

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
VALLEY FORGE



The Pilot

Sep-Aug 2021

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Commander

Cdr Patty Pezely, AP

The 2021 Cruise Actually Happened!

It's mid-July, and Joe and I just returned from our annual summer cruise on the Chesapeake. We shared a 42-foot catamaran with Ginny and Lance Parry, Nick and Rosemary Montalto and Mike and Karen Gibson. Rosemary and Karen came by land in St Michaels.

We started the cruise on Thursday night with the threat of a tropical storm. We were very happy that it was merely some rain and mild wind. Friday morning, we made our way to the mooring field outside the Yacht Basin in Annapolis.

Our first boat crawl was on Sanguine Odyssey, where we enjoyed a delicious champagne and St. Germaine cocktail. The following morning, we tested our dinghy and wandered towards land. It was touch and go but we made it. We took the 9 am tour of the Thomas Point Lighthouse. That was worth the trip. Later that day we had a nice dinner in the private dining room on the second floor at O'Brien's restaurant, where Adam Stevenson, representing The Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the U.S. Lighthouse So-

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2021-2022 Bridge

Commander

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Asterisk (*) means the member has complet-

(Continued from page 1) *The 2021 cruise actually happened!*

ciety, told stories of the history of lighthouses on the Chesapeake, including Thomas Point Light.

Sunday, we headed to Herrington Harbour South. There we enjoyed a boat crawl on Sway and the famous Goombay Smash by the Joneses and Rossi's. On Monday we enjoyed a great cookout and entertainment by "The World Famous" Eastport Oyster Boys. We had the Oyster Boys entertain us 11 years ago on the cruise. The entire crew got up to dance when Terri Drumel joined the band with a Percussion shaker.

Next, we moved on to the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michael's. I had my Commander's Cocktail Party, where CBMM President Kristen Greenaway gave a fabulous presentation on the Museum.

On Wednesday we enjoyed touring around the museum, including a private tour of the Maryland Dove, a replica of an original ship from England that helped found Maryland. At night we had a fabulous natural light show in the sky followed by a full rainbow and parts of a double arc.

On Thursday we moved on to Haven Harbour Marina in Rock Hall. Our first evening in we enjoyed Mojitos with the crew of It's About Time. Yum!! This was followed by an excellent cookout. The following day several of us enjoyed walking around the shops in Rock Hall. Many of the shops were under new ownership with the promise of a future for these small business owners. Our crew went to Waterman's for dinner. We ate out on the deck and enjoyed the band.

The cruise ended with a doctail party presented by the crew of Lux (Mike and Georgiana Maszczenski,

(Continued on page 4)



Executive Officer

Lt Cdr Ginny Parry, S

One of the benefits of boating, and our Commander's Cruise in particular, is the opportunity to meet new people and deepen connections with those you already know. It's also a key way to keep our squadron relevant and attract other boaters into becoming members.

I met two people who, like our own Meridith Barrett, designed and sewed the canvas for their boats – feats of engineering and tenaciousness. I marveled at how they had created zippered screen doors and windows, bimini tops, curtains and more. They were happy to explain the process.

Our boat crawls and on-shore gatherings were another way to talk with squadron members whom we haven't seen in person for more than a year. Jan Painter described following the cruise in the RV that she and George travel in. Bruce Fegan shared news from South Africa, remembering that I had visited there.

So when you're boating or



at one of our squadron meetings or events, remember to walk over to someone outside your regular circle and stitch some new threads of connection. You never know what you might learn or how much you'll enjoy knowing more about that person. And the better we know each other, the stronger our squadron will be.

What's your dock line style? A recent walk down the docks at Haven Harbour Marina in Rock Hall provided an opportunity to compare how boaters deal with the extra line after they attach a bow, stern or spring line to the cleat on the dock.

Are you a coiler? Do you make a loosely organized pile? Maybe you make a series of slipknots? Do you just drop the line on the dock?

Your goal should be to stow the line so it's not a tripping hazard to passersby, and have it immediately ready to use when you cast off.

Fall boat shows are back in Annapolis this October! If you'd like to get free admission in exchange for

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3) Executive Officer

three hours of your time, volunteer to help at the Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron booth at the United States Powerboat Show or the United States Sailboat Show. Meet other boaters at the booth, and help promote America's Boating Club®, then wander among the array of boats and gear.

