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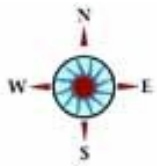
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Hot Classes for Cold Winter Days

Vilma Baez

We are now well into our exciting Winter Training Program (WTP) for the 2011-2012 winter season. The program offers great specialized classes like Navigation, Weather, Racing, Chartering, First Aid/CPR, and many other unique courses at very reasonable prices. Most classes are taught by our own in-house PSC experts and aimed at those who want to learn more about sailing. In particular, for those of you who are Bay Skipper Candidates, the WTP was made for you.

Take advantage of this opportunity to gain skills and knowledge that will help you greatly in completing the Bay Skipper written exams successfully and make you a better sailor.

It is also a great opportunity to hang out with your PSC comrades and team up in preparation for the sailing season. For more information, please see the WTP Schedule posted on the PSC web site. Except when otherwise noted, Saturday classes begin at 8:30 AM. WTP classes are held in Room 203-205,

Immanuel Bible Church, 6911 Braddock Rd., Springfield, Virginia.

Visit us at the PSC web site:

www.pentagonsailing.org



PSC Nov. VHF Radio Class

for more details and a registration form. For questions, please contact the Winter Training Program Coordinator, Vilma Baez at baez.vilma@gmail.com.

We hope to see you in an upcoming class!

UPCOMING EVENTS See our web site for details and more events

February

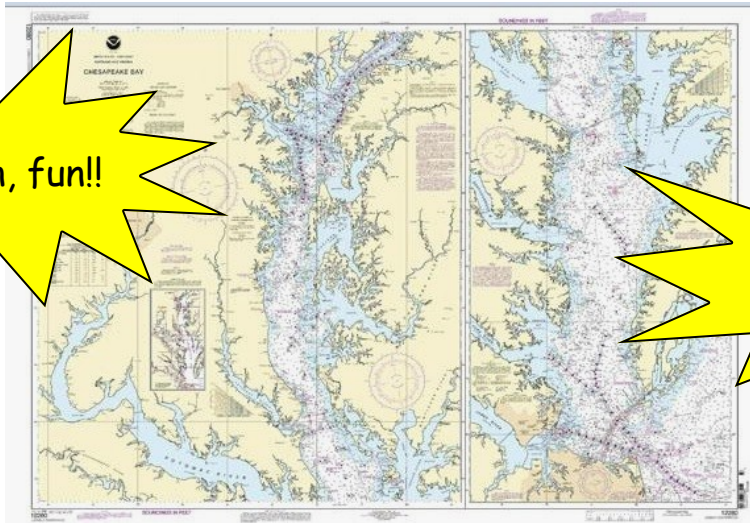
- 4 Winter Training Class-Bareboat Chartering, Immanuel Bible Church
- 11 Boating Safety Course-Part I, Immanuel Bible Church
- 18 Boating Safety Course-Part II, Immanuel Bible Church
- 25 Winter Training Class-Piloting & Navigation-Part I, Immanuel Bible Church
- 27 PSC Membership Meeting, Bailey's Pub & Grill

March

- 3 Winter Training Class-Piloting & Navigation-Part II, Immanuel Bible Church
- 10 Winter Training Class-Introduction to Racing, Immanuel Bible Church
- 19 PSC Membership Meeting, Bailey's Pub & Grill
- 24 Winter Training Class-Cruising Skipper Exam Series, Immanuel Bible Church



PSC Fall Flotilla on the Chesapeake Bay Wesley Moy



Fun, fun, fun!!

Sail, sail, sail!!!

