



# Miles Lines

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## COMMANDER'S VIEW

## A Hole In The Water

Cdr Richard W. Wright, AP

Here it finally is - - the most exciting time of the year for boaters. All of the pre-season preparation work and repairs have now been completed and the boats have all been launched for the season. The weather on the Bay is perfect with the spring chill now behind us and the unrelenting heat of the summer not yet upon us. What could possibly be better than a day out on the water in June?

Lately, in answer to that question I have been hearing one unanimous answer: How about a day out on the water in June with fuel not costing an arm and a leg! I hear you and believe me, I understand. But, that got me thinking about the old adage that a boat is simply a hole in the water you throw money into. More specifically, how much deeper has that hole gotten now that fuel is rapidly approaching five dollars a gallon?

The first thought that came to mind was the price of a typical cruise on the Bay. One current benchmark would be the cost of a cruise up the Potomac to Washington. That, after all, is a trip being undertaken both by members of our own Squadron as well as District 5 at different times this summer. Depending upon the speed of the cruise and the efficiency of the hulls involved, most boats making the trip will average between 1 to 2 miles per gallon. If you do the math, with fuel between \$4.50 and \$5.00 a gallon, that makes the cost of the round trip cruise on the Potomac somewhere between \$400 and \$900 - - certainly enough to get the attention of most boaters I know! Nevertheless, as dramatic as that is, it may be too narrow a perspective on costs.

The fact is, the cost of boating is a lot more than simply the cost of fuel. Depending upon how much you can or choose to do yourself, here's a list of typical annual cost items for a 30 to 40 foot motor vessel: spring repairs and commissioning, spring launch, marina dockage fees, marina power, pumpouts, fuel, summer repairs, cleaning, waxing, registration, insurance, supplies, fall haulout, winterization, winter storage, and financing. As complete as that list is, however, it still is missing the single largest component of the cost of boating for newer boats - - depreciation.

There are a number of well-known formulas by which to estimate annual boating costs. For instance there is the ten-percent of original cost rule, and there is also the \$2,000 per ton rule. There is also a rule based on LOA, however, it makes no sense since with the exception of canoes, vessels grow in three dimensions simultaneously (meaning that costs would actually have to vary in proportion to the cube of LOA - - right?).

Regardless of how you calculate your total annual boating costs, however, one thing is very obvious when you look at the big picture: fuel cost is not the majority of the cost of boating. In fact, for most of us, fuel cost is not even a major element of the cost of boating. I would challenge you to do the calculations - - in my case, fuel represents only 10% of the total annual cost for operating my 34 foot trawler for 100 hours per year.

So, before you make a decision to stop using your boat in reaction to higher fuel costs, make sure you are thinking about those fuel costs in the context of your overall costs of boating. You may well come to the same conclusion that I have which is that saving money by operating your boat at its most economical speed makes perfect sense. However, saving money by not using your boat is a false economy.



**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT****Lt/C Mike Newnam, AP**

Kids, kids, kids - there were kids everywhere. What a pleasure and honor to be part of the group of instructors that had the opportunity to share some boating safety skills with over 300 students and faculty. There were over 60 Squadron members and volunteers there to spend the week working with our Boating Safety for Kids program. I want to extend many thanks to those workers for their efforts. I would be remiss if I did not give a special thanks to Marian Franck and Don Cook for their devotion and leadership in this nationally recognized program. What an effort they put in this program to make sure everything goes well.

The Partner in Command recently sponsored by the Miles River Yacht Club and the Miles River Sail and Power Squadron was quite a success. My wife was one of the students and I am no longer the Captain of our vessel but reduced to First Mate. I want to also extend many thanks to the members of the Squadron who worked as instructors in this course. Again, special thanks to Marian Franck who was instrumental in heading up this course.

Vessel Safety Check program is getting off to a slow start. We had six inspectors at the Miles River Yacht Club opening, and only one boat was inspected because it is so early in the season. When you have your boat ready, please call us so we can put that valuable sticker on your windshield. I am sad to say that we had one of our inspectors resign this year, but happy to say that one of the newest members of the Squadron, Stan Brown, has indicated an interest in this and is studying for his exam. With the new national program for inspection of canoes and other paddle craft, we could use some more inspectors. If you have the time and interest, please join this group of inspectors so you can contribute to boating safety on the water.

Elaine Wright is doing her usual great job in getting some publicity for the Squadron. Norm Franck is stepping up and doing the Safety article for each month as well as his duties as Educational Officer. It is folks like you that make this Squadron such a great group to be a member of. Thanks.

**ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT****Lt/C N. Steffens Smith, P**

Well, overall I believe that our auction was a success. We could have had better bidding attendance, having worked the registration desk; I know that we had less than 40 actual bid paddles given out. KUDOS to Mike Newnam for doing his usual great job as the auctioneer. Since there is a chance that I may be involved in a squadron auction again, I will be sure to write down "lessons learned" for future reference.

The D-5 Administration Officer sends out a list of district events in which all squadrons are invited to attend. The goal is to provide a boating event every weekend that all members may attend. The list is too long to publish in the Miles Line, however if you would like a copy, especially within our area, I will be happy to e-mail you a copy. I have just received a notice about the Chestertown Tea Party Festival on May 28 -30 sponsored by the Mainline Sail & Power Squadron members if you're interested.

The first Miles River Sail and Power Squadron's rendezvous will be Sunday, June 12 at the home of Peter & Gregory and Mary Carol Shannahan, 5151 Ulmer Road, Royal Oak, Maryland. Mark your calendar for this event and sign up on page 9 to enjoy that beautiful view of Oxford while you feast on Pit Beef & BBQ Chicken plus those special salads and desserts by Darnell's Catering Service.

In July we are planning a different type of rendezvous at Horn Point, Saturday, July 16. More details in the July Miles Line.

See you at Pete and Mary Carol's.



**Education****P/D/C W. Norman Franck, SN**

The spring education program has been busy.

\*Engine Maintenance taught by Kevin Digan had two students pass the exam including Scott Friedman and Larry Robinson.

\*JN students Tim Hanlon and Al Holmes have submitted their site folders and have taken the final written exam. Bus Brown was the instructor. Good Luck to all.

\*Currently Al Holmes is teaching AP with 3 students enrolled.

\*Fred Kieser was scheduled to teach the ABC Basic Boating Course, but none of the 5 registered students attended. Pre-registration in the future will require the fee payment prior to class.

\*Saturday, May 14, MRSPS had our first "Partner In Command" Seminar (see article in this issue).

\*Sunday, May 15, Elaine Wright, Isobel Krouse and Norm Franck attended the MRYC new member reception to share education and membership information with yacht club members. This afforded a great opportunity to share MRSPS programs with potential members.

**SAFETY****P/D/C W. Norman Franck, SN**

First, Thanks! to everyone who made the 2011 Safe Boating for Kids a success. (Note the list of helpers in this edition.)

Personnel: 16 program leaders; 52 MRSPS members and 10 non-members for a total of 62 instructors; 23 instructors served all five days of the workshop. 3 former Half Milers served lunch for the instructors on May 2 at CBMM.

Community supporters: Talbot County Public School administrators and teachers; 308 students and 30 teachers; Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum; Chesapeake YMCA; Miles River Yacht Club.

Second. April 2011 the National Boating Safety Advisory Council (NBSAC) has issued a resolution to the U. S. Coast Guard to target a regulatory project to pursue requirements for life jacket for recreational boaters while underway and riding in or upon:

A — personal watercraft regardless of length; B — human powered vessels (canoes, kayaks, row boats) regardless of length; C — any vessel less than 18 feet in length; and, D — for any person towed while engaged in water sports.

The USPS Board has also put out a resolution backing the NBSAC resolution. The goal of this resolution, when and if enacted, will hopefully lower the boating fatalities for this segment of boaters. With or without enforcement of this regulation, the wearing of life jackets when underway and riding in or on small craft is an important safety practice.

Be Safe out there.

**2011 SAFE BOATING FOR KIDS PROGRAM****Don Cook & Marian Franck, Co-Chairpersons**

Congratulations and many thanks to all 62 volunteers who helped to make this year's Safe Boating for Kids program a great success! Volunteer instructors included 46 squadron members, and 10 non-members representing other community boating groups. The Half Miles provided lunch, including 3 who prepared and served it, for the instructors at the all-day workshop at the CBMM. Several photographers captured the action. See the list of volunteers below.

Our squadron instructional team leaders (14 in all) spent much planning time in updating lesson plans, recruiting team instructors, searching for and transporting all the necessary equipment (including the D/5 Show Trailer and the USPS fire simulator) for many hands-on student activities, and monitoring all aspects of the workshop presentations. Four different photographers captured the action. Each student and teacher completed an evaluation which will provide information for planning the 2012 program.

