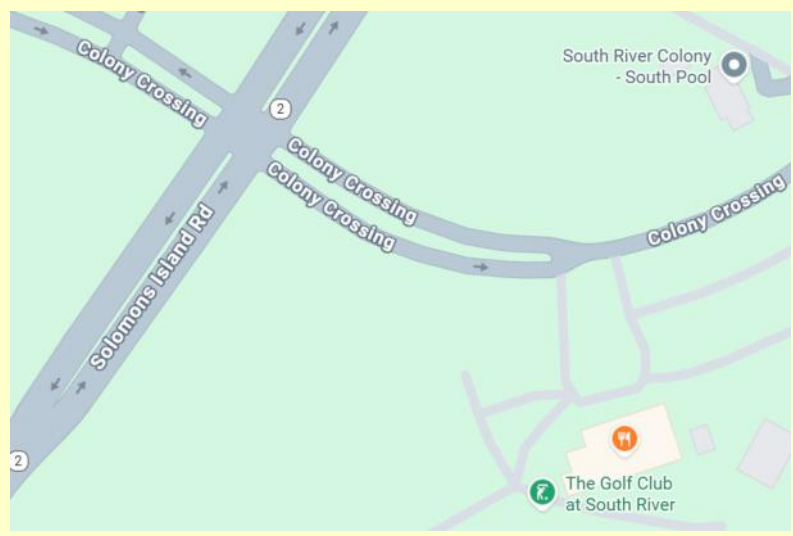
Notable Displays: Includes a large window replicating the original flag's design and a U.S. map made from stones representing each state.



Editor's Note:

For the September meeting, Ralph sponsored ASPS so that we could have our dinner meeting at the Golf Club at South River, of which he is a member.

To get there, take your car off autopilot. Do not turn into the Elks Club. Continue south on Route 2 over the bridge. Keep going through Edgewater, crossing MD 214. Turn left at Colony Crossing. Then, turn right to get to the club house.





Executive Officer
Lt/C Ralph Leasure, AP

It's hard to believe that in a week, the grandkids go back to school. It's been a fun summer. We just got back from Camp Nana-Pop. We take the two grand kids for a long weekend to a different location every year. This year it was The Homestead in Southern Virginia. One of the highlights was a three hour hike along the gorge near the hotel. The sights were beautiful. It had numerous water falls and incredible vistas. The kids learned much from our guide, as did we, thanks to his knowledge of all the plants and trees (and their uses) as well as in depth history of the area. The only problem was that it was all uphill. On the way home we took them to Virginia Safari Park. It's a combination of a normal Zoo and a drive

through area where you have the opportunity to feed the animals through the car window with a small bucket full of feed. The variety and number of animals was amazing. It was just over a two mile drive at 5 mph. Throughout the entire area you will see everything from bison, giraffes (caged), llamas, ostriches, all sorts of deer, elk, rhinos also (caged) and a wide variety of wild animals. We became more selective of who we offered food to since an aggressive llama scared our granddaughter. It was very unique and well worth the price of admission. If you are looking for something different you may want to try this. It's about a four hour drive from Annapolis.



I'm sorry that we were not able to attend the Summer Council and Rendezvous. It sounds like a good time was had by those who attended. We may have news about next year's Summer Council and get-together as we may be involved again. More on that later.

I want to congratulate our members, John and Betty Wilmot. We're preparing to help them celebrate their 94th and 93rd birthdays. Happy Birthday, John and Betty!!

We have two boat shows in October. It's not too early to start thinking about helping out with our booth coverage. It's fun and you get into the show for free - not a bad deal with the prices continuing to rise.

Now is the time to get involved with our marketing plans for recruiting new members. Please get with Dave Tower for details on how you can help.

Thanks in advance. Ralph Leasure, XO





ASPS Dinner Meeting
Thursday, September 4, 2025
Golf Club at South River
3451 Solomons Island Road
Edgewater, MD 21037
See directions on the previous page.

