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Hot Classes for Cold Winter Months

Caroline Acker

We are now well into our exciting Winter Training Program (WTP) for the 2012-2013 winter season. We have already had really great classes on Boat Systems, Electronics/AIS/Sailing Apps for iPads, Advanced Sail Trim, and CPR/ First Aid Certification.

Coming up are even more outstanding classes on Bareboat Chartering, Piloting & Navigation, Nautical Rules of the Road, and the Art of Skippering/ Offshore Sailing.

These classes teach good stuff 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 or are interested in becoming Bay Skipper Candidates, the WTP was made for you.



2012 PSC Navigation Class

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 fellow PSC sailors 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 for more details and a registration form (or use the form on page 8 of this newsletter). For questions, please contact the Winter Training Program Coordinator, Caroline Acker at:

wintertraining@pentagonsailing.org.

Don't miss this chance to increase your sailing knowledge. We hope to see you in an upcoming class!

UPCOMING EVENTS See our web site for details and more events

January

- 26 Winter Training Class-Bareboat Chartering, Immanuel Bible Church
- 28 PSC Membership Meeting, Bailey's Pub & Grill
- 30 PSC Women's Group kick-off meeting, 6330 Alderman Dr., Alexandria, VA

February

- 9 Winter Training Class-Piloting & Navigation, Part I*, Immanuel Bible Church
- 23 Winter Training Class-Piloting & Navigation, Part II*, Immanuel Bible Church
- 25 PSC Membership Meeting, Bailey's Pub & Grill

* You must sign up for both parts of the Piloting & Navigation class.



New PSC River Boat

Cynthia Houston

The Club welcomed in the New Year by purchasing our third Catalina Capri, adding “Lagniappe” to our current Capri inventory alongside Nova and Falcon. Lagniappe (‘Just a Little Bit More’) lives up to her name and is a beauty of a boat – a 2003 in excellent condition. She serves as the latest step in the fleet modernization plan put in place to ensure the many use requirements of our Club boats - training, racing and recreational sailing – are supported for many years to come.

A special thanks to the individuals who served as the Boat Buying Committee, as they worked many hours over several months to research and evaluate all Catalina Capris on the market, whittling down options to those who met the Club’s fleet criteria, and engaging sellers and brokers to ensure PSC’s purchase was on the

best possible terms. Bravo Zulu to Joseph McColgan, Alexis Davis, Ron Kratzke, Gus Rolotti.

Another special thanks to the “Financing” and Boat Transport Crew: PSC Treasurer Roger Hammer, River Commodore John Laffman, and Hank Lavery.

The Club will likely re-name her in line with our Bird of Prey tradition, but for now here’s “Lagniappe.”

2003 Catalina Capri 22
Relocated from Oriental, NC
Hull Material: Fiberglass
Engine/Fuel Type: Single Gas



“Lagniappe” 2001 Catalina Capri 22

Dimensions

LOA: 22 ft 0 in
 Beam: 8 ft 2 in
 LWL: 20 ft 0 in
 Maximum Draft: 2 ft 8 in
 Displacement: 2250 lbs
 Ballast: 700 lbs

Features

Roller Furler Headsail (new in 2011)
 2003 Mercury 4HP, Four Stroke Outboard
 2003 Trail Rite Trailer
 Custom Mast Raising/Lowering System
 Cockpit Cushions
 Interior Cushions
 Porta Potti
 12V Power System w/Battery
 Navigation, Anchor and Cabin Interior Lighting
 Stereo w/iPod Connector and Cockpit Speakers
 Tiller Extension and Tiller tamer
 Sunbrella Sail, Winch and Outboard Covers
 Anchor
 Wing Keel (2.8 draft)



Roger Hammer preps “Lagniappe” for travel

Training News

David Kunselman

As Caroline noted on page one, we are hip-deep into another exciting Winter Training Program (WTP). These classroom classes are excellent for every sailor including already qualified skippers and boat owners who want to refresh or expand their sailing knowledge, Bay Skipper candidates preparing for qualification exams, brand new or want-to-be sailors who want to learn about boats and sailing, and those who just want to do some sailing related stuff during cold winter months.