The coordinated efforts of all with pre-planning, instructor training and program implementation made for another successful experience for all. Special thanks also go to multiple community supporters: The Talbot County Public Schools administration, the principals, teachers and students at both the Easton Middle School and the St. Michaels Middle/High School; The Chesapeake YMCA; The Miles River Yacht Club; Coast Guard Annapolis; USPS & D/5 USPS

**2011 INSTRUCTORS****BOATING REGULATIONS**

Bob Frenz\*  
Peter Gregory\*  
Larry Lindsley\*  
Alan Douglas  
Dot Frenz  
Tony Greenwood  
Carmen Perry  
Virginia Shenkle  
Stephen Velo  
Diana Sable\*\*

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

John Bayliss\*  
Norman Franck\*  
Elise Beacham  
Irv Hetherington  
Fred Kieser  
Fred Pond  
Ron Sasiela\*  
Alice Craig\*\*  
Mike Gates\*\*  
Stan Lewis\*\*

**HYPOTHERMIA/SUN/ENVIRONMENT**

Bill Rowan\*  
Peter Krouse\*  
Budd Beacham  
John Butler  
Judy DeBord  
Anne Digan  
Kevin Digan  
Isobel Krouse  
Billie Jane Marton  
Warren Marton  
Al Miller  
Anita Rowan

**MAN OVERBOARD**

Mike Newnam\*  
Al Holmes\*  
Ron Bell  
Stan Brown  
Patti Krogmann  
Nolan Todd\*\*

**SMALL BOAT HANDLING**

Arnie Peterson\*  
Annabel Leshner\*  
Chuck Gardner  
Tim Hanlon  
Ron Leshner  
Dom Lichioveri  
Eleanor Shannahan  
Bob Burger\*\*  
Ted Clark\*\*

**CPR/AED/BOATING INJURIES**

Suzan Newnam\*  
Lois Lindsley\*  
Valerie Lichioveri  
Mary Carol Shannahan  
Carol Tulip (Annapolis PS)  
John Wolfe\*\*  
Jill Hite\*\*  
Mo Newnam\*\*

HALF MILES LUNCH CREW – Pat Smith, Camille Kneale, Justine Adams  
Photographers: Kathy Brown, Stan Lewis, Sari & Marty Lafferty (D/5 AO)

\*Lead Instructors

\*\* Non-Members

**2011 SAFE BOATING FOR KIDS PROGRAM (Continued)**



Instructors model life jackets purchased through NSBC grant received this year.



Boats lined up on the YMCA "waterfont".



Mike Newnam observes throwing practice during MOB drill.



Bob Frenz and Larry Lindsley help students ID safety equipment.



Al Holmes demonstrates the cleat hitch.



Ron Sasiela demonstrates the fire extinguisher simulator.

**2011 SAFE BOATING FOR KIDS PROGRAM (Continued)**



Irv Hetherington and Alice Craig help students make emergency call to Coast Guard (Simulation).



Sue Newnam demonstrates the AED.



Marty Lafferty visits Fred Pond at the simulated Coast Guard Station.



Anita Rowan and Billie Jane Marton explain hypothermia.

**NEWS FLASH — MRSPS Safe Boating For Kids On the D/5 Web Site**

From Marian Franck

Marty Lafferty, D/5 AO, and Sari have posted 70 pictures from the Kids Program on the D/5 Facebook Page.

To view this album please go to [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org); click on site index, then on districts, then on D05. On the D/5 webpage you will see a listing for squadron activities on Facebook. Click on it and you will find the album at the top of this page.

Marian

## 2011 MRSPS Auction

Thanks to everyone who attended and worked on the 2011 MRSPS Auction on May 20th, I am pleased to report to you the Auction was a major success! The Squadron depends on the biennial Auction to provide the funding for its ongoing community outreach and education efforts. The injection of cash from the Auction will assure funding for the Squadron's programs over the next two years.

Special thanks goes to each member of the very dedicated auction team, including: Peter Gregory, Arnie Peterson, Steffens Smith, Diane Flagler and most particularly, our Executive Officer Mike Newnam who not only obtained a large percentage of the auctioned items but also served as the auctioneer.

For those of you who attended and bid on the excellent bargains available, I wish you much happiness with your new purchases. For those who worked so hard to make the Auction a success, we all offer you our thanks!

