

the Bullhorn!

The official newsletter of the America's Boating Club - Richmond, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons

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The Bridge

Commander:

Cdr Frank Timpano, SN-CN
Ftimpano@infinonline.net
804-240-8591

Executive Office

Lt/C William Simpson, JN
bcsimpson1@aol.com
(804) 966-2998

Educational Officer

Lt/C Jim Paul Juritsch
mauijim04@gmail.com
(804) 338-0873

Administrative Officer

Lt/C Susan Haberstroh-Timpano
Susan.timpano@earthlink.net
804-512-1298

Secretary

Lt/C Jim Zeigler, SN-CN
Jim@jpzeigler.com
804-347-5239

Treasurer

Lt/C Marlene Zeigler
marlenekzeigler@gmail.com
804-347-4532

Engine Maintenance

Starting January 18th, 7:00 PM

Wine & Dine Luncheon

Brickshire Clubhouse, New Kent

Saturday, February 10, 2024

1130 to 1500

Tides & Currents Seminar

March 12, 7:00 PM

Zoom

Marine Navigation

Starting March 13, 7:00 PM

On-Line

April Membership Meeting

April 9, 6:00 PM

Anna's, Mechanicsville

Commander's Message

Commander:

Cdr Frank Timpano, SN-CN
Ftimpano@infinonline.net
804-240-8591

First things first. Merry Christmas! to all my fellow boating enthusiasts! I sincerely hope you have a joyful Christmas and a wonderful start to the New Year.

This is always my favorite time of year, despite the fact that the boat is winterized and resting alone on its lift down at the dock. I see it often in my daily routine, out the rear windows, looking cozy in its winter attire, windows shaded, cockpit covered. All buttoned (snapped?) up in a set of winter clothes, so to speak. Waiting out this Winter interlude with anticipation of the next boating season-- just a few short months away

My boating urges are just briefly distracted by the fun of decorating the house for the Season. We enjoy all the holiday decor in town and in our neighbors' yards, often driving around at night to see the decorations. (The Timpano family invented the so-called "Tacky Light Tour" when our kids were quite young, long before it became "a thing.")

At our previous house in Montpelier, we decorated several trees, including a 30 foot Juniper. We were once informed by NASA that the ISS could see our yard from orbit. Today's home is graced with but half of the 15kw light load we had in Montpelier. The light scheme is still impressive, nonetheless, with over 7kw of various Christmas lights and multiple relay boxes (required to switch everything on simultaneously.) Nothing compares in brilliance and longevity to the good old C7 and C9 lamps.



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String after string of them. Add additional "fairy" lights to fill in the gaps and the trees come alive with a sparkly glitter-like halo--a sort of photon fantasia.

Take time this winter to update your boating "resume" by taking a class or working our booth at either (or both) of the Richmond boat shows. Free admission to the boat show is a perk of working the booth. And getting to talk about boats for a few hours is an added bonus. Check out all the benefits of belonging to Richmond Sail and Power Squadron, America's Boating Club-Richmond, described in this issue of The Bullhorn. There is so much going on, nobody can do it all. But I'm going to give it a go!

Frank



Report of the Annual Meeting

On December 2, Richmond Sail and Power Squadron – America’s Boating Club of Richmond conducted our squadron annual meeting in conjunction with our holiday luncheon. The Westwood Club provided a convenient and enjoyable venue and the “Broken Rudder Gift Exchange” was fun. Who knew that a lava lamp would be as popular as a bottle of Tanqueray as gifts were exchanged and “stolen”.

Congratulations to **Jim Paul Juritsch** for his recognition as **Member of the Year**.

With members’ approval of the bylaw revisions, on November 7, our squadron calendar now matches the calendar year, with our annual meeting in December. The official business of this meeting was the election and installation of the new Executive Committee and Nominating Committee. The new Executive Committee consists of:

Commander	Frank Timpano, SN-CN
Executive Officer	Bill Simpson, JN
Administrative Officer	Susan Haberstroh-Timpano
Educational Officer	Jim Juritsch P-IN
Secretary	Jim Zeigler, SN-CN
Treasurer	Marlene Zeigler
Member at Large	Linda Miele, P
Member at Large	Ruth Turman, P
Member at Large	David Preddy

The revised bylaws call for the election of a new member to the Nominating Committee each year for a three-year term, with the chairman being the member with shortest tenure. To reconstitute that committee the following were elected:

