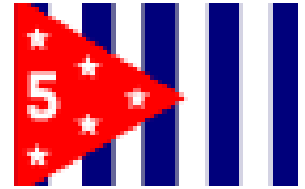




AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB MID-ATLANTIC MARK 5



VOLUME 72 No. 1

WINTER 2022 ELECTRONIC ISSUE

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2022 America's Boating Club Mid-Atlantic Spring Conference

The 2022 District 5/America's Boating Club Mid-Atlantic Spring Conference will be at the Princess Royale in Ocean City, Maryland 30 March to 3 April. The usual classes for officers will be offered as well as those with other squadron jobs and duties. The squadron hospitality suites are back! The raffle tables will be loaded with great donations. All are encouraged to donate an item to raffle off or have your squadron put something together to donate so that you can stop by and see how well your item is doing while bidding on your favorites and maybe joining in on the fun of the 50/50 drawing!

The Spring Council/Conference meetings will be on Saturday. Make sure that your squadron is well represented and accept any awards that you, your squadron or your squadron members might have earned over the previous year. D/C Michael Payne, AP, will be honored and thanked for his service over the past four years he has served on the District 5 Bridge with dinner and closing remarks, not to mention more awards and some P/D/C fun! As this is the first Spring Conference in two years due to COVID restrictions, our two previous Commanders, Jeff Short and Walter Neese, will also be honored. Additionally, the Saturday luncheon will feature a speaker from the National Weather Service. Don't forget the Sunday morning reception for the new bridge before everyone heads back home.

This event is always a great time to get together with friends that you have made in District 5 and to make some new friends. There are many activities throughout the weekend to enjoy and everyone always seems to have a good time. Registration and hospitality suite registration forms are included in this issue and will be up on the website with all of the information you need to join us, so keep an eye out! Be sure to check the due dates as they are earlier.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me, Cdr John Locke, SN - ACN, at abckn.cdr@gmail.com. We are looking forward to seeing you in March!

Cdr John Locke, SN-ACN, Kent Narrows



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Commander's Message

D/C Michael Payne, AP

As the winter season arrives, we as boaters have entered a period of transition. For the most part, our boats and other watercraft have been secured for the winter. Consideration has been given to protection against freezing weather, as well as preparations for recommissioning in the spring.

It often seems that now we are just waiting, but that's not necessarily the whole truth. We are people with more than boats and boating in our lives (Can you believe I just said that, LOL!). Even as members of a volunteer organization, we have many other responsibilities that we have to balance throughout the year. We budget time between our work, family, civic involvement, recreation and many other activities. I know this because you are boaters and boaters do things. We are active and we get involved.

Speaking of getting involved, that brings me back to America's Boating Club. I hope you will consider taking a committee or bridge position in your squadron and/or the district in the coming year. While serving as your District Commander, I have seen firsthand how critical you are to the success of our organization. Plus, I firmly believe that your enjoyment of America's Boating Club will grow as you become more and more involved. I urge everyone to please continue to support your squadron. My thanks to everyone as you continue to do all that you do to help make District 5 and its many squadrons a success!

I believe that officer training will be one of the offerings at the District 5 Spring Conference in Ocean City. If you will hold a bridge position in 2022, please plan to participate in these sessions. If it's a position you have previously held, remember that there's always something new to learn, plus your experience will make a valuable addition to the sessions. Even if you do not yet hold a bridge office, consider attending, as these training sessions are open to all. If you have interest in an officer's area and the associated committees, please join us.

As the end of the year draws nearer, I want to take a moment to express my continued appreciation and thanks to you all for giving me the opportunity to serve you as the District 5 Commander. It has been an exciting adventure and rewarding in so many ways. The best part has been getting to know so many of you, our members. Without all of your help, hard work, and dedication to America's Boating Club, this wonderful year serving as your District Commander would not have been possible. So again, thank you all. Please continue to enjoy what's shaped up to be a great year! And please, get your reservations in

(Continued on page 3)



early for the District 5 Spring Conference (31 March thru 3 April) in Ocean City, Maryland. Hope to see you there!

America's Boating Channel Named Top Marine Media Outlet for 2021

LMP Accepts National Boating Industry Safety Award for Leading Boater Education Video Service Now in Fifth Year of Operation

Raleigh, NC, 13 December 2021 – **America's Boating Channel™** was honored by the Sea Tow Foundation and its Boating Safety Advisory Council with the National Boating Industry Safety Award for 2021 as the Top Marine Media Outlet.