The next couple of classes are Bareboat Chartering on 26 January and Piloting & Navigation, Parts I & II, on 9 and 23 February.

Our outstanding chartering class teaches the ins and outs and "how tos" of chartering a sailboat. This class, taught by former charter boat owners, is a must for anyone who is thinking about chartering their own boat for a weekend on the Chesapeake Bay or a week or longer in the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, the South Pacific, or elsewhere.

The piloting & navigation class teaches the fundamentals of navigation, the use of nautical charts, and everything you need to safely find your way from one place to another on the water. Navigation is our most popular class and space is limited because of the need to work with large paper charts so sign up now for this one.

The WTP schedule below lists our remaining classes. Use the WTP registration form on page 8 of this newsletter to sign up. And check our [web site](#) for the latest information on the WTP and all our training activities.

For those wanting to learn to sail, we will have six Basic Sailing Course Classes (ASA 101/103) on the Potomac River this year starting in April. These are great classes and the most reasonably priced basic sailing classes in the area.

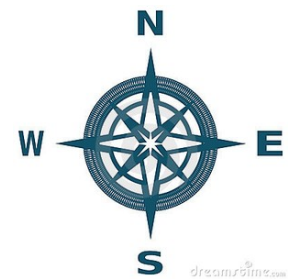
We are also planning some training on the Chesapeake Bay for Bay Skipper candidates and those who want to gain some larger boat experience.



David

"...we will have six Basic Sailing classes (ASA 101/103) on the Potomac this year..."

Date	Time	Class	Cost
01/26/2013	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	Bareboat Chartering	\$25
02/09/2013	8:30 am to 3:30 pm	Piloting & Navigation Part I	\$75 for both sessions
02/23/2013	8:30 am to 3:30 pm	Piloting & Navigation Part II	
03/02/2013	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	Rules of the Road and Sailing at Night	\$25
03/09/2013	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	Art of Skippering & Offshore Sailing Preps	\$25
03/23/2013	8:30 am to 3:30 pm	Bay Skipper Exam Series - P&N (\$25), General Knowledge (\$10), and Rules of the Road (\$15)	\$50 for all Sessions



USE THE WINTER TRAINING PROGRAM REGISTRATION FORM ON LAST PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER TO SIGN UP FOR A WTP CLASS. FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON PSC TRAINING, CHECK OUT THE PSC [WEB SITE](#) TRAINING PAGES.

ATTENTION SAILORS

Thinking about how nice it would be to sail your own sailboat in the beautiful, clear waters of the Caribbean or some other warm, exotic spot?

JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING WINTER TRAINING CLASS

Bareboat Chartering

Our lead instructors are Lynnette and Don Hupman

26 January 2013

8:30-12:30pm

Immanuel Bible Church

***6911 Braddock Road, Springfield,
VA 22151***

To sign-up, just complete the Winter Training Program Registration Form located at <http://www.pentagonsailing.org> and mail it to our Treasurer!

Class cost is \$25 or one FVSM. We Take Walk-ins!

The Training Team encourages you to consider attending this or any of our upcoming classes as you continue to grow your sailing skills.

Contact Ms. Caroline Acker, our Winter Training Coordinator.



On The River

John Laffman

I am pleased to announce the following individuals have volunteered as boat captains for the PSC fleet for 2013:

PSC #1 Falcon (Capri 22) – Edwin Miller and Reginald Vaval

PSC #2 Osprey II (Catalina 22) – Tom Gorgy

PSC #3 Nova (Capri 22) – Frank Zachar

PSC #5 Gannet (Catalina 22) – Joseph and Lisa McColgan

Newly purchased boat "Lagniappe" (CAPRI 22) - Alex Dehgan and Ron Kratzke (See page 6)

A number of river activities are in the planning stages. Please check the PSC calendar regularly for the announcements. The first of these events will be the spring boat preparation where we will set aside time to work on the boats to get



them ready for launching. The dates are being finalized and will likely be sometime in mid-March/early April and is dependent on a decent weather window and our work schedules! So we are hoping to have lots of help getting our fleet ready. Please shoot us a note if you are available to help.