Robert Palmer, SN , term ending 12/2024

Susan Dibble, P, term ending 12/2025

David Childress, P, term ending 12/2026



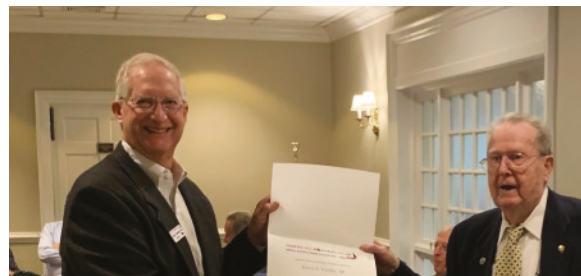
D/5 Representative D/Lt/C Bill Hammett with our gift thanking him for his participation in our Change of Watch



Member of the Year Jim Paul Juritsch



Ready for the Broken Rudder Gift



50-Year USPS Member P/C Elvin Cordle

Education

Thanks to Bill Simpson for leading our education department over the recent years. Despite the challenges, Bill has been able to keep our education program moving forward with multiple course offerings each year. We look forward to Bill's continued leadership as he assumes the role of Executive Officer

2024 Spring Courses:

Engine Maintenance (Virtual) January 18th – February 22nd

Virginia Boating Safety February 24th
Deltaville Yachting Center

Tides and Currents (Virtual) March 12th

Marine Navigation (Virtual) March 16th - May 1st

Boat Virginia June 15
Olverson's Marina, Callao

In Planning for 2024:

Boat Handling for New Boaters May – June TBD

America's Boating Course Classroom in Richmond Area

Marine Engine Maintenance will cover gasoline outboards and inboards as well as the standard inboard diesel engine. No mechanical experience required!

Most boaters must be Jacks or Jills of all trades that include electrical, electronic, plumbing, mechanics and, of course, engines. If we didn't, we would be paying a lot of yard bills and wasting a lot of time on the water. Learn about engine functions so you can better understand how various marine engines work, perform troubleshooting and how to "speak the language" when communicating with a marine mechanic.

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Education (Cont'd)

Jim Juritsch will take you through basic engine operations, talk about engine problems and discuss how to diagnose those engine issues. Drive trains, steering systems and engine controls are also on the schedule. Hope you plan to attend so look for a flyer here in this Bullhorn newsletter.

The **Virginia Boating Safety Course** is free, minimum boating safety course required for boat operators in Virginia. The course covers the basics of safe operation, required safety equipment, rules of the road, and basics of safe personal watercraft operation. The course includes a test at the end of the session.

Marine Navigation is the first course in the sequence of USPS courses on navigation, covering the basics of coastal and inland navigation. This course focuses on navigation as it is done on recreational boats today and embraces GPS as a primary navigation tool while covering enough of traditional techniques so the student will be able to find his/her way even if their GPS fails. The course includes many in-class exercises, developing the student's skills through hands-on practice and learning. Eight classes of two hours each normally are scheduled for presentation of this course. In addition, the students have seven days to complete the open book exam.

Tides and Currents allows you to cruise in coastal waters, secure in your knowledge of tidal conditions. Even if you are an inland boater, you may travel to an area where knowing about tides and tidal currents is important. Discover what causes the tides to rise and fall and what causes the currents to flow. Learn where to find sources of information about tides and tidal currents, simple ways to predict height of tide and speed of current flow and how to use both print and electronic tide tables. Learn about how tides and currents affect your boat's performance from experienced coastal boaters.





ABC Richmond

Marine Engine Maintenance

**The Basics of Modern Engine Layout and Operation
No Mechanical Experience Required**

- Gasoline inboards, gasoline outboards and diesel engines
- Repairs that "do it yourselfers" can still perform
- Diagnose problems and how to share information with your mechanic
- Covers drive systems (props), steering systems and engine controls
- Learn about engine functions so you can better understand how various marine engines work.

Cost: \$125.00 per person

Zoom Presentation

Thursday Nights

January 18th-March 21st
2024

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Deadline to register
January 8, 2024

Register with:

Jim Juritsch

mauijim04@gmail.com
804 338-0873



Administrative Officer's Report

Hi All,

Our first event of 2024 is the **Wine and Dine Luncheon** which will be held at the Brickshire Clubhouse in Providence Forge, VA on February 10 at 1130-1500. The address is 11000 Kentland Trail, Providence Forge, VA. This is a very nice facility about 20 minutes from Richmond. The event will consist of a "pot luck" provided by the attendees. Each of us should plan on bringing a "heavy" hors d'oeuvre or side dish large enough to share with 20-25 people. Desserts would also be welcomed. You should also plan to bring your favorite beverage—wine, beer, soda, etc. to share. There will be no cost to you for use of the facility. Bill Simpson has volunteered to cover that cost. As members, we will supply all "the eats." The squadron will supply the paper products and utensils. (See the flyer in this issue of The Bullhorn.) Please contact Susan Timpano at susan.timpano@earthlink.net or at (804) 512-1298 to RSVP.