6:00 PM - Social Hour

7:00 PM - Dinner

7:30 PM - Speaker - Christopher Snizek, the Executive Director of the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House and Museum in Baltimore, Maryland.

Italian Buffet

House Salad

Rolls & Butter

Chicken Alfredo

Sausage & Peppers in Marinara Sauce

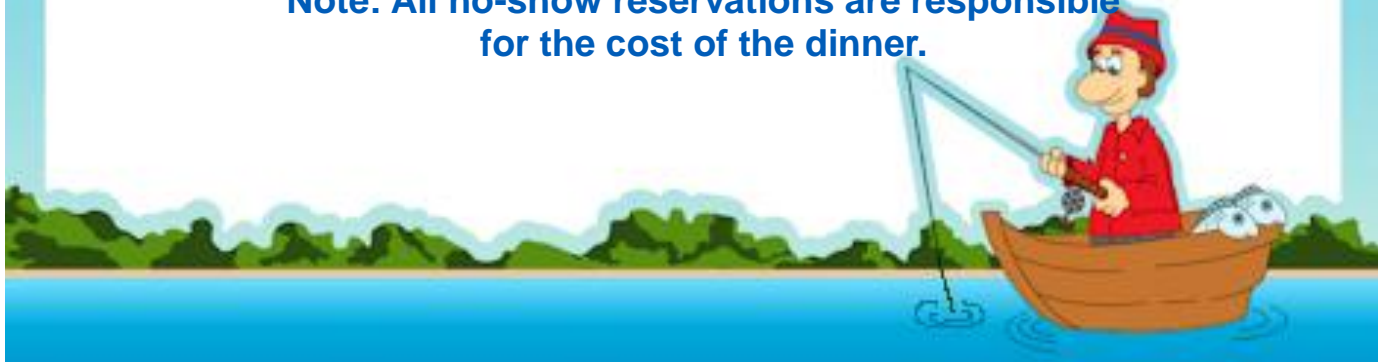
Penne Pasta

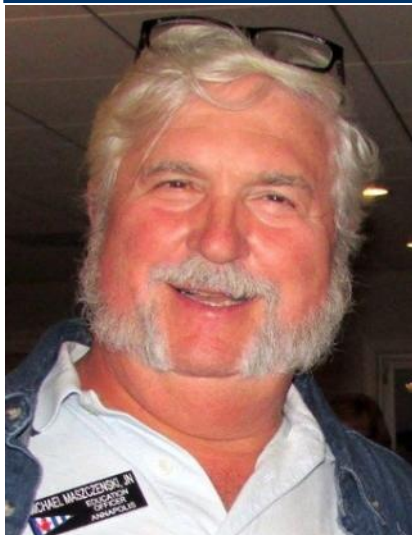
Italian Oven Roasted Vegetables

RSVP by Monday, September 1, 4 PM to
aspsdinnerreservations@gmail.com

\$20.00 per person by cash or check at the door.
Make checks payable to ASPS.

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





Educational Officer

Lt/C Michael Maszczenski, Jr., N

ASPS began the summer season with two ABC classes. We had a group of 10 middle-schoolers from Popular Point Marina. The instructors were Jeff Mckenny and Mike Maszczenski. All our students passed and received their boating safety cards. We had a second group from Epping Forest arranged by Eddie Chapman. The instructors were Richard (Dick) Radlinski, Richard Hughes and Mike Maszczenski. We had a group of 18 boaters with one person auditing. Everyone passed their test, and all now have their boating safety cards.

Boating Safety Card update: Many states are no longer grandfathering people into the program for the now-required boating safety course card needed to operate a recreational vessel. 36 states require a boating

safety course be passed to operate a recreation vessel in their state waters, regardless of the age of the operator. At this time, Maryland does not require the card for anyone born before July 1972. New York and many other states are passing laws no longer grandfathering the need for the card. New York recently passed Brianna's Law affectively eliminating the grandfather exception. Many states are considering the same. Make sure you know where your card is, if you have one. If you do not have one (regardless of your age), you might consider getting a boating safety course card. You can take the class online, or sign up the next time ASPS offers one. There are also any number of local organizations teaching the course. If you like virtual instruction, the America's Boating Clubs page now lets you search for courses not only close to you but all courses being offered virtually over Zoom. Check it out.