Help wanted for river boat maintenance on March 23 and 24. We need to get our river boats ready for the start of the sailing season and our Basic Sailing classes. No experience necessary. If you can help on one or both of these dates, even for a few hours, (and earn Frequent Volunteer Sea Miles) contact River Commodore John Laffman at: rivercommodore@pentagonsailing.org

This year the river training program plans to host six classes during the year. This will provide plenty of opportunity to help maintain our fleet. All club members are welcome to help lend a hand on keeping our boats in sailing condition. There is always a job for everyone, and always a more experienced club member willing to take the time to explain what is being done. Bring your good nature and talents and enjoy the camaraderie while helping to keep our boats sailing!



If the membership has any other ideas they would like to see on the river, feel free to email your suggestions to: rivercommodore@pentagonsailing.org

We are also looking for volunteers to help organize events, so don't be shy about coming forward! That's it for now. We hope to see you on the water real soon.



River Commodore John Laffman, John O'Connor, and Commodore Eddie Conde work on river boats (well, mostly John O'Connor from the look of their clothes).

Racing News

Cynthia Houston

Frostbiting – Bundle Up and Enjoy Off-Season Racing

Does a forecast of 43 degrees and 10-12 knot winds cause you to put more logs on the fire or do you check out the Potomac River tidal charts? If the latter, you may be the perfect candidate for off-season, or ‘frostbite,’ racing. Though the official PSC racing season kicks off in March, racing has been underway since New Year’s Day as the Club continues a tradition of its more experienced racers participating in DISC’s Titanic Series – four non-spinnaker races which commence January 1 and end in early March.

Frostbite racing yields a different type of adrenaline rush; it’s an exciting experience with unique challenges. Racing skills are tested in new ways. The scenery can be beautiful in a way regular season racing can’t match.

Through the years, many have tried to describe the why and the how of off season racing’s appeal. The New York Yacht Club’s first New Year’s Day Frostbite Regatta was sailed in 1932 in rain, hail, and snow. A correspondent for The New York Herald covered the event and reported the following: "The idea of (a) Frostbite Regatta," he wrote, "is to prove that some people are crazier than others and those who are craziest sail races in 11-foot boats in the middle of snowstorms -- and enjoy it."

But Tim Zimmermann of our own Potomac River Sailing Association (PRSA) has said it best: “I always have more fun when I’m doing something that most of the rest of the world thinks I shouldn’t be doing. And winter sailing has its own feel—the trees are bare, the wildlife is different, and there’s no traffic on the water. It’s stark, yet beautiful in its own way. And somehow the world closes in on you a bit, creating a spe-

cial sphere of isolation in the wider winter world. Everything—the cold, hard gusts, the chilled spray, the diffused light of a winter-yellow sun—feels unique. You’re sharing a unique world with people who’re also happy to be out there.”

“In a word, it’s amazing.”

Races featuring a combination of rain, hail, and snow are not a regular challenge while frostbiting on the Potomac, however weather is a closely watched factor as - more than regular season racing - it dictates all. Racers check their latest apps and favorite websites to predict the likelihood of a ‘go’ or ‘no-go’ on race day.

The term ‘frostbiting’ is no joke, and recreation can become survival in a matter of seconds if a boat capsizes or a sailor falls overboard. Safety is foremost, as air temperatures of 44 degrees mean water temperatures in the 30s. Life jackets are mandatory. PSC adheres to a "20/20" rule: If the wind is blowing at 20 knots or more, or the temperature is 20 degrees or lower, the race is canceled.

We wish our racers luck as they finish this year’s Titanic Series.