Plans are still being made, but the PSC is definitely planning to “sail outside the box” with a week-long Fall flotilla around the Chesapeake Bay. The idea is to put some fun back into sailing and to sail to parts of the bay we normally can’t reach to on a one, two, or even three-day sail. We are looking at Labor Day week for the flotilla and we may go North (places such as Havre de Grace, Georgetown, Chesapeake City, Worton Creek, Baltimore) or we might go in another direction. We will visit some Chesapeake Bay towns, some quiet anchorages, and maybe a city or two. We expect the boat costs to be in the neighborhood of \$650 for a space on a PSC chartered boat. Additional costs

will be meals ashore, fuel, pumpouts, marina slip fees, adult beverages, cigars, etc. This is going to be something new for the club so we need your input as we develop the plan. The two things you need to do right now are, 1) mark the dates 1 to 8 September on your calendar, and 2) contact event coordinator [Wesley Moy](#) and volunteer to help with the planning effort. We need people to scout possible locations along the bay and we need people to plan and organize events and activities for the flotilla week. Remember this is all about having fun on the water and the more people involved, the more fun it will be for all.



2011-2012 Winter Training Program

Vilma Baez

The 2011-2012 Winter Training Program (WTP) still has some fantastic classes left. See the front page article of this issue of the Lubber's Line for an update on this super series of winter classes. These classes are aimed at those who want to learn more about sailing than can be taught in our basic sailing classes and who want to keep active in sailing during the cold winter months. Those of you who are Bay Skipper Candidates have a marvelous opportunity to gain skills and knowledge that will help you greatly in successfully completing the Bay Skipper written exams.

Plus...as with all PSC activities...we have fun! Refreshments are served, and it is a great opportunity to hang out with your PSC buddies.

Sessions are normally held on Saturdays from November through April although occasionally some shorter classes may be held on evenings during the week. See the WTP Schedule below. Except when otherwise noted, Saturday classes begin at 8:30 AM.

WTP classes are held in Room 203-205, [Immanuel Bible Church](#), 6911 Braddock Rd., Springfield, VA. Students are charged a nominal fee per session to cover course materials and other expenses.

Below are the remaining classes for the 2011-2012 WTP. See the [PSC web site](#) for more details and a registration form. Contact Winter Training Program Coordinator [Vilma Baez](#) for more information.



Vilma

Date	Time	Class	Cost
02/04/2012	8:30 am to 1:00 pm	Bareboat Chartering	\$10
02/11/2012	9:00 am to 1:00 pm	NASBLA Approved Boating Safety Course- Part I <i>Hosted by the Sea Scouts at Immanuel Bible Church. Contact the WTP Coordinator.</i>	Free for PSC members
02/18/2012	9:00 am to 1:00 pm	NASBLA Approved Boating Safety Course- Part II <i>Hosted by the Sea Scouts at Immanuel Bible Church. Contact the WTP Coordinator.</i>	Free for PSC members
02/25/2012	8:30 am to 4:30 pm	Piloting & Navigation Part I	\$75 for both sessions
03/03/2011	8:30 am to 4:30 pm	Piloting & Navigation Part II	
03/10/2012	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	Introduction to Racing	\$25
03/24/2012	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	Cruising Skipper Exam Series	Exam cost

OR USE THE WINTER TRAINING PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 7 TO SIGN UP FOR A CLASS TODAY.



News of Interest **Don Hupman**

GPS System in Danger?

As a result of a proposal by a private company to use radio frequency bandwidth right next to the existing GPS radio bandwidth, the future reliability of the GPS system across the United States is now in question. The nation's largest recreational boaters group, BoatUS, says boaters could have a hard time avoiding treacherous shoals or simply finding their way home if GPS signals are interfered with...

At issue is an unusual conditional waiver granted in January 2011 by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to a broadband wireless communications provider, LightSquared, to permit the dramatic expansion of land-based use of mobile satellite spectrum. This spectrum, or frequency bandwidth, is directly adjacent to the frequencies used for Global Positioning System (GPS) communications.

The company has proposed to build 40,000 ground stations. LightSquared's high-powered ground-based transmissions from these stations have shown to cause interference in hundreds of millions of GPS receivers across a wide range of uses, including aviation, marine, emergency response and industrial users such as delivery and trucking companies. A new report requested by the FCC says, "all phases of the LightSquared deployment plan will result in widespread harmful interference to GPS signals and service and that mitigation is not possible."

