

# United States Power Squadrons®

"Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends" SM™



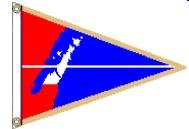
THE DOOR

## Scuttlebutt

Newsletter of the Door County Sail & Power Squadron

Volume 9, Issue 9

"The Little Squadron That Could"



September 2015

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## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

The weekend in Menominee, 14-16 August, was a really fun time! We had more attendees from the M & M Squadron than in past years. It's a pleasure getting to know more of their members. Moving the pot luck to Saturday made Friday seem more relaxed and less rushed. The Classic Car Show was in town and Austin Hermann came up for the weekend to join us. It's always great catching up with Austin. Thanks go out to Sandy King for taking the lead on the weekend and to all who helped Sandy.

I didn't think we could beat last year's lumpy ride returning, as evidenced by the following picture of "Carefree" taken from "Southern Cross", but we did!



The waves coming out of the south west seemed a bit beamier and larger, until we got in the lee of Little Sturgeon.

Karen and I relocated to the Chicagoland area in 1989 from Connecticut. All of my boating experience prior to relocating had been on Long Island Sound, Fisher's Island Sound and Block Island Sound. Waves on these bodies of water were typically 1 to 3 and occasionally 4 to 5. However they are several hundred feet apart. Here they are 5 seconds apart. Makes for a very different boating experience. All said, I'd rather be on the water, wherever it might be.

We will have a presence this year again at Marina Fest in Sister Bay on 5 September. Come on up for some fun! I'm aware that several members have volunteered to help John Hermann and his team make this event another success. Thank you all.

Our Lay-Up meeting this year is a Saturday luncheon at the Log Den, 26 September. Karen and I were at the Log Den this past weekend to celebrate our neighbors' 50th wedding anniversary. The Den did a great job. Consider joining us for our last "official" meeting of 2015.

As we approach the close of the 2015 boating season, be safe and fair winds.

Your Commander,

Bob

# ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS IN MENOMINEE

14—16 AUGUST



The Lunch  
Bunch at  
Murray's



Happy  
Hour on  
the dock



Friday night at the Ogden Club

# ANNUAL RENDEZVOUS IN MENOMINEE

14—16 AUGUST

**Friday, August 14th** Travel was good until early afternoon. Then a squall came from the Northwest with rain, wind and hail. Compromise, with Bob Stierna and John Hermann, was caught in the squall, as suddenly the wind veered from southeast to north. John asked Captain Bob if he should lower the mail sail. Watching the lightening over Menominee, Bob said he was not eager to touch the aluminum boom and mast. Sounded like good advice. They made it okay, but were very wet.

There was a gathering of members just south of the Menominee Yacht Club for appetizers, drinks and great conversation.

Arriving during the day were John and Mary Welch (Mary Time), Terry and Julie Keating (Lark), Gary and Sandy King (Southern Cross), Bob DeNoto (Carefree), Jerry and Michelle Anderson w/ Pilot Austin Hermann (Splash Landing), Bob and Eileen Brown (formerly Splash Landing), Carl and Ericka May (Nevermoar) arrived Thursday, coming from Escanaba. Alan and Nancy Wentworth piloted Bellatrix and arrived after the storm. They took shelter in Sawyer Harbor while the storm hit and then proceeded across the Bay. Never to disappoint, Craig Weiss, with Comfort and Joy, arrived at 9:31 pm (his stated time) after waiting out the storm at the "The Quarry" harbor of refuge. Dolores Hermann and Karen DeNoto arrived by land yacht.

That evening members split up to dine out. They went to Berg's Landing, Murray's and Ogden Club.



1928 Rolls Royce—a favorite at the classic car show



Craig Weiss mending his sails

**Saturday, August 15th** Many of the women hit the shops and the men did guy stuff at the car show. Tom and Barb Voegeli (Swan) and Steve Rank with Jerry Richter (Wind Rover) arrived mid-afternoon. The evening pot luck was held at the Boater's Lounge. There were approximately 26 members, including one guest and three couples from the Marinette/Menominee Squadron. We had a great variety of food and sharing of adventures.

**Sunday, August 16th** Departure for home ports: Mother Nature was not going to go unnoticed. Southwest winds created the classic "bay chop" beam sea for the trip back to Sturgeon Bay. Bellatrix, Lark, Mary Time and Splash Landing continued their cruise to Escanaba and then to Sturgeon Bay on Monday.