- To volunteer for the Sailboat Show, (October 7-10, 2021): [CLICK HERE](#) .
- To volunteer for the Powerboat Show, (October 14-17, 2021): [CLICK HERE](#) .

Each signup sheet shows available dates and

time slots. Choose the open slots most convenient to your schedule and submit the information requested.

Your selection will be confirmed, and you'll receive other details by email. If you have any questions or need assistance, email boatshow@aspsmd.org.

When you go, wear your squadron shirt and name tag. And bring the Valley Forge squadron burgee and see where you fit in.

LtC Ginny Parry, S



[Upcoming Boat Shows](#)

Annapolis Power – October 7-10

Annapolis Sail—October 14-17



(Continued from page 3) The 2021 cruise actually happened!

Terry and Peggy Slattery and Carol Rechner, who all joined us from the Annapolis Sail and Power Squadron) who presented very creative and yummy cocktails and appetizers.

Our final dinner was at Bay Wolf and our entertainment was Gary Armstrong and Joe Pezely who presented the Forward Throttle Award. The cruise is called the Commander's Cruise, but all the credit goes to Barb and Russ Jones. They have been organizing the cruise for the past 15 years and continue to do a fabulous job.



Educational Officer
Stf/C James Heckman, SN



Asst. Educational Officer
Lt Wayne Barrett, JN

Congratulations

Congratulations to Rory Tucker, Larry Hartman and Lynn Mahaffy for passing the USPS Advanced Piloting exam. Rory and Larry are members of ABC VF and Lynn is a member of Wilmington Power Squadron. All three received high praise from the national USPS exam reviewer for their work on the exam. They clearly demonstrated their knowledge of the principles of coastal navigation using both paper and electronic charts. Thanks to Russ Jones who was the chair of the AP course.

Weather Course

ABC VF will present the USPS Weather Course starting at 7PM on Tuesday, September 14, 2021. The start of this course was delayed from the dates previously published in The Pilot.

Many experienced boaters believe this is one of the “essential” courses offered by USPS. The course chair, Nick Montalto, will be assisted by several ABC VF instructors. It will be presented online each Tuesday over a period of ten weeks. Each This will be the new 2021 Weather Course and will contain a major update of the practice of weather forecasting, designed to meet the needs of boaters and allow them to use recently available forecasting tools provided by the National Weather Service.

The course will be advertised to all 31 squadrons in our District 5. Both members and non-members of USPS are invited to attend. If you have not previously taken the USPS Weather Course, or need to get up to date, please consider enrolling in the course. To get more information, to enroll and to pay for the course go to www.ABCValleyForge.org.

Instructor Development Course (ID)

ABC VF will participate in a free, hybrid Instructor Development Course offered by District 5. Those who successfully complete the course will become certified instructors which is required for all of those who teach during any of the Public Boating courses. Not only will it help you in teaching, but it will also help you in giving any type of presentation (for example: church, business). By becoming a certified instructor and helping teach not

(Continued on page 8)

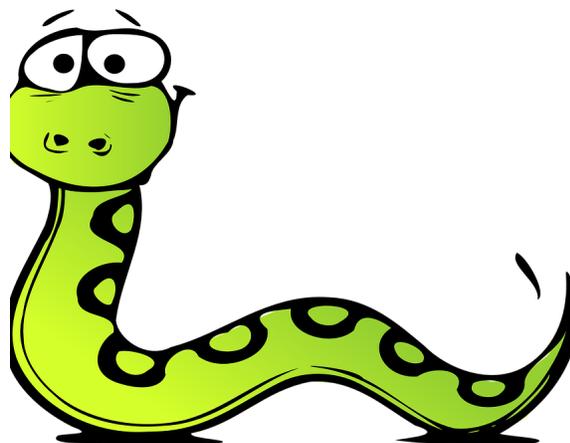
Snakes on a boat

Megan Weber, Safety Officer

Apparently this can be a real issue if you google it. I only want to reference a report from 2018 about a rattlesnake falling from a tree onto a kayaker in South Carolina and biting that paddler.

