



Signal

For Boaters, By BoatersSM



Volume VIII, Issue III

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS - DISTRICT 5

Spring 2023

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Annual Holiday Luncheon

4 December

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Sixteen members and friends of the SML Power Squadron were in attendance for the annual holiday party held for the 2nd year in a row at Vinny's Italian Restaurant. Guests brought unwrapped gifts for boys and girls that would later be donated to a local charity for distribution on Christmas.

Following a flag salute, a brief budgetary meeting was held and a working budget for the next year was approved. New Squadron burgees reflecting the over 50 years of the existence of Smith Mountain Lake Sail & Power Squadron were presented to the group. These will be available for purchase from the treasurer for \$30.00

Meals were ordered off the menu and began to appear as the meeting ended. A fine ending to an enjoyable get-together.

Administrative Officer - Michele Paré



From the Commander

Rich Faga

Greetings from the Bridge...

Hope your holiday season, whether with family and friends or just a quiet time alone, was an enjoyable!

As we try to orchestrate events for this year, please let us know if you would like to attend when our Administrative Officer, Michele Paré (michele_pare@live.com), communicates that information to our membership.



Our bylaws revision for this year is just about complete. It will be shared with our ExCom for review then sent to all squadron members for voting on the recommended changes which will guide us in the future. Please be on the lookout for them soon.

We have plans for several educational opportunities for the public and members. Our Squadron Education Officer (SEO) has scheduled several United States Power Squadron America's Boating Club version 3 (ABC3) classes, one advanced grade course, Junior Navigator (JN), and we had our first seminar with more planned for the year. Let Randy Stow know at smlstow@gmail.com what your interests are for classes and seminars so we can help you plan for it.

Our Vessel Safety Check (VSC) chairman, Wheeler Baker, will start scheduling marina's this year to allow the public a place to get their boats, jet skis and paddle craft prepared for the summer. If you are interested in learning more about this squadron activity, please reach out to Wheeler at wheelerbaker@gmail.com.

OUR squadron is hosting its *Change of Watch* on March 11 at 12:00PM at Vinny's Italian restaurant in Moneta. A notification about the COW will be sent to all squadron members soon. Help us celebrate our fraternal organizations 52nd COW since we formed our squadron and recognize our current/new bridge officers.

District 05 will be hosting their spring conference from March 30-2 in Ocean City, MD at the Princess Royal Hotel. Their Change of Watch (COW) will induct a new District bridge. We'll have the opportunity to thank Stephanie Ward, AP for her commitment to serve as our district leader this year. Check out the details by clicking on the [District 05](#) words on the lower right side of the www.usps.org site.

The national 2023 ABClub Annual Meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida from February 18-27. Accommodations will be at the Rosen Plaza Orlando. Registration can be done online at the www.usps.org site. Click on the National meetings block on the left-hand side of the page for more information.

Feel free to contact any bridge or ExCom member and spend a few minutes to see where your talents can be utilized to help us help you. Our future is dependent on everyone coming together to make us a more productive and fun club for 2023. No matter how you choose to support our squadron, I just want to say THANK YOU!

That's it for now. Please stay safe when on the water this winter season.

Commander - Rich Faga

Between The Bookends By the SEO

Randy Stow

Smith Mountain Lake gets fairly quiet over the winter. What a great time to dream of voyages taken and those yet to come. So settle back, close your eyes and dream for the next five minutes..... Done?... Are you back? Great! Now let's get rolling again.

The America's Boating Course offerings are cranking back up. There's a class scheduled every month from February through July. As you know, this is the course we offer the public where they can earn their boater's education card. However, there's an opportunity here for all our members - come and sit in on the course and treat it as a refresher. It's rare that I don't get a better understanding of some aspect of boating at every class. There's no risk, no test and you can meet some new boaters who might be interested in joining our squadron. Just let me know you're coming... and maybe I can give you a job.



We're also trying something new in our educational offerings. We have some members that are taking "Off Shore Navigation" (new name for "Junior Navigation"). We working with our USPS District and National resources to make this happen. An on-demand resource is being set-up that will contain lesson presentations and a wide range for additional references. As a class, we'll use the recorded presentations and references and then check in with the live instructors every two or three weeks. "Hands on" exercises will be done with the assistance of squadron members who have previously completed this course. This particular approach is new for USPS and there's interest in how it may improve the flexibility and reach of educational opportunities for us and other squadrons.

