

DISTRICT 5 A UNIT OF THE UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

VOLUME 65 No. 2

SAIL AND POWER BOATING®

SPRING ELECTRONIC 2015

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2015 D/5 SPRING CONFERENCE "CHARTING THE WAY" By P/C Art Walz, Mid Potomac Sail and Power Squadron

The 2015 D/5 Spring Conference will be held at the Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City, MD, 27-29 March 2015, which is rapidly approaching.

The Officers' Training originally scheduled for 21 February in Solomon's was cancelled due to the weather. It will now be held as part of the Spring Conference in Ocean City, taking place on Friday 27 March. This is in addition to a number of other seminars, awards presentation, meetings, cocktail parties, and more.

The following activities are planned: Friday Officers' training, and the world's most famous Friday night squadron hospitality suite "Pub Crawl," election of the 2015 bridge; the Saturday night change of watch banquet, and the outgoing Commander's cocktail party prior to the change of watch banquet. Come and help celebrate the successes and accomplishments of fellow D/5 and squadron members and learn about the District's plans for 2015. There will also be a number of carefully selected raffle items to draw your attention, and of course the famous basket of cheer (booze) provided by the past District Commanders.

The Spring Conference will hopefully have milder weather than what we have collectively been experiencing. As this weather has been generating horrific cabin fever, it offers the opportunity to break out, be in a warm environment, and have fun with the best friends that you will ever have. Better yet it gives you the absolutely best place to start your planning for the 2015 boating season.

We'll see you there!

2014-2015 District 5 Bridge

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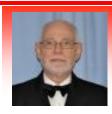
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Communater's Message

Cdr Jim Colston, AP

As I write this, the calendar says we are in the last week of February heading towards spring but the snow and ice on the Potomac says winter is still very much present. In the years I have lived here, there has never been so much ice on the Potomac. Actually, it is quite beautiful to look at, but I prefer warmer temperatures.

Unfortunately, the unpredictability of the winter weather led to the cancellation of the Officers' Training. While I did not have snow, I understand the conditions north were unpleasant. We will conduct the officer's training on the Friday of Spring Conference.

I had the pleasure of attending the CGA District 5 Southern Region Training on the 14-15th of February. I presented an overview of the history of USPS[®] and how we can promote more cooperative interactions. Dave Adams, the CGA D5S Chief of Staff will attend our Change of Watch in March. Dave and I both believe that by spending more time interacting, we will develop an enhanced relationship towards meeting our common goals. A working group of both USCGA and USPS[®] members will assess and implement a plan for our district in order to meet the goal set by our national organizations. If you are asked to contribute, please do so. This is your opportunity to help establish where we are going and how to get there.

This was the last year for the National Meeting to be held in Jacksonville. We retired the 100th Anniversary Ensign in an impressive ceremony. If you have never attended, it is difficult to explain the comradery and friendships that develop. We enjoy meeting and talking with folks from other areas of the country about their various boating activities. This year in particular, we had a long discussion with a couple from the Mid-west who boat on the upper Mississippi about all the locks they have traveled and the positive and negatives of driving through the locks. Totally different experience than boating on the Bay and its tributaries. Next year, the Annual Meeting moves back to Orlando in mid-February. It might be a great respite from winter weather.

Spring Conference is just around the corner. If you haven't done so, make plans to come. I can just about guarantee that I will be there.

Fair winds and following seas, *Jim*





Cooperative Charting - D/Lt Bob Beltz, JN

On 29 January 2000, USPS® Chief Commander Arthur H. Farr signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary (USCGAUX) to participate in the Vessel Safety Check Program.

Just a short 15 years ago the Power Squadron and the USCGAUX started working together on VSC's. Now again we are working together on many of the other programs and education that we both have. What a wonderful opportunity for the USCGAUX Aids to Navigation program to work with us in Co-Op charting program. The last weekend in February I am taking an Aids Verifier Class, at the Coast Guard station - Yorktown. The first weekend in May I am inviting the CG Aux to our Coop Charting workshop. Many of the members already wear both hats.