Important Racing Squadron Dates

DISC Titanic Series:

Titanic #2: 2 February

Titanic #3: 16 February

Titanic #4: 9 March

2013 Racing Squadron Kick-Off Meeting: 16 March



The PSC Racing Squadron offers members an opportunity to develop their racing skills right here on the Potomac River in a competitive yet friendly sailboat racing environment. The 2013 Racing Season kick-off meeting will be held 16 March. Stay tuned for registration information! Contact the RS at racingcommodore@pentagonsailing.org.

Racing Resources

Frostbiter’s Guide to Cold Weather Clothing and Hypothermia and Frostbite

<http://www.tvrtech.com/frostbite/Winter.htm>

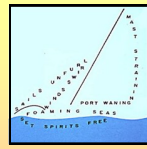
Pentagon Sailing Club Google Group – Covers the waterfront of PSC Racing

<https://groups.google.com/forum/?fromgroups#!forum/pentagon-sailing-club-racing>



News You Can Use

Looking for a volunteer coordinator for the 2013 Memorial Day Raft-up, 25-27 May 2013. If you would like to help with this event (and would like to attend the raft-up at half price and earn Frequent Volunteer Sea Miles) contact Bay Commodore John Buescher at John.Buescher@calibresys.com.



It is Official! Pentagon Sailing Club Women's Group!

The Women's Group will have its kick-off meeting on 30 January 2013. Please join us as we shape the future of the group at our first gathering. The meeting will be held at 6330 Alderman Drive, Alexandria, VA, starting at 7:30 PM. Winnie and Vilma look forward to seeing you all.

Safety-at-Sea Seminar

The 31st annual **Safety at Sea Seminar** will be held on April 6 & 7 at Alumni Hall, U.S. Naval Academy, in Annapolis. The seminar will focus on offshore and inshore safety issues. The live on-the-water demonstrations and helicopter rescue are features of the Annapolis seminar that are unmatched in this country. The seminar is sponsored by the Marine Trades Association of Maryland and the U.S. Naval Academy Sailing Squadron. Contact the [Marine Trades Association of Maryland](http://www.marinetrades.org) for information and to sign up.



Nautical Wisdom From Captain Ron

Captain Ron: [To crew while lost in a heavy storm] We should be okay. 'Cause I know we're near land.

Martin Harvey: Great, Cap. Great. Ya hear that, kids? We're almost there. Explain to the kids how you know that, Captain Ron.

Captain Ron: Alright, now stay with me: When we left Miami, we had just enough fuel to make it to San Juan. And we just ran out of fuel.



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 Annual Awards Dinner and 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 2012-2013 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	11/03/2012	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	Anchoring and Rafting	\$25	
2	11/17/2012	8:30 am to 3:30 pm	Boat Mechanical Systems	\$25	
3	12/08/2012	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	Electronics, AIS, iPad Sailing Apps	\$25	
4	12/15/2012	8:30 am to 3:30 pm	Boat Auxiliary and Electrical Systems	\$25	
5	01/05/2013	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	Advanced Sail Trim and Balance	\$25	
6	01/12/2013	8:30 am to 2:30 pm	CPR & First Aid Certification Class	\$49	
7	01/26/2013	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	Bareboat Chartering	\$25	
8	02/09/2013	8:30 am to 3:30 pm	Piloting & Navigation Part I	\$75 for both sessions	
9	02/23/2013	8:30 am to 3:30 pm	Piloting & Navigation Part II		
10	03/02/2013	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	Rules of the Road and Sailing at Night	\$25	
11	03/09/2013	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	Art of Skippering & Offshore Sailing Preps	\$25	
12	03/23/2013	8:30 am to 3:30 pm	Bay Skipper Exam Series - P&N (\$25), General Knowledge (\$10), and Rules of the Road (\$15)	\$50 for all Sessions	

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) and no FVSM coupons may be used for the First Aid/CPR 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: [Caroline Acker, PSC Winter Training Coordinator](#)