The award was announced in a special recognition segment held on Wednesday, December 8 during the Marine Retailers Association of the Americas (MRAA) National Dealer Week in Austin, TX.

Accepting the Top Marine Media Award was Marty Lafferty, Managing Partner of Lafferty Media Partners (LMP), which produces **America's Boating Channel** for the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS).

"The Top Marine Media Award recognizes the outstanding effort of media in educating and promoting boating safety to its audience," said Sea Tow Foundation Executive Director Gail Kulp.

"Lafferty Media Partners developed and launched **America's Boating Channel**, which features a growing library of custom boating safety videos featuring content that is highly relevant, including pandemic-specific content that helped boaters during these tough times," she added.

"They also created a custom website and YouTube channel which feature links to all the videos, making it easy for boaters to connect and find information they want and need."

America's Boating Channel videos are enjoying higher viewership levels as Americans have increasingly turned to boating as a recreational outlet during the coronavirus pandemic. Screening boater education videos is an excellent way for boaters to prepare for safer experiences on the water.

America's Boating Channel's fifth season videos, which premiered throughout the Fall 2021 boating season, include "KNOWLEDGE VERSUS SKILLS," "WEAR AN ECOS," "CARBON MONOXIDE DANGERS," "COLLISION AVOIDANCE," "BUI FATALITIES," "NEW LABEL BENEFITS," "FIRE EXTINGUISHER STANDARDS," "BASIC MARINE COMMUNICATIONS," and "COLD WEATHER BOATING."

America's Boating Channel is now accepting applications for participants in the production of its Season Six videos. Email INFO@AmericasBoatingChannel.com.





RESERVATION FORM
America's Boating Club – Mid-Atlantic
United States Power Squadrons D/5 Spring Conference
30 March – 3 April 2022
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:

Lunch Sandwich Buffet:

Freshly Sliced Turkey, Roast Beef and Ham; American, Swiss, and Provolone Cheese; Assorted Rolls and Breads; Relish Tray with Lettuce, Tomato and Onion; Pasta Salad, Potato Salad, and Potato Chips; Brownies and Blondies, Coffee, Tea, Decaf Coffee & Iced Tea # ____ @ \$30.00 = \$ _____

SATURDAY BANQUET ENTREE CHOICES:

Chicken Piccata: Sauteed Boneless Chicken Breast in a Lemon White Wine Sauce and Capers # ____ @ \$31.00 = \$ _____

Baked Salmon: Marinated and Served with a Lemon Dill Sauce # ____ @ \$37.00 = \$ _____

Vegetarian Stir Fry: Fresh Pea Pods, Onions, Julienned Carrots, Broccoli, Red Pepper and Water Chestnuts in a Teriyaki Sauce With Sherry # ____ @ \$33.00 = \$ _____

Selections Served With:
 Garden Salad: Fresh Garden Greens and Vegetables, Green Beans with Almonds, Whipped Potatoes, Rolls & Butter, German Chocolate 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: KNSPS
SEND TO: Cdr John Locke, SN - ACN
 806 Harmony Way
 Centreville, MD 21617
 E-mail: Locke806@gmail.com

**MEAL RESERVATIONS must
 be received by 8 March 2022**

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 ID Code: U.S. Power Squadron, District 5 or 2203UNITED
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 HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 1 MARCH 2022 TO ENSURE USPS RATES





HOSPITALITY SUITE RESERVATION FORM
America's Boating Club – Mid-Atlantic
USPS D/5 Spring Conference
 30 March – 3 April 2022



Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center
 9100 Coastal Highway Ocean City, MD 21842

Hospitality Suites MUST be reserved for both Friday 1 April & Saturday 2 April 2022
RESERVATION DEADLINE Friday 25 February 2022
Rooms assigned on a first come first served basis

Normal check-in time is after 1700 (early check-in dependent on availability)
 Check-out time before 1100

Cost: Cost for Suites \$143.19 (\$129.00 night plus tax) \$ _____

Addition: Per Suite Bed Removal (Includes two 6' tables) _____ @ \$75.00 \$ _____
 Tub-Ice (2, 20 lb. bags) _____ @ \$13.00/Day/Tub \$ _____
 Extra Table _____ @ \$30.00/Table \$ _____
 Extra Chairs _____ @ \$10.00/Chair \$ _____

HOSPITALITY SUITE PREFERENCE

Please do not contact hotel directly regarding the Hospitality Suites

Suite locations are on the second page of this form. If there is a preference, please request first and second choice room number below otherwise a suite will be assigned.