Cooperative Charting is a joint program between United States Power Squadron (USPS®) and National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NOAA is a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce and is charged with the responsibility of coordinating the national effort concerning the science and knowledge of the earth's atmosphere and oceans. Component agencies of NOAA include: Office of NOAA Corps Operations, National Ocean Service, Office of Earth Sciences (OES), National Weather Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Environmental, Satellite Data and information Service, and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research. National Ocean Service, formerly the Coast and Geodetic Survey (C&GS), is the oldest scientific and technical agency in the Federal Government. President Thomas Jefferson established it in 1807 to survey and chart the coast of the young nation, called at that time Survey of the Coast. USPS® members assist National Ocean Service by making additions and corrections to nautical charts and U.S. Coast Pilot. The relative contribution each squadron makes to each of the two major tasks; i.e., nautical (including Small Craft Facility reports and U.S. Coast Pilot) will depend on geographic location of the squadron as well as individual interest and preferences.

The Cooperative Charting Program was initiated in 1963, and by 1995 involved some 2800 USPS[®] members resulting in approximately 39,000 items reported with an estimated savings to the Federal Government of 15 million to 20 million dollars annually. The association that the National Ocean Service and USPS® enjoy today is second to none. The volunteer observers of USPS[®] are providing a service to the Federal Government that saves the taxpayers millions of dollars each year.

At the NOAA Workshop this is what is covered to all attending:

Small Craft Charts & Facilities Coast Pilot Books Nautical Charts Aids to Navigation

USCG Light List

U.S. Coast Pilot

Coast Pilot is a document published by the U.S. Department of Commerce to supplement information which is too detailed to be included on a nautical chart. Generally, the information in this document includes detailed descriptions of channels, anchorages, bridges, currents and tides, landmarks, small-craft repair facilities, transportations routes, weather conditions, obstructions, and dangers to mention a few.

Nautical Charts

Items to check on the chart.

Aids to Navigation
Bridge and cable clearances

Depths

Geographic names, features and landmarks

Legal holidays observed locally

Pilotage and Towage

Tides, currents and water levels

Anchorages

Channels and Routes

Ferries and other type of marine traffic

Hazards to Navigation

Local and Federal regulations

Small-Craft Facilities, Fuel, Repairs and Supplies

Weather and ice conditions

USCG Light List

These USCG light lists contain the height, light characteristics, latitude and longitude, fog signals, and physical description of every light, sound signal, day beacon, and any other aid to navigation. Light lists are extremely helpful in establishing waypoints while planning routes.

Using current charts, coast pilot, light list, notepad, camera, and GPS the data/reports is collected and corrections and updates are submitted using CCWEB.

Co-op Charting Workshop National Ocean Service Atlantic Marine Center 439 West York Street Norfolk, VA 23510



Date: 2 May – 3 May 2015 Registration (PLEASE PRINT)

Deadline: Registration - 25 April 2015

Rank/Name	Certificate #	Squadron
Spouse	Certificate #	Squadron
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
E-Mail:	Home Telephone:	

Special Dietary Needs

Activity:	Number	Cost	Subtotal
Workshop		@ \$15.00	
Saturday Lunch at AMC		@ \$13.00	
Saturday Dinner		@ \$31.00	
Dinner at Bowman's			
Payable to D/5 Cooperative Charting		Total	

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: D/5 COOPERATIVE CHARTING

Mail to: P/R/C Norma J. Parrish, AP, 1024 Porte Harbour Arch, #201, Hampton VA 23664
Phone: 757-224-4302 e-mail normaparrish@cox.net

Schedule: (Tear off at above line and keep)

Friday 1400 – 1700 – CHECK-IN & REGISTRATION – HOTEL LOBBY

2 May 2014 1730 – 1830 – COCKTAIL HOUR

Saturday 0745 - 0810 - COFFEE & DONUTS AT

3 May 2014 0810 – 0830– INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

0830 – 1200 – WORKSHOP 1200 – 1230 – LUNCH 1230 – 1600 – WORKSHOP

1800 - 1900 - COCKTAIL HOUR AT HOTEL

1915 – 2115 - DINNER – BOWMAN'S GARDEN CENTER

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Comfort Inn Olde Towne, 347 Effingham Street

