

# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

## VALLEY FORGE



# The Pilot

Feb-Mar 2022

## In This Issue

[Officer Columns 1-5](#)

[Education Dept. 5](#)

[Fleet Captain 6](#)

[Boat for Sale 6](#)

[Veterans Party 8](#)

[Summer Cruise 9](#)

[Forward Throttle 10](#)

[Birthdays 11](#)

[Founders Day Pics 12](#)

[Calendar 13](#)



Commander

*Cdr Patty Pezely, AP*

## **Commander's Report**

It was really great seeing so many members at the holiday party in December. Rita Rossi, Barb Jones and Meridith Barret did a fantastic job putting everything together. The night included games, singalongs, pictures with Santa, prizes and gifts. Thank you, Rita, Barb and Meredith, and everyone else who helped.

I would also like to thank Ginny Parry for setting up the Chester County Food Bank virtual drive so members and friends can voluntarily contribute. And finally, thank you to Frank Visich, Ed White and John Juzbasich for bringing joy to the Veterans. More on these events in Ginny Parry's article.

We moved the January ExCom and dinner meeting to virtual because of the surge with the Covid Variant Omicron. Covid is the gift that won't stop giving. I plan to have the February and March ExCom's virtual as I finish out my year as commander. Keep February 17<sup>th</sup> on your calendar for the dinner meeting where we do the Officer Elections for the upcoming year. The current plan is for this to be an in-person meeting at Peppers.

The Change of Watch will be on March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Downingtown Country Club, and I am planning on this event to be in-person this year. The Change of

*(Continued on page 2)*

## 2021-2022 Bridge

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Asterisk (\*) means the member has completed three or more courses after achieving AP

### (Continued from page 1) *Commander's Report*

Watch ceremony is a special event where we recognize members who have gone above and beyond. Please try to attend and join in the celebration. It will be my time to release the old bridge of their duties and for Ginny and Mike Gibson to bring in the new bridge. I am excited to pass the torch to Ginny and Mike. I know they will do a fantastic job. The invitation will be sent out in email.

Usually around this time of year, we are preparing for the Greater Philadelphia boat show in Oaks. Well, no show this year. There are no boats available to sell. So, take some classes in the meanwhile. See more information about classes in this newsletter.

For now, stay safe and stay warm. Spring is right around the corner.

Commander Patty Pezely, AP





## Executive Officer

*Lt Cdr Ginny Parry, S*

### We need you!

No one has offered to be the Administrative Officer for the coming year, so we need volunteers to agree to organize a (just one!!!) monthly membership meeting. It involves signing up to host a specific month's meeting, then finding a restaurant or another venue for the meeting, and finding a person (or video) to present a topic. As long as our meetings are virtual, you don't even need to find a location.

While many of our monthly meetings have been at restaurants, you could opt to find a location for a potluck, decide on an activity in lieu of a meal, create a pizza and movie night, or something entirely different. To volunteer, contact me at ginnyparry@gmail.com. As I said, we need you!

### Holiday Party for Veterans

P/Cs Frank Visich and Ed White, not content with coordinating a donation of 50 pies to veterans and their families at the Whitehall Apartments in Spring City in December, made the event into a party. Music! Snacks! Pies! Judging! P/C John Juzbasich and his SDSQ (Socially Distanced Saxophone Quartet) provided live music. Ed and Frank brought snacks. Residents danced. Frank and Ed judged the residents' door decorations, and everyone celebrated the holiday. You'll find more information and photos on **Page ???** Funds for the pies are part of our budget. The connection with the veterans has grown from a picnic to a semiannual event that is popular with our members and the residents, and has fostered relationships with them. Many thanks to everyone who helped make the party such a success!

### Virtual Food Drive

Generous members of our squadron helped address hunger in Chester County through donations

to our virtual food drive for the Chester County Food Bank. We raised \$1,600 to help provide food for families whose weeks last longer than their food dollars. The Food Bank works with more than 160 food cupboards, hot meal sites, shelters and other social service organizations in the county.

Thanks to all who participated!

### District 5 (Mid-Atlantic Region) Spring Educational Conference

How's your April Fool's Day shaping up this year? Consider spending it – and that weekend -- in Ocean City, MD at the D/5 Spring Educational Conference at the Princess Royale Hotel. A highlight will be on Friday evening, April 1, when the squadrons attending the 5-state event host activities, skits and events at hospitality suites in the hotel.

