

Anchor



Watch



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District 5, a unit of United States Power Squadrons®



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Commander's Message

Cdr Jeff Short, JN-IN

Lorrie and I spent two days orienting with the dealer on our new boat, a Ranger Tugs R29CB named Boat Show Special. She's a tad bigger than our little 25 footer, so the first day was spent on the water practicing docking from both the inside helm and the command bridge. I was amazed at how much the bow and stern thrusters help out in that regard. There was very little wind, so I did not get to dock it in actual docking conditions, which always consist of 10-15 knots straight down the fairway. Lorrie insists on having a dingy so our 9 foot RIB "Miss Lorrie" sits straight up on the swim platform, effectively blocking ALL sight lines off the transom. All I can say is that we better get a lot of use out of that dinghy.

The second day we went over the boat systems, and got into every nook and cranny to find any issues that might need fixing before we take it away from the dealership. I am amazed at the technology advances just in the three years since we bought the Ranger Tugs R25. Everything is integrated and automatic.

I am a couple months into my third year of my second stint as commander, and I am happy to say that we had a successful financial review of the books. We are lucky to have such patient and persistent volunteers on the ASPS Audit Committee: Bill Klepczynski, JN, P/C Rich Hughes, SN-IN, and Homer Sandridge, N. They worked with permanent treasurer, Lorrie Short over the course of several weeks. After many emails and phone calls back and forth, a very thorough review was completed.

Bill, Rich, and Homer are long time members of ASPS and have been very active in supporting ASPS over the years. Bill has been a member of USPS since joining the Northern Virginia Power Squadron in November of 1990. He passed the Seamanship Course in 1992 and, over the years, has taken all the courses through Junior Navigator. He transferred to APSP in 1997. He was the ASPS Education Officer from 2008-2013, and has been on the Audit Committee since 2019!

Homer Sandridge moved to Arnold, MD in the mid-50's and, without any boating experience at all, bought a Hunter 28 on the same day he closed on his house. Fortunately for Homer, he ran into Tom Himmelman, who was

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teaching a four part USPS class called Chart Smart. Homer credits Tom and that Chart Smart class for getting him back to his dock after sailing on the Chesapeake. Tom insisted that Homer join ASPS in order to take more courses. As an ASPS member, Homer found many new friends and excellent instructors who made his boating safer and more fun. Since then, Homer has taken all the USPS courses up through Navigator. Soon after joining ASPS he became a vessel safety examiner, and enjoyed the opportunity to provide valuable safety information to inexperienced boaters, and to explore interesting boats.

Rich Hughes joined USPS in 1968 in Shreveport, LA after purchasing his first boat, a 14ft ski boat. He still has the textbook from that first class. He got away from boating for many years until he moved to Annapolis in 1983, when he joined ASPS and bought his current sail boat, FANTASTIC. He continued with his boating education and has completed every course offered by USPS, achieving the grade of Senior Navigator. He taught the public Basic Boating course, the predecessor to the America's Boating Course, for 8 years. The course was taught at the Annapolis Middle School, twice a year, to 60-80 students per class. He still meets people on the street who tell him that they took that course from him. Over the years, he taught many other courses, including the Piloting and Advanced Piloting courses, both of which I took from him. Rich has served in many bridge and committee positions and was ASPS Commander in 2010, the year I joined ASPS. He has made many lifelong friends along the way.

Thank you Bill, Rich and Homer for your service on the Audit Committee and for all the other support you have provided ASPS. And, thank you to all the ASPS members who have served and supported ASPS now and in the past.



Home is Where the anchor drops.



Kathy Burke SN-IN **Administrative Officer**

Are You Ready to Set Sail on an Adventure Meeting in September? While everyone is enjoying summer on the water, we are already hard at work planning our meeting schedule beginning in September — and we have an exciting possibility.

One suggestion for September is an adventure meeting aboard the Patriot Cruises for a rendezvous cruise in beautiful St. Michaels. Currently, we are considering a narrated history cruise on Saturday, September 12 at 2:30 p.m. This cruise lasts approximately 90 minutes, and offers a fascinating look at the area's rich maritime history. Tickets would be free for members of USPS and \$23 for nonmembers. We would need a minimum of 15 adults to reserve the group outing. Snacks and beverages are available for purchase on board.

