



## AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB® — DELAWARE VALLEY™

Boating Fun • Courses & Seminars • Civic Service  
For Boaters By Boaters® Club founded in 1916



# THE BAROMETER

March 2022

## Commander's Message

I can't believe how fast time is flying by. We are into March with our Change-of-Watch coming up next weekend. A few more weeks and we will attend the Spring Conference in Ocean City, MD. We are thrilled to attend these functions in person as Covid 19 curtailed them for the past two years. It will be wonderful to see and meet fellow members of our organization.

At the Change-of-Watch I will be starting my fourth year as your commander. This makes me happy and sad at the same time. I'm happy that you have the confidence in me to continue leadership of the Club. I'm sad because I feel that there are others that are equally or even more qualified to run the Club. I don't want to hog this prized position. I urge you to get involved and go for a bridge position. I'm sure that you will find it rewarding.

Boating season starts next month. This is always one of our favorite times of the year. Getting the boat ready is easy and a fun activity. We just have to take the winter cover off, put the battery in and give it a quick wash and then we will be ready for a season on the water. That is if no unforeseen problems crop up.

The weather is moderating and some days seem springlike. So, let's get ready for a fun filled time at our functions and on the water.

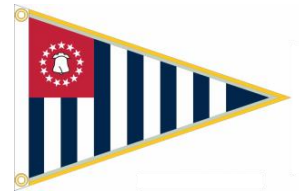
Cdr Matt Refsin, S





# THE BAROMETER

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## Administrative Officer's Message

We had a wonderful time at our Founders Day Celebration, which was held virtually on Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. Dick Fuse did his usual outstanding job of calling Bingo and winners received either Dunkin Donuts or Wawa gift cards! Here is a screenshot picture of a few of the participants.



Next up is our Change-Of-Watch on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. We're excited that this is being held in person at the beautiful Southampton Estates. While our current Bridge is remaining in place, we still will have our normal celebration and re-swearing in. Note – we're still looking for a few good men and women to take on some open positions. You won't regret it!

If you are unable to attend in person you can still attend virtually. Here is the log on information – the ceremony will take place at approximately 2pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<<https://foundationrp.zoom.us/j/97343827352>>

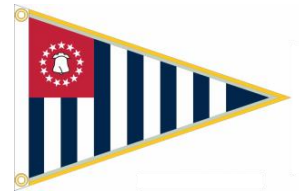
Meeting ID: 973 4382 7352

You can also dial into 1-646-876-9923 but will only have the audio so we recommend using your computer.

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On May 7<sup>th</sup> we will have our annual Spring Picnic at Core Creek Park. This is a great way to start the season and is definitely a family friendly event!

Finally, we're working on scheduling our Delaware River Educational Cruise. This has always been a popular event and we were so sorry to have to cancel it the last several years. Look for more details in the next The Barometer, but the date will be May 25<sup>th</sup> to coincide with Safe Boating Week.

Watch your emails and future Barometer editions for more details on all these events.

Lt/C Bill Muehlberger, AP

## Secretary's Message

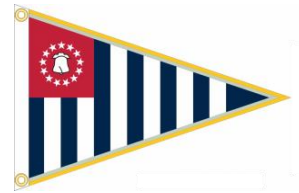
As you know, we recently held our Founders Day Celebration. I originally wrote this article on our 101<sup>st</sup> Anniversary. It was read at our 106<sup>th</sup> Founders' Day celebration on Sunday February 13<sup>th</sup>. I hope you find it interesting.

### 101 Years of Friendship and Service 1916-2017

Last year The Delaware River Sail & Power Squadron celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. At that time an article was written about the beginnings of the squadron based on a letter that one of our founders, Dr. Eugene Swayne, wrote describing his experiences in 1914 when he sailed from Delaware City, Delaware down the Chesapeake Bay and up to New York Harbor.

