



# The Door Scuttlebutt

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*Door County Sail and Power Squadron October, 2012*

Volume 6 #10

## COMMANDERS MESSAGE

Fall is the nicest season in Door County, The large bodies of water that surround us and keep us cool in June and July hold onto their heat, and provide a more gradual advancement of the seasons than is experienced in other areas. So we're getting a string of glorious fall days, great temperatures, gentle breezes....darn.

I had so much fun with my colon surgery last year that I'm being treated to a surgical reprise of that experience. Nothing so radical this year, but I'm being held mostly inside by a hernia repair for the weekend. What a drag. Always one to look on the bright side, at least I'm getting my article written for this month's Scuttlebutt.

It's particularly vexing as there was an opportunity this week to complete my Coastal Navigator Certification. For those who might not remember, USPS has started a certification program beyond our traditional classwork involving demonstrating actual boating skills on the water. It is eventually intended to be internationally recognized, sort of like an international drivers' license. We have had our Inland Navigator Certification up for a few years now, but this is our squadron's first go at Coastal Certifications. Thanks go to SEO/DEO Bob DeNoto, JN, for bringing this program online quickly for our squadron and certifying both Inland and Coastal Navigators during the week. There should be some other information about the program elsewhere in the Scuttlebutt. If you want to charter a boat somewhere, this is going to be important to you soon.

Coming up on the calendar is our Lay-up dinner meeting on Friday, 19 October. The Speaker for the evening is Mike Stapleton the "Sail Anyway" program for the disabled. There will be a short business meeting following dinner. If you see any of our new members there, be sure to welcome them into the group.

I'm rapidly coming up on my long trip to Austin, Texas, where I will have an extended opportunity to better know my new grandson. I've talked about this with the Nominations and Executive committees, and am confident that we can function as a virtual organization for a while. It was our primary method of conducting business at District when I was on that Bridge, and we been discussing some innovative things to try during my absence. I will be Attending the D10 conference on 2-3 November, and continuing south from there. Speaking of that, you might consider attending the District Conference this fall. It's shorter than normal, only requiring one overnight stay, and should be fun.

We have a new newsletter editor beginning in December (or perhaps even Noveber), but at a cost. Lt/C Dolores Hermann, AP is going to take over for me, and produce something more professional, but I will lose her as Administrative Officer for the next watch year. This is a great opportunity for someone to become involved with the vital affairs of our squadron, and I hope you give it some consideration.

Cdr. Bob Stierna, SN

This month's Cover photo is of the SS Great Britain, once England's grandest passenger liner, as it lay derelict in the Falkland Islands in 1970. It is from BBC Radio 4 and used within their non-commercial guidelines.

## Boat Operator Certification FUN

On Thursday September 27<sup>th</sup> John and Dolores Hermann and I had an interesting and very enjoyable afternoon on the water with Bob De Noto. The objective was to put John and me through a testing procedure for Coastal Navigation certification. Bob had us produce a planned route with waypoints ahead of time, and then guided us through the testing routine. A couple of times *en route* he stopped us and asked us to fix our position by taking bearings. On a couple of occasions our GPS and speedos were covered, simulating an electronic failure. Dolores kept track of elapsed times as we demonstrated our abilities at dead reckoning navigation.

We were visited briefly by a Coast Guard Patrol boat that inquired about what we were doing. They recognized Bob and his testing program, saw the VSC on our port side, noted that we all were wearing PFDs, and after exchanging greetings wished us well and shoved off without boarding our boat.

It was a beautiful day late in September. Spending four hours on the water with friends is sure tough to beat!

Alan Wentworth  
Executive Officer

## From The SEO-October 2012

**It really is all about Boats!** On Saturday, September 22, I headed over to Lake Pepin, MN to complete my On-The-Water skills training for Coastal Navigator and to be qualified as a CN Certifier. After participating in training on Lake Minnetonka, late Monday, I returned with the “Water Trainer” to Door County; Tuesday. Bay Marine is where I keep Carefree. They graciously provided a slip to park the Trainer for 4 days. Below is a picture of the rig in front of SBYC prior to moving the boat to its slip at Bay Marine.



Below is a picture of me and incoming Admin Officer for Minnetonka: John Raby, setting up for Practical On-the-Water training on Lake Minnetonka.



While in Door County, we used the Trainer for both Inland Navigator and Coastal Navigator OTW training. Friday, 28 September, was a flat day on the shipping canal. So; we took advantage of it and conducted Inland Navigator skills training for Markus, John Reichmann and Jim Pahl-Wsaha. Jim is Past District Commander and a member of the Madison Squadron. John and Dolores Hermann were my able assistants. On Saturday, I ran ASEO Steve Rank through Coastal Navigator OTW training. Below is a picture of Captain Rank bringing her by the Coast Guard Station.