As always, if there are classes or seminars you'd like to see offered, just let me know and I'm sure we can make it happen.

Randy

Copper Kettle Luncheon

21 January 2023

On Jan 21st, 19 members & guests gathered for a delightful get-together and lunch at the Copper Kettle restaurant in Moneta. For many of these folks it has been a long, long time since they'd actually met in person. The luncheon is one of the many varied social events this group enjoys in addition to their main focus of boater education. We are thankful that this event was so well attended. Like many volunteer organizations, it is a challenge to keep members involved.

Administrative Officer - Michele Paré



Vessel Safety Checks

THANKS TO THE VSC TEAM FOR OUR SUCCESSFUL 2022 SEASON

The clear weather we experienced in January reminds us that spring is coming. With the arrival of spring we think of conducting "Vessel Safety Checks". Our annual "get ready" seminar is scheduled for April 20th at 7:00p in the Smith Mountain Association's conference room. This is an opportunity for our VSC Team to discuss inspection requirements/techniques, identify any changes, and review the schedule for the season.



During February I plan to contact our traditional marinas plus a few new ones to create a schedule for the season. Please feel free to invite other members that are interested in starting the process to become as a vessel inspector. As we get closer to the initial meeting I will post a note to the Squadron inviting members that might be interested in joining the VSC Team.

Wheeler

Spring Conference

30 March - 2 April

Our Spring Conference and Change of Watch will be held at The **Princess Royale** in Ocean City, MD from 31 March to 2 Apr 2023. The conference includes important training for the new Squadron/Club bridge officers coming aboard. All new officers should take advantage of this as it will give you a good foundation for leading your groups and understanding what you are expected to do in your Bridge position, resulting in a successful year. Friday evening includes the always popular hospitality suites. This year the format will be a little different. Due to renovations of the 200 level rooms, the suites surrounding the atrium are not available. Therefore, all Hospitality Suites will be located on the 3rd floor. There is a block of ten rooms available. Do not contact the hotel. All reservations for the Hospitality Suites are being handled by Ginny Parry. The Conference and Hospitality Suite reservation forms are located in this issue on pages 4 and 5. Additional information in the coming weeks will be available online at www.abcmidatlantic.org. It is hoped many of our D/5 Squadrons will participate by hosting a suite. Friday and Saturday features a number of seminars with the Council & Conference meetings. The evening Change of Watch and Awards banquet is the big event.



Looking forward to seeing many of you there!

Reprinted from America's Boating Club Mid-Atlantic - Mark V

USPS D/5 Reservation Form

30 March - April 2



RESERVATION FORM
 America's Boating Club – Mid-Atlantic
 United States Power Squadrons D/5 Spring
 Conference 30 March – 2 April 2023
 Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City, Maryland



MEMBER: Rank _____ Name _____ Grade _____
 ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 SQUADRON _____ POSITION _____ FIRST TIMER? _____
 E-mail _____ PHONE _____

SPOUSE/OTHER ATTENDEES:

Rank _____ Name _____ Grade _____ First Timer? _____
 Rank _____ Name _____ Grade _____ First Timer? _____

MENU SELECTIONS

SATURDAY LUNCH:

Maryland Fried Chicken: served with whipped potatoes # ___ @ \$27.00 = \$ _____
Vegetable Lasagna: served with sauteed zucchini and squash # ___ @ \$26.00 = \$ _____

Selections served with: Garden Salad, Coffee, Tea, Decaf Coffee & Iced Tea

SATURDAY BANQUET ENTREE CHOICES:

Shrimp Scampi: Sauteed shrimp in garlic and butter, served with whipped potatoes and green beans almondine. # ___ @ \$39.00 = \$ _____
Chicken Marsala: Sauteed chicken breast in a mushroom marsala wine sauce served with au gratin potatoes and sauteed seasonal vegetables. # ___ @ \$42.00 = \$ _____
Vegetable Stir Fry: Fresh Pea Pods, Onions, Julienned Carrots, Broccoli, Red Pepper and Water Chestnuts in a Teriyaki Sauce With Sherry # ___ @ \$34.00 = \$ _____