He was shocked to realize that many of the boaters that he encountered apparently did not understand "the rules of the road". They had no idea how to navigate safely with the tugs and merchant marine vessels travelling in the harbor. It was this experience that convinced Swayne and Charles F. Chapman to offer classes to yachtsmen so that they would have a better understanding of the "running" of sail and power boats in the waterways and harbors of the U.S.

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This was the birth of The United States Power Squadrons and the establishment of The Delaware River Power Squadron in 1916. The book that Chapman wrote, *Piloting, Seamanship and Small Boat Handling* has become the bible of amateur seaman in its latest edition to this day.

One of the first instructors was an old whaling ship captain with 35 years experience. He had developed his navigation skills by his instinct and knew little real theory. The classes which were held at 104 S. Juniper Street, Philadelphia, on Tuesday evenings produced real navigators. Many of these men became Merchant Marine captains.

According to the minutes of a meeting of DRPS on February 9, 1917 a resolution was passed to offer the services of the squadron to the United States in the event of war. They promised to “man and operate such motor boats as may be used in defense of the Delaware River, Delaware Bay, and the coasts adjacent there to.” At a meeting in May 1917 eleven members volunteered the use of their boats to train men for patrol service.

Through the 101 years of existence of The Delaware River Sail & Power Squadron, lessons have been learned, navigation aids have improved, and friendships made. Our service projects have added to the knowledge of the boating public and the safety of our waterways.

Lt/C Rhoda Refsin, S





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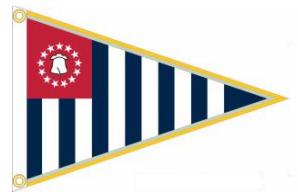
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

2 Ford Stevens  
3 Mary Anne Seymour  
14 Joseph Karis  
21 Charles R. MacNamee

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## Updated Fire Extinguisher Requirements

The Coast Guard has amended the portable fire extinguishing equipment requirements for recreational vessels that are propelled or controlled by propulsion machinery. This rule does not alter standards for commercial vessels including vessels carrying passengers for hire or have any effect on recreational vessels that do not use propulsion machinery.

This rule also moves fire extinguishing equipment rules for recreational vessels from subpart 25.30 (Fire Extinguishing Equipment) of subchapter C (Uninspected Vessels) of title 46 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) to part 175 of subchapter S (Boating Safety) of title 33, where other recreational vessel rules already exist.

Fire extinguishers must:

1. Be on board and readily accessible;
2. Be of an approved type;
3. Not be expired or appear to have been previously used; and
4. Be maintained in good and serviceable working condition, meaning:
  - If the extinguisher has a pressure gauge reading or indicator it must be in the operable range or position;
  - The lock pin is firmly in place;
  - The discharge nozzle is clean and free of obstruction; and
  - The extinguisher does not show visible signs of significant corrosion or damage.

The rule takes effect on April 20, 2022.

Boaters are encouraged to check the U.S. Coast Guard website for additional information on this new use requirement and other safety regulations and recommendations: <https://uscgboating.org/recreational-boaters/fire-extinguisher-faq.php>





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## Highlights from the Annual Meeting

I was proud to represent ABC-Delaware Valley and ABC-Mid Atlantic at the Annual Meeting in Ponte Vedra. The meeting was held at the beautiful Sawgrass Marriott Resort.



The event started with a “Welcome Back Friends” dinner; it was so nice to see so many old friends after so much time away. The theme was tropical and featured a Margaritaville trivia contest! Everyone was given either parrots or Margarita flashing lapel pins to wear.





There were a number of very interesting seminars, including the presentation of the proposal to Reorganizing, which would result in the elimination of Districts as they are currently structured. There will be much discussion about this and a special Governing Board to vote on moving forward.

Friday night featured hospitality rooms hosted by each of the District Commanders. We had fun meeting members from all over the country and had lots of food and wine in our Suite!

During the Saturday Conference we were excited to see Chief Commander Mary Paige Abbott, SN-IN present our own Warren Stevens with his 50<sup>th</sup> Merit Mark, making him a Governing Board Emeritus member. Just think! This represents 50 years of service to the organization – the number of hours that Warren has given can't be counted! Congratulations from ABC-Delaware Valley!