In addition, on Thursday we used Alan Wentworth's Bellatrix to do CN training as well. I trained Alan and John Hermann. Dolores was my time keeper. I can't describe to you how wonderful a fall day in Door County; conducting these exercises is. You'll just have to ask the participants. I hope to get the trainer back next season. You really should get involved!!

On Sunday, 30 September, I ran the rig down to Kenosha, with John Hermann in the chase car and handed it off to the next trainer, who is taking it to Peoria for training on the IL River. From there it goes to Texas; then on to the West Coast. In the last 15 months, the "Water Trainer" has traveled 15,000 miles. In closing on this; I would like to thank all the participants. You provided me with some of my top 10 days. But I want to especially thank John and Dolores for all they do for me. I couldn't do this job without them. They are always there for me.

**Seamanship** started 18 September with 7 students. Two of our students came to us through our recently promoted SailAway package. Thanks go out to Paul King our instructor.

**Weather** with Alan Wentworth teaching to classrooms in Green Bay and Sturgeon Bay simultaneously, resumed 12 September. Seven students will take the exam 3 October.

**Automated Radio Check (ARC):** The last couple of months I reported that Sea Tow has created a network of radio stations to allow boaters to do "radio checks" without using VHF Ch 16. Our system is installed in the cupola at the Door County Maritime Museum. Last Saturday after ASEO Steve's training, we took the "Water Trainer" out on Lake Michigan. We were still getting transmission as far up as Whitefish Dunes State Park. **ARC** is alive and well!

I'm going to continue to bug you on this until I get a taker. The Public Relations Officer (PRO) position is **STILL** open. Cdr. Stierna, I and others have been temporarily sharing the responsibility. We are getting great cooperation from the Pulse and Advocate. Quite frankly: We need your help. We really need someone to step up and become PRO. We are out of the busy rush. Now's the time for me to coach you. Think about it. Give us a call.

Bob DeNoto, JN, Squadron Educational Officer

## LAST CRUISE OF THE SEASON

Our boat, Bay Belle, was out of the water, cleaned, waxed and put into winter storage at Quarterdeck Marina. No more cruising this year, I thought. Then came an offer I couldn't refuse -- two days on the water and an opportunity to participate in on-the-water training in preparation for Certification on two proficiency levels.



John Hermann taking a bearing



Alan Wentworth setting the GPS

On the first day, John Hermann and Alan Wentworth, candidates for the Coastal Navigation Certificate, were to show their expertise at plotting a compass course using 60D Street skills, then traveling a consistent speed, accurately following the course to arrive at a fix at the time charted. They demonstrated taking bearings and plotting a DR using bearings to determine their position. Since John was involved I was invited to come along. Sea trials were performed on Bellatrix, Alan's boat, on a picture perfect day with great water and a view of changing colors along the shoreline. It was a long day but they both passed.



Our training vessel - a real beauty!

On day two, the focus turned to sea trials for the Inland Certification Certificate and the three candidates, John Reichmann, Markus Ritter and Jim Pahl-Washa, from the Central Wisconsin Power Squadron. For this, Bob DeNoto took possession of a USPS training vessel, a speedy little center-helm, open boat. John and I were invited to come along to handle dock lines and training buoys. Saying yes to this was an easy decision. The three

candidates needed to demonstrate docking and undocking off a mid-ships cleat springline,

running a slalom off six buoys at two speeds and backwards, running a range forward and backwards, pivoting in place and running a radius. They all passed, of course, and it was a great training experience.

The following day, Steve Rank was scheduled to be on the boat for training and testing and he passed as well. So, the boating season is never over until the last boat is out of the water. I had a wonderful time!



Markus Ritter, Jim Pahl-Washa, John Reichmann and Bob DeNoto doing Inland Navigator training

We are most fortunate to have Bob DeNoto as our Education Officer, as well as the DEO for D10. In addition to his skill and expertise on the water, he traveled to Minnesota to pick up the boat and tow vehicle, was trained in using the boat and mastering the training he was supervising, conducting three days of training and then returning the boat and tow vehicle to Kenosha for the next group to pick up and use. He dedicated most of the week to this project. Thank you, Bob, for all you do to promote safe boating through education.

#### OKTOBERFEST



Twenty-four members had a great time at the first-ever DCS&PS Oktoberfest. A big thank you to Mac and Tom Schueppert for coordinating the menu with The Neighborhood Pub and to Nancy and John Reichmann for making phone calls to encourage folks to come. We had plenty of German wine and beer to sample and the strudel was a big hit.