Richard W. Wright, Commander



**PARTNER IN COMMAND SEMINAR****P/D/C W. Norman Franck, SN**

The Partner in Command course was presented by lead instructor, Marian Franck at the MRYC, Saturday, May 14. She was assisted by Bill, Rowan, Norm Franck, Patti Krogmann, Al Holmes, Alice Craig (former member), Irv Hetherington, Stan Brown, Alan Douglas, Frank DeBord, and Fred Kieser. Michelle Burgoon wrote of her experience this past summer. Bill Rowan started the day by sharing Michelle's story for a dynamic start. They all pitched in to assist with instruction and hands-on practice of multiple skills. These folks, all well practiced with the 7th grade program a week ago, moved easily and willingly to share with the adults in the Partner in Command program. Their collective skill and knowledge enabled delivery of concepts, demonstration and practice of critical skills First Mates will need in the event of distressful boating events especially if the skipper is incapacitated.

The MRYC management and officers and the MRSPS Assistant SEO, Fred Kieser deserve great credit for the initial planning, promotion and implementation of this program. The positive response of all made this event a success worth repeating. MRYC is a true partner of MRSPS...ready to serve, share their facility to accommodate our programs, flexible to make changes as needed, most of all, understanding the importance of safe boating education.

The course was divided into three parts. Part 1, the morning session, included classroom presentations on safety equipment, engine controls, navigation tools, and multiple emergency situations. During the breaks students practiced lighting flares, using a fire extinguisher, tying knots, throwing floatation devices for use in MOB rescues, and making emergency calls to a simulated Coast Guard Station

The PM session, Part 2, Frank DeBord and Fred Kieser provided their boats for demonstration and practice of on-the-water skills. Frank DeBord accompanied by Stan Brown and Norm Franck accompanied by Allen Douglas took the students out on the boats to locate various safety equipment onboard and practice skills of starting, stopping, turning, steering a course, approaching a MOB, anchoring and docking.

Part 3 will be the completion of a checklist of items by each First Mate on her own boat observed by the skipper. Each will receive a certificate of completion when finished. Hopefully, their confidence in operating a boat will continue to increase as they practice on their own boats. Good luck to the eleven First mates enrolled.

Brave skippers Frank DeBord and Fred Kieser loaned their vessels for on-water training.



Practice at the helm on Water Witch



Littl' Scamp approaches a "MOB"

## **JUNE RENDEZVOUS**

**Sunday, July 12**

**Pete Gregory & Mary Carol Shannahan's Home**

5151 Ulmer Road

Royal Oak, MD 21662

410-745-3321

**3 PM—Cocktail Hour**

**4 PM—Food Service**

**Menu:**

**Pit Beef, BBQ Chicken**

**Potato Salad, Cole slaw**

**Zucchini and Tomato Salad**

**Brownie for dessert, and Unsweetened Ice Tea.**

**PRICE PER PERSON.....\$20.00**

**Please Make Reservations before 7 June**

**Arnold Peterson**

**22440 Indian Point Road**

**Bozman, MD 21612**

**410-745-3466**

**apeterson@atlanticbb.net**

## **HALF MILES LUNCH BUNCH LUNCHEON**

**Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 12 o'clock**

**Cambridge Yacht Club**

**All ladies of MRS&PS most welcome. Separate Checks.**

**Please make a reservation with Ruth Buescher so we have an accurate count.**

**Ruth's phone number is 410-822-8490.**

**MILES RIVER SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON, INC.**  
**P.O. Box 173, St. Michaels, MD 21663**  
**www.mrsps.org**

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**YEARBOOK UPDATE****Marian Franck, SN**

PLEASE MAKE THE FOLLOWING CORRECTIONS TO YOUR 2011 Yearbook:

Street address correction for Larry and Lois Lindsley to: 9659 Martingham Circle

Please contact the Yearbook Editor with any changes in your contact information. Send to:  
 Marian Franck, 248972 Swan Rd, St Michaels MD 21663 OR [dmfranck@atlanticbb.net](mailto:dmfranck@atlanticbb.net)

**CALENDAR****June**

1 Excom—1900—MEBA  
 12 Rendezvous—Gregory/Shannahan House 1500  
 28 Half Miles Lunch Bunch—Cambridge YC—1200

**July**

6 Excom—1900—MEBA  
 16 Rendezvous—Horn Point—Cambridge  
 22-28 D/5 Cruise Southbound  
 29-31 D/5 Summer Council & Rendezvous

**Aug**

1-6 D/5 Post Rendezvous Cruise To Washington DC  
 10 Excom—1900—MEBA

**Sept**

7 Excom—1900—MEBA  
 11 Rendezvous—TBA  
 12-17 USPS Fall Governing Board—Greensboro, NC