Recreational boaters lost their only other viable navigation system, LORAN, when the Department of Homeland Security shut the system down last year. At that time the US Coast Guard urged mariners to shift to GPS-based navigation systems. Boaters rely on GPS-enabled chart-plotters to steer clear of navigation hazards, keep them in the safety of deep-water channels, or even get them home when storms shut down visibility. "They are a critical piece of safety gear," said Podlich. "What will boaters do if they are unreliable, and how will the US Coast Guard's new emergency search and rescue system that stands watch over 36,985 miles of coastline, Rescue 21, remain effective, since it relies on GPS?"

Extracted from Jul 2011 BoatUS Member Alert

Did You Ever Wonder About the Big Ships Sailing Up and Down the Bay or Anchored Near Annapolis?

Want to keep track of the big ships coming and going in the world's harbors and coastal waters? You can, thanks to the Internet and Automatic Identification System (AIS), now required on all commercial vessels. Go to www.marinetraffic.com, zero in on where your curiosity leads on a world map, then mouse on over to one of the color-coded vessel icons displayed. Not only will it call up the name and type of vessel, it will show national flag and near-real-time coordinates. Click on that and in many cases you get a window with a picture of the vessel, its vital statistics, destination, and its (estimated time of arrival).



While international maritime agreement mandates AIS on commercial vessels over 300 gross tons, private recreational vessels may equip with transmitters voluntarily and will show up on the system under the purple "Yachts & Others" icon. The University of the Aegean in Syros, Greece, hosts the system, described as "an academic, open, community-based project." The information about ship movements and ports around the world that have AIS networks is free, but the system also offers special paid-subscriber services such as tracking "My Fleet." You can even elect to display text in one of 29 languages.



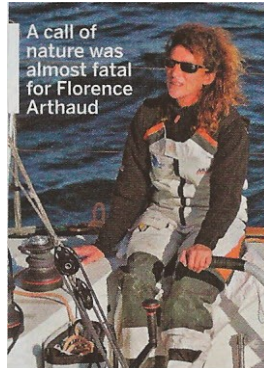
Feb/Mar 2012 BoatUS magazine

News You Can Use

Don Hupman

Well, It's Not Just the Guys

Male sailors are, or should be, aware of the danger of falling overboard while relieving themselves over the side. Many are the tales of drowned sailors found with their flies open. But what about women? They are obviously not deaf to the siren call of urinating al fresco, going by this story from the Mediterranean.



Famed French solo sailor Florence Arthaud was rescued off Corsica after she "quite simply fell into the water while preparing to take a pee," as she told a French television station.

Arthaud was alone on her 33-foot sloop. Luckily for her, she keeps her cellphone in a waterproof case and was able to call her mother, who alerted authorities. She was rescued after two hours in the water.

A national heroine in France, Arthaud was a renowned solo racer in the 1990s and was once rescued from a capsized boat in the Atlantic. Her latest rescue does not have quite the same cachet.

Jan. 2012 Sail magazine



The Dark 'N' Stormy

As many hundreds of Newport-Bermuda Race veterans will tell you, one of the highlights of the small island nation is its signature cocktail, the Dark 'n' Stormy. Is there another mixed drink that can claim as strong an association to sailing as this potent blend of rum and ginger beer? After all, rum has been the favored tippie of mariners for centuries; as for ginger, its anti-seasickness properties are legendary.



You can't use just any rum in a Dark 'n' Stormy, though. Bermuda's own rum distillery, Gosling's, produces a dark-as-pitch rum called Black Seal. It's aged in charred oak barrels, and this gives it a distinctive sweet and smoky character that blends only too well with the spicy bite of the ginger beer (never, ever, use ginger ale).

You can try lighter rums, but it's not the same. The smoke-and-molasses kick is what makes it special. Indeed, Gosling's is so convinced of this that it has trademarked the Dark 'n' Stormy name.