To make the day even more memorable, it has been suggested that interested members of the group gather for a meal afterward at the Crab Claw. This may be one of our last opportunities to dine there, as the restaurant is expected to close following the 2026 season, after the property's acquisition by the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum.

To make the entire weekend a rendezvous, we are considering staying in the area. Members could stay in one of the local marinas, anchor out, or drive in and stay at one of the local hotels. If interested, we would arrange opportunities to get together throughout the weekend.

We would love to hear your thoughts. If you support this idea — or if you have another great suggestion for a meeting or outing — we are looking ahead for future programs and welcome ideas for meeting locations and speakers. Suggestions may be sent to Kathy at kab2016@gmail.com.

And one more fun addition for the newsletter: we are interested in sharing recipes. Send us your favorite boat snacks, easy onboard meals, or dockside entertaining ideas. To start things off, here is a make-ahead recipe that is a great snack and travels well!

Spiced Pecans

Ingredients

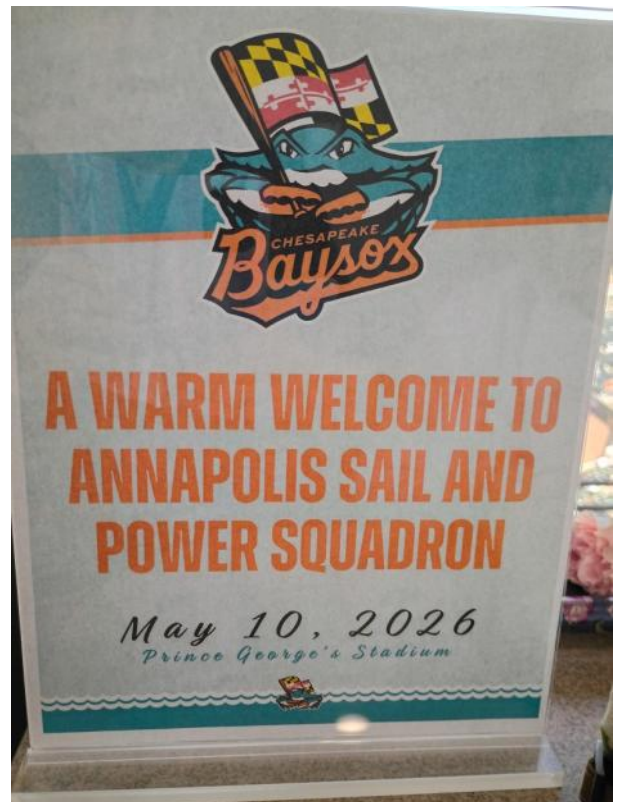
- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ 1 egg white ★ 1 tbsp water ★ 1 lb pecan halves ★ ½ cup sugar (or 1:1 Splenda substitute) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ ¾ tsp salt ★ 1 tsp cinnamon (or more to taste — 1 tbsp works great!) ★ ¼ tsp ground cloves or allspice ★ ¼ tsp nutmeg |
|---|--|