<https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/americas-boating-course>

Currently, ASPS has two seminars scheduled for October.

How to Use GPS

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

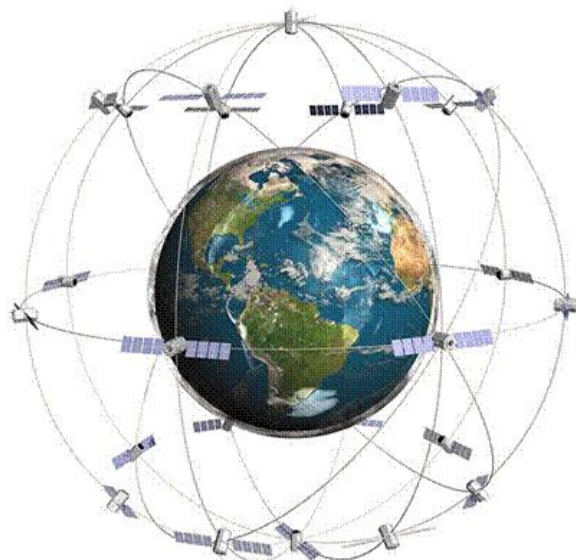
Zoom 7-9 PM

Cost - \$15.00

Instructor - John Locke

Nearly everybody uses GPS in the car or on a smartphone. But, your marine GPS is a different animal. In this seminar, you'll learn how to choose a suitable GPS chartplotter 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 chartplotters 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](#)



Winterization of Your Boat

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

Zoom 7-9 pm

Cost - \$15.00

Instructor - Dick Radlinski



Are you ready?

Boating season in this part of the country will be ending soon, and it's time to think about putting your boat away until spring. This free seminar covers those things that need to be done to protect your investment from wind, rain, snow and freezing temperatures, and to make sure it is ready to go (with minimum effort) next season. It describes the proper way to winterize engines, generators, air conditioners and onboard water systems, and it addresses both inboard, outboard and I/O propulsion systems. Topics such as where to store and how to properly cover your boat are also included.

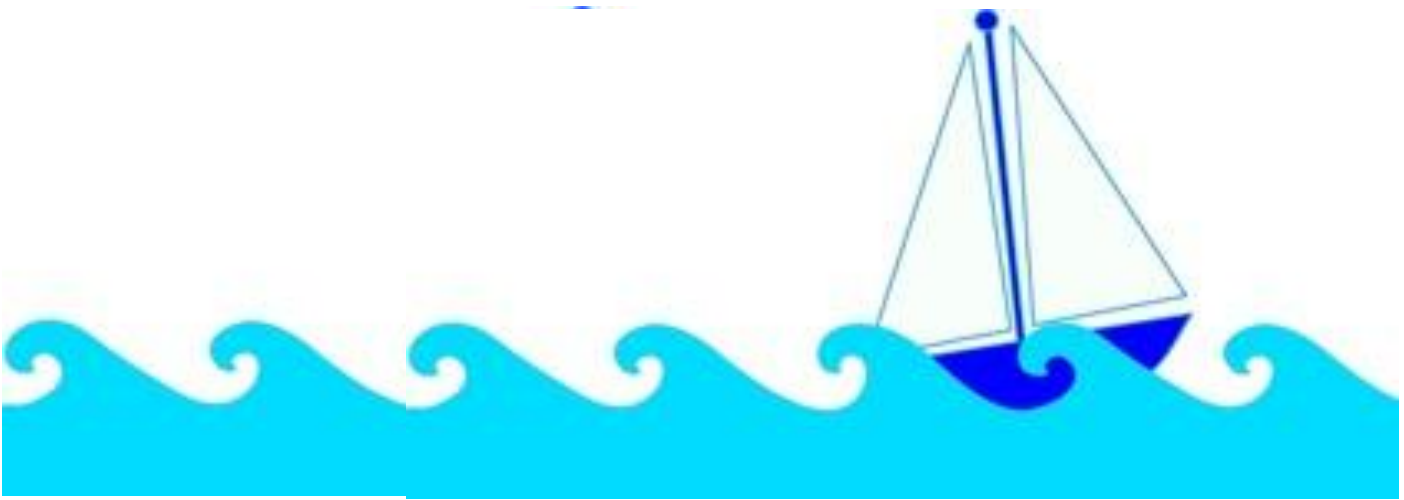
[Click Here to Register](#)