Selections Served with: Garden Salad: Fresh Garden Greens and Vegetables, Sauteed seasonal vegetables, Au Gratin Potatoes, Rolls & Butter, Cookies and Cream Smith Island Cake, Coffee, Tea, Decaf Coffee, & Iced Tea

Dietary Restrictions: _____
 (Gluten Free Option Available)

Children: Chicken Tender and Fries # ___ @ \$18.00 = \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: Absecon Island Power Squadron
SEND TO: D/1st/Lt Apryl Bernard
 1127 Riverside Dr.
 Mays Landing, NJ 08330 (609-432-7449) (aprylber@msn.com)

MEAL RESERVATIONS must be received by 8 March 2023

Recommended Dress for Banquet: Uniform A with bowtie or suitable civilian attire.
 Dress Code for other portions of the Spring Conference will be published separately

MAKE ROOM RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY WITH HOTEL - Call Reservations Dept. at 800-476-9253
Use the Reservation Group Code: United States District 5 and Block Code 23UNITED
The hotel requires a \$100 incidentals hold upon check in and it will be released at check out if not used.
Princess Royale Hotel 9100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Maryland
 Non-Smoking Venue - Handicapped Rooms available on a request basis
Rates: Ocean view/pool view Suite: \$129.00 per night Ocean Suite: \$169.00 per night
 2BR/2BA Oceanfront Condo: \$279.00 per night, 3BR: \$359.00 per night
 (Rates listed do **not** include taxes)

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 28 FEBRUARY 2023 TO ENSURE USPS RATES

2023 Change of Watch

11 March 2023

Save the date!

America's Boating Club - Smith Mountain Lake Change of Watch



America's Boating Club - Smith Mountain Lake will be holding its 53rd Change of Watch on March 11, 2023. On this date the Bridge for the upcoming 2023-2024 season will be installed. These are the members that will set the track for the Squadron over the next season. This annual event will be held at *Vinny's Italian Restaurant* in Moneta at 12:00 PM.

The induction ceremony will be followed by a meal ordered off *Vinny's* regular menu. We hope to see you there to support those who labor to make our Squadron the best that it can be.



Get ready for spring boating safely

- Ensure your life jacket fits properly. Check the manufacturer's ratings for your size and weight. Make sure the life jacket is properly zipped and/or buckled. You can check for fit by raising your arms above your head while wearing the life jacket and asking a friend to grasp the shoulder lapels and gently pulling up. There should be no excess room above the openings and the life jacket should not ride up over your chin or face. A snug fit in these areas shows the life jacket fits properly.
- Inspect your life jacket. Inspection should include orally inflating your life jacket and ensuring it holds air for 16-24 hours, inspecting the cylinder (there should be no discharge or corrosion), checking that the cylinder is screwed in tight, and doing a flotation check on inherently buoyant life jackets. Always refer to the owner's manual.
- Restock your first aid kit if necessary, replacing anything that has expired.
- Ensure all battery-powered devices have fresh batteries.
- Order any gear that needs to be replaced. Never use expired or faulty gear.
- Make sure you have two communications devices that will work when wet, such as a VHF radio and emergency locator beacon.
- Double-check your trailer. Tire pressure, lights, tie downs, and other equipment should be tested and potentially replaced.
- Take a safe boating course to brush up or learn new skills.

Get a vessel safety check to ensure you're ready to go!

Reprinted from National Safe Boating Council

Word Game - See how many you can get (answers on page 13)

CCCCCCC	LE / VEL	GIVE GET GIVE GET GIVE GET GIVE GET	ABCDEFGHIJKLMNPOQRSTUVWXYZ
LICK ITY	D W D E D S D T	BL O USE	AID ← AID AID
YOU J U S T ME	JACK	JUST	Apple 3.141592653589
economy	T I M E A B D E F	EGSG	NOON LAZY
RACE	i SLEPT	PROGRAM	SECRET ← SECRET SECRET