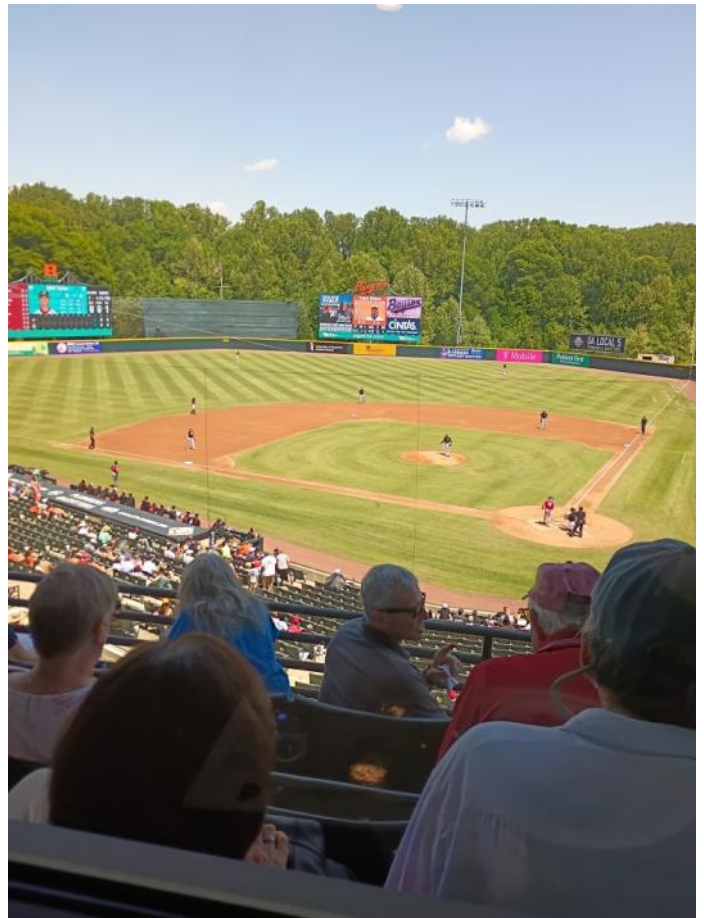
Directions

1. In a large bowl, beat the egg white and water with a fork until foamy. Add the pecan halves and stir to coat.
2. In a separate small bowl, combine the remaining ingredients. Pour the mixture over the pecans and stir well until evenly coated.
3. Spread the pecans on a cookie sheet and bake at 250 degrees for 50–60 minutes, stirring 3–4 times during baking.
4. Allow the pecans to cool on the cookie sheet, separating any that stick together. Enjoy!

Have a wonderful summer, and we look forward to seeing everyone back on the water this season!

**ASPS Membership Meeting
Sunday, May 10, 2026
Chesapeake Bay Sox
Prince George's Stadium**









Boating Links to Browse



Here is the latest on the Key Bridge litigation:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2026/05/12/baltimore-key-bridge-collapse-charges-dali/?utm_campaign=wp_post_most&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter

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.

From the Boat Galley, a guide on cruising the Intracoastal Waterway. It's a great read, even if you are not planning to do the trip. It also links to other valuable sources of information.

<https://theboatgalley.com/icw-first-time/>

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

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

If you are attending the **D/5 Summer Rendezvous August 28-30 at Lankford Bay Marina, Rock Hall, MD,**

Then you need to sign up here:

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

Scroll down until you see the registration forms.

You can attend by land or by sea.

Read about cruising in New England:

<https://www.spinsheet.com/bluewater-dreaming/delights-summer-sailing-cruise-new-england>

Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum is having the Antique Boat Festival June 19-21 in St. Michael's.

Always a fun event. Go this year!

<https://cbmm.org/event/antique-classic-boat-festival-and-coastal-arts-fair/>

Lithium Batteries are very popular. Here are some things to be aware of when you install them. Watch a Practical Sailor video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKtebo90p-l>

The Summer Conference will be in Rock Hall. Read all about Rock Hall here:

<https://www.spinsheet.com/see-bay/sailing-rock-hall-maryland-pearl-chesapeake>





Please Read

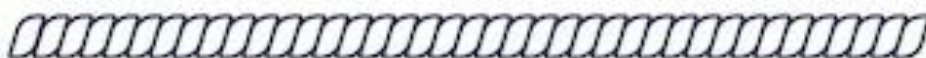
Important Changes to Our Event Pricing

For the past year, our bridge instituted a new membership perk - \$20 to attend any event. During this trial year, we allowed all attendees to benefit from this perk. The intended purpose was to not only boost participation, but to hopefully encourage new members to join and attend.

After further investigation, it was discovered that we needed to clarify and align this benefit to our bylaws and budget. This year, the \$20 will become a membership benefit. Yes, you must be a member. **Attendees who are not USPS members will be charged \$40.**

If your spouse is not a member, you can easily change your membership to a family membership. Contact Lorrie Short, our Treasurer, to make this quick and inexpensive change. It's only an additional \$25! You'll get it back at the first meeting you attend.

Keep in mind that we still encourage you to bring potential members as guests. Any potential member can be our guest at no charge for that first meeting. Please continue to look for boaters who would enjoy spending time with us!



Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron – America’s Boating Club Presents a Fun Weekend at Deep Creek Lake

**Join Betty Rouse Wilmot and John Wilmot at
Deep Creek Lake, 104 Hawthorne Lane, Oakland, MD 21550**



Friday, August 14

- ★ Drive to Deep Creek Lake (about 200 miles from Annapolis)
- ★ Arrive at Betty’s house by noon if you would like to try WHITE WATER RAFTING
Call **Betty @ 301-616-6609** to arrange a reservation
- ★ Come to Betty’s house by 5 pm for burgers, hot dogs, and drinks on the back deck

Dinner- # _____ @\$20.00=\$ _____

Saturday, August 15

- ★ Morning - Arrive at Betty’s house about 11 am
- ★ Paddle boards or kayak till noon or sit on the deck and relax **Lunch - by the Host**
- ★ Afternoon – water skiing, boat rides, and yard games
- ★ If you would like a water ski lesson, we can arrange a lesson with Greg Rouse (Betty’s son who owns the water ski school) or
- ★ Betty will take you for a ski ride behind her Malibu ski boat or
- ★ John will take you for a tour of Deep Creek Lake on the pontoon boat
- ★ Late afternoon: Barbecue Ribs with drinks and all the trimmings, and a little singalong with John and Ralph on the harmonica and guitar

Dinner- # _____ @\$20.00=\$ _____

Sunday, August 16

- ★ Coffee and donuts on the deck by the Host
- ★ Hike at Swallow Falls State Park or leave for home

WE HAVE RESERVED 6 ROOMS AT THE GARRETT INN, OAKLAND, MD 301-387-6696

Friday (August 14) and Saturday (August 15) 2 nights - (price \$330 for both nights- incl. taxes) 2 Q beds/room. Motel has 30-day cancellation policy, therefore **July 14, 2026** is room deadline.

If you want a House rental, call Railey at 301-387-2000 or Taylor-Made at 301-387-5999. Some houses have 5 bedrooms, rent for 3 days only.

..... ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

Name _____ Email _____ Cell _____

Please RSVP to Betty by Aug 1 if you plan to come on Friday _____ or Saturday _____
Make my Dinner **Reservations for _____ people for both days \$ _____**

Bring a covered dish, an appetizer, or a dessert if you wish.
Mail check for dinners to Betty Rouse, 104 Hawthorne Lane, Oakland, MD 21550 301-616-6609



Educational Officer

Lt/C Michael Maszczenski, Jr., N

We just completed the America's Boating course at the Bay Ridge Pool Association. We had 8 students over two Saturdays. A thank you goes out to Ron Rickets for arranging for the room and instructing the course.

The Education committee will be putting the educational offerings together for the next year. If there is something you would like to see offered, please drop me a note at seo@aspsmd.org.

Don't forget, there are many educational and fun topic about everything boating at the America's Boating Channel, located at <https://americasboatingchannel.uscreen.io/catalog>. ROKU and Apple TV also have apps linked to the America's Boating channel for many hours of boating entertainment and education.

Also, during summer fun, be sure to visit and investigate our wonderful website:

<https://aspsmd.org/index.php>.

Summer Fun

D/5 is having its summer rendezvous at Lankford Bay Marina on August 27 to 30th. It will be preceded by a cruise. There will be several educational events including: marline spike and line handling games, a trivia contest, a navigation contest, and a possible poker run.

Educational news from D/5

Look for more details on the summer events in the Mark 5. For more information and events, go to:

<https://Abc-midatlantic.org>

An advertisement for ASPS Logo apparel. The background is a colorful illustration of an underwater scene with coral, bubbles, and several fish. In the center, three people are shown wearing zip-up jackets: a woman in a purple jacket, a man in a blue jacket, and a man in a green jacket. All jackets feature the ASPS logo. The text "ASPS Logo apparel" is written in green, and the website "http://asps.qbstores.com" is written in blue and underlined.

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





Dinner Delights

Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S

It seems odd to continue calling this article Dinner Delights since we rarely meet during the dinner hour these days. Still, we are meeting, and it is delightful! So, I will continue to report on the great times we have when we come together to share stories and adventures.

For May, we tried something different. We went to the Chesapeake Baysox game in Bowie! It was a great experience for those who attended. We lucked out with absolutely beautiful weather – even if the home team did not win!

The stadium treated us well – including a welcome to our group on the electronic signboard. We had an attendant who made sure everything went well in the room. We even had a visit from the Baysox mascot – the Oyster Flycatcher. (A big thank you goes out to Susan Miller who took the time to figure out what that green creature was supposed to be!)