What would cause a snake to bite you while on a boat? Mainly disturbing it. If you see a snake your best bet is to leave it alone. My sister suggested moving it with a paddle or stick but unless in immediate harm, let it be.

Harmon Everett of the Houston Canoe Club wrote an article about the subject. "If you can, make a hidey hole for the snake to crawl into, and it probably will go in, in order to hide and feel safe. If it gets in your boat and crawls into a hidey hole, leave it alone," Everett recommends. "It will probably stay there. If it feels safe and is not hungry, you and snakes can coexist and maybe even become contented acquaintances. I don't think 'friends' is one of their emotions.



When you get to land, you can empty out your boat and safely escort the snake to go away."

You can read more [here](#):

A later report had the cousin defend the snake. The paddler who was bitten at first thought he paddled over an alligator. He went to pick it up, he learned it was a baby rattlesnake that bit him twice. He kept the snake to show the hospital what bit him so he could get the correct anti-venom.

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Fleet Captain's Report

P/C Lt. Jim Friedrichs, JN

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center (ATC) will be conducting live fire exercises and operational testing of various watercraft, scheduled to begin on or about July 12, 2021 through August 22, 2021. The area of operations includes: entering the water at Black Point, proceeding towards and operating in the Stoney Point area, then returning to the Black Point area.

The watercraft will be accompanied by ATC Patrol boats to provide escort and ensure that the area is clear of public boats. The area designated above will be CLOSED to commercial and recreational fishing and crabbing.

Kent Island Narrows North Approach continues to be shoaled to a depth of four feet in the Kent Island Narrows North Approach within the channel boundaries between Kent Island Narrows North Approach Light 2KN and Kent Island Narrows North Approach Light 8.

There has been a report of shoaling in the Northeast River within the channel between Northeast Lighted Buoy 7 and Northeast Lighted Buoy 8. Depths as low as 4.2 feet were observed.

Shoaling in the western portion of Slaughter Creek IVO of Holland Point has encroached easterly in most of the channel. The shoal adjacent to Slaughter Creek Light 2SC has encroached 50 to 100 yards easterly with observed depths of 3 to 4 feet. Shoaling to 5 feet has been observed to 5 feet on the red side of the channel between Buoy 6 and Buoy 8.

Specific new problems with buoyage in the Northern bay are shown below:

- Eastern Bay Buoy 3 Missing
- Harts Island Channel Light 9. Daymark Missing
- Gunpowder River Lighted Buoy 10. Missing
- Sassafras River Light 10 Reduced Intensity
- Sassafras River Daybeacon 12. Daymark Missing
- Back Creek Warning Daybeacon D Daymark Missing
- Northeast River Light 4 Daymark Missing

Jim Friedrichs, JN*

Fleet Captain

(Continued from page 5) Education

only our public boating courses but the other courses and seminars, and is a tangible way to contribute to the health of the organization to which we are so devoted.

If you are not certified, we encourage you to take the course. I, Jim Heckman, found the course extremely helpful even though I had been teaching medical students for more than 20 years. It gave me extremely useful techniques to prepare presentations, it updated me on the use of modern educational technology and gave me a chance to receive very helpful critique of short (5, 10, and 15 minute) lectures from my peers. The critiques are done by the instructors and your fellow students in a friendly, respectful manner to help you improve your presentations. It is almost impossible to improve in teaching and giving presentations without help from others.

As described below, D5 will offer this course beginning with a series of online lectures on October 14, 2021. In addition to attending the lectures, to become certified, students must present 3 presentations to a live audience and then prepare a 1-hour lesson plan. You have two choices for giving the live presentations. First, you could give them in Lancaster, PA during the District 5 Fall Conference beginning on November 11, 2021. Second, we, ABC VF, will offer students the opportunity to present the live sessions locally, most likely at the Paoli Presbyterian Church. Please inform Jim Heckman if you would like to present the live sessions locally JLHECKMAN4929@gmail.com). Once we know how many students wish to give their presentations at the church, we will schedule the sessions. If you have any questions about the Instructor Development course, please contact Jim.

Instructor Development course details are available on-line [HERE](#)

Hurricane Preparation for Boaters - Online Seminar

When a hurricane threatens, you need to be prepared and protect your boat. In this 2-hour seminar, you'll learn the basic structure of a hurricane, how to select a location from which to weather the storm, and how to prepare your boat. Time will be allocated for discussion, including story telling.