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](#)



Boating Links to Browse

PropTalk magazine has a lovely article on Yorktown with all there is to see and do. It starts on page 33.

https://issuu.com/spinsheetpublishingcompany/docs/proptalk_magazine_september_2025/16



The latest District 5 newsletter, the Mark 5 is available at

<https://www.uspsd5.org/squadrons/6243/mark5.pdf>

Reports on the Summer conference at Smith Mountain Lake, and information about the Fall Educational Conference in Lancaster, PA.

Practical Sailor has some great tips and procedures to decontaminate a tainted water tank:

<https://www.practical-sailor.com/blog/decontaminating-a-tainted-water-tank>

Proptalk has an article on boating the Great Loop

<https://proptalk.com/year-adventure-great-loop>

For more nautical-related links, see the "Links Page" on the ASPS website:

<http://aspsmd.org/wrappers/pages.php>

For trip ideas in the Chesapeake Bay area:

<https://www.visitmaryland.org/unique-experiences/chesapeake-bay-loop> This site changes frequently. Bookmark it and return on a regular basis for all sorts of activities in the area.

Chesapeake Bay Magazine brings us a report on underwater grasses in the bay.

<https://www.chesapeakebaymagazine.com/lower-upper-bay-underwater-grasses-flourish-as-mid-bay-grasses-decline/>





Chief Commander Roger Upton Wants Your Help! David Tower, AP

Who? ? ? ? ?

Beginning in 1911, Upton was the driving force in starting the United States Power Squadrons. His efforts grew to one of the most highly respected international forces in the boating world.

In order to continue growing, each of us can help by distributing promotional brochures and posters describing our Squadron and Vessel Safety Checks. Over 100 key local boating businesses and organizations in the Annapolis area have been identified. The list has been divided into small groups of three to five sites near each other.

Distribution is fun and takes no more than an hour!

Packets of material with specific instructions are available at our monthly dinner meetings or by e-mailing Dave Tower at dhtower@comcast.net. Contact him to choose specific sites and to 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>





Planning for Emergencies - Part 2

Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S

We tend to think of Maryland as a safe place to live. We don't face wildfires like California. We don't have massive flooding issues like Tennessee. As a rule, we don't really worry about having to evacuate or dealing with the loss of our home. Actual statistics show us that we should give more thought to planning for emergencies. After all, Maryland records currently show that the last time we had so many flash flood warnings was 2020. And it is only September. Severe thunderstorms across Maryland have resulted in thousands losing power, and people find themselves needing water rescues. In mid-May, flooding caused by days of heavy rain led to millions of dollars in damage and emergency responses

in Western Maryland communities. Waterspouts have formed on the bay, and turned into tornados upon reaching land – destroying homes and property along the way. To date, there have been six fire fatalities in Anne Arundel County – also resulting in the loss of the homes. Several instances of trees falling on houses were reported so far this year – in places as widespread as Chesapeake Beach, Mechanicsville, and Silver Spring. These events caused property damage. Some even resulted in the residents being forced to evacuate. You might realize at this point that your neighbors can remain safe while you face having to leave your home!

In our area, it's more likely that you will need to leave your home for a short amount of time. However, you won't always have a lot of time to prepare for that evacuation. The time to prepare is now. In this second installment of Planning for Emergencies, we'll look at things you can do to be prepared. After all, a great saying is, "Hope for the best. Prepare for the worst."