We're trying to find different ways and venues to give the membership not only meetings but adventures! The ballgame was a good start in thinking outside the box for meetings. Big kudos and thanks to Lorrie Short for making all the arrangements.

This was our last meeting until September. Enjoy your summer!

Member Benefits

Make Sure You Take Full Advantage of Your Membership!

As a reminder, your membership with United States Power Squadron gives more than just regular meetings with a great group of boating friends! You can always check the USPS website for all your benefits. Since it is vacation time, here's one benefit you could use as you travel.

Wyndham Hotels

USPS members save 20% at more than 7,500 Wyndham Hotels & Resorts locations worldwide, including Ramada, Super 8, Days Inn, and more. Enjoy discounts on everything from upscale hotels to budget-friendly stays and all-inclusive resorts. To book, visit Wyndham Rewards or call 1-877-670-7088, and mention Corporate Code #1000007487 to receive your member discount.

Member Benefits

P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN

To view details about USPS Member Benefits, go to the link shown below after logging into the member's portal of the America's Boating Club website.
(<https://www.americasboatingclub.org/>)

<https://portal.americasboatingclub.org/ABC/ABC/News/My-Member-Benefits.aspx?hkey=fd2cae55-31aa-4a9c-8db0-42d2b7035bec>





Visual Distress Signals: Electric Flares vs Pyrotechnics

Terry Slattery, Lord of the Electrons

With the start of the new boating season in the Annapolis area, it is time to check your boat's visual distress signals. I initially covered distress signals in the [November 2021 Anchor Watch](#), and the advice there is still valid. What you may not have heard is that the US Coast Guard is retiring pyrotechnic flares from their vessels and switching to electronic visual distress signal devices (eVDSs). The change was effective April 1, 2026 for small boats, and June 1, 2026 for cutters. (Refer to this PowerBoat News article: <https://powerboat.news/your-boat-flares-are-expiring-here-is-the-alternative/>.)

So what does that imply for the recreational boater? First, the effectiveness of electronic signaling devices has improved significantly since they first received USCG approval. It also means that you won't have to worry about the 42 month lifetime of pyrotechnic devices, and how to dispose of outdated devices, which are considered hazardous material. Instead, you'll need to keep track of battery age and condition. It's a good idea to write the date on batteries and replace them every year or two.

The technology of electronic signaling devices has really advanced in the past few years. The LEDs in the night signals are now so powerful that you should shield your eyes from the flashes. They are also very energy efficient, with run-times often measured in hours. Compare that with the pyrotechnic duration that is measured in seconds.

There is a down-side to the electronic signals. They are only valid for night use, and you must carry an orange signal flag for daytime location signaling. For this reason, I prefer to still carry both types of signaling devices. The electronic devices and signal flag suffices for USCG requirements, while the pyrotechnics provide additional signaling capabilities:

Smoke – great for daytime location signaling.

Handheld flares – great for night-time location signaling and alert signaling.

Meteor flares – useful for medium-range alerting – both daytime and nighttime.

Parachute flares – like meteor flares, but long-range alerting due to greater heights and longer burn times.

Our experience at flare shoots indicates that many pyrotechnics are viable years after their expiration, but that they may not be as bright or burn as long as newer devices.

There are also down-sides to hand-held pyrotechnic flares (smoke and red signal). They can drop hot slag. So, you will need to hold them over the water, especially when you're on an inflatable boat or life raft. Since you'll be at the edge of the boat, be careful that you don't lose your balance when waves are making your boat a moving platform.

In use, you'll want to choose the signaling device that works in the situation you're facing. The key factors are whether you need to issue an alert signal, or provide location signaling, as well as the signaling distance.



While I'm on the subject of signaling devices, don't forget the signaling mirror, which is great for daytime use. It works when wet, is easy to use, doesn't require batteries, has a long range (line of sight can be quite far to a search aircraft), and performs both alerting and location signaling. Hold the mirror at your eye, hold your other hand up and form a "V" with your fingers bracketing the target (a vessel or aircraft), and tilt the mirror to reflect the sun onto your "V". Sweep the sun's reflection back and forth across your finger "V". The repeated flash will be impossible for rescuers to miss. Note that some angles between the sun and the rescuers may require strange postures. A concise explanation with examples of ad-hoc mirrors can be found here: <https://grimworkshop.com/blogs/news/how-to-use-a-signal-mirror>

As always, stay safe.



