

United States Power Squadrons®

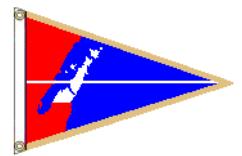


THE DOOR

Volume 09, Issue 2

Scuttlebutt

Newsletter of the Door County Sail & Power Squadron



February 2015

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2015

CHANGE OF WATCH

SUNDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2015
THE LANDMARK RESORT
STATEROOM DINING ROOM

LUNCH SELECTIONS

Stuffed Pork Chop, topped with Pear & Peppercorn Sauce, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Breadstick	\$23
Crab & Scallop Stuffed Sole, Wild Rice, Vegetable, Breadstick	\$23
Caesar Salad with Steak, Breadstick	\$20
All entrees include coffee, iced tea, lemonade	
Dessert	

ORDER OF THE DAY

Noon—Social Hour with Cash Bar

1300 Luncheon

1400 Change of Watch Ceremony honoring the
installation of incoming officers

Join us in welcoming our incoming D10
Commander Thad Smyczek

RSVP

Dolores Hermann by Monday 2 February

743-1675

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Many years ago, my son John was finishing his time as a cub scout preparing to move on in the world of scouting. There was to be a special program to mark the occasion. We came early in the afternoon for a picnic lunch and some fun time with old friends. Just before evening, we were gathered up as a group around the flag pole where we honored our nation at the end of the day and received our instructions for the evening. There was a small lake close by and we were instructed to walk around it to the meeting site. There was to be no talking, just a time to reflect on our experiences before the ceremony to come. Once at the site the graduates were to take a twig and, while crossing a symbolic bridge, toss the twig into the fire where Akela (the "good leader" in scout parlance) would accept it to the fire of scouting.

Come walk with me in the setting sun for a while, as I remember. In 1984, I was in my 40's when I found myself belonging to a large number of organizations, but without any real commitment or meaning. It was enormously unfulfilling and I needed to change that. I had recently taken a course from USPS in boating safety and it seemed to fit the bill for an organization with a strong community mission and yet having a nice social program. I joined and began to slowly integrate myself into the Minnetonka Power Squadron. Minnetonka is a large squadron with a lot of resources, very different than here, but the mission is the same. My passion for the education program led to the Bridge for 6 years with a year as commander in 1995. At the end of that I was brought into District 10 where I served on the Bridge for 7 years and as District Commander in 2005. When we moved over to Door County in 2007 I was tapped for the Bridge where I have served since 2010, including three years as your commander. Were it not for ill health, I would be happy to continue to serve in some capacity, and in fact will, up the extent I am able.

I have spoken often of the rewards of service. This is a mission where we save lives, the ones not reported as "news", but the ones who safely navigate and enjoy our great home waters. Since 1991, boating fatalities have gone from 924 to 560 in the US. People you touch become the positive part of that statistic, but work remains to be done. No matter what role you take, you contribute to the mission and the morale of the organization.

We also serve each other, whether with Vessel Safety Checks; educational pursuits; or social events. For a small organization, we are one of the busiest and most effective squadrons in our district and the nation. It has been an honor to serve Door County and USPS for these past few years of recognized achievement.

So here we are, on our final stretch to Change of Watch and new leadership. As I walk this path, I am reminded of all who pitched in over the decades. Officers do not walk alone, but with the help and assistance of many people who give freely of their time and effort. Over several decades, it's literally hundreds of people who have willingly helped. Almost all of the local squadron has pitched in at one time or the other, it's a team effort. Thank you all.

On a personal level, the uncertainty in my life has increased over the past days as the doctors have been discussing the best approach to my medical problems, which are complex. It's a path I would not choose to walk, but since I am here, I remain hopeful and optimistic.

I look forward to seeing you at Change of Watch to celebrate my retirement and to welcome Bob DeNoto as your commander. I will toss my twig into the fire, and become that most honored of positions, a member again.

Bob

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 5th—Bob Stierna
- 6th—Judy Holtz
- 7th—Jeff Johnson
- 20th—Mary Welch
- 23rd—Marie Coons



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PASTA BAR AND MEETING AT THE LODGE IN STURGEON BAY

Twenty-six members attended the 16 January 2015 Annual Meeting and election of officers for the coming year. The slate was unanimously elected as follows: Commander—Bob DeNoto; Treasurer—Cynthia Weis; Executive Officer—John Hermann. Steve Rank continues as Education Officer and Bill Galligan as Member-at-Large. We have three open positions as follows: Secretary, Administrative Officer and an additional Member-at-Large. Lou Pasquesi received a Squadron Certificate of Appreciation for completing 103 vessel safety checks during 2014 and was introduced as the incoming Chairman—Vessel Safety Check Program. Congratulations, Lou!



John Hermann, Jeri Rank, Michelle & Jerry Anderson



At the registration table—Jean Baumann, John Hermann, Marilyn Grose, Cynthia Weis and Dave Baumann



Tom Schueppert joins Judy and Chuck Holtz at the appetizer table



Mac Schueppert at dinner with Erica and Karl May



Nancy and Alan Wentworth with Barb and Lou Pasquesi



Congratulations, Lou, on receiving a Certificate of Appreciation for completing 103 VSCs. WOW!