Portsmouth, Va. 23704 www.choicehotels.com

HOTEL ROOM RATES: \$89.00 SINGLE OR DOUBLE PLUS TAX

TELEPHONE: 757-397-7788 (SPECIFY GROUP: D/5, USPS) **DEADLINE 4/25/2015**

Please note telephone number change

ACTIVITY REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS 25 APRIL 2015 - NO ACTIVITY REFUNDS ATER THAT DATE



Philadelphia, PA

AN EDUCATIONAL CRUISE ON THE DELAWARE RIVER

Aboard the Benjamin Franklin Yacht



M/V Ben Franklin



Lower Deck, Ben Franklin

Start Safe Boating Week with a Buffet Dinner and Narrated Cruise

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Boarding: 1800 Departure: 1830 Rain or Shine

During the south bound trip, you will enjoy a delightful, full course 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.

Make reservation by sending a check in the amount of \$35.00 for each adult payable to DRSPS to Doris Brecht, 401 Ryers Ave. Cheltenham, PA 19012 (267-738-7183). List name of each guest and e-mail address. (\$15.00 for children under 12)

Directions: The Ben Franklin departs from 401 N. Columbus Blvd. which is just north of the Ben Franklin Bridge. South on I-95: take the right hand lane at exit 22, for Callowhill St. At the bottom of the off ramp, turn left on Callowhill St. and go several blocks. Turn left on N, Columbus Blvd. You will almost immediately come upon the parking lot at #401 where you will find ample parking. Coming north on I-95 use exit #20, turn left onto Columbus Blvd. Parking lot is just north of Dave & Buster's Restaurant.

Sponsored by Delaware River Sail & Power Squadron and nearby USPS squadrons.

RESERVATION FORM

USPS D/5 SPRING CONFERENCE

27 March – 29 March 2015 Ocean City, Maryland

MEMBER: Rank	IBER: Rank Name: Grade:		le:			
ADDRESS:	CITY:	STATE:ZIP:		ZIP:		
SQUADRON:	POSITION:	FIRST TIMER?		ER?		
E-mail:	PHON	PHONE:				
SPOUSE/OTHER ATTENDEE	CS:					
Rank: Name:		_Grade:		First	Timer?	
Rank:Name:		_Grade:		First	Timer?	
	ACTIVITIES SELEC	CTIONS				
SATURDAY LUNCHEON Trio of Salads/Chicken	, Egg, Tossed Garden Plate	#	_ @	\$15.00	\$	
Twin Hamburger Slide	ers w/potato salad, chips, pickle	#	_ @	\$15.00	\$	
SATURDAY BANQUET ENTI Jumbo Lump	REE CHOICES: Maryland Crab Cakes	#	_ @	\$40.00	\$	
	nonne - Beef cooked with shrooms, onions and carrots	#	_ @	\$40.00	\$	
Vegetarian/glu	ten free Stuffed Pepper	#	_ @	\$25.00	\$	
Dietary restrictions		===				
OPTIONAL Room raffle ONE	FREE NIGHT (1 October 2014	to 30 April 2	015)			
1 ticket for \$5.	00 or 3 tickets for \$10.00	#	_ @\$	5 or \$10	<u>\$</u>	
	2015 D/5 Spring Conferen		AL ENC	CLOSED	o: \$	
Solomons, M Phone: 410 3	y Cir, Apt 1213 D 20688-3068 994-3232	Meal Reservations must be received by 25 February 201				
	ss: <u>last-chance@comcast.net</u> - USPS/Squadron shirts. Banquet - Uni	-	tie.			

Princess Royale Hotel

9100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Maryland

Non-smoking Venue - Handicapped Rooms available on a request basis.

