

# Absecon Light



Commander Apryl J. Bernard, P

## Commander's Message

- \* Scoop From the Poop Deck ..... Page 3
- \* Executive Officer Message..... Page 4
- \* District News ..... Page 5
- \* Education Officer Message ..... Page 6
- \* Pictures from Canoe Trip ..... Page 7
- \* Administrative Officer Message..... Page 8
- \* Holiday Party Flyer..... Page 8
- \* GWIE Pictures..... Page 9
- \* Safety Article..... Page 10

I just returned from my first Fall Conference in many years and boy did my perception of what happens there changed. I believed that the Fall Conference was just for education. While it is mostly education, there is far more to offer other members as well. There were various seminars on Safety, First Aid & CPR, Merit Mark workshop, DB2000, Vessel Safety Checks, Presenting Seminars, a SailAngle presentation, Publication, Public Relations, Historian, Membership as well specific breakout sessions for each member of the bridge. I learned many new things at this conference along with renewing friendships with many District 5 members. When next

year's conference comes along, take a few minutes to see what it offers and consider attending. The best part of this is that these seminars and workshops are free. You will be glad you did.

One of the best things I learned about was the new program on the Internet, SailAngle. This communication network can be used as a great advertising and communication tool for our squadron. I am going to give a brief demonstration at the meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> and will be glad to personally assist anyone who is interested in learning more about this program. You can contact me at (609) 625-4987

or e-mail me at [aprylber@msn.com](mailto:aprylber@msn.com).

I want to wish everyone a joyous, safe and happy holiday season. This is busy time of the year, which can be hectic. Make it fun; take time to enjoy and make it "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year."



Absecon Island Power Squadron  
2009-2010 Bridge

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**AIPS CALENDAR**

19 November  
AIPS General Meeting  
Absecon American Legion  
1930

12 December  
Christmas Party  
Carugno Home  
1127 Riverside Drive

21 January 2010  
AIPS General Meeting  
Absecon American Legion  
1930

1 - 6 February 2010  
USPS Annual Meeting  
Walt Disney World, Orlando, FL

18 February 2010  
AIPS Founders' Day  
Absecon American Legion



November

5th Bobbie Jean Sooy  
11th Pat Orth  
14th Jim Laymon  
21st David Bernard

December

3rd Jenna Egan-Kelly  
5th Barbara Boakes  
    Roberta Dougherty  
    JoAnn Haley  
9th Cheryl Mercer  
15th Nancy Bernard  
    George Kourakin  
18th Sandy Wytoshek  
24th Walter Wytoshek  
28th Betty Byerly  
29th John Gasko  
30th Chuck Haley

Fall, 2009  
November/December  
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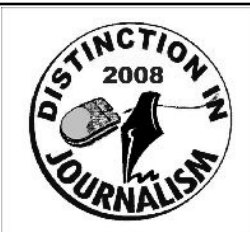
Absecon Light

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# Scoop from the Poop Deck



## GWIE Dinner Recap

We come to the part of the show that represents why we are all gathered here; the presentation of the GWIE nominees and the award to the "lucky" winner for 2009. There were many reports of embarrassing experiences. So many in fact, that only the best were selected.

### Founders' Day Protocol

The Founders' Day Dinner was held on 15 January, a different date this year due to a conflict with the National meeting. Our illustrious then commander, Dave Bernard began the festivities with the Pledge of Allegiance. P/C Dave proudly held up a tiny flag (maybe the size of a thumbnail) hopefully to be seen by the many in attendance. It was a very moving event, except for those who had to squint to see the flag. For Dave's ceremonial action, he is the first candidate for the GWIE.



## Total Dedication



It was the night of 19 November. This was to be a magical evening for one couple to celebrate their anniversary. This was the anniversary of our Administrative Officer and Secretary,

Lou and Pat Orth. Lou and Pat decided they would drop off their reports after dinner so that the regular meeting could go on. They stopped by the American Legion to drop off the reports, but no one was there. Alas, they had the wrong night. The meeting was the 20th of November. Come on up Lou and Pat.

## The Art of Docking

This came from another one of our past commanders. P/C Jacki Bernard along with her children and a friend were on the Carugno boat "Repoort." While in the process of docking with Jacki at the helm, left the chore of tying up the boat to her friend. However, in her haste, the friend tied up the boat incorrectly. Jacki, being the experienced boater she was, decided to jump off the boat onto the dock to retrieve the correct line. Needless to say, Miss Experienced Jacki proceeded to go for a lovely swim, leaving the boat in the hands of her chil-



dren, Matt and Ralph. Come on up Jacki!

## Going Nowhere Fast

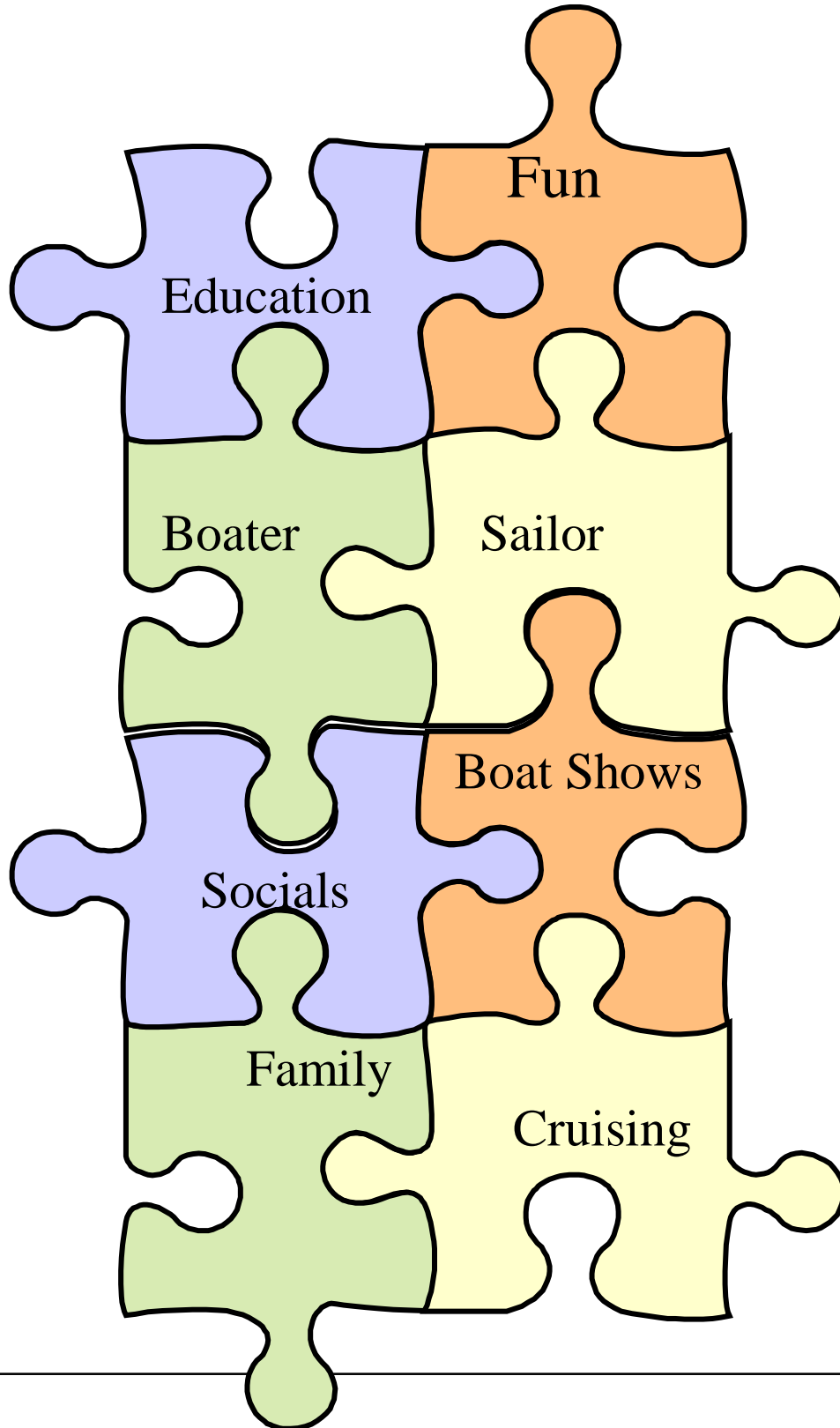
Back to P/C Dave. Dave is the owner of a successful surveying business. Sandy and Walter Wytoshek were in need of his services last spring. Dave was given fair notice of the date the survey was needed. The closing was fast approaching and still no word from Dave. In the final desperate hours, Sandy reached Dave. Dave however was trying to get his boat in the water for season and without success. He could not move it. The problem, the propellers were still out of the water! Another nomination for P/C Dave.

## Husband to the Rescue

One of our most dedicated members, Roberta Dougherty is the next nominee. On the Canoe/Kayak trip, Roberta teamed up with Betty Byerly. Throughout the entire course of the trip, all Roberta did was whine, whine, whine. Betty was convinced the canoe was going to tip over. Half way across the river, with Betty doing most of the work, Roberta decides to send out a distress call to Tom Dougherty (who was on a Jet ski). Tom not only had to rescue Betty and Roberta, but had to tow back the canoe also. Roberta had one job to do while towing that canoe; hold onto the line from the jet ski to the canoe. What happened? Thanks to our mistress of knots and hitches, jet ski goes forward,

Executive Officer  
Jaelyn C. Carugno, p

## Where do “You” fit in?



# District/National News & Events

The District 5 Fall Conference held 6-8 November is now history. Many great ideas and plans were exchanged. More was learned about the challenges of teaching boating courses and seminars. A great plan of combining squadrons of the upper half of District 5 to have multi-squadron rendezvous several times throughout the summer was brought to us by Cdr. Sut Anderson of Wilmington Sail & PS. The creator of SailAngle and USPS member Randy White gave a presentation on this great communication tool. The national Executive Officer Frank Dvorak, SN was present and held a Town Meeting to answer various questions from members. D/C Ralph Bernard and Nance once again hosted a cocktail party before Saturday night's dinner.

The next national meeting will be held 1-6 February at the Coronado Springs Resort in Walt Disney World. A few members have already made plans to attend this event, including D/C Ralph Bernard & Nance. Registration forms are available in this month's online edition of the Ensign, as well as the last edition and online at the USPS website, [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org).



Nancy Bernard, Betty Byerly, Mike Lebiduk, Jim and Mina Ziegenfuss converse during the Meet & Greet on Friday, 6 November in Rockville, MD



Our own first couple enjoy their dinner Saturday night at the banquet during Fall Conference.



National representative V/C Frank Dvorak, SN and his wife Vivian enjoy their dinner.



Dave and Nancy Bernard take time out from dinner to smile for the camera!



The District Aides gather before the District Commander's Cocktail Party



D/F/Lt Dave Bernard prepares the bar for the cocktail party



Part of the delicious spread put out for the cocktail party



Even Sourpuss made an appearance at Fall Conference

## Educational Officer Esther (Betty) Byerly, AP

We have just finished our class in Ocean City High School. All students have passed and one was interested in joining the Squadron. We are busy setting up seminars for the New Year and the ABC classes. We know that we will not be in as much demand for the ABC classes. Our approach will be to first time boaters and some of the procrastinators who realize that they need their certificate. This includes the other sportsmen out there like our many duck and geese hunters.

I looking for a centralized location to hold seminars and these seminars are going over specific boating topics and needs. They are 2 hour long.

Also being set up are Seamanship and Piloting classes. Anyone interested please call me. These classes will be held in member homes and are held and set up for the convenience of the individuals. I will be calling those who are in line to take these classes. I do know that Seamanship will be held in Absecon.

I wish you all Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Happy Holidays to all.



## NOTICE

It has been reported----

Anyone going to the Motor Vehicle Office to renew their drivers license and boat is also on the license must produce their Boat Safety Certificate to them or they will not renew your license. It's better to be prepared.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**You can verify your personal information on the USPS web page. Here's how:**

**Go to [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org).**

- ↳ **Click on member stuff; a drop down menu will appear**
- ↳ **Click on Logon**
- ↳ **When the next page appears; put in your certificate #; then your zip code, hit Enter. (if you do not know your certificate number, look in your roster)**
- ↳ **Click on manage your own profile from the menu on the left hand side of the page**
- ↳ **Your profile should come up; check it for its accuracy.**

**If there are corrections to be made; please e-mail Lynn Graiser at the following e-mail: [lynn39@verizon.net](mailto:lynn39@verizon.net). with changes that are to be made.**

**Check back in a week to see if it is correct.**

# Pictures from Canoe Trip



## Administrative officer Lou Orth, P

The Canoe/Kayak Trip was a success, with everyone having a great time. Thank you Sue Stiles for all your time and work on this event and for chairing our annual Boscov's Day. Great job on both.

We had a great evening at the GWIE Dinner. Thank you Sandy Wytoshek for all your hard work. You gave us a wonderful affair. Thank you Dave Bernard for all your funny summer experiences. Most people win the GWIE award due to one educational experience, but few of us can qualify for the nomination in so many different categories. Dave you are the man!

Thank you to the Carugno/Bernard families for opening their home to us for the annual Christmas Party. Please mark your calendars for the evening of Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Please take the time to share the Christmas Spirit with us. We always have a good time.

The Founder's Day party is scheduled for Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>. More info to follow.

Why not show a non-member what a great organization we are. Bring a friend to each event you attend.

### ***AIPS HOLIDAY PARTY***

***Saturday 12 December - 1800***

***Carugno/Bernard House  
1127 Riverside Drive, Mays Landing***

***Buffet Dinner, Beer & Wine  
Cost: \$15.00***

***RSVP to Jacki Carugno at (609) 625-2374***

**COME CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON WITH FELLOW AIPS MEMBERS; BRING A FRIEND**

**BRING AN UNWRAPPED TOY TO GIVE TO "TOYS FOR TOTS"**

canoe does not. Roberta let go of the line.

Decadent AC

Members of Kingsway PS, Warren and Barbara Stevens were taking their beautiful yacht up to Maine. They made a stop in AC along the way. Dave and Nancy went over the AC in their boat to give them a welcome on behalf of AIPS. While docked their in Trump Marina, a couple strolled down the dock. The female of the dock decided to take a swim and asked Nancy Bernard if she could use their swim platform to get out of the water. Nancy said okay and before you know, the young lady had stripped down to her birthday suit and goes in. Not only did Nancy witness the event, but Barbara Stevens was a witness to the skinny dipping event also. Nancy come on up.

OOPS!

Back to the canoe trip. Dave Bernard was gracious enough to provide canoes for the trip. However, while loading the canoes onto the trailer, one bright red canoe slipped from his hands and damaged Sue Stiles' car. Make that nomination #3.

Mishap at the Rod

Walter and Sandy were celebrating a lovely St. Patrick's day evening, Walter slipped off the curb and broke his ankle. Wonder if he possibly had one or two too many? This led to a two month major disruption in the Wytoshek household. Walter come on up!



Peril on the High Seas

Twas a calm morning to sail. There are those sailors who plan the night before they are going to embark on a

long voyage. They base their trip on convenience, when they must be back at home port to fulfill obligations. Never mind what the weather report or times of tides may be, especially not for a 2nd generation Power Squadron captain. The Perfect Storm is no obstacle for him. P/C Dave Bernard leaves the Wytoshek home in Brigantine at 0600. All is calm. Not a problem to return to Mays Landing.

One hour later, the sky is black, the waves are ferocious. Lightening is striking. The wind is howling. All one can do is pray that "Breezin" makes it home safely.



There were massive waves in Longport Inlet along with torrential rains, hurricane force winds, and tornados sighted. All hands on deck must don lifejackets and hang on for dear life.

If only Dave had checked the forecast. He could have waited one hour and the journey would have gone smoothly. But no, our experienced captain risked the lives of his children and dog and himself, along with the safety of his boat just because he wanted to be ship-



wrecked and fulfill his lifetime dream to be on the SS Minnow.

For that instance, Dave, you get the GWIE!



## Safety First

### Boating Green

From Boat Safety.com

#### Clean Boating Habits

Boating Green is about developing Clean Boating Habits and leaving the smallest impact on the waterways while recreational boating. Boat sewage, graywater, cleaning products, spilled fuel and oil, trash and aquatic nuisance species are potential sources of pollution. Boaters play an important role in the health of the waterways they enjoy, and share a responsibility for their protection. Even though boating green does not have a direct effect on your ability to go out and come back safely it does play a safety role for generations to come.

#### Foul Weather

Wind, waves, rain and fog cause potential problems for boaters that can result into pollutants being accidentally spilled into the environment. Check the weather before and while underway for your safety and the protection of the environment from any accidental spillage of toxic substances such as fuel in portable containers. In foul weather, prevent accidental spillage by securing loose items.

#### Boat Maintenance

Products used to clean boat hulls, decks and bilges may contain toxic chemicals that are harmful to the marine environment. Use cleaning methods that prevent pollutants from entering the water. Use only fresh water to clean your boat instead of detergents, in addition to harming the environment, detergents remove wax from the boat surface and would require you to wax more often. If a cleaning product must be used to remove stubborn dirt, choose one that is environmentally friendly. Try to do most of the cleaning and maintenance of the boat when it is out of the water.

#### Oil and Gas

Oil can coat the feathers and fur of wildlife, destroying their natural insulation from the cold. Even a thin film of oil can kill aquatic organisms that live near the surface of the water. Once ingested, oil moves up the food chain from tiny plankton to fish, birds and then humans where it can cause health issues and even death. The cumulative effect of even the smallest spills has a tremendous impact on the waterways. Federal law prohibits oil from being discharged into the water anytime or anyplace.

Use caution when filling your fuel tank and don't top off, attend the nozzle at all times. Catch fuel drips with a rag and properly dispose of soiled rags at approved collection facilities. Install fuel tank whistles or fuel/air separators to avoid spills and use funnels for pouring oil. Inspect fuel lines periodically and replace as needed. Keep a supply of absorbent pads for cleaning up spills and dispose of used oil and filters at a waste oil recycling center. If a spill does occur, notify the marina management immediately.

Prevent oily bilge water from being pumped overboard by using drip pans and oil absorbent pads while draining oil from the bilges. Make regular checks of all hoses, gaskets, seals and connections for leaks and drips and repair as necessary. Place an oil absorbent pad under the engine in the bilge to trap oils from leaks and dispose of used pads at an approved petroleum disposal facility, check with your local marina for location. Use rags to clean up oil spills, do not use soap and water and remove oily bilge water at a bilge pump out station.

#### Aquatic Nuisance's

With no natural predators, non-native aquatic species such as plants, fish and animals can increase dramatically under the right conditions. By overcrowding they can displace native species, clog water ways and impact navigation and recreation, once introduced they are extremely hard to eradicate.

Aquatic nuisance's can be accidentally transported by getting caught on propellers, intakes or attaching to the boat trailer or hull of the vessel. To help prevent try to avoid chopping vegetation with the boats propeller. Inspect your boat and trailer and remove any plants and animals before you leave that body of water. Always flush and drain the raw water cooling systems, sea strainers, live wells, bait wells and bilges before moving the boat from one body of water to another. Cleaning the fishing and dive gear is also recommended.

#### Solid Waste and Marine Debris

Trash in the water or washed up on the beach is unsightly and can kill or injure birds, fish and marine mammals. Ingestion of plastic waste or entanglement in fishing lines and nets can cause death. Floating debris such as plastic bags can be sucked up into the raw water cooling systems causing engine failure, nets and lines can be fouled with the propeller leaving the boat stranded and solid objects can result in structural damage to the hull causing sinking. Federal prohibits the discharge of plastics into the water anytime and anyplace.

Prevent plastic bags, containers and loose items from being accidentally blown overboard and if possible retrieve them when they do. Carry a trash bag out and bring it ashore for proper disposal. If possible, recycle reusable containers, paper, cans and bottles.

#### Other Hazardous Waste

In addition to oil, gas, cleaning products and plastic there are a few more items that need caution when being used. These items are paint (both top-side and bottom), wood preservatives, lacquers, solvents, batteries, zinc anodes and out dated flares. All of these items must be disposed of at an approved hazardous waste facility and never in the waterways, trash, sink, sewer or street drain.

Check with the local marina, some provide recycling/disposal service. Check with the local solid waste authority for instructions on how and where to properly dispose of hazardous waste products.

#### Sewage

Untreated sewage in the waterways can spread disease, contaminate shellfish beds and lower the oxygen levels. Exposure to sewage polluted water can cause gastroenteritis, hepatitis, dysentery and cholera. It is illegal to dump raw sewage into the waterways within three miles of the closest shore.

Use a holding tank or porta-potty and pump out at an approved dump station.

#### Graywater

Water from sinks, washers and showers is called graywater and is often dumped straight into the water without treatment. Graywater is often rich in phosphates that encourage the growth of unwanted algae which can suffocate marine species. The dumping of graywater is prohibited in some areas, check with the marina authorities for local restrictions.

Use shore-side laundry facilities whenever possible. Use non-phosphate and biodegradable soaps and limit the amount to get the job done.

#### Fish Waste

Fish waste from gutting fish to unwanted bait in small amounts do not create problems for the environment, but in large quantities in an enclosed basin with restricted water circulation fish waste can deplete the oxygen level and kill fish.

Practice cleaning fish and dumping bait at sea or at fish cleaning stations ashore, which have proper trash receptacles and waste water hook ups.