ANNUAL MEETING DISCUSSION REPORT

At the end of the annual business meeting there was an open discussion concerning how to encourage members to volunteer for leadership responsibilities on the Bridge and Executive Committee. Constructive criticisms and suggestions were offered by the members as follows:

- A few members said they had little or no idea of the duties of our officers, executive or other committees.
- Committee duties have, in certain instances, expanded significantly over what was described during recruiting discussions.
- Members commented that they had reached a stage where they wish to be members, attend events as they may choose, cruise, but not take on committee or other on-going responsibilities.
- Members commented that they had reached a stage where they no longer wish to sit in two hour meetings.
- A more acceptable way to encourage active participation would be to break down responsibilities into small segments that require limited time commitments.
- Members described the squadron organization as “top-down” and no longer a good fit for our time. “Bottom up” would better serve for initial volunteering and growth of responsibilities. With a bottom up approach in mind, our leaders should write job descriptions for an on-going series in the Scuttlebutt. These descriptions should be in brief and in simple, layman language. (see page 4)

FROM YOUR EDUCATION OFFICER

Hello Dreamers and Planners,

Winter is going by faster than I imagined. This may be because we had a great warm stretch in January or it may be that I'm getting older, which always accelerates time. Either way, I can't wait for the sweet time ahead of us all. I love working on boat projects and updates during the off- season. This year I am making three hard winch covers and a tiller comb for my sailboat. I also love increasing my knowledge of navigation and safe and fun boating techniques and sharing them with others. That being said, we are about to begin our spring semester of courses.

Cruise Planning will be held on Thursdays starting Feb 5 and running through March 26th at Chuck Holtz's house. The course promises to be a delightful smorgasbord of cruising must-have information to prepare for gunkholing and spending extended time periods on your boat. This is the reason many of us bought the dream in the first place.

JN will run on Tuesdays from Feb 17 – May 26th as needed. It will be held at NWTC for the classroom portions of the course. John Welch has agreed to teach. Bob DeNoto will assist as needed. We have had some students independently do this course successfully but I feel that the classroom adds a needed richness that cannot be achieved without it. Four students are lined up to take this course.

I erroneously reported that Chuck Stone would be teaching Marine Electronics module three this spring. The course is Electronic Navigation which is the Canadian Power Squadron's version which we will use until National comes out with our own. The course Chuck will teach does satisfy National's requirement for credit for the Marine Electronics modules including the one on the Advanced Coastal Navigation Passport. The course will be offered on Thursdays from April 2 – May 28th at a time and place to be determined.

Seamanship has not been worked out yet but is still in the works. I'll keep you informed when we figure it out.

Sweet Dreams,

Steve

OPEN POSITIONS IN THE SQUADRON

Responding to a member recommendation that Squadron Officer positions be divided into more manageable segments, here is a brief look at how you might assist your Squadron with some of the tasks of the open positions. If you are able to help in any way or have questions, please contact Bob DeNoto or John Hermann.

Secretary

The most important need is for someone to take minutes of Executive Committee meetings. When written, these are circulated prior to the next meeting. Time commitment is 2 hours per meeting (every six weeks) plus time to write and circulate. If this becomes a shared position, a different person could take minutes of general membership meetings (4 per year),

Administrative Officer

Michelle Anderson has volunteered to plan Squadron events and needs one or two people to work with her. The calendar lists four social/meeting events: Annual Meeting, Change of Watch, Fitting Out Meeting/Social and the Lay-Up Meeting/Social. In addition we have planned a Shrimp Boil, Holiday Party and the annual Memominee Rendezvous. Taking responsibility for one or two of these events and working with Michelle to plan them and make follow-up telephone calls would be a great help.

Squadron cruise planning, assisted by cruise activities leaders, is a great position. It involves setting and running the spring Cruise Planning Meeting and working with individuals who volunteer to plan individual cruises.

Member at Large

The Member at Large represents the general membership at Executive Committee Meetings. Time commitment is 2 hours per meeting (every six weeks). This is a great way to understand what everyone does and to speak up as necessary.

Helps with specific tasks of interest.

Thank you to all of the members who contributed articles and pictures. Please take no offense if your article was somewhat changed or if your picture was not included in the Scuttlebutt. Changes, exclusions and inclusions are made based on space.



Submit articles and pictures for the March Scuttlebutt by February 28, 2015



Send your comments, ideas and articles to:

Dolores Hermann

dolores.e.hermann@gmail.com

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The Door Scuttlebutt can be found on the Squadron website: www.usps.org/door



COMING EVENTS

February

3—Executive Committee Meeting—1900 on-line

5—Cruise Planning Class Begins

8—Change of Watch

17th—JN Course Begins



March

TBD—Seamanship begins



20-23—D10 Spring Conference—Brown Deer WI (Milwaukee S&PS)

31—Executive Committee Meeting—1900 on-line

April

2—Electronic Navigation Class begins



18—Vessel Safety Examiner Season Prep Meeting

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Members at Large
Lt Bill Galligan, AP
P/C Bob DeNoto, JN

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Commander's Department
Chaplain **Lt. Mary Welch, P**
Flag Lieutenant **F/Lt Craig Weis, S**
Merit Marks **P/R/C Alan Wentworth, N**

Executive Department
Public Relations **Lt Steve Mayheu**
Safety Officer/VSC Chair **P/C John Hermann, AP**
Port Captain **Lt Markus Ritter, AP**

Education Department
Public Boating **Lt William Galligan, AP**
Adv. Grade Courses **Cdr. Robert Stierna, N**
Elective Courses **P/Lt/C John Welch, N**
ABC Representative & **P/C Robert DeNoto, JN**
Boat Operator Certification

Administrative Department
Membership **Lt/C Cynthia Weis, AP**
Boating Activities **P/Lt/C John Welch, N**
Meetings & Programs **Lt Michelle Anderson**
Member Involvement **Dolores Hermann, AP**

Secretary's Department
Newsletter **P/Lt/C Dolores Hermann, AP**
Webmaster **Lt Markus Ritter, AP**

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