First Choice _____ Second Choice _____

Squadron: _____
 Name of Responsible Party: _____
 Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____
 Address: _____

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Type of Card: MC VISA DISCOVER AMEREXPRESS

You may call with the credit card number if you are uncomfortable mailing it.

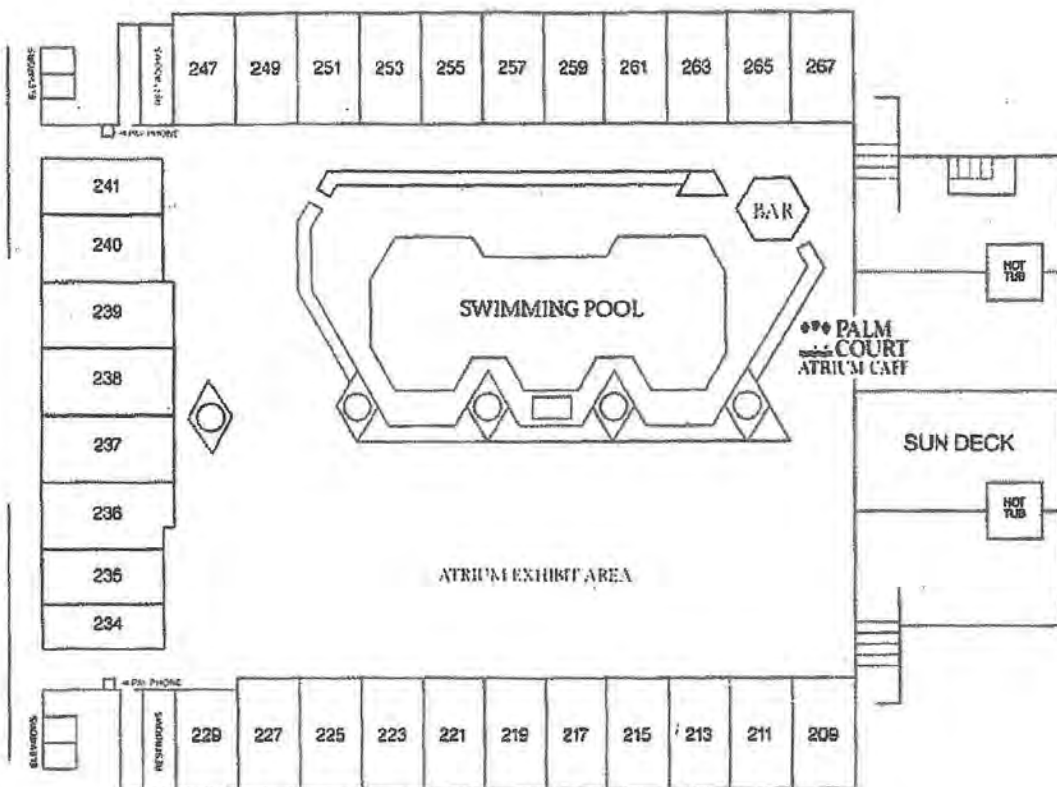
One change that the Hotel is implementing to be in regulation with the Maryland Health Department and Maryland State Liquor Authority is the containment of any outside food and beverage service inside the pool level rooms. The Hotel is strictly enforcing no outside food & beverage is allowed in the Atrium unless purchased from the Hotel.

\$250 deep clean fee for excessive cleaning if warranted
 \$5.00/per day housekeeping tip is highly recommended

Mail or Email Form To: Lt/C Jeanne Galvin
 7933 Beverly Ave.
 Baltimore, MD 21234
 443-676-8931
 Email: certainity404@comcast.net

Hospitality Suite Room Locations

ATRIUM – 2ND FLOOR



Annual Meeting
February 19-27, 2022
Ponte Vedra, Florida

The schedule for the Annual Meeting is still a work in progress. You can make your hotel reservations by:

- ◆ Go to the usps.org website
- ◆ Log on
- ◆ Click on National Meetings
- ◆ Click on Hotel reservation site

Check back for more information on the Annual Meeting.