The distress flag must be at least 3 x 3 feet with a black square and ball on an orange background. It is accepted as a day signal only and is especially effective in bright sunlight. The flag is most distinctive when waved on something such as a paddle or a boat hook or flown from a mast.

<https://boatus.org/study-guide/boating-equipment/visual-distress-signals/>

Check this link for other useful information on distress signals.

"There is, one knows not what sweet mystery about this sea, whose gently awful stirrings seem to speak of some hidden soul beneath..."

*Herman Melville,
Moby-Dick or, the Whale*



Ladies Lunch

The Jetty - May 12, 2026



Americas Boating Club - Delaware Valley

JOIN US FOR AN EDUCATIONAL CRUISE ON THE DELAWARE RIVER



Enjoy a Narrated Cruise and
Buffet Dinner Aboard the Benjamin Franklin Yacht

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Boarding: 1800 (6 PM)

Departure: 1830 (6:30 PM)

Rain or Shine

Traditional and electronic methods of navigation will be presented.

During this trip you will enjoy a delightful dinner on the lower dining deck of the Ben Franklin. The informative and exciting narration will focus on aids to navigation, piloting, and chart work using a hand-held compass, GPS, and plotting our position on Delaware River Chart 12312. On the return trip you will see lighted aids, ranges and navigation lights on the big ships.

Bring your neighbors and friends

DRSPS has made the decision to totally subsidize this important event so that everyone can attend. Please RSVP to P/D/C Stephanie Ward, 1202 Wilmont Ave, Somers Point, NJ, 08244 (484-684-4837) or wardleap@comcast.net, so we have a count and know you are attending. List the name of each guest and their e-mail address.

Directions: The Ben Franklin departs from 101 S. Columbus Blvd. which is just south of the Ben Franklin Bridge. South on I-95: take exit 20 for S. Columbus Blvd and follow to Walnut Street. The yacht is docked slightly North of the Independence Seaport Museum.

.Sponsored by Americas Boating Club --Delaware Valley



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.



Calendar of Coming Events

United States Power Squadrons® Events

District 5 Events

28-30 Aug D5 Summer Rendezvous at Langford Bay Marina

Squadron Events for Annapolis

25 June Executive Board Meeting
 23 July Executive Board Meeting
 14 Aug-17 Aug Weekend at Deep Creek - Hosted by the Wilmots
 20 Aug Ice Cream Social - Slattery Pool House

For a complete list of ASPS Squadron Events, see:

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



www.usps.org



www.uspsd5.org



www.aspsmd.org



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

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 2025 -2026****Bridge****Commander:** P/D/C Jeff Short, SN-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, SN**Executive Officer:** Vacant**Vessel Safety Chair:** P/R/C Bill Eldridge, SN**Safety Officer:** 1st/Lt Terry Slattery**Communications Chair:** P/C Anthony Martin, SN**Coop. Charting Chair:** P/C Ron Ricketts, AP**Administrative Officer:** P/C Kathy Burke, SN-IN**Asst Admin Officer:** 1st/Lt Georgiana Maszczenski, S,
& P/C Peggy Slattery, S**Membership Chair:** Lt/C Lorrie Short**Educational Officer:** St/C Michael Maszczenski, Jr., SN**Asst Educ Officer:** P/C John Locke, SN-ACN

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

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:**

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P/Lt/C Diane Leasure

P/C John Locke, SN-ACN

Larry Miller, S

P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN

P/C Peggy Slattery, S

Edwin Sunderland, JN

P/C John Wilmot, JN-IN

Immediate Past Commander:

P/D/C Jeff Short, SN-IN

Audit Committee:

William Klepczynski, JN

Homer Sandridge, N

P/C Rich Hughes, SN-IN

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, SN-IN

P/Lt/C Diane Leasure

Budget Committee:

P/D/C Jeff Short, SN-IN, 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- IN

P/C John Wesley Nash, SN-IN

Deadline for July Newsletter: Friday, June 19, 2026
 Direct all material to: Lt/C Georgiana Maszczenski, S
anchorwatch@aspsmd.org