Safety on Smith Mountain Lake

Smith Mountain Lake started 2023 on a tragic note with the drowning death of two young men. Everyone should agree that this was a traumatic and tragic event. It is devastating for the families, friends, community and responders involved. Continuing efforts have and are being made to make Smith Mountain Lake a safe place to live, to visit, work and to play. It always comes down to the folks who make use of our lake. Like very many aircraft accidents, the vast majority of boating accidents come down to boater error. The very first thing on every boater's mind should be safety. One thing that the *US Coast Guard*, *US Boat*, *US Power Squadrons* and *SeaTow* preach is ALWAYS wear a personal floatation device when near the water. *SeaTow* goes further in providing loaner PFDs at many boat ramps around the lake. Just think for a minute if the two young men involved in the accident had been wearing PFDs, although no doubt, they would be very cold and wet, they would probably be alive today. One thing that has stood out in my mind from very early was when someone casually said "how well do you swim when you are unconscious?". Repeat that to yourself "how well can I swim when I am unconscious?" As this article is written, we do not know what led to a capsized boat and perhaps never will, but let these two young men, one who was known as a very strong swimmer, teach us a very important lesson...



WHEN AROUND THE WATER, WEAR A PFD!

Editorial - Dave Paré

NATIONAL AND DISTRICT 5 EVENTS

Events that National, District 5 and other Squadrons are organizing

February	19-26	ABClub Annual Meeting	Rosen Plaza	Orlando, FL
March	2-6	Atlantic City Indoor Boat Show	AC Convention Center	Atlantic City, NJ
Mar - Apr	30-2	District 5 Spring Conference	Princess Royale	Ocean City, MD
Aug - Sep	27-4	National Fall Governing Board		Kansas City, MO

Please be advised that any or all of these dates could be cancelled or changed due to the current health situation.

Pictures from the Fall Conference

3-6 November 2022



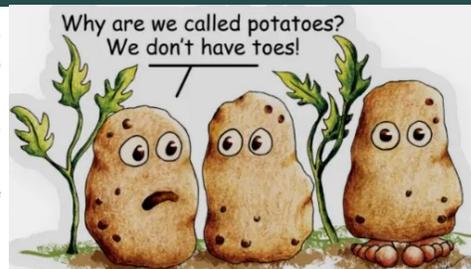
The Fall Conference held 3-6 November at the Maritime Institute was one of the ages. The facility was one of the best. The food was delicious, the accommodations comfortable and the staff was extremely accommodating to our wishes. Most of this would not have been possible without the generous offering by the Henry Sweet Foundation to cover some of the costs of attendance. Thanks to our District Commander Stephanie Ward for her diligence to make this happen.
Mark V

The Potato - Part 3 of 3

Karl's Kitchen Korner



I would be remiss were I not to mention the very elegant Potatoes au Gratin. I shall be happy to send anyone who does not and would like to have a recipe for them. There are also many other recipes for different ways to use the potato. I prefer to recommend several ways you may be unfamiliar with that I have enjoyed over the years. The first is Warm German Potato Salad which I prefer to the standard version one usually sees.



Warm German Potato Salad

Ingredients

6 - 8 boiling potatoes
 Water to cover
 Salt
 1/4 lb. bacon
 1 minced onion
 1/2 - 3/4 cup vinegar
 1/2 - 3/4 cup beef stock
 Salt and white pepper
 Sour cream (optional)
 Minced parsley

Directions

Boil potatoes, skin on, in lightly salted water to cover. without over cooking peel and thinly slice the potatoes. Fry the bacon, until golden but not yet browned or crisp, add the onion and continue to fry until the onions are only transparent and not golden. Remove from heat and carefully add combined vinegar and stock. Bring the mixture to boil and pour over the potatoes. With a wooden spoon gently lift the potatoes to coat with the sauce. Fold in the sour cream if you wish and sprinkle with Parsley.

The next recipe is for 3 versions of a Potato Pancake, All similar but with varying names (Kartoffelpuffer; Potato Latkes; and Rosti). Their similarity lies in that they all begin with baking or russet potatoes that are peeled, coarsely grated raw and then pressed to expel as much water from them as possible. Rosti are simplest in that 1 Tbsp. Kosher Salt and freshly ground pepper are mixed with 2 lb. of potatoes. 3 Tbsp. of bacon grease are melted in a wide heavy skillet over medium heat to have about 1/8th inch depth of grease in the bottom of the pan. Now add the potato mixture, carefully, to a sizzling pan about 1 spoonful at a time. Flatten and fry the potatoes until the bottom of them are a dark brown and able to be turned over to finish the other side. The Rosti are then served with a "Clabber" and Caper Tater Sauce which, mixed in a small bowl, consists of 1 cup plain whole milk Greek yogurt, 1/2 cup mayonnaise, 3 Tbsp minced fresh chives, 1 tsp minced brine packed capers, 2 tsp. juice from caper jar, 1/2 tsp. apple cider vinegar, and salt to taste. Sauce is best served after about an hour of refrigeration. (*Garden & Gun Magazine*)

A word of caution for the following recipes. After grating the potatoes immediately as they will, when exposed to the air, blacken very quickly.

The next two recipes are very similar.

For the Latkes: 5 medium potatoes. 1 medium onion, grated and squeezed to remove excess water, 2 eggs beaten, 3/4 cup A-P flour, 1 tsp. baking powder, 1tsp. salt, and dash of pepper. Mix all ingredients. Use vegetable oil for frying approximately 3 inch pancakes. Serve with Apple Sauce. (*A Hometown Collection America's Best Recipes 1991*)

For the Puffer: 7-8 old medium potatoes, 1 large onion, grated, squeeze both together, allow liquid to settle and reserve potato starch sediment, pouring off surface water. Then with 2 eggs separated: add yolks, potato starch, 2 Tbsp. A-P Flour, 1 Tbsp salt and 1 tsp. white pepper to potato-onion mixture. Whip reserved egg whites stiffly and gently fold into the above mixture. Using lard or vegetable shortening melted in a skillet to approximately a depth of 1 inch fry pancakes (about 2 Tbsp. at a time) until golden brown on both sides. Drain on paper towels and serve. One variant suggests leaving out onion and pepper and substituting a grated apple. (*The German Cookbook*)

One final recipe is for using left-over mashed potatoes as a breakfast pancake. Add some flour and egg to thicken. mix to distribute chives or sliced green onion. Salt and pepper to taste. Fry in butter just to brown the edges.

Karl Hellinger

America's Boating Channel Update

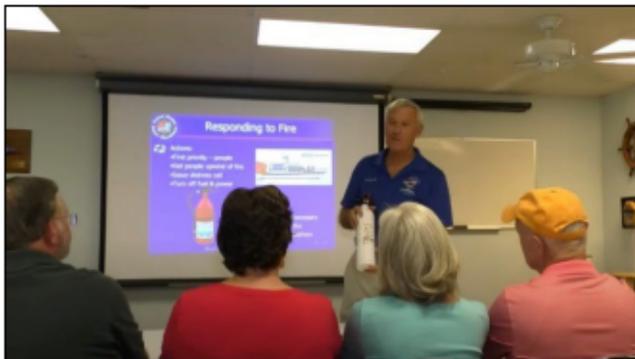
America's Boating Channel™

Promoting Boater Education to Our Members and the Public

As production of America's Boating Channel™ Season Seven gets underway, remember the channel has six seasons of videos archived and available to help educate ourselves and others.

An outstanding example is the video ["Boater Education."](#) which underscores the importance and value of taking boating safety courses. Viewers learn about online, classroom, and on-the-water educational offerings.

Screening boater education videos is an excellent way to prepare for safer experiences on the water. "Boater Education" reminds us about required safety equipment and that we need to know the rules of the road when operating a boat.



Taking the concepts in this video a step further, America's Boating Channel produced a sequel entitled ["Knowledge Versus Skills."](#) It covers differences between boating knowledge and boating skills and why it matters. Viewers learn approaches to take to improve their boating abilities and what pitfalls to avoid in boater education.

These videos also are an excellent tool to help recruit participants to our educational program and to membership. Invite your friends and neighbors to watch, like and subscribe to America's Boating Channel to introduce them to what our organization has to offer.

Available on YouTube, America's Boating Channel offers quick and easy access to professionally produced high-definition safe boating and boater education videos.

[America's Boating Channel™](#) is produced by the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.



