

# United States Power Squadrons®

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



THE DOOR

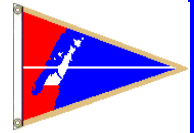
## Scuttlebutt

Newsletter of the Door County Sail & Power Squadron

"The Little Squadron That Could"

Volume 9, Issue 12

December 2015



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## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Karen and I were fortunate to spend Thanksgiving with family in Durham NC. We are winding our way back, taking a couple of days to explore the Chesapeake Bay area. We came across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel—23 miles—\$13 toll—on Sunday. There's still a lot of recreational boat activity; I'm envious.

Last month I talked about our accomplishments in preparation for the District 10 Fall Conference in Bloomington MN in early November. I also promised you a report on the highlights of the Conference in this month's message. After arriving Friday in Bloomington, I received an email from the National Educational Officer, Bob Brandenstein, that our Alan Wentworth will receive the Charles F. Chapman Award for excellence in teaching at the Annual Meeting in Orlando in February. Alan had received a phone call from NEO Brandenstein earlier in the day. What a way to start the Conference!

### A LEGACY



At the start of the great depression, a woman from Mitchell County in Iowa graduated from the State University with a Bachelor's degree in psychology and married an Extern after he graduated with an MD degree.

These two settled in a small Iowa community, began a family, became a resource for information, and practiced medicine there for forty years. Neither of them missed an opportunity to teach their kids to love learning and to accumulate memories. Charlotte taught understanding, literature, poetry, music, and humanism. "Doc" conveyed his love of medicine, the challenge of diagnosis, and the value of quizzing his son while duck hunting, or while making rural house calls for the sick.

The recent recognition of a life of teaching for their son by an organization of friends in USPS® comes as a legacy to all of those who taught him, took his courses, and repeatedly petitioned on his behalf. Thanks to all who helped bring home the Charles F. Chapman Educational Award to Door County!

Alan Wentworth



The lamp of knowledge symbol on the award



DC Thad Smyczek, Alan, DEO Wes Koplitz, Me

Let me put this in perspective: The Chapman Award is the highest award given in recognition of outstanding USPS instructors. Each Squadron is encouraged to submit a nominee. Only one nominee is accepted from each of our 33 districts. Only 5 nominees are selected for the Award. Ironically enough, nominees cannot hold a National office in the Education Department. We tried submitting Alan's name in the past but he always held an office that disqualified him. This year was our window of opportunity. Long overdue congratulations go out to Alan!

Our "Little Squadron that Could", brought the "Prince" as well as the "SEA" back to Door County. But that's in SEO Steve's report..

(continued on page 2)

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## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE (continued)

So: What do you see in the following pictures?



I see water, boats, smiles, laughter and happy members. All are recent recipients of Boat Operator's Certification (BOC) levels. There are three levels that are currently active: Inland Navigator (IN), Coastal Navigator (CN) and Advanced Coastal Navigator (ACN). The fourth; Offshore Navigator, is pending. Your Educational Officer, Steve, and I have made a pact for 2016, to really promote BOC. The upcoming courses and seminars are all supportive of the program. I'm attaching an excerpted Power Point presentation that describes requirements for the different levels. The good news is that our Squadron has enough Certifiers to get you there. Give either Steve or me a call and we'll dial you in. Believe me: This is a lot of fun!



USPS BOC Certifier  
Seminar 2015-06-10

Karen and I will be home in time for our Holiday Gathering at Crossroads. We hope to see you there with your one-pound, elegantly wrapped, gift for the auction.

**To All: Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year! Until 2016,**

Your Commander,

Bob



## A BOATER'S CHRISTMAS SHOPPING GUIDE

With the Holidays approaching I was browsing through the boating magazines and noted a number of excellent boating gift ideas. As a public service I am passing a few along to you. I am sure you will see something that is appropriate for one of your boating friends.