According to Gosling's, there's only one way to make a Dark 'n' Stormy. Fill a tall glass with ice, pour in half a can or more of ginger beer, then gently add about an ounce and a half of Black Seal. This will sit at the top of the glass in a rather ominous fashion, evoking an approaching storm cloud-and if you have more than a couple, you'll almost certainly be under the weather.

Jan. 2012 Sail magazine

The PSC is an organization run by volunteers, so we need your help in every single function we provide for our members!

The "Frequent Volunteer Sea Miles" (FVSM) Program compensates you with coupons for your volunteer time. FVSM coupons can be redeemed for use of the river boats, trips on the Bay, or for other PSC activities like the Holiday Party!

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS: You invest some of your talent and expertise into the club. Every 8 hours that you volunteer earns you a Frequent Volunteer Sea Mile coupon. Each FVSM coupon is worth \$25, and can be redeemed to offset use of the River boats, the cost of a Bay sailing trip or other

PSC activity. FVSM coupons are valid for one year from the date of issue.

This is an exceptional deal! You work at the marina, help maintain boats, instruct in the Basic Sailing Classes, etc. And in return, we'll reward you with Frequent Volunteer Sea Miles! Plus, we'll give you the training you need to do any job right; for most volunteer opportunities, no previous experience is required! Just think, while doing something enjoyable and helping the PSC, you'll collect coupons to use towards great sailing opportunities on the River and the Bay!

The PSC needs your time and commitment in order to survive and thrive ---VOLUNTEER TODAY!!



Pentagon Sailing Club

Registration Form for 2011-2012 Winter Training Program (WTP) Classes

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ (C) _____

Email: (H) _____ (W) _____

All classes are in Room 203-205, [Immanuel Bible Church](#), 6911 Braddock Road, Springfield, VA 22151.

Please checkmark (X) all of the classes you are applying for.

Class #	Date	Time	Class	Cost	Check (X)
1	11/05/2011	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	Rules of the Road	\$25	
2	11/19/2011	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	VHF Radio Communications	\$10	
3	12/10/2011	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	Anchoring, Rafting, and Raft-Up Planning	\$25	
4	12/17/2011	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	Advanced Sail Trim	\$25	
5	01/07/2012	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	Weather	\$25	
6	01/21/2012	8:30 am to 4:30 pm	Big Boat Systems: Diesels, Heads, & Electrical	\$25	
7	01/28/2012	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	CPR & First Aid Certification Class	\$49	
8	02/04/2012	8:30 am to 1:00 pm	Bareboat Chartering	\$10	
9	02/11/2012	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	Training Clinic	None	
10	02/25/2012	8:30 am to 4:30 pm	Piloting & Navigation Part I	\$75 for both sessions	
11	03/03/2011	8:30 am to 4:30 pm	Piloting & Navigation Part II		
12	03/10/2012	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	Introduction to Racing	\$25	
13	03/17/2012	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	Training Clinic	None	
14	03/24/2012	8:30 am to 3:00 pm	Cruising Skipper Exam Series Check the exam(s) to be taken: ___ General Knowledge ___ Navigation ___ Rules of the Road	Exam cost	

Total Fee Due: \$_____. and number of FVSM coupons enclosed: _____.(must accompany this form).
(Note: You may use one coupon per class, but only one FVSM coupon may be used for the two part Navigation Class).

WTP Cancellation Policy:

If the student must cancel his/her participation in a class:

- a. Fee will be refunded in full if notice of cancellation occurs more than 15 days before the class start date.
- b. Fee will NOT be refunded if cancellation occurs within 15 days of the activity start date, unless THE STUDENT finds a replacement.

The PSC recognizes that extraordinary circumstances may cause cancellation, and will take that into consideration for rescheduling or refunds.

Mail your completed form and check (payable to Pentagon Sailing Club)/FVSMs to:

**Roger Hammer
PSC Treasurer
13130 Triple Crown Loop
Gainesville, VA 20155**

Questions to: [Vilma Baez, PSC Winter Training Coordinator](#)