

# United States Power Squadrons®

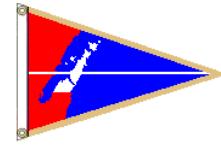
*"Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends"* SM



## THE DOOR

# Scuttlebutt

Newsletter of the Door County Sail & Power Squadron  
*"The Little Squadron That Could"*



December, 2016  
Volume 10, Issue 12

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

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Last month I mentioned that Karen and I were off to Italy for three weeks. We returned mid-November, after having visited 6 regions and 17 cities and towns. Let me take you on a tour. The following is a picture of Orvieto, which was our "base camp" for the initial 7 days.



Orvieto is a hill town in the region of Umbria about 75 miles NNW of Rome. You get up the hill by way of the funicolare, which is similar to a San Francisco cable car. We did day trips to Florence and other cities in Tuscany and Lazio from Orvieto.

While in Orvieto we experienced the two earthquakes whose epicenters were about 100 miles east of us. The first felt like we were on a skateboard; slide left-slide right about a foot. The second, on Halloween morning, felt like ripples. At week's end we headed east to the Adriatic Coast and visited Trani, which is a beautiful seaside town of about 30,000. Following is the harbor entrance to Trani. The boat in the picture is leaving. Notice anything different? What happened to red, right, returning? Just the opposite in Europe.



After Trani, we traveled about 50 miles south along the coast and visited Bari. Bari is a major seaport of 300,000. Bari is also where my grandparents, Frank and Laura DeNoto, and my two uncles, Pete and Sal, immigrated from in the late 1890's. Grampa Frank came first then sent for the family a couple of years later. WOW! What resilience and intent.

From the Adriatic, we headed west to the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Golfo di Napoli by way of Alberobello, Sassi di Matera, the

Amalfi Coast, Sorrento and the Isle of Capri. Capri is over the top. With residents the like of Sophia Loren, Gina Lollobrigida and Jackie Onassis, it's little wonder! Capri has its own funicolare, which is like a Lamborghini cable car. It seems as though everything in Capri starts at about 1,000 Euros.

From Sorrento/Capri, we traveled across the bay to Naples; stopping at the Ruins of Pompeii. When you consider that Mount Vesuvius erupted in 79 AD and

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## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE (continued)

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buried 13,000 people, this is truly amazing and very surreal, as you walk among the ruins that continue to be unearthed. The complex society that existed there 2,000 years ago is almost unbelievable.

Naples is gridlock and graffiti. The art and Basilicas are magnificent. We were told to guard ourselves in Naples as it wasn't that safe. Our hotel was in the "University" district, which turned out to be very safe and a lot of fun with the students enjoying themselves.

Our last four days were spent in Rome. We visited the Forum, Coliseum, Fontana di Trevi, the Pantheon, the Spanish Steps, several plazas and markets, and had a guided tour of the Vatican. Even though we were on a private tour, the crowds made it difficult. The people pressure in Rome is ever present.

That's it for Italy. It was a wonderful trip; jam packed with visual and gastronomic delights. The country is old and dated without all the modern conveniences we are used to. It really makes you reflect on how much we have in the U. S. However, their internet is way faster than ours.

(Continued on page 3)



Ancapri



How Sweet It is



Changing of the Guard at the  
Vatican



Enough is Enough!

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE (continued)

Last month I introduced you to our latest challenge; i.e. providing a "Boating Skills Virtual Trainer" (BSVT) to anchor the "Recreational Boating" exhibit that is planned for the Door County Maritime Museum's new tower expansion. DCS&PS will be the sponsor for this proposal, with the support of District 10. In an effort to gain D-10's support, our Associate Member, Ben Coons, drafted the proposal into a Resolution and presented it to the District 10 Council in Oshkosh at this November's Fall Conference meeting. The District enthusiastically extend their support. Way to go Ben! Thank you.

We will most likely be petitioning the USPS Educational Fund to fund the purchase of the BSVT. That said, I'm pulling together a small team, consisting of me, Alan Wentworth, Ben Coons and Jim Pahl-Washa, to assure that the funding process proceeds smoothly. Ben heads up the National Finance Committee. Jim heads up the National Membership Committee and Alan sits on the Educational Fund Committee. I see this team as critical to accomplishing our challenge. Stay tuned!

Until next month: Surround yourselves with family and those you love. And have a very Merry Christmas!

Your Commander Bob

## FROM YOUR EDUCATION OFFICER

Ahoy boaters, floaters and voters,

Those of you who read my column regularly know that a mega theme of mine is safe navigation. A classic example of imprudent and reckless navigation is that of the Titanic. The captain became so wrapped up in the wishes of the White Star Line (setting a new Atlantic speed record) that he became a businessman instead of a captain. He knew ice bergs were likely on his course even if he didn't receive a warning of their sighting from his radio operators. This reckless behavior led to the putting of the ship in peril. If that wasn't bad enough, the preferred passengers (first class women and children) had a much greater chance of survival than Third class (women and children) passengers after the great ship met her iceberg. A "them versus us" attitude dehumanizes and demonizes "the other" in perilous times. Some officers aboard the sinking liner locked steerage passengers below, some at gunpoint, knowing full well that they would drown. God only knows what went through their mind as they pointed guns at the sea of humanity that faced them. Now in this hour of discontent it is a good time to remember the lessons of the Titanic as a completely inexperienced captain is about to steer our Ship of State into uncharted and potentially dangerous waters. A house (or a ship) divided against itself cannot stand. Pray for wisdom for our leaders, empathy and kindness for each other, and that God may have mercy on those in peril on the sea.



Speaking of dangerous waters, I took a video on a tour aboard the old Quo Vadis of the waters around the islands off of Fish Creek. [Click here](#) to see the video. Note the white water waves that are out of sