



Absecon Light



Commander Apryl J. Bernard, P

Commander's Message

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Happy Spring to All! I think it is finally here.

What a great job AIPS did at Spring Conference! The event ran like a well-oiled machine with only a few creaks here and there. A great big thank you to all who contributed to this event. We sent Ralph and Nance out with style

Now we can turn our efforts to summer boating.

I have just completed my first year as Commander and I can say it was fun! I guess I did an okay job as you have elected me to another year. Personally I think the Commander should be

in this position for two years as the first year is a learning curve and just about the time you get everything down, the year is over. The second year is then a snap or so I hope.

Thanks for letting me be your commander for another year and I hope I can have as much fun as I did this year.

My goal this year to hopefully keep the members we still have and get some new ones. If you have a friend who you think would enjoy our organization, encourage them to join us. Remember they do not have to take the boating course to be a member. Tell them the many

advantages of being a member and the courses available at a discount to them.

Thanks once again for giving the opportunity to serve this fine organization as your Commander.



Absecon Island Power Squadron
2009-2010 Bridge

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AIPS CALENDAR

30 April - 1 May
NOAA Cooperative Charting
Conference
Norfolk, VA

20 May
Regular Meeting
Absecon American Legion
Absecon, NJ
1900

26 May
Delaware River Cruise
Philadelphia, PA
1800

17 June
Regular Meeting
Absecon American Legion
Absecon, NJ
1900

16 - 18 July
AC Rendezvous (hosted by
Delhigh)
Trump Marina

5 - 12 August
Southbound Cruise to
Solomons

12 - 15 August
D5 Summer Council
Solomon's Island, MD



- April 2 Jack Carson
- April 7 Ron Stablini
- April 13 Janet Dougherty
- April 18 Apryl Bernard
- April 22 Hector Gonzalez
- April 25 Robert Traa
- May 3 Sarah Raybould
Bates
- May 15 Fred Dodd
James Tracy III
- May 17 Mark Taylor
- May 18 Don Sooy
- May 22 JoAnn Wescoat
- May 29 Lisa Gonzalez
- May 30 James Tuohy
- June 1 Bill Egan
- June 2 Thomas Harris
- June 6 Nelson Gonzalez
- June 10 Frank Hedges III
- June 12 Gerard Delany
- June 13 Ron Seagraves
- June 18 Margaret Perryman
- June 25 Beverly Irick
- June 26 Lynn Graiser
- June 27 George Austin
- June 30 Louise Spietel

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Absecon Light

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Scoop from the Poop Deck

Absecon Island's 71st Change of Watch was held on 16 April at Cousin Mario's Restaurant in Mays Landing. This year's event was a bit different. The outgoing commander was the ingoing commander. District 5 representative P/D/C Bill Selden, V, AP relieved Commander Apryl Bernard, P of her duties, took over the helm of AIPS and minutes later administered the oath of office to Apryl and her bridge. The belief is that this has only happened once before in our squadron's history. Where is Bette Bernard when you need her?

During the evening's festivities, a new member was sworn in. Nelson

Gonzalez, brother of Hector Gonzalez was given the squadron pledge and sworn in. Welcome to Nelson.

P/D/C Ralph A Bernard again acted in the MC category and did an excellent job as usual. He even gave the audience a few unknown facts.



Commander Apryl Bernard, P takes her oath of office for a 2nd term from P/D/C William Selden, V, AP

Executive Officer
Jaelyn C. Carugno, P

Interested in Cooperative Charting? It may not be too late to sign up for the NOAA Conference 30 April to 1 May at the Dinwiddie Hotel in Norfolk. Please check the District 5 website for more information.

Help Set an Inflatable Life Jacket World Record

The National Safe Boating Council and Canadian Safe Boating Council are teaming up to set a world record! We are encouraging boaters, boating safety educators and anyone else who would like to join in on the fun to participate in "Inflatable Life Jacket World Record Day." Participants from across North America will simultaneously inflate an inflatable life jacket to set an unprecedented world record. The inaugural event will be held on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. EDT / 8:00 a.m. PDT.

World Record Day will help to usher in **National Safe Boating Week**, this year **May 22 – 28, 2010**. The goal of National Safe Boating Week is to educate and inform the boating public about boating safety, specifically life jackets. The push of inflatable life jackets has been the main focus of the campaign for the past few years.

To ensure that this event is a success, the National Safe Boating Council (NSBC) and the Canadian Safe Boating Council (CSBC) have been working with local sponsors and partners in the area. Cabelas® is the national sponsor in America, offering its stores across the county as event locations. Leland Ltd. has worked with the NSBC to offer over 1,000 CO2 cartridges to allow participants the opportunity to inflate their life jacket, but also practice re-arming techniques of inflatable life jackets. SmartBoater is helping to sponsor the event throughout Canada, bringing this important message to boaters throughout the country.

If you'd like to participate or organize a local event of your own, please visit the newly created Web site at www.ReadySetInflate.com.

We hope you can join us in this great opportunity to spread the word about life jacket safety to an international audience!

Have you had your boat checked for safety this year? You can contact one of our Vessel Safety Check examiners for a free Vessel Safety Check. Contact: Anthony Carugno (609) 625-2374; John Courter 856 696-0446; Charles Heuer (609) 652-0522 ; or Ralph Sangataldo 856 207-3010.

SAVE THE DATE!

8 – 12 September is the date for the Atlantic City In-Water Boat show at the Trump Marina. Hopefully this year we will have better weather!

District/National News & Events

The 2010 District Spring Conference has come and gone. Thanks to the hard work of AIPS, it was a smashing success! Our hard working staff handled the over 400 people who attended and from what was heard, very well! Absecon Island gave Ralph and Nance a great send off after a job well done by Ralph and his bridge. R/C Ken Link and wife Sheila were the national representatives. This couple are great people and represented national well. The meetings were informative and the luncheon speaker, Horst Boettage, who was on the Coast Guard training ship, The Eagle, when it was still owned by the German merchant marine, gave a wonderful presentation of his journey aboard the Eagle during a US training voyage.

The Conference Change of Watch went smoothly. The dinner was delicious and staff of the Clarion went above and beyond to accommodate our every request. Our new D/C L/Chris Brown, JN was installed and this year's theme, Nun Can Do Better was introduced. We are looking forward to a great year with Chris and Ginny Brown, along with the entire Delhigh Squadron behind him.

Cdr Apryl Bernard, P won two awards at the Spring Conference; third place for squadron publications and best Commander message in the September/October issue of the Absecon Light. Great Job!

The national meeting in Orlando, Florida was held in Disney World at the Coronado Springs Resort. AIPS had several members who attended: D/C Ralph Bernard and Nance, D/FI/Lt David Bernard and Nancy, Cdr Apryl Bernard, Alisa Gonzalez, Jacki & Tony Carugno and Tom and Roberta Dougherty. The Bernard clan came down a little early and took in the sights Disney World has to offer. Despite the cool weather, a good time was had by all.

One of the major items voted upon during the national meeting was the opportunity for squadrons to teach our advanced grades to the public in an effort to get more members. This could create a lot of opportunity



Nance & Ralph Bernard stop for a photo before the National meeting annual dinner

to get our courses to more people and get some new members at the same time.

Special congratulations to Charlton McGinnis upon receiving his 25th merit mark which makes him a Life Member!



Chief aide Nancy Bernard shows off the D/5 Cocktail party eats!



Cdr Apryl Bernard prepares some of the Disney themed food for the District cocktail party

**Educational Officer
Esther (Betty) Byerly, AP**

We have had two classes of America's Boating Course going on.

The first class is at Ocean City High School and as of Tuesday May 4th the test will be given. We have 5 students.

Our class at United Methodist Church at Absecon was held Saturday April 24. We had 11 students and they all passed the test.

The next class will be at the Brigantine Yacht Club. This class will be on Tuesdays in July. The date is to be announced later.

I would like to have Seamanship and Piloting classes in the fall. Those interested please call me 609-909-9435. I will also be approaching those who have not taken these classes. It is a good thing to increase our education.

I may have to look for some new areas to hold the classes because the school has notified me that the adult evening classes will be discontinued at this time.

If anyone has a group of people interested in taking our ABC class together please contact me.

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.

- ⌂ **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. with changes that are to be made.

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

Spring Conference Photos



Registration & Raffle!



Cdr Bernard receives 3rd place - Squadron publications



Farewell Ralph & Nance!



Dinner on Saturday night

Administrative officer Lou Orth, P

After a busy month of March, AIPS headed on to April with its annual Change of Watch Ceremony. This year's event was held in a new venue, Cousin Mario's Restaurant in Mays Landing. This year's Change of Watch had a different twist. The outgoing commander was also the incoming Commander. What? Yes Commander Apryl Bernard was uninstalled and then promptly reinstalled along with the rest of her Bridge. The last time this happened in AIPS was back in 1943-44 (according to the list of commanders on the past commander's page). Congrats to Commander Apryl Bernard and her Bridge and wishes for another successful year.

Speaking of successful years. In appreciation for the support that we, as a squadron, have given them the past year, Ralph & Nance Bernard are hosting a dinner for members the May meeting. In order to have an accurate count of who is attending, please contact Ralph or Nance at (609) 625-0031 or e-mail them: rb3513@comcast.net.

Delhigh Power Squadron is once again having a rendezvous in our area at the Farley Marina in Atlantic City 16 - 18 July. Please contact Joe Stemrich (610) 216-6301 joesparks6659@sol.com or Doug McKenzie (610) 2177164 dougmckenzie@rcn.com for more information. These gentlemen are both members of Delhigh.

The District 5 Summer Rendezvous is a little late this year due to a conflict at the marina in the Solomon's and the 2010 100th Boy Scout Jamboree. The rendezvous will be 12 - 15 August at the Solomon's Island Holiday Inn. Reservation forms can be found on the District 5 website: <http://www.uspsd5.org/>.

The annual Canoe/Kayak Clean up trip is tentatively scheduled for the 3rd or 4th week in August. Stay tuned for more info.

If anyone is interested in hosting a rendezvous this summer, please contact either Lou Orth (patlou8008@verizon.net) or Apryl Bernard (aprylber@msn.com)

Have a great summer!

**United States Power Squadron's
National Safe Boating Week
Delaware River Educational Cruise
aboard *M/V Ben Franklin*
26 MAY, 2010**

For USPS Members and Invited Guests!!!

Boarding 1800 hours Departure 1830 hours Cruising 1830 - 2100 hours
Passage, \$30 (includes full-course dinner) Cash Bar
**Departs from Penn's Landing, 401 N. Columbus Blvd.,
NORTH of the Ben Franklin Bridge, Philadelphia**

Enjoy the Sights

Battleship New Jersey
Four-masted sailing vessel,
Moshulu
SS United States
Ben Franklin Bridge
Walt Whitman Bridge
Active ship and barge traffic

It's Educational, too!

Narration by
P/D Lt/C James Heckman, SN, &
P/R/C William McManimen, SN
Navigational aids
Piloting
Chart work
Use of compass and GPS
Celestial navigation

Call your local U.S. Power Squadron for more information

Don't forget to wear your USPS name tag

Jointly Sponsored by: Absecon Island Power Squadron, Delaware River Power Squadron, Delhigh Power Squadron, Kingsway Power Squadron, Main Line Power Squadron, Wilmington Sail & Power Squadron. Hosted by: Trenton Falls Power Squadron

Please contact Cdr. Apryl Bernard (609) 625-4987 or e-mail: aprylber@msn.com.

Safety First

Sleeping aboard

Safe sleeping on board boats

Reviewed: May, 2009

Author: Adam Robinson

Boat Review - Boating Safety:

Sleeping aboard can be one of the joys of boating. Water lapping against the hull combined with a gentle rocking can provide a great night's sleep. On the other hand, captains may suffer nightmares about the vessel dragging; skippers sometimes lie half awake all night, keeping one eye on the vessel's position.

"Prepare and choose the night to snooze"

Boating Article by Modern Boating A Backup Plan

Often a skipper will know little more about a mooring than does the owner. Even the knowledge that a yacht club regularly maintains a mooring or that it is designed for vessels up to a particular length may do little to reassure a worried skipper on a dark, windy night. Laying anchor is one way a skipper can provide himself with a backup. Bow rollers often need to be cleared of existing anchors and chains anyway before the primary mooring can be secured.

Be Alarmed

Modern electronics can provide some peace of mind while sleeping. Echo sounders are usually equipped with shallow and deep alarms. Left on while sleeping, the alarms will alert crew if the vessel has moved into shallow or deeper waters.

However, a skipper must allow for tidal movements. For instance, a vessel anchoring in four meters of water may move between say two and six meters in the southern latitudes. Setting a shallow and deep alarm to allow for this tidal movement lessens the chance of false alarms but may also result in considerable vessel movement before the alarm sounds. Also, during slow tidal movement or dragging over rough bottom, alarms may come on and off so often that skippers have been known to switch off the device on the presumption that it's malfunctioning.

This is where GPS comes in. GPS units provide an anchor alarm, designed to alert the crew should the vessel drift beyond a preset distance from the initial position. If you remember to take into account only the

expected amount of drift due to environmental conditions, then the GPS can prove to be your most accurate alarm.

Stay in Charge

Electronic devices are a bonus, but you can overdo it. A seagoing mate recounted a recent experience whereby a GPS alarm, sounder alarm and anchor light were left on all night, after several hours of cleaning fish under a deck flood light. Attempts to set a low voltage alarm were met with frustration with a new bit of electronic kit. At dawn, the battery was depleted, displaying around 9V and unable to start the outboard, which required 9.5V.

Low voltage alarms are fitted to some devices. These can be set to just above the minimum you know will start the engine, based on your own experience and on what your engine's user guide tells you. To maximize battery charge, run your engine for some time immediately before sleep, to ensure any charge depleted from your night-time activities has been replenished. Also, dim the display on any electronic devices you leave running. Then lie down for the best night's sleep around.



1 For extended mooring, the mooring line should run through the bow roller to prevent chafe.



2 When the mooring line is through the bow roller, immersing the anchor prevents it swinging into the hull.



3 Shorelines, rocks and exposed reefs combine to make this anchorage suited to a trustworthy mooring or backup.



4 Bilge pumps and other electric components drain your battery. Run your engines before sleeping.

Pictures from AIPS Change of Watch



D/5 Spring Conference