First item is the "Bore No More" game set. This electronic marvel plugs into your GPS and allows you to play video games on the GPS screen. The game card slips into the GPS data port and the trim tab buttons provide finger control while the throttle lever becomes a joy stick. With the "Bore No More", you can set the boat on auto throttle and play video games on the GPS screen as you cruise home. On those long runs home, you no longer will be bored by having to stay alert and keep watch. You can play games all the way home. You will find the "Bore No More" at Shurto Crash Electronics, for only \$139.95.

Another winner is the "Real Deal Heel". This is for those ladies that want to be "looking good" while boating! The shoe line has high heels, but get this. The heel telescopes into the shoe. This way the ladies can look sharp and yet remain stable. As the boat rocks the telescoping heels act as sea legs and absorb the rolling motion. Another unique feature is a soft rubber tip on the heel that leaves a black mark on the deck if there is a slip. That way mi' lady can see all the black marks and know where the slippery spots are located. These shoes are available in various styles and colors at the Slipenfall Shoe Emporium starting at \$89.95.

For the fisherman whose target species has a slot limit. You know, the guy with the false bottom in his well for undersize fish, you must get him a "Magic Window". This neat device is a stiff coiled spring that you stuff into the fishes mouth and down into the gullet. If the fish is too big for the legal window, simply compress the fish and the spring will collapse and hold the fish shorter. If the fish is too short, simply pull simultaneously on the head and tail and the spring will expand and hold the fish in its elongated position. The "Magic Window" is guaranteed to increase your take home catch. They are in stock at Ketchum Cheetum and Keepum's for \$19.95.

As you read through the various gift suggestions, I am sure at least one of them was appropriate for someone you know or have seen on the water. As ridiculous as that may seem, unfortunately there are people out there that behave this way. If you have trouble finding these products on your local store shelves, I have a better idea. Why not treat that boater to a United States Power Squadrons Safe Boating Class and eliminate the need for further shopping. Now there is a singular gift that will benefit not only the recipient, but all of the other boaters on the water.

*Article courtesy of Bill Hempel who is the Assistant Safety Officer for the Peace River Power Squadron and a member of the USPS National Marketing Committee. You can contact him at [billmarl@comcast.net](mailto:billmarl@comcast.net).*

# FROM YOUR EDUCATION OFFICER

SEAsOn's Greetings to all who love the sea!

We have just passed Thanksgiving and I would be remiss if I didn't express what I am most thankful for this year. We have won both the Prince Henry and the SEA award this year!



Prince Henry



The SEA Award

The Prince is awarded to the squadron in each district that has graduated the most JN's and N's for the previous year. This is the second year in a row that our squadron has won this award. I am proud to have been your SEO in each of these years. JN and N are the highest and most difficult navigation courses offered by USPS. Those who achieve these grades are qualified to navigate anywhere in the world using a sextant a nautical almanac and, to quote John Masfield, "a star to steer her by". To achieve each of these grades is a tremendous feeling of accomplishment. I can't recommend them enough. You will not be sorry you pursued them.

The SEA award stands for Squadron Educational Achievement. District 10 offers this award to the squadron that has surpassed any other squadron in the district for the number and types of classes and graduates taught by that squadron and weighted by its size. This allows smaller squadrons to compete with larger ones (those with larger memberships) to compete on a level playing field. It was thought that this award could be won by a squadron who did not win the Prince. In reality we graduated the most JN's and N's in our district, AND we presented the most courses (weighted for their difficulty), and graduated the most students in our district (weighted by membership).

These awards belong to all of you who have made a commitment to your education by taking a course or seminar this past year. You have made the water a safer place for yourselves and for others to have fun on. Thank you!

Seamanship has completed and all seven students have passed with flying colors. Congratulations to all of them. We will be offering the next course in the navigation series (Piloting) in January. Time and dates will be posted on our web site soon. Check your e-mail for a communication from me about this course in the near future.