2021 Fall Conference

The America's Boating Club Mid-Atlantic Fall Conference is now in the books. It was great to see everyone in person! The Doubletree Lancaster was a beautiful site and the staff was one of the best. Special thanks to everyone who helped to make this event successful! Our District Educational Officer Joe Gibson and his committee put together a slate of seminars and meetings in which everyone could take part. The raffle committee led by Nancy & Dave Bernard and Nance Bernard put together a tremendous display of items. Thanks to Susquehannock Sail & PS for the lovely table decorations for the luncheon and dinner along with a novel way of distributing the centerpieces to members. A special thank you to Rosa Gibson for taking the pictures for the weekend. A big congratulations to all the award winners and thanks for all the hard work that went into achieving those awards. The Fall Conference Award recipients are as follows:

Prince Henry Award:

Cambridge, Wilmington (2nd) and Virginia Beach (3rd)

Caravelle Award:

Patapsco River, Delhigh(2nd) and Dundalk (3rd)

Henry Sweet Award for Education Excellence:

Annapolis, Patapsco River(2nd) and Wilmington (3rd)

Commanders Trophy for Advanced Grades:

Delhigh, Dundalk (2nd) and Patapsco River (3rd)

Commanders' Trophy for Electives:

Patuxent River, Annapolis (2nd) and Richmond (3rd)

Kenneth Smith Seamanship Award:

Susquehannock, Colonial (2nd) and Dundalk (3rd)

WorkBoat Award:

Annapolis, Wilmington (2nd) and Dundalk (3rd)

Exceptional Service Award:

Nancy Cheris of Susquehannock

Fall Conference Saturday



Fall Conference Awards Dinner



Fall Conference Sunday



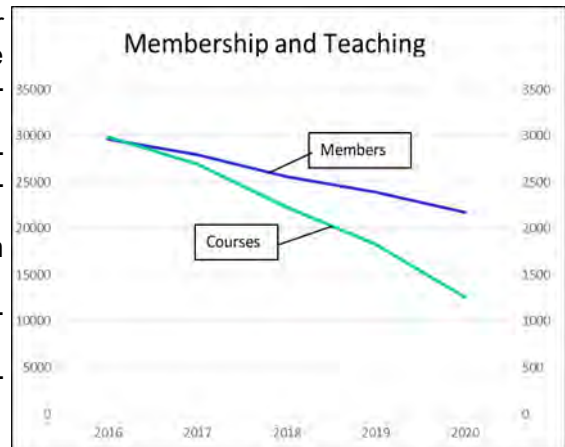
America's Boating Club Organizational Restructuring

Our current organizational structure of Squadrons, Districts, and national leadership was created decades ago when we were a much larger organization and we needed a hierarchical configuration for communication and coordination. Today, however, total membership is much smaller, there are fewer Squadrons/Clubs and Districts, and telecommunications is far more advanced. Some Districts are no larger than Squadrons, Districts are consolidating, and too many Squadrons/Clubs dissolve each year. Commensurately, the number of educational courses completed continues to erode. A contributing factor is that our *modus operandi* has not kept pace with how today's boater learns, interacts with others, and depends on technology. As a result, we are challenged to recruit and retain members.

The Board of Directors has created a geographically diverse *ad hoc* group under the leadership of NXO Craig Fraser including David Allen, Allan Bombard, John Crawford, Bob David, Myles Gee, Paul Mermelstein, and Ralph Ziegler. This committee presented ideas for restructuring America's Boating Club at the Virtual Annual Meeting in February, the Governing Board meeting in September, the DEO online meeting in October, and at various District conferences this Fall. As a work in progress, feedback was solicited and continues to roll in.

Predictably, there is some concern from members who enjoy participating in District and/or national activities and worry that we will lose that social interaction. Committee members understand; we have the same experiences and have made friends in our own Districts and at national events. It pains us to contemplate major organizational change, but we also recognize the following facts:

- Over 90% of our members have no relationship with, or interest in, District or national activities. They are served by their Squadrons/Clubs and want localized education, boating activities, and social interaction.
- It is from this 90%+ that we continue to lose most members. In fact, over half of all new Squadron/Club members leave within two years of joining.
- Every District has seen significant declines in both membership and courses taught.
- Very few Districts have the resources to help squadrons/clubs stem the losses.
- Over 25% of squadrons/clubs have less than 25 members and do not have robust programs.