Date: Monday, September 20, 2021

Time: 7 – 9 PM ET

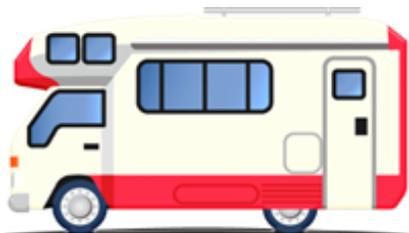
Location: Online using FreeConferenceCall

Cost: Free

Contact: Jim Heckman (JLHECKMAN4929@gmail.com)

Note: Though not required, you are encouraged to inform Jim that you plan to attend.

OUR MEMBERS JOIN THE CRUISE WITHOUT A BOAT



The crew of Whimsey followed the 2021 summer cruise by camper. We found campsites a close to the marina venues as possible. First was a campground at Lothian which was between Annapolis and Herrington Harbor. The travel time from Lothian to Annapolis was a bit difficult because of traffic, but we were able to enjoy some of our usual haunts such as a late breakfast Crepe at Sophies and ice cream at Storm Brothers. Walks around town and along the spa creek waterfront gave Thatcher and Hannah ample exercise.

Travel from the Campground to Herrington Harbor was shorter so we were able to get to the picnic easily. The two dogs enjoyed the entertainment by the Eastport Oyster Boys and the attention of the Squadron members as they lounged on one of the picnic tables.



Our next stop was on the eastern shore at Tuckahoe State Park. This was a lovely heavily wooded state park which offered very private well-separated campsites albeit offering only electric service instead of the amenities of the commercial campgrounds such as on-site sewer, water hook-ups, cable tv and Wi-Fi. Travel to St. Michaels was reasonable and the Commander's cocktail party at the Chesapeake Bay Museum followed by a meal at Foxy's. Diner the next night with Gary and Terri at Theo's capped our visit to St. Michaels.

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Doris Petty—August 4

Rita Rossi—August 7

Jeanne Affleck—August 10

Chuck Pellegrini—August 12

Mark Smaniotto—August 12

Elise Payne—August 13

Cynthia Gorge—August 14

Christina Hann—August 25

Rosemary Montalto—Aug 29



John Moore—August 30

Mike Mastropietro—Sep 1

Lance Parry—September 4

Susan Friedrichs—Sep 7

Jonathan Reardon—Sep 21

Bill McManimen—Sep 9

Kevin Barrett—September 11

John Kinneman—Sep 16

Cathy Reardon—Sep 21

Beach Water Cocktail

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 oz Blue Raspberry Vodka
- 1 1/2 oz Coconut Rum
- 6 oz 7UP
-

Directions:

Stir all ingredients in a glass and add ice.

Enjoy!



Vessel Exam Day

Maryanne Boettjer, VE Chair

On Saturday, June 5, Maryanne Boettjer, Chris Dome, John Juzbasich and Nick Montalto visited Haven Harbour and Osprey Point Marinas to perform vessel safety checks for interested skippers. Past Commander Frank Visich was an invaluable member of our team that day. He brought down our squadron's tent as well as the sandwich board, and manned the table at Haven Harbour the whole day.

Frank is great at convincing people that they should sign up for an inspection (they did!) and he organized the schedule for each of us. In addition to that, Frank made contact with the DNR to ask for copies of the Maryland Rules. Julie Brown at the DNR really stepped up and in addition to the Rules, she provided us with all sorts of materials-- safe boating literature, kayak stickers, life jackets and banners--which Frank picked up at the Kent Island DNR office. The day was a great success and together we did 28 inspections.



2021 Summer Cruise







**Who Said You Can't Have Fun at a ABClub
National Meeting?**



2021 Fall Governing Board
August 29 - September 5, 2021
Raleigh, North Carolina

Members can click [here](#) for
more information!

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Bud Haly - President

Did You Know?

In another marine business consoli-
dation, Brunswick Corporation
(NYSE: BC) announced that it has en-
tered into a definitive agreement to
acquire Navico, a global leader in
marine electronics and sensors for
\$1.05 billion.