Another great weekend of fun in the sun. Sorry if I missed anyone.

Sandy King, Cruise Captain



Saturday night at the potluck



Our hostess, Sandy King—thank you, we had a great time

## FROM YOUR EDUCATION OFFICER

Ahoy Everyone!

August proved to be a stormy month fraught with danger for the boats around Lama Wamah Lagoon! On 9 August around 1400 the national weather service issued a storm warning for damaging winds and hail approaching on a line from Menominee to Door County. We had guests that week who had a 21 foot Skeeter with a 300 horse outboard, and, inexplicably, Andrew and his six year old daughter decided to go about 300 feet off our breakwater to practice casting despite the signs of ominous weather. I was tinkering on my boat at the dock and, as he headed past, I asked him if he had a VHF radio to which he replied he did. I mistakenly assumed, however, that he had it turned on. I turned my own radio on and heard the weather warning, so I hailed Andrew but received no reply. I finally had to ask his wife to call him on his cell to warn him of the upcoming storm. We watched from our upstairs window, looking NW towards Sawyer Harbor, and saw a spooky white wall and a strip of black water approaching. Andrew must have seen it too and got into the lagoon just as a straight line wind in excess of 60 mph hit our beach, taking down a giant willow tree that I played "pirates" in as a kid! (Fortunately the tree did no damage to anything around it, falling into the only spot that would not have hit any other trees or our deck.) Meanwhile, Andrew was forced to tie up on the wall on the other side of the lagoon from our dock with the help of our neighbors because of the ferocity and direction of the wind. He and his daughter were shaken and stirred but not hurt. By the way, he didn't have a dock line ready—another mistake.

The lesson here is to listen to your VHF and heed all weather warnings. As an aside, the storm was powerful enough to blow two heavy, wood Adirondack chairs off our beach, one into the lagoon and the other "out to sea", i.e. the shipping channel in the bay. I located the off shore one with my binoculars, drifting with the confused seas of the storm remnants, and became worried that the chair would be a hazard to navigation or bang into someone's boat! Picturing lawsuits or a visit from the Coast Guard, I headed out in Windrover with



Approaching storm

Andrew's father-In-Law, Dennis, after Andrew heartily declined to go back out. We set off towards the chair which was now floating near the buoys north of Waterfront Mary's off of Potowatomi State Park. Dennis happily commented as we approached that this was his first time on a sailboat. He reminded me of me! Dennis pulled the chair aboard Windrover, and after we returned to the dock with our booty, my wife commented that we would have to dub our "new deck chair" the SS Adirondack.

The second cautionary tale I have to spin is of a 25 foot Cape Dory, Lion's Paw, that sailed up from Milwaukee about a week after the storm to visit our neighbor and my sailing mentor, Gerry Richter. When the captain and his sons left on the next leg of his journey, this time to Menominee, the wind was blowing strong out of the north. Lion's Paw headed West out of the lagoon (I should tell you that although the channel is clearly marked, the lagoon is quite weedy at this time of the year) and the captain was extremely cautious in these unknown waters and motored VERY SLOWLY. Unfortunately, the weeds still slowed him down too much and the wind blew him aground just outside the channel. After our neighbor, Dave, tried to help with his fishing boat—to no avail, Tow Boat US was called and successfully pulled them off.

Now this would have been a simple case of not reading the water and wind conditions properly, and I would have chalked the incident up to bad luck that happened to a very experienced sailor who had been all over the lake with his boat. BUT that's not the end of the story. The Captain took Lion's Paw to the east of Green Island on his way to Menominee. If you have examined a chart of Green Island you will note that there is a green can about a mile off the western tip of the island that marks a spit. This means don't sail between the can and the island! Well, you've probably surmised by now that our captain didn't consult the chart or his chartplotter, so for the second time in one day, Lion's Paw went aground. Fortunately, the captain and crew were able to swing the boom out and put enough weight on it to heel the boat and get her off. The overall lesson? Read your charts and the wind and water to stay out of trouble! This of course comes from the man who put Windrover aground on clearly marked Dunlap Reef just last year. Just sayin'. So to sum up, taking courses like Weather and Piloting are not enough. We need to practice what we learn in the classroom on the water as our two stories illustrate.