We are carefully considering a range of major organizational and functional changes to improve the delivery of services in order to attract and keep members. We recognize that changing the organizational structure alone will not suffice. We also need to increase the volume, efficiency, quality, and communication of educational, boating, and social programs that we provide to our members. Our goals are to:

- Increase the attraction of America's Boating Club for both member recruitment and retention
- Meet the needs of members to keep them satisfied and engaged
- Preserve and strengthen squadron/club capabilities to serve their members
- Bolster the capabilities of local squadrons/clubs to market and teach boating education
- Where necessary, directly provide education to individual members such as cyber-members and

(Continued on page 12)

squadron/club members who do not get adequate education locally

- Increase opportunities for members to participate in boating events and social activities
- Reduce red-tape and bureaucracy to streamline services, administration, and coordination
- Improve communication to squadrons/clubs and to all members

We recognize that, by definition, boating events and social activities must be localized. Active squadrons/clubs should be free to offer what they and their members want. However, many squadrons/clubs do not boat much anymore and social activities are often limited to dinners and other gatherings. From our market research, member exit surveys, and common sense, we know that we need to have a much higher level of boating events and social activities to attract and keep members satisfied. Consequently, any organizational change must supplement local squadron/club event planning and the conduct of boating and social activities in locales that conveniently interest participants.

There is a range of options for addressing reorganization potentials, each with their pros and cons, including:

- Do nothing
- Rely on Districts, but allow more freedom
- Eliminate Districts and provide services directly from National to local squadrons/clubs and to individual members
- Consolidate Districts into about a half dozen regions with new systems and procedures that will integrate and synergize both national resources and local Squadron/Club leadership
- Some combination of the above

The Reorganization Committee continues to work on this challenge and evaluating options. We have prepared a needs assessment survey that will be sent to all members in order to obtain direct input and better evaluate where we need to improve and what we need to change. We will incorporate this data along with feedback and suggestions that continue to arrive. Additionally, we will examine how we do business, current processes and systems, resources, and organizational functionality. Subsequently, we will determine and recommend the most appropriate course of action for review by the BOD and appropriate committees, before presenting to the Governing Board for approval. The work continues; stay tuned.



Christmas Trivia Quiz

- * *What did the other reindeer not let Rudolph do because of his shiny red nose?*
- * *How many ghosts show up in *A Christmas Carol*?*
- * *What are the two other most popular names for Santa Claus?*
- * *In *Home Alone*, where are the McCallisters going on vacation when they leave Kevin behind?*
- * *Which Hollywood actor played six different roles in *The Polar Express*?*
- * *What did Frosty The Snowman do when a magic hat was placed on his head?*
- * *Which country started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?*
- * *In the song "Winter Wonderland," what do we call the snowman?*
- * *Whose eyes are all aglow in "The Christmas Song?"*
- * *How do you say "Merry Christmas" in Spanish?*
- * *What is the best-selling Christmas song ever?*
- * *Three of Santa's reindeer's names begin with the letter "D." What are those names?*
- * *What popular Christmas song was actually written for Thanksgiving?*

Answers:

- * *Join in any reindeer games*
- * *Four*
- * *Kris Kringle and Saint Nick*
- * *Paris*
- * *Tom Hanks*
- * *He began to dance around*
- * *Germany*
- * *Parson Brown*
- * *Tiny tots*
- * *Feliz Navidad*
- * *White Christmas*
- * *Dancer, Dasher & Donner*
- * *Jingle Bells*



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.

In Memorium:



BENJAMIN H. SOOY, III, S
Commander

Benjamin Sooy of Absecon Island Power Squadron passed away on November 22, 2021. Ben was a longtime member of Absecon Island and had just received his 50th merit mark. Ben served as the District Parliamentarian for many years and was the National Parliamentarian as well.

Ben served as squadron commander for Absecon Island 1980-81.

Funeral services and/or memorial services are not available at this time.

UPCOMING EVENTS

20-26 Feb	USPS® Annual Meeting	Ponte Verde, FL
27 Feb-6 Mar	USPS® Cruise	Caribbean
31 Mar-2 Apr	D/5 Spring Conference	Ocean City, MD



Happiest of holidays to all

Mark 5

Official Publication of District 5
United States Power Squadrons®



Published Four Times Annually

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

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