The other upcoming event will be our first membership meeting for 2024. This meeting will be held on April 9, 6:00 PM at Anna's Restaurant, 7009 Mechanicsville Turnpike, Mechanicsville, VA 23111 We will have a short meeting and program and a great dinner. We will be ordering off the menu and each paying for our own tabs. See you there.

The Boating Activities Committee needs your input on the tentative schedule of On-the-Water events for 2024. Their next Zoom conference is December 13 at 7:30 PM. Contact Jim Zeigler if you would like to participate. (jim@jpzeigler.com / 804-347-5239).

May 11 – Urbanna - Shake-down Cruise, Picnic and Poker Run

June 7, 8 9 – Mini-Cruise to Onancock

June 26 to August 4 – Summer Cruise from D/5 Summer Rendezvous at Solomon's Island to Annapolis and/or St. Michaels and back

September 6.7.8 - mini-cruise to Cape Charles and Sarah 's Creek (Yorktown)

October 12 – Eastern Branch Bash – Timpano's



***Richmond Sail & Power Squadron is
America's Boating Club of Richmond***

Wine & Dine Luncheon

At the Brickshire Clubhouse

**11000 Kentland Trail
Providence Forge, VA
10 February, 2024**

1130-1500

Here's an easy way to shake off those Wintertime blues! Join your fellow boating enthusiasts at a festive luncheon at the very comfortable Brickshire Clubhouse in nearby New Kent. (Hint: Take the Colonial Downs exit 214 South off I-64. That's about 15 miles east of I-295.)

We are planning a *totally* **POTLUCK** style lunch with a *totally* bonus wine-tasting session that will feature your *totally* favorite wines. How do I know they will be your *totally* favorite wines? Because, of course, you are bringing them with you!

Please also bring a heavy hors d'oeuvre or other luncheon fare—enough to share with 20 to 25 people. Side dishes and desserts are always welcome, too! Don't forget to bring along a wine (or other favorite refreshment) to share, as well.

The cost is Zilch. Nada. Zero. It's Free even. (Well, gas is on you though.)

Please RSVP to Susan Timpano (susan.timpano@earthlink.net or 804.512.1298)

Directions: After exiting I-64, go south on SR 155 (Courthouse Road) a short distance to a new traffic circle and get off on Kentland Trail. Bare right to pass the Colonial Downs entrance and proceed for 1.8 mile to the Brickshire gate. Take the first left on Colonial Trail and an immediate right into the owner's complex. The clubhouse is on your left as you enter.

Vessel Safety Check (VSC) Wrap-up for 2023

While we still have a month to go before we close out the Calendar year 2023, this year has been the most successful year for our Vessel Safety Program since 2014! This year, so far, we have completed 94 Vessel Safety Checks and we haven't done that well in over nine years!

These individuals dedicate their time and efforts to providing free safety inspections for boaters of all walks of life. These inspections help to ensure that our fellow boaters have all the required safety equipment on board. Our Squadron does a lot to promote boating education and safety, and our VSC program is just one of our many outreach programs.

We sincerely thank all who participated in serving the boating community in 2023 and look forward to an even more vigorous campaign in 2024.

<u>Examiner</u>	<u>VSC's</u>
Ernie Burnett	11
Michael Jezierski	5
Jim Paul Juritsch	23
David Teets	36
James Zeigler	19

The VSC program is a great opportunity to provide a public service and introduces our club to other boaters. And you meet many interesting people and see many types of boats along the way. If you are interested in becoming a Vessel Safety Examiner, please contact Dave Teets at 804-370-7061 or dave@ashcraftinsurance.com. It involves learning the VSC manual and five supervised vessel safety checks.

P/C Dave Teets
VSC Chairperson

In the Night Sky

Moon Phases

Last Quarter

Dec.. 6

New Moon

Dec. 13

1st Quarter

Dec. 21

Full Moon

Dec. 28

"Full Cold" Moon

Venus continues as our morning star. On December 9, the crescent moon and Venus will be close making a very bright morning show.

Jupiter will be visible all night in December. On the 21st and 22nd Jupiter will be close to the 1st quarter moon. Saturn will also be visible in the evening, but further to the west. On December 17, Saturn will be just above the crescent moon in the early evening in the southwest.