In today's world, technology is your friend. Make full use of it as part of your emergency preparedness! Make sure your technology is ready to be your support. Here are some ideas you might want to consider:

- ★ Consider signing up for direct deposit and electronic banking if you have not already done so. With this, you can access your money and make electronic payments wherever you are.
- ★ If severe weather is predicted, take time to make sure your electronic devices are fully charged. You never know how long the power might be off in your home.
- ★ Consider purchasing a portable charger power bank for your devices – especially your phone. Today's cell phones are more than just phones. Your phone can give you emergency alerts and warnings. Make sure you keep the portable charger power bank fully charged if storms are on the way.
- ★ Keep a portable phone charger in your car at all times.

Now that you know how to keep your electronic devices up and running in any emergency, let's explore how you can use those devices. Start with all the important documents that you might need. Think about insurance policies, identification documents, and medical records. Here are some ways to make sure they are always available.

- ★ Use your printer to scan important documents. You can store them on your home computer. Even better – email them to yourself so that you can store them on your phone.
- ★ Still too much work? Use your phone's camera to take pictures of your documents. Follow that with photos of important cards – your driver's license, credit cards, and any other cards you use regularly.



- ★ Use your computer to create your own medical records. Include all the important information. Most importantly, be sure to have a complete list of your medications as well as details about your local pharmacy. Save that form as a PDF, and send it to yourself so that you can store it on your phone.

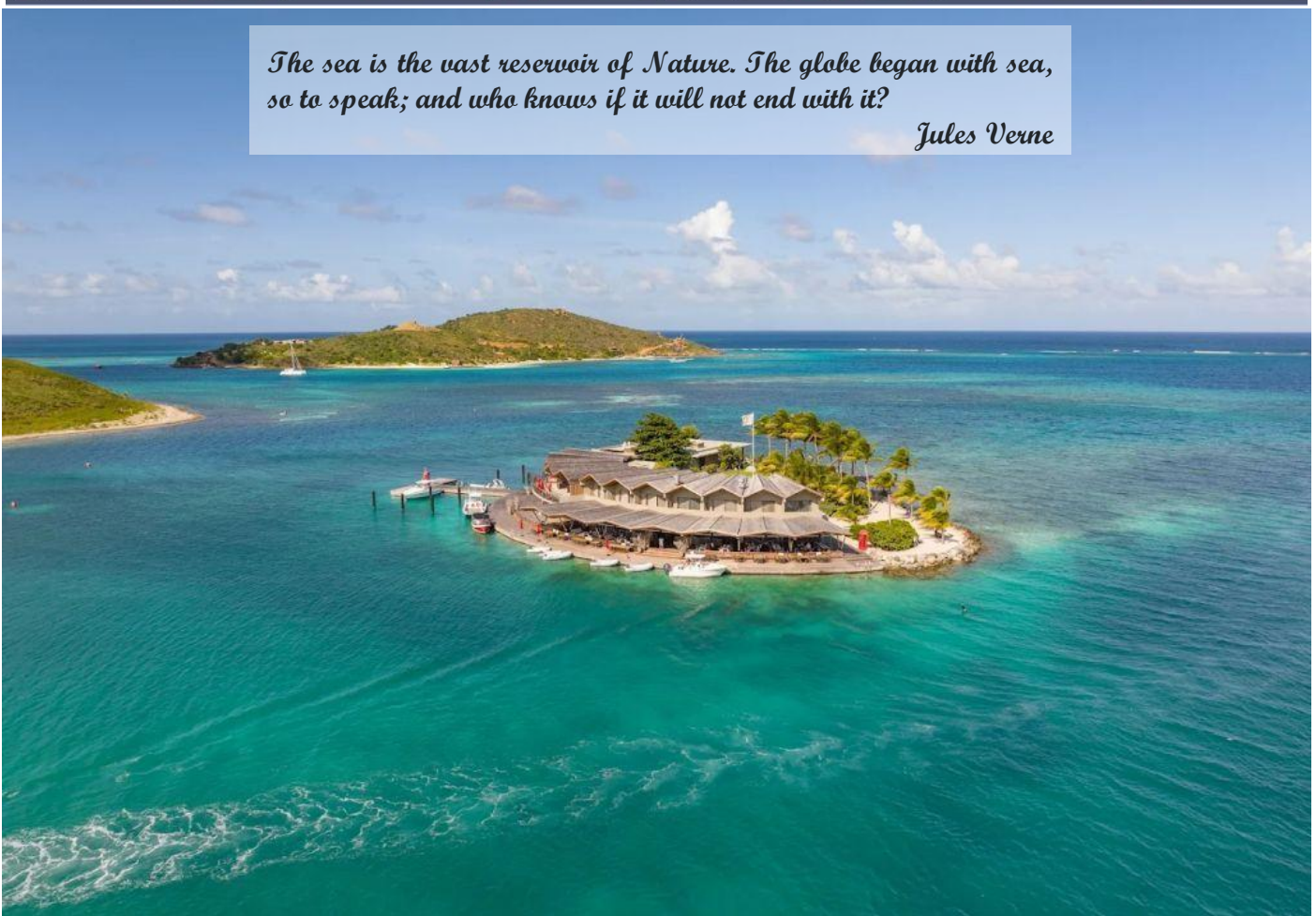
A final note – if you are concerned about losing your phone, you can also save these documents in an online storage site.