Navigation will begin 11 Jan with Alan Wentworth, our Chapman Award winning instructor, at the helm. The class will be taught in a Go-To-Meeting format. Please contact me if you are interested in taking this course. You should have taken, or be taking JN before taking N.

I hope you will be richly blessed, and enjoy peace this holiday season and in the coming year! In keeping with this I want to share with you the winch covers and tiller comb I made for Wind Rover. They really say it all!

Fair Winds,

Lt/C Steven G Rank JN-ACN





# EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

## ON BEING BOATLESS

Bay Spirit (1995-2009) and Bay Belle (2009-2015) are larger trailer boats. They were kept in a slip, for local and squadron cruises, or in the “turnaround” by our house; the latter for travel to distant waters such as the Florida Keys, the Apostle Islands, Lake Champlain and the Thousand Islands, etc. While we do not miss the cleaning, maintenance and winter storage, we will always miss the adventures of travel over the water. One trailering destination we never got around to is Table Rock Lake. Having just returned from Branson Mo., where we spent Thanksgiving with new in-laws, we have seen that lovely lake.

Located in the Ozark mountain country of southwestern Missouri and Arkansas, Table Rock Lake covers some 50 thousand acres with 800 miles of shoreline. It was created in 1958 when the Army Corps of Engineers built the Table Rock Dam across the White River to protect the area from devastating floods and to distribute hydroelectric power in the Ozarks. We have an open invitation to visit in the summer, camp in our friend's RV and use their boat.

While very different from Lake Michigan and Green Bay, there is bass fishing, marina and luncheon destinations and many coves in which to anchor. There also are many lost anchors among the stumps at the bottom of the lake which is as much as 200 feet deep.

John Hermann

Who is this and where was this photo taken?



A small section of Table Rock Lake



Winterized and waiting for next spring



All slips are under roof

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Chuck Holtz—2nd

Bob Curran—18th

Bob DeNoto—21st

Jim Jauquet—25th

Daniela Ranum—25th



## NEW MONTHLY FEATURE

In the October issue of the Scuttlebutt, we began a new feature. This space will highlight a member or member family each month, with an emphasis on newer members, to help us get to know one another and the boating that brings us all together. This month we will feature Janet & Dick Grotta.

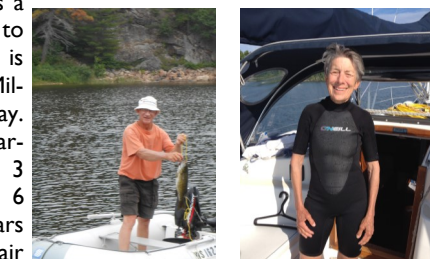
As members of the Sturgeon Bay Power Squadron, we are happy to be featured in its' newsletter. There is a lot of history that brought us to this point of our life. Wisconsin is our home state; I was born in Milwaukee and Dick in Sturgeon Bay. We are both graduates of Marquette University. We have 3 daughters and sons-in-law, and 6 grandchildren. The first five years of our marriage were in St Clair Shores, MI, where we were members of the Grosse Point Power Squadron and where Dick raced DN iceboats. We have also lived in Wayzata, MN, Pewaukee, WI, and Williams Bay, WI. We've had 4 boats; a 19'O'Day Mariner, a Chrysler 22, an Ilander36, and our Tartan3500.

In 2005, we retired and moved to 906 Memorial Drive; the home Dick lived in the first 18 years of his life. Many of our summer vacations were spent here. We love Door County!!