The Geminid meteor shower peaks on the 13th and 14th, one day after the new moon. The dark sky will make observations easier, but still chilly.

The Winter Solstice occurs at 10:27 PM EST on December 21 when the sun is directly overhead the most southern latitude on its annual north-south movement. While this is the shortest day from sunrise to sunset, the latest sunrise occurs around January 9 and the earliest sunset occurs around December 9, due to celestial geometry.

There will be a Total Solar Eclipse on April 8 2024. The next total solar eclipse that can be seen from the contiguous United States will be on Aug. 23, 2044. You may not want to miss this one. The path of this eclipse enters the United States in Texas and travels through Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio,

The table on the following page shows the path and times of the total eclipse.

Total Eclipse, April 24, 2024 Path and Times

Location	Maximum
Dallas, Texas	1:42 p.m. CDT
Idabel, Oklahoma	1:47 p.m. CDT
Little Rock, Arkansas	1:52 p.m. CDT
Poplar Bluff, Missouri	1:56 p.m. CDT
Paducah, Kentucky	2:01 p.m. CDT
Evansville, Indiana	2:04 p.m. CDT
Cleveland, Ohio	3:15 p.m. EDT
Erie, Pennsylvania	3:18 p.m. EDT
Buffalo, New York	3:20 p.m. EDT
Burlington, Vermont	3:27 p.m. EDT
Lancaster, New Hampshire	3:29 p.m. EDT
Caribou, Maine	3:33 p.m. EDT



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
Richmond Sail and Power Squadron



2024 America's Boating Club-Richmond Calendar 12/4/23

Date		Day of Week	Time	Event	Location
Start	End				
9-Jan	9-Jan	Friday	1900	Excom	Zoom
26-Jan	28-Jan	Fri-Sun	All Day	Richmond Downtown Boat Show	Richmond Convention Center
6-Feb	11-Feb	Thur-Sat	All Day	USPS ABC Annual Meeting	Rosen Plaza, Orlando
10-Feb	10-Feb	Saturday	1130-1500	Wine and Dine Luncheon	Brickshire Clubhouse
13-Feb	13-Feb	Tuesday	1900	Excom	Zoom
16-Feb	18-Feb	Fri-Sun	All Day	RIR Boat Show	Richmond International Raceway
12-Mar	12-Mar	Tues	1900	Tides & Currents Seminar	Zoom
13-Mar	1-May	Wednesday	1900	Marine Navigation Course	Zoom
19-Mar	19-Mar	Tuesday	1900	Excom	Zoom
20-Mar	24-Mar	Wed-Sun	All Day	D5 Spring Conference and COW	Ocean City, MD
9-Apr	9-Apr	Tuesday	1800	Membership Meeting	TBD
11-May	12-May	Sat-Sun	All Day	Shakedown Cruise	Urbanna Harbor
14-May	14-May	Tuesday	1900	Excom	Zoom
7-Jun	9-Jun	Fri-Sun	All Day	Mini-Cruise	Onancock harbor
18-Jun	18-Jun	Tuesday	1900	Excom	Zoom
29-Jun	6-Jul	Sat-Sat		Summer Cruise	Tentative Olversons/Solomons/St. Michaels
26-Jul	27-Jul	Sat-Sun		D5 Summer Council	Solomons, MD (Spring Cove, Zanheisers)
28-Jul	4-Aug	Sun-Sun	All Day	Summer Cruise	Solomon's to Annapolis
20-Aug	20-Aug	Tuesday	1900	Excom	Zoom
5-Sep	9-Sep	Thur-Mon	All Day	Southern Bay Cruise	Cape Charles / Sarah;s Creek
10-Sep	10-Sep	Tuesday	1800	Membership Meeting	tbd
12-Oct	12-Oct	Sat	1200	Eastern Branch Bash	Timpano's in Weems
15-Oct	15-Oct	Tues	1900	Excom	Zoom
12-Nov	12-Nov	Tuesday	1800	Membership Meeting	TBD
7-Dec	7-Dec	Sat	1200	Christmas Luncheon, Election & Change of Watch	Westwood Club
10-Dec	10-Dec	Tuesday	1900	Excom	Zoom



America's Boating Club is a nation-wide boating organization. We learn together, boat together, and help each other and other boaters on the water and land. Our Members learn boating skills, engage with boating friends, and connect with the boating community.

For more information, visit our website at:

[www/usps.org/Richmond](http://www.usps.org/Richmond)

or our Facebook page at

America's Boating Club - Richmond

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