CALL Reservations Dept at 1-800-476-9253

Use the Reservation ID Code: U. S. Power Squadron, District 5

Rates: Oceanview/pool view Suite - \$109.00 per night Friday/Saturday

Oceanfront Suite - \$149.00 per night 2BR/2BA Oceanfront Condo - \$239.00 per night/3BR \$269.00

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 25 FEBRUARY 2015 TO ENSURE USPS RATES

Directions: From RT 90, turn left onto Coastal Hwy. Hotel will be on the right.

HOSPITALITY SUITE RESERVATION FORM

USPS® D/5 SPRING CONFERENCE

27 & 28 March 2015

Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center

9100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842

HOSPITALITY SUITES MUST be reserved for both Friday March 27 & Saturday March 28, 2015

RESERVATION DEADLINE February 27, 2015

Rooms assigned on a first come, first served basis

Normal Check-in time is after -1600 (Early check-in dependent upon availability) Check out time is before -1100

COST: Cos	st for Suites - \$109.00 (plus tax \$11.44) - \$120.44 p	oer day \$
Addition:	\$30.00 per Suite for Bed Removal (includes two 6	
	13.00/day/per tub - lce 2 - 20 lb bags	\$
	\$15.00 – Each additional table - \$2.00 each chair	\$
	HOSPITALITY SUITE PREFERENCI	Ē
¥	Please do not contact hotel directly regarding the	Hospitality Suites
Suite locations are	on the reverse side of this form. If there is a pref	erence, please request first and
second choice roo	m number below otherwise a suite will be assigne	d.
rirst choice	Second Choice	
Squadron		
	ble Party	
Phone	Email	
You may	call me with the credit card Information if you are	e uncomfortable mailing it!
Credit Card Numb	er	Exp Date
Гуре of Card: МС	VISA DISCOVER AMER EXPRESS	
Mail or e-mail forr	m to: P/C Jack Spath	Phone: 540-659-7154
	2005 Stateroom Drive	$E-mail: \underline{Mystic Mood 3@comcast.net}$
	Stafford, VA 22554	

D/5 wins awards in Jacksonville

In among the seminars, the meetings, the Expo, the dinners and banquets and the meeting and greeting old and new friends, there were also awards presented in several venues during the USPS® Annual Meeting held in Jacksonville in January. D/5 took home its share!

Ocean City was in the top five of the Boat US Civic service awards. Dundalk's entry in the poster contest, Olivia Zukauskas, came in second in the 6 to 8 age group. Smith Mountain Lake won a Co-op Charting award.

P/D/C William D. Selden V, AP (Richmond) and D/Lt John Wilmot, JN (Potomac River) were there to receive their Life Membership. Eight other D/5 members also earned 25 Merit Marks: from Absecon Island, Lynn Grasier, S and Margaret H. Perryman, AP; from Annapolis, Jonathan Jacobs, AP; from Miles River, Dorothy R. Mowry, S, and Patricia Smith, S; from Northern Neck, Raymond R. Reuter, AP; from Patapsco River, Lawrence J. France, JN; and from Wilmington, Martin G. Wagner, AP.

In addition, two former D/5ers were honored. P/R/C and current Cdr of Palm Beach Squadron in D/8 William Eldridge, SN, received the Chapman award for teaching, one of five given. P/R/C Robert Malone, SN, was one of seven new Emeritus members of the Governing Board, having earned 50 Merit Marks. Both were members of Northern Virginia before moving south.

2015 USPS ANNUAL MEETING



USPS® Education

By Captain Mark Galasso

We are a product of our education and our experiences. That fact is no more evident than when it comes to boating. My parents were children of a different time from mine. Though formal education was important to them, they were being raised on the heels of the Great Depression and the subsequent World War II. These two events dominated almost everyone's lives from the early thirties to the mid-forties. Instead of looking forward to college most teenagers were looking for work to help support their families. As many people of that generation like to say they "learned from the school of hard knocks." Vacation homes were for only the rich, and the only courses people attended were the rows in victory gardens. So unless you lived near the water, swimming and fishing in the local creek was the best you could hope for.