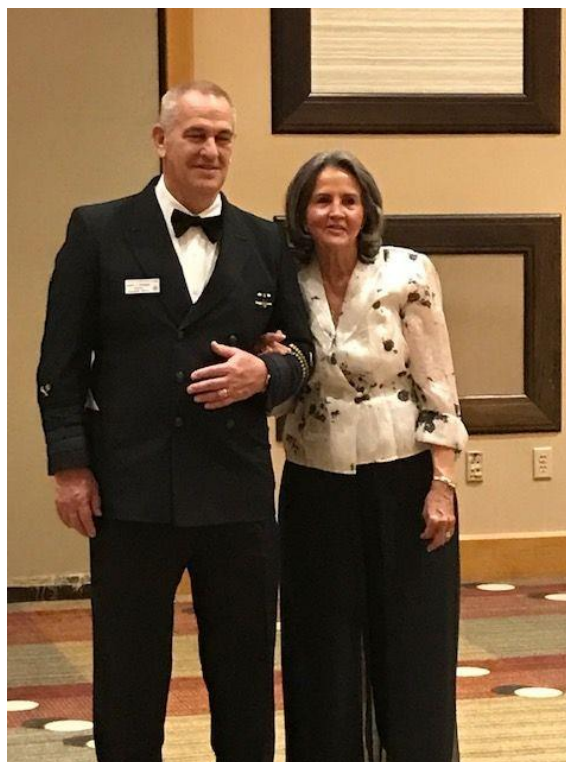
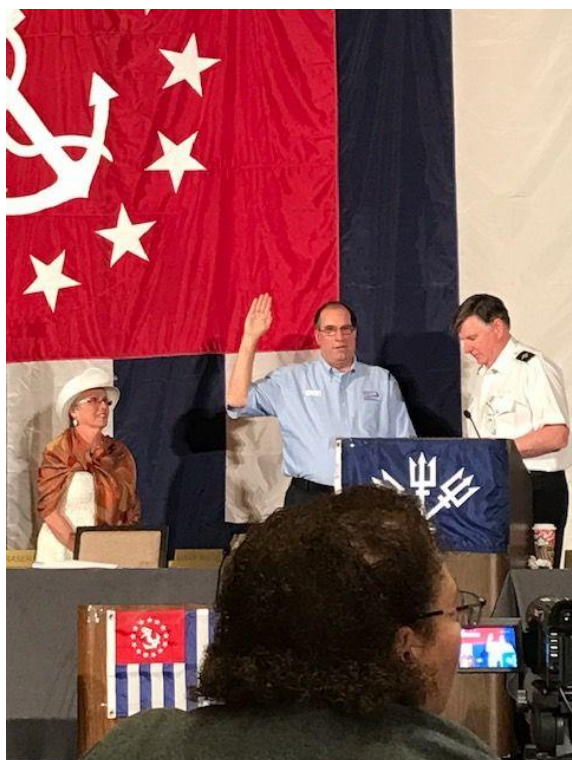


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Finally on Saturday night we honored outgoing Chief Commander Abbott and welcomed incoming Chief Commander Craig Frazer, SN IN. We also saw D5's own Ralph Bernard, AP sworn in as the Executive Officer. Congratulations to V/C Bernard!





# THE BAROMETER



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It's not too late to sign up for the 2022 Spring Conference when ABC-DV's Stephanie Ward, AP will be sworn in as our ABC-MidAtlantic District Commander.

All details are in the Winter edition of the Mark 5 but here are some details on how to register:

## District 5 Spring Conference - Online Registration Instruction

Instructions: Click on Member Registration on the home page of <abc-midatlantic.org>. You will have to give your membership number and password. This will then take you to the registration page.

Follow instructions below.