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MLSPS COMMANDER'S PICNIC—August 11th

The menu will include the main dish and side dishes. We will provide the soda, beer and wine. If you would like to bring a dish, appetizer, or dessert to share, that would be a welcome addition. Please bring chairs. Feel free to bring your swimming attire for a cool dip in the pool. Please let Patty know if you are coming and what you plan to bring.

DATE: Wednesday, August 11, 2021

TIME: 6:30 pm

PLACE: Pezely's House

ADDRESS 130 Oakwood Lane

Phoenixville, PA 19460

RSVP: BY: August 1, 2021

TO: Patty Pezely

Pattypezely@gmail.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August	
4	Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm, (7:30 pm if we're meeting in person)
11	Commander's Picnic and ExCom meeting, details to come
29-9/5	2021 USPS Fall Governing Board Meeting – Raleigh, NC
September	
1	ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm
9-12	Atlantic City In-Water Boat Show, Frank S. Farley State Marina at the Golden Nugget
12	Pilot articles deadline
16	Dinner or picnic
18	Veteran Picnic, RSVP Frank Visich
October	
7-10	Annapolis Powerboat Show
6	Ex Com Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm
<i>tbd</i>	Submit all Merit Marks to Bill McManimen
14-18	Annapolis Sailboat Show
21	Monthly Dinner Meeting
November	
3	Ex Com Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm
11-14	<i>D/5 Fall Educational Conference, Hilton Doubletree, Lancaster PA</i>
	No dinner meeting
12	<i>Pilot</i> articles deadline
December	
1	Ex Com Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, 7:30 pm
<i>tbd</i>	Holiday Party,
January 2022	
5	Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm, (7:30 pm if we're meeting in person)
<i>tbd</i>	D/5 Spring Conference Hospitality Planning Meeting
<i>tbd</i>	2020 Budget meeting
<i>tbd</i>	New Members party at the Fegans' house
<i>tbd</i>	Change of Watch planning meeting at the Pezelys' house
20	Dinner Meeting – Founder's Day
12	<i>Pilot</i> articles deadline
February	
2	Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm, (7:30 pm if we're meeting in person)
19-27	America's Boating Club® (USPS) Annual Meeting, Ponte Vedra, FL
17	Dinner Meeting – Officer elections
March	
2	Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm, (7:30 pm if we're meeting in person)

March	
2	Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm, (7:30 pm if we're meeting in person)
12-14	Greater Philadelphia Boat Show, Oaks, Pa.
?20?	Change of Watch
12	<i>Pilot</i> articles deadline

The Forward Throttle Award 2021

The tradition of the Forward Throttle Award continued in 2021 after a one-year hiatus due to COVID-19 and the cancellation of the 2020 Cruise. This year's winner was an upset, but I am getting ahead of myself.

Ten boats joined all or part of the Cruise and only one remained standing at the end. Seventh Sojourn earned the anti-social award for skipping Haven Harbour and even switched marinas in St Michaels to be "closer to Foxy's". Blue Rhapsody was booted for not sharing their precious vermouth, as promised, and Ces't Si Bon was also knocked out of the running for revealing that Blue Rhapsody never planned on sharing in the first place!

Whimsey's crew made a few appearances at some events on the cruise, as did the crew of Bay Spirit, however, nobody ever saw any of these boats so they were kicked to the curb for that reason.

Sway didn't make the cut for a couple



of reasons: They almost sunk the boat due to excessive showering while the shower sump was broken, but mainly for arriving in Annapolis two days early to watch the sailboat races which, as it turned out, were cancelled.

Mile Hi Latitude was looking good to win all the marbles, that is until on the very first day they heaved a boat hook into the Annapolis mooring field. Apparently this crew does this all the time as they also heaved a fender overboard later in the week.

Meriway lost all hope of winning when they took 8 hours to travel 20 miles, all the while performing a back and forth water dance with a wayward waterman.

Then, in an improbable upset, Sanguine Odyssey was announced as the 2021 winner, despite aggravating the bridge tender at Kent Narrows so much that he almost banned them for life from ever crossing under his bridge again. Congratulations to John, Larry and John!



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The Pilot

Editor: Gary Armstrong (garmstro55@gmail.com)



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The October-November Pilot Deadline is September 15th