Fast forward a couple of decades. It's now in the fifties. The work ethic that sustained people during the war now has created some wealth to the middle class. Enough perhaps to purchase or rent that little beach or lake house. Being that close to open water, boats were inevitable. In my case the scene was set. My parents both worked in the hustle and bustle of North Jersey. First, they were determined that their two boys were going to college to get a formal education. Second and more importantly as far as I'm concerned, we would always have a place at the Jersey shore. One that they could escape to when things got overwhelming, and one that we as young boys could enjoy. Long Beach Island was our second home as my brother and I grew up. We became wharf rats, we surfed, we swam, we fished, and we BOATED.

At first our boating was relegated to renting a rowboat in Harvey Cedars. I think I was three the first time my Dad took me out on the water. A few years later my father bought a rowboat of our own. It was great. He'd take me out fishing for blowfish and flounder. If the tide was low enough we'd dig clams. As the years went on the only thing that changed was the size of the motor. By the time I was twelve we were up to 9.9 hp. We could go anywhere we wanted. It was heaven. School up in North Jersey became insufferable. I was just killing time until school let out and summer released my spirit. The day after school would let out, we would pack up the old Chevy and hit the Garden State Parkway to head for the Shore.

I was thirteen. School had just let out, and I think we were at the Freehold exit, stuck in traffic. My brother and I were so wound up we were literally fighting in the back seat, oblivious to the traffic OR our parents' plea to knock it off. Threats of turning around went unheeded. Then, something snapped me out of my euphoria. I realized my parents were talking calmly to me. It must have been their work ethic. Or maybe it was the frazzled nerves. But the meat of the one sided conversation was I, Gilligan the surfer dude, was about to become a working member of the Galasso household starting tomorrow. For the next hour I sat in stunned silence. It took me the rest of the trip to contemplate what that meant. Over dinner we discussed it. I had one week to find a job at the beach or I could go home with my father to work. I didn't sleep that night. I spent the night thinking about what a thirteen year old could do to make money and still spend every day fishing, swimming and surfing. Forty four years later I'm still having the same thoughts! As a thirteen year old I could only come up with two ideas. One was painting beach houses with my uncle. The other was borrowing the family boat and digging clams to sell on the street corner. Since my Dad was only at the beach, weekends the clamming would have to be done part time. My thir-

teenth summer on Long Beach Island I became a painter and a part time clammer.

When that summer ended and the cool Nor'easters arrived, I went back to school in North Jersey. I took three important things home that autumn. One which faded quickly was a tan. The second that sustains me through the troubles we all endure is fond memories. The third was some money in the bank. A few dollars of which was spent on my 14th birthday on a United States Power Squadron class called "Make Sure, Make Shore." It was decided by my parents that in order to use the family "yacht" next summer, all 12 feet of her to dig clams, I was to be an "Educated" boater. So in March of 1971 I became a Skipper-Junior Grade having passed the New Jersey Safe-Boating Course offered by the Watchung Power Squadron.

Though most of the members of that Squadron had me by fifty years, I found it fascinating listening to their boating adventures. To that point boats were just a tool to get me to the clams and fish. Now I was truly excited about boating, and my boating season was only a couple months away. No painting for me! I was going to be a commercial clammer during my fourteenth summer on LBI. In subsequent summers I became a deckhand on head boats, a lifeguard on the beach patrol, and always had clamming to fall back on. My future summers on Long Beach Island were secure!