Dolores Hermann AP Administrative Officer



--A few more photos courtesy of Markus Ritter---



Setting up for an Inland Certification Run

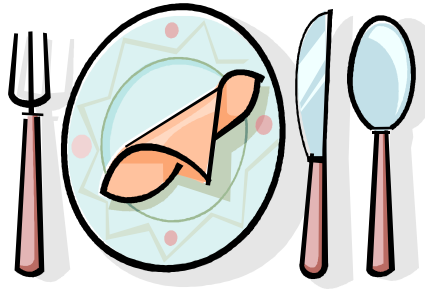


Relaxing at the Steel Bridge Café





LAY-UP DINNER MEETING – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19 – AT THE STURGEON BAY YACHT CLUB



This is a time to meet and greet fellow members and to share stories of boating experiences. We have an interesting program for you. Mike Stapleton of the Sail Anyway Program has agreed to come and talk about this national program that encourages people with disabilities to come boating. Newer members please come and get acquainted and learn more about your squadron.

SOCIAL HOUR – 5:30 P.M. DINNER – 6:00 P.M. SHORT MEETING & PROGRAM – 7:30 P.M.

MENU

12 OZ. RIBEYE STEAK W/BAKED POTATO	\$30
CHICKEN MARSALA W/WHIPPED POTATO	\$25
WHITEFISH ALMANDINE W/WILD RICE	\$25

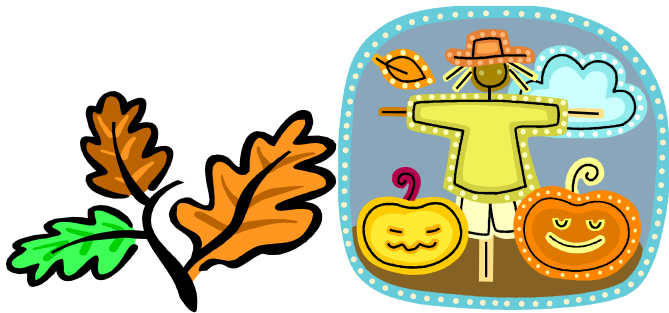
ALL DINNERS INCLUDE VEGETABLE, SALAD W/CHOICE OF DRESSING, ROLLS & BUTTER, COOKIES & COFFEE

PLEASE REVP YOUR DINNER SELECTIONS BY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14 TO TOM & MAC SCHUEPPERT AT 743-4664 OR EMAIL TOM AT [TSCHUEPP@CHARTER.NET](mailto:TSCHUEPP@CHARTER.NET).

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### OCTOBER 2012

- 16<sup>TH</sup> – Executive Committee Meeting - 2 p.m. – SBYC. All members are welcome.
- 19<sup>TH</sup> – Lay-up Dinner Meeting – 5:30 social hour, 6:30 dinner, 7:30 program – Sturgeon Bay Yacht Club



### NOVEMBER 2012

- 2<sup>ND</sup>/3<sup>RD</sup> – D10 Fall Conference – Wausau WI.

### DECEMBER 2012

- 7<sup>TH</sup> – Holiday Party and the fabulous one-pound auction – 6:00 p.m.



### JANUARY 2013

- 8<sup>TH</sup> – Executive Committee Meeting - 2 p.m. – SBYC. All members are welcome.
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Piloting Begins
- 18<sup>TH</sup> – Annual Meeting
- 25-29 USPS Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, FL

### FEBRUARY 2013

- 5<sup>TH</sup> Marine Communications Systems begins.
- 9<sup>th</sup> Change of Watch (Tentative)

### MARCH 2013

- 22-24<sup>th</sup> - D10 Spring Conference

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**P/C John Hermann, AP**

**Lt Bill Galligan, AP**

**Open**

**Open**

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*Commander's Department*

**Chaplain Lt Mary Welch, P**

**Flag Lieutenant F/Lt Craig Weis, S**

*Executive Department*

**Public Relations Open**

**Vessel Safety Checks John Hermann, AP**

**Port Captain Lt Markus Ritter, AP**

*Education Department*

**Asst. SEO Lt Steve Rank, AP**

**Public Boating Classes Lt William C. Galligan, AP**

**Adv. Grade Courses Cdr. Robert Stierna, SN**

**Elective Courses Lt John Welch, SN**

**ABC Representative Lt Robert DeNoto, JN**

*Administrative Department*

**Membership Lt Dolores Hermann, AP**

**Day Trips Lt John Reichmann, AP**

**Boating Activities Lt Michelle Anderson**

**Entertainment Lt Mary Welch, P**

*Secretary's Department*

**Newsletter – Cdr. Bob Stierna, SN**

**Webmaster Lt Markus Ritter, AP**

**Treasurer's Department Ships Store Lt/C Cynthia Weis, AP**

# Fall Conference



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**Conference agenda**

If you have questions email [Dale Perry](mailto:Dale.Perry@usps.org)