Our planning has started, and you can help us plan our squadron's activity for that Friday evening. The next meeting will be a Zoom event at 7 pm Wednesday, Jan. 26. Here's the link for the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89605204903?pwd=bEVuZGd5NVVaakVtcVNHY25DVGhXUT09>

The Spring Educational Conference is an opportunity to meet members of other squadrons in our five-state area, attend training classes, and support the incoming officers at the district Change of Watch. Check for updates on the district website at [www.uspsd5.org](http://www.uspsd5.org) along with links to register for a hotel room.

### Be an Armchair Traveler or Plan an Excursion

Here's an informative place to start looking: <https://www.findyourchesapeake.com/>. It has sug-

*(Continued on page 4)*

*(Continued from page 3) Executive Officer*

gestions for virtual and in person tours, ideas for the current week, events and other tips. (In roaming the site, I stumbled across a spot on the Potomac where you can legally hunt for fossil shark's teeth.)

**Vessel Safety Checks**

Our squadron will again offer these free checks to boat owners. The checks are a good way to make

sure your boat or paddle craft is safe. Contact Maryanne Boettjer or Chris Dome to schedule a check, or plan to bring your boat to a weekend session in Rock Hall in early June. The safety check team is looking for more members; contact Maryanne or Chris at [mboettj@gmail.com](mailto:mboettj@gmail.com) or [cbdome@clermontfarm.com](mailto:cbdome@clermontfarm.com).

LtC Ginny Parry, S



[Upcoming Boat Shows](#)

As of the date of publication, the Philadelphia Boat Show in Oaks, PA is cancelled.

[Miami International Boat Show—February 16-20, 2022](#)

[Atlantic City Boat Show—March 2-6, 2022](#)

























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**Educational Officer**  
*Stf/C James Heckman, SN*



**Asst. Educational Officer**  
*Lt Wayne Barrett, JN*

*"Knowledgeable boaters have more fun."*

Our spring teaching semester is rapidly approaching. Our club is very fortunate to have the following members who are certified instructors. They have completed the Instructor Development course and have maintained their certification by regularly taking the instructor recertification seminar. Only certified instructors can teach in our public boating courses. However, even if you are not a certified instructor you can help us teach our advanced and elective courses. We urge you to volunteer to help us!

*Lt Gary E. Armstrong, SN-IN*

*P/C Lance A. Parry, AP-IN*

*Lt Susan M. Friedrichs, SN*

*1st/Lt Wayne R. Barrett, JN*

*P/C George M. Painter, JN*

*Stf/C James L. Heckman, SN*

*P/C William R. Jones, SN-IN*

*V/C William J. McManimen III, SN-ON*

*D/Lt/C Nicholas R. Montalto, SN-IN*

*P/C Samuel S. Lyness, SN*

The following three courses will be offered this spring as part of the Chester County Lifelong Learning (formerly CCNS) course offerings.

**Title: America's Boating Course (ABC)**

Location: B. Reed Henderson High School

Cost: \$70

Dates: Tuesdays starting on April 5, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM

Contact: Wayne Barrett ([wrfbarrett@comcast.net](mailto:wrfbarrett@comcast.net))

*(Continued on page 7)*





## Fleet Captain's Report

*P/C Lt. Jim Friedrichs, JN*

- Dredging of Little Queenstown Harbor on the Chester River will occur between January 15 and March 4

The fuel distribution pier in Curtis Bay is being rehabbed. Work is scheduled to be completed by July 1, 2022.

A safety zone has been established within 100 feet of the Bill Burton Fishing Pier State Park along the Choptank.

Dear Frank, Ed and the Wonderful members  
of America's Boating Club -

12/  
2021

May the beauty of this Christmas Season surround  
you with *Love, Peace, and Hope...*

Thank you so much for all you have  
done for The Whitehall throughout the  
year! Sincerely, Kim Wilkinson &

the Veterans and Family Members - Whitehall

(Continued from page 5) Education

**Title: Marine Navigation**

Location: Downingtown High School

Cost: \$40 plus \$75 for the course student manual, course plotter, dividers, and chart

Dates: Tuesdays starting on April 5, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM

Contact: Russ Jones ([wrjones3@verizon.net](mailto:wrjones3@verizon.net))

**Title: Essential Knowledge for Boaters**

Location: E. N. Peirce Middle School

Dates: Wednesdays starting on April 6, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM

Cost: \$40

Contact: Russ Jones ([wrjones3@verizon.net](mailto:wrjones3@verizon.net))

The following one-day course will be offered twice this spring at Clews and Strawbridge

**Title: America's Boating Course (ABC)**

Cost: \$45

Dates: two Saturdays in April or May 2022, the exact dates TBD

Contact: Wayne Barrett ([wrfbarrett@comcast.net](mailto:wrfbarrett@comcast.net))

The following one-day course will be offered this spring at Stolfus RV & Marine

**Title: America's Boating Course (ABC)**

Cost: \$45

Date: one Saturday in April or May 2022, the exact date TBD

Contact: Wayne Barrett ([wrfbarrett@comcast.net](mailto:wrfbarrett@comcast.net))



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**Bud Haly - President**

## Veterans Holiday Party

The planning for the Holiday Party held on December 21, 2021, and everything needed to make the night a success, started about 2 months prior to the event. We first sent over a list of the various available pie flavors to Kim, the director of the Veterans home. Kim got a count for the various pies and I was able to contact Giant food store in Gilbertsville to place the order for pickup a few hours prior to the event start. I also met with the manager of the Giant food store and he generously gave us a \$50 gift card to be applied to the purchase of the 50 pies. Frank Visich, J.J. Juzbasich, J.M. Juzbasich, Alex my son and I arrive early to put the pies out on the island in the community room and decorate the pie boxes with stickers, bows and candy canes. We also put out cheese, fruit and beverages for the veterans. We assisted refilling beverages throughout the event.

About 30 minutes into the event we were asked by Kim, the director, to judge the decorated front doors throughout the 3 floors of the residence. Frank Visich and I judged the doors and came up with the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

The party was a great success and the veterans really enjoyed the pies and the holiday cards we hand-delivered to the attendees. JJ's band "SDSQ" (Socially Distanced Saxophone Quartet) played various hit songs which the veterans loved. All the attendees really enjoyed the event and felt very special with everything that we did for them.





## 2022 ABC Valley Forge Summer Cruise

Our Main Line Sail & Power Squadron **2022** summer cruise itinerary is set. This year we sent a questionnaire to the members who attended the 2021 Summer Cruise asking which marinas they prefer. There were four marinas and a yacht club chosen by our cruisers. The top five are listed below and we plan to go to all of them. We are estimating that between **10 and 15 boats will join us this summer**. If you would like to crew on a boat, please let me know.

There will be **many interesting activities** on the cruise, all of which are optional. Look for details about the cruise activities in a subsequent Pilot article. We always have fun activities, and hopefully that will influence your decision to join us this year. These will include **a beach party, dinner at great restaurants, several guest speakers, more of our celebrated boat crawls, the infamous "forward throttle award" ceremony of course, and other interesting activities still in development**. You can sign up for the activities at our May pre-cruise dinner meeting.

**Don't miss this annual cruise!** Something exciting always provides wonderful memories. **If you are new to boating, we can team you with another similar boat.**

The marinas have requested a list of the boats that will require slips. **Please complete this form** indicating the marinas for which you will require a slip.

**Please email your response to [wrjones3@verizon.net](mailto:wrjones3@verizon.net) or send the completed form to P/C Russ Jones, 115 Oak Street, Downingtown, PA 19335. No deposit required.**

Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Captain: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell number: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Boat Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Length: \_\_\_\_\_ Beam: \_\_\_\_\_ Draft: \_\_\_\_\_

Type: ☐ Power; ☐ Sail    Electric: ☐ Single 30; ☐ Dual 30; ☐ Single 50; ☐ Dual 50

☐ Friday, June 17 – Baltimore Yacht Club, Sue Island

☐ Saturday, June 18 – Baltimore Yacht Club, Sue Island

☐ Sunday, June 19 – Harbor East Marina, Baltimore

☐ Monday, June 20 – Harbor East Marina, Baltimore

☐ Tuesday, June 21 – The Yacht Basin, Annapolis

☐ Wednesday, June 22 – The Yacht Basin, Annapolis

☐ Thursday, June 23 – Herrington Harbour South, Herring Bay

☐ Friday, June 24 – Herrington Harbour South, Herring Bay

☐ Saturday, June 25 – Haven Harbor Marina, Rock Hall

## The Forward Throttle Award, Yesterday and Today

It was several years ago, in 2002, when the Forward Throttle Award was conceptualized and presented for the very first time. Zahnisers Yachting Center was the location and the culprits include Gary Armstrong and Esteban Nunez. We had concluded that the MLSPS summer cruise needed something to bring the event to a close that would be fun and interesting. The first idea we came up with was to invent an award and give it to the vessel/crew that showed the best qualities of teamwork, seamanship, safety on the water and navigational skill.

On the other hand, we thought, maybe we should just come up with reasons, *real or imagined*, and, if necessary, exaggerate any slip-up, mistake, oversight or minor transgression we discovered over the course of the cruise with the intent of eliminating boats one by one until the only one was left would, by default, win the award.

We went with Plan B.

We hustled over to the nearest marine store to find something we could use to cobble together some sort of plaque. We found a teak outlet cover, some plastic helm labels and a piece of rope that would do just fine. Of course, we never thought the award would continue on past the first year, (who knew that our members would so enjoy hearing how much they screwed up) so it wasn't fancy nor did we have a place for any of the winners names on the plaque. All of that came later, in 2004 to be exact, when that year's winner, Wind Elephant, decided to have the outlet cover mounted on a proper hunk of wood and also added engraved brass nameplates.

Back to 2002... Flying Angel won the inaugural Forward Throttle award and it has been presented annually ever since on the last evening of the summer cruise. The original outlet cover now has grown to include not one, but two hunks of wood and it actually looks like we planned it that way all along. And Now let's jump into the Wayback Machine and revisit some of the memories from the 2008 Summer Cruise (excerpted from a previous Pilot).

### Forward Throttle 2008

Windborne was in the running all the way to Wednesday, and actually was the Las Vegas favorite at 1:2 odds, however Vegas has never seen what happens when Main Line descends on Middleton's in Annapolis. Oyster shooters are, for some reason, irresistible to most Mainliners, and for a few cruisers this meant consuming as many as possible as late into the morning as possible. (Who cares that the water taxi stops running at 11:00, as Commander Joe Pezely is known

(Continued on page 11)

Steven Spinner—February 4

Elizabeth Corbin—February 7

Jim Friedrichs—February 10

Cliff Shaw—February 11

James Tucker—February 11

Richard McLaughlin—Feb 20

William Cozzens—Feb 22

Janet Louvet—February 24



Scott Borzell—March 2

Jan Painter—March 4

Kathleen Borzell—March 7

Harris Brody—March 20

Jonathan Fowler—March 25

Morris Disston—March 26

Larry Hartman—March 26

John Juzbasich—March 28

(Continued from page 10) Forward Throttle

to say: "It will all work out!") To be absolutely clear here, Windborne's occupants were peacefully sleeping and completely unaware of the mischief that was brewing. However, at 1:30 am they were awoken by the sensation of someone or something attempting to climb over their boat and abscond with Windborne's tender. Rumor has it that a trio of slightly inebriated members needed transportation to a vessel in the mooring field. The crew successfully thwarted the theft by reasoning with the hijackers, but were found by the judges to have shirked their cruiser -ly duty to "assist members in need of transportation, however many Mojitos they may have consumed".

Past winner Voyager made it as far as Herrington Harbour South this year. Members often make jokes that Voyager is never seen under way, never unfurls the sails, etc, etc. This year every cruiser witnessed it first-hand...Voyager under way leaving the harbor on Wednesday, motoring out of the channel at exactly 09:20 toward the open waters of the Chesapeake Bay. However, on this occasion they blew by and blew off the traditional Pass and Review that took place at 09:30, only ten minutes later.

So, the 2008 winner of the 2008 Forward Throttle award was Goldilochs.



## Memories From the Past





## Calendar of Events

January 2022	
5	Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm
15	Pilot articles deadline
26	D/5 Spring Conference Hospitality Planning Meeting
	New Members party at the Fegans' house
20	Virtual Dinner Meeting
February	
2	Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm
10	Change of Watch planning meeting – Patty will set up a Zoom – 7pm
tbd	2020 Budget meeting
17	Dinner Meeting – Officer elections - Peppers
19-27	America's Boating Club® (USPS) Annual Meeting, Ponte Vedra, FL
March	
2	Virtual ExCom Meeting, 7 pm
12	Pilot articles deadline
12-14	Greater Philadelphia Boat Show, Oaks, Pa.
27	Change of Watch, Downingtown Country Club
31-2	D5 Conference, Ocean City Maryland





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## *The Pilot*

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The Pilot is a publication of America's Boating Club® Valley Forge, a unit of United States Power Squadrons®. The Pilot is published in February, April, June, August, October and December. It is on the web at [www.mainlinesps.org](http://www.mainlinesps.org) and on Facebook at America's Boating Club—Valley Forge. Contact us at [LetsGoBoating@abcvalleyforge.org](mailto:LetsGoBoating@abcvalleyforge.org) with questions.



**The April-May Pilot Deadline is March 15th**