I later went on to receive a BS in Marine Zoology and went on to work as an Oceanographer for NOAA. I took a few classes and became a certified diver. It became obvious that a little education in conjunction with experience would get me to where I wanted to be. So when the urge to operate my own charter boat became too great to ignore, I enrolled at Sea School in Annapolis in hopes of getting my captain's license. Since memorization was never my strong suit, I was a little worried thinking about sitting for my Masters exam in Baltimore. I remembered the power squadron. I knew they offered more advanced classes than the basic class I took in 1971, so I contacted my local squadron where I currently reside near Kent Narrows. I joined and looked at the course descriptions. As it turned out they were offering two classes I really thought would help my efforts in getting the Captain's license. I took Seamanship and Piloting fairly close together. Then I went to the exam center in Baltimore. I won't say the test was a breeze, but I didn't have any difficulty passing it on my first try. I have since taken Advanced Piloting as a refresher and hope to take more classes in the future. It's funny. I remember thinking that the Watchung Power Squadron was a bit of an older crowd. Forty three years later I'm part of the older crowd. I still enjoy the vast diversity of knowledge our local group offers sailors, fisherman, Navy and Coast Guard people. Even people who don't have boats but share our love of the water.

Sometimes you can't control your experiences. Like the ocean waves, life can be pretty unpredictable. But you can control your education. A good education can prepare you for what is to come. Whenever I talk to someone who is nervous about boating a common theme arises. They are nervous only because they don't know what to expect. Experienced, educated boaters know what to expect. They are prepared and the time they spend on the water creates the memories that shelters and calms them when the storms of life visit.

Do yourself a favor. Take a class. Join a group. I think you'll find that there is a lot more to it than what you will read in the books.

18TH BOARMAN NATIONAL USPS YOUTH POSTER CONTEST



"When you boat be ready to float......Wear It!"

OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN AGES 6-14

AWARDS GIVEN IN THREE AGE GROUPS 6 to 8 Years--9 to 11 Years--12 to 14 Years

Entry Rules

- 1) May be vertical or horizontal
- 2) Must be on 15 x 20 or 14 x 22 inch poster paper
- 3) Professional illustrations, photos, copyrighted material or computer generated art may NOT be used
- 4) Poster must not be folded
- 5) Posters will be judged for the idea presented more than artistic ability
- 6) One entry per person
- 7) All entries become property of USPS©
- 8) The contest entry form must be completed in full, legibly printed and adhered to the back of the poster.

FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT HTTP://WWW.USPS.ORG/NATIONAL/MEMBERSHIP/YOUTH/POSTER.HTM

2015 Summer Council & Rendezvous

Is it 26 July yet? Mark your calendar for Summer Council/ Rendezvous. Do you want to enjoy your boat at this great D5 event, but do not have the time to do the cruise?

If your boat is trailerable, hitch it up and bring it to Solomons Island. We have made arrangements for parking for your vehicle and trailer and there is a public boat ramp close by. Also there are boat slips available.

There may be a variation for our casual evening, which is in the works with the Holiday Inn. More to follow. Remember 26 July, Summer Council/Rendezvous, the more the merrier.

The 3rd Annual Nanticoke River Marine Park Festival, sponsored by the Nanticoke River Sail and Power Squadron, will add the exclamation point to the town of Blades, Delaware 100th Anniversary Celebration weekend. The Festival is being held on Sunday, 17 May, from 10 to 4, and will be the culminating event of the great weekend. A Prayer Breakfast will began the day at 8:00am, in the Marina pavilion, featuring the Good News Tour Gospel singers. Held at the Nanticoke River Marina in Blades, Delaware, the Festival will feature all kinds of vendors, boating displays and demos, children activities, great food and musical entertainment thru-out the day. For more information, see our Nanticoke River Sail and Power Squadron on Facebook.

UIPCOMING EVENTS

27-29 March	District 5 Spring Conf.	Ocean City, MD
1-2 May	Cooperative Charting Workshop	Norfolk, VA
20 May	Delaware River Cruise	Philadelphia, PA
17-23 July	D/5 Southbound Cruise	Chesapeake Bay
24-26 July	Summer Council	Solomons, MD
25-30 Aug	USPS® Governing Board	San Diego, CA
11-13 Sept	Sail Regatta/Fishing	TBA
30 Oct-1 Nov	District 5 Fall Conference	Cherry Hill, NJ



Photo by Sari Lafferty of the Cox Creek

Mark 5

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Articles, opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect USPS[®] policy or endorsement unless so designated.

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