1. The Member section provides data from your membership record. See the Registration Instructions document linked below if there are issues.
2. Use the tools in the Spouse / Other Attendees section to add other members or guests.
  - a. Select name of an additional member from your squadron. Use the Add Additional Member button to add a select box.
  - b. Use the Add Guest Fields to add controls where you can type the names of other people who will attend.
3. Enter the number of entrees of each meal type you wish to purchase. Total cost will be automatically computed.
  - a. Click on the button **Automatically submit form to conference organizers** to save registration to conference database. Changes can be made to your registration as needed, up to the registration deadline of March 8, 2022. Of course, this may change the amount you owe.

After submittal, send a check to John Locke, 806 Harmony Way, Centreville, MD 21617.

Use the hotel link or phone number on the registration form to reserve a room. Be sure the USPS code is visible in the reservation page, Promotional Code field or is used by the hotel's reservation agent.



## From the Galley! Pioneer Womans' Million Dollar Dip



### Ingredients

- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, room temperature
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup slivered almonds, toasted
- 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar
- 1 cup shredded Swiss
- 1/4 cup blue cheese crumbles
- 8 slices regular-cut bacon, cooked until crisp and finely chopped
- 4 green onions, sliced, green and white parts
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- Buttery crackers, pretzels or raw veggies, for serving

### Directions

- Step 1: Toast the almonds
- Step 2: Beat the cream cheese and mayo
- Step 3: Combine the cheeses
- Step 4: Mix the ingredients
- Step 5: Chill and Serve the dip





# THE BAROMETER



## Don't Forget About Your Member Benefits!

Each issue we highlight specific benefits in detail but thought this month we would show all available benefits. Details on each can be found on the National website.

### Advancing Education

- [Great Lakes Cruising Club School](#)
- [Mariner's Learning Guide - Captain's License Software](#)

### Goods and Services

- [11th Hour - Printing Promotional Services](#)
- [Caskey Monogram & Embroidery](#)
- [HelmsBriscoe](#)
- [Life Lock](#)
- [Office Depot/Office Max](#)
- [SmartPlug](#)
- [Solude Coffee](#)
- [UPS Shipping](#)
- [Vistaprint Corporate](#)

### Health Benefits

- [American Hearing Benefits](#)
- [HeartSine](#)
- [Life Line Screening](#)
- [MyMedic - 1st Aid & Supplies](#)
- [USPS Prescription Savings Card](#)

### Insurance Benefits

- [BoatUS](#)
- [Farmers Insurance Discount](#)
- [LTC Global, Long Term Care Insurance Program](#)
- [LTCR Long Term Care Insurance Program](#)
- [America's Boating Club Boat Insurance Program](#)
- [Travelers Auto and Home Ins. Program](#)
- [VPI Pet Insurance](#)
- [VSP Individual Vision Insurance](#)

### Marine Benefits

- [Boatfix](#)
- [Coastal Explorer from Rose Point.](#)
- [GPS for Mariners](#)
- [Hamilton Marine](#)
- [McGraw Hill](#)
- [Sea Tow](#)
- [Soundings](#)
- [Weems & Plath](#)
- [Wow Training Aids](#)

### Travel Benefits

- [Avis](#)
- [Budget](#)
- [Cruises Only](#)
- [DAN Boater](#)
- [Endless Vacation Rentals](#)
- [Motel 6](#)
- [On Call International Medical & Travel Assistance](#)
- [Orlando Vacation.com](#)
- [Red Roof Inn](#)
- [Road Scholar Program](#)
- [TNT Vacations](#)
- [Wyndham Hotels](#)
- [Wyndham Extra Holidays](#)
- [USPS Vacation Center](#)





# THE BAROMETER



## **THE BAROMETER**

**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®**  
**-- DELAWARE VALLEY**

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## **FIRST CLASS MAIL**

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

March 13	ABC-DV Change-Of-Watch
April 12	ABC-DV Meeting (Virtual)
March 31-April 4	ABC-MidAtlantic Spring Conference
May 7	ABC-DV Spring Picnic, Core Creek Park
May 25	Delaware River Educational Cruise