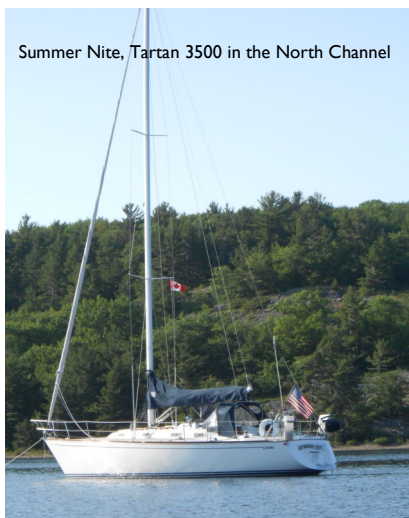
Both of us grew up near the water. While Dick was being introduced to power boating and sailing on Lake Michigan, I was playing on the beaches of Lake Michigan and spending summer vacations water skiing and sailing scows on Okauchee Lake. Dick's father, Doctor Grotta, relaxed while power boating; no phones on board in those days! While Commander of the Sturgeon Bay Power Squadron, Dr. Grotta organized the District 10/District 20, 1955 Cruise to the North Channel. The memories of trips to the North Channel with his Dad, and later as a crew on George Kress's sailboat, "The Aria," made it important to Dick to take his own family to the North Channel; which we did with our daughters in 1979 and 1981.

At the age of 18, Dick earned the Master 100 Ton Certification, required for his summer job as captain on the Good Ship Lollipop. That same summer he delivered a boat to New Jersey by way of the Erie Canal. Together we have sailed on four of the Great Lakes. In 1976, we sailed the Apostle Islands of Lake Superior, in 2000 we purchased our Tartan 3500 in Sandusky, Ohio and sailed it home. It was a wonderful 3-week vacation, sailing lakes Erie, Huron, and Michigan.

June 18, 2016, we will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. Our daughters have arranged for us to gather with family and friends at the Milwaukee Yacht Club where Christine and family are members. As members, her daughters attend sailing school and Christine races in the Laser Class. Karen and family are members of the Ephraim Yacht Club where their children attend sailing School. They own a 27.9 sailboat. Susan and family live on Lake Denoon, Muskego, WI, where they enjoy water skiing, tubing, and sailing their Butterfly. With 50 years of experience you'd think we would know about moorings. Two events will leave you with doubt. Our Ilander 36 sailed on its' own to Washington Island in 2000. Our Tartan 3500 sailed on its own to Escanaba in 2015. Some repairs were needed in both cases. For more details, talk to yours truly,



Summer Nite, Tartan 3500 in the North Channel



Janet & Dick Grotta

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**Flag Lieutenant**

**F/Lt Craig Weis, S**

**Merit Marks**

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**Cdr Robert DeNoto, JN**

**Boat Operator Certification**

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**Webmaster**

**Lt Markus Ritter, AP**

### *Treasurer's Department*

**Ships Store**

**Lt/C Cynthia Weis, AP**

# COMING EVENTS

## December

4—Holiday Party

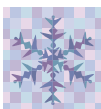


## January 2016

TBA—Piloting begins

11—Navigation Course begins

26—Executive Committee Meeting



## February 2016

14—Squadron Annual Meeting & Change of Watch

14-21—USPS National Meeting, Orlando

TBD—Squadron Cruise Planning Meeting



## March 2016

TBD—District 10 Spring Conference

29—Executive Committee Meeting



## April 2016

TBD—Vessel Safety Examiner Season Prep Meeting

TBD—Marine Electrical Systems Course begins



## May 2016

20—Fitting Out Meeting and Social

31—Executive Committee Meeting



## June 2016

4—Vessel Safety Checks every Saturday

TBD—ABC Class begins

12—Squadron Summer Social

25—Flare Shoot



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 January Scuttlebutt by December 30 2015.



Send your comments, ideas and articles to:

Dolores Hermann

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**The Door Scuttlebutt** is published twelve times a year by the Door County Sail & Power Squadron, a member of District 10 of the United States Power Squadrons



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

## July, 2016

26—Executive Committee Meeting

30-31—Wooden Boat Show



## August, 2016

19-21—Squadron Rendezvous—Menominee MI



## September, 2016

3—MarinaFest—Sister Bay

11-18—USPS National Meeting

27—Executive Committee Meeting