At this point, you hold all your important information in the palm of your hand. Information is power, but you need more than information if you have to evacuate. Our next installment will share ideas about what you should have in readiness in case of a quick departure!



The sea is the vast reservoir of Nature. The globe began with sea, so to speak; and who knows if it will not end with it?

Jules Verne



Editor's Note:

This is Saba Rock in the British Virgin Islands. For me, it's a long look back to when I visited in 2004. A lovely place to stop, it is just north of Virgin Gorda and the Bitter End Yacht Club. If you are inclined to rent a cat from Moorings, Sunsail, or another charter company in the BVIs sometime this winter, to chase away the blahs, be sure to stop in and try out the conch fritters. You can drop the hook somewhere near, and dink in to the island.

Carol





Meeting Plans for 2025-26

You asked.
We listened.
Join us this year
on a culinary voyage!

We're trying something new this year. Members have asked for different food offerings as well as the addition of some daytime meetings. Here's a tentative proposal for our meetings for the coming year.

- ☆ September 4 — a regular Thursday evening meeting at the Golf Club at South River. This will be a buffet meal with a speaker.
- ☆ October 4 — a daytime picnic on Saturday, October 4, starting at noon at Selby Bay Yacht Club. We plan to have the food catered from Bayside Bull in Edgewater.
- ☆ 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 looking at returning to Carrol's Creek Café, but we are open to suggestions!
- ☆ 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 or 410-703-9559**



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



**Follow the ASPS facebook page at
www.facebook.com/aspsmd.org.**

**Forward information and comments to
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.**





www.usps.org



www.uspsd5.org



www.aspsmd.org



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

Calendar of Coming Events

United States Power Squadrons® Events

- | | |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 1-7 Sep | USPS Fall Governing Board - Grand Rapids, Michigan |
| 9-15 Feb | USPS Annual Meeting - Myrtle Beach, South Carolina |

District 5 Events

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2-5 Oct | Annapolis Power Boat Show |
| 9-12 Oct | Annapolis Sailboat Show |
| 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

- | | |
|--------|----------------------------------------|
| 04 Sep | Dinner Meeting - South River Golf Club |
| 25 Sep | Exec Board Meeting |
| 04 Oct | Picnic - Selby Bay Yacht Club |
| 21 Oct | Seminar - How to Use GPS |
| 22 Oct | Seminar - Winterization of Your Boat |
| 23 Oct | Exec Board Meeting |
| 01 Nov | Brunch - Severna Park Tavern |

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



ASPS Squadron Leadership 2024 -2025

Bridge

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

Chaplain:

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 October Newsletter:
Friday September 19, 2025
Direct all material to:
Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S
anchorwatch@aspsmd.org