Lion's Paw coming out of the lagoon

## FROM YOUR EDUCATION OFFICER (continued)

The summer seminar series was concluded by a superb presentation by Janelle Peotter of Paddle Smart. I wish to thank all of our instructors for a successful, fun and informative seminar series.

Seamanship will begin 22 September, not 15 September as previously reported, and will be held for eight Tuesday evenings at NWTC. We will teach it using a Go-to-Meeting format so students from outside our area will be able to join us "live". The class will run from 22 September through 17 November. Bob DeNoto and I will be teaching the course. If you haven't taken Seamanship or are interested in review, why not plan on joining us?

October will bring us the wiring segment of the new Marine Electronics course. Chuck Stone and I will set the time and dates for this course soon. I originally planned for it to be held starting 17 September but have had to change the date to begin in October. I will send an e-mail to everyone who is eligible to take both courses. Look for it in your mailboxes.

Fair Winds,  
Steve



Attempting to push Lions's Paw off the sandbar



Lion's Paw underway

## GREETINGS FROM SAN DIEGO

### Report from the USPS Governing Board Meeting



An old friend  
at the San  
Diego Zoo

As we begin the final day of the USPS Fall Governing Board meeting in San Diego, CA, Nancy and I feel good about making this long trip. We began our adventures with a trip to the famous San Diego zoo that fulfilled its famous promise in full measure.

Our hotel overlooked the famous San Diego harbor where the USS Midway is beached as an exhibit. At least four other nuclear carriers were present across the water in Coronado, and a series of Naval vessels paraded up and down the harbor every day.

Last night we had supper with 10 members of D/10 at one of the excellent local restaurants clustered near the water. There were lots of opportunities to renew old national friendships, in addition to attending the seminars and conferences that were our chief reason to be here. San Diego remains a beautiful city, with marvelous facilities, and we conclude that this Governing Board was fully worthwhile.

Alan Wentworth



The USS Midway

## CRUISE TO GREEN BAY

Nevermoar was the only boat to travel to Green Bay for the planned trip for the weekend of 28-30 August. Karl and Erika May with their two dogs, Koko and Daisy, stayed at South Bay Marina at the entrance to the Fox River next to the public launching ramp and Green Bay Yacht Club. The marina has a bar, restaurant, pool, boaters lounge and very nice restroom, shower facilities and laundry. We traveled up the Fox River a short distance under three bridges and enjoyed seeing the recent improvements to the downtown on the waterfront. Weather and seas were fine. The harbor entrance is well marked and extends quite a way out into Green Bay. Diesel fuel was \$2.33 per gallon, the cheapest we have seen all summer.

Karl May



## WANTED

**Articles describing your boating experiences this boating season. Long or short—photos included—we would love to hear about where you have gone and what you have done. Please send them to the Editor.**

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### *Commander's Department*

**Chaplain**

**Lt. Karen DeNoto**

**Flag Lieutenant**

**F/Lt Craig Weis, S**

**Merit Marks**

**P/R/C Alan Wentworth, SN**

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**VSC Officer**

**Lt. Lou Pasquesi**

**Safety Officer**

**P/C John Hermann, AP**

**Port Captain**

**Lt Markus Ritter, AP**

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**Cdr Robert DeNoto, JN**

**Boat Operator Certification**

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**Lt Michelle Anderson**

**Member Involvement**

**Lt Dolores Hermann, AP**

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**Lt Dolores Hermann, AP**

**Webmaster**

**Lt Markus Ritter, AP**

### *Treasurer's Department*

**Ships Store**

**Lt/C Cynthia Weis, AP**

## COMING EVENTS

### September

5—Booth & VSCs at Sister Bay -MarinaFest



26—Lay-Up Lunch Meeting

29—Executive Committee Meeting

### October



### November

6-8—D10 Fall Conference, Minnetonka Squadron

24—Executive Committee Meeting

### December

4—Holiday Party



### January 2016

TBD—Combined Annual Meeting & Change of Watch

### February 2016

14-21—USPS Annual Meeting, Orlando



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 October Scuttlebutt by September 30, 2015.



Send your comments, ideas and articles to:

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The Door Scuttlebutt can be found on the Squadron website: [www.usps.org/door](http://www.usps.org/door)

### September Birthdays

11th—Marilyn Grose

17th—Tom Gall

27th—Dave Baumann

28th—John Welch

30th—Bob Ross