2022 - 2023 Calendar from your Administrative Officer



SQUADRON CALENDAR

Feb	11	ABC3 Course
	13	ExCom Meeting - Windtree Clubhouse 9:30
	19-26	National Meeting - Orlando, FL
Mar	2-6	Atlantic City Indoor Boat Show - AC Convention Center
	11	Annual Meeting / COW - Vinny's 12:00
	17	Pizza & Games
	18	ABC Course
	20	ExCom Meeting - Windtree Clubhouse 9:30
	23	Seminar
	30-2	D/5 Spring Conference - Ocean City, MD
April	17	ExCom Meeting - Windtree Clubhouse 9:30
	19	Walk the Loop - Booker T Washington
	20	Vessel Safety Check Update Training

Squadron Events Bridge Meetings Education Events

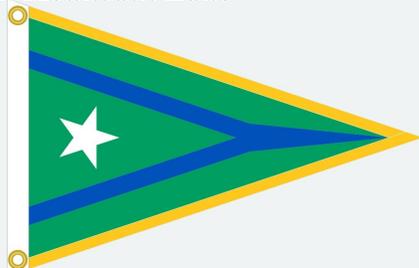
District / National Events Vessel Safety Checks

Events and Dates are subject to change

Administrative Officer - Michele Paré



New Squadron burgees are available. These new burgees are outlined in gold (actually yellow) to indicate our Squadron has been in existence for over 50 years. The price for these new burgees will be \$30.00. Contact any member of the Bridge to get one of these and let everyone know you belong to America's Boating Club - Smith Mountain Lake.



Celebrating Birthdays this Quarter



- Doreen Faga
- Mary Hamlin
- Tom Hamlin
- David Harrison
- Bing Higgins
- Sue Patterson
- Jim Patterson
- Pete Phillip
- Luis Sanchez

SQUADRON BRIDGE OFFICERS

- CommanderRichard Faga
(973) 202 8778 - smlsaps@gmail.com
- Executive Officer No Current
- Educational Officer Randolph Stow
(540) 588-0270 - smlstow@gmail.com
- Administrative Officer Michele Paré
(540) 238-2050 - Michele_Pare@live.com
- Secretary Judith E. Stow
(309)-360-0942 - judydystow4@gmail.com
- Treasurer David Paré
(540) 238-2050 - wizzard012@msn.com



MEMBERS AT LARGE

- Barbara Hellinger
- Peter Phillip
- Wheeler Baker
- David Eberle
- Karl Hellinger

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Find us on the web at:
http://www.uspsd5.org/squadrons/Smith_Mountain_Lake.html
 And on Facebook at: SML Sail & Power Squadron

Answers to Word Puzzle

1. Seven Seas
2. Split Level
3. Forgive & Forget (4 GIVE & 4 GET)
4. Missing You (U)
5. Lickity Split
6. West Indies (WEST in Ds)
7. See thru blouse (C)
8. First Aid
9. Just between you and me
10. Jack in the box
11. Just around the corner
12. Apple Pie
13. Growing economy
14. Long time, no see (no C)
15. Scrambled Eggs (EGGS)
16. Lazy afternoon
17. Tight race
18. I overslept
19. Space program
20. Top secret

Featured America's Boating Club Benefit



LightStream, the nation's premier online consumer lender, offers fast and easy low-interest financing for any boat, with no age or model restrictions (plus, there's no inspection required). Good-credit customers can get funds up to \$100,000 as soon as the same day if all conditions are met.

Apply online using a quick application process and receive your funds without leaving the house. It's fast, easy and there are no fees, prepayment penalties, or home equity requirements. (We may be compensated by **LightStream** through this link.)

<https://www.lightstream.com/?fact=14128&irad=88395&irmp=3598602>



GET MORE INFO...

Want to know more about the benefits of your United States Power Squadrons membership? A lot of these logos should be familiar and they all offer discounts and benefits to you as a Power Squadron member Go to:

<https://americasboatingclub.org/benefits>





For more information about this event check this link: <https://abc-midatlantic.org/squadrons/6243/mark5.pdf>

America's Boating Club - Smith Mountain Lake
 203 Mallard Point Road
 Smith Mountain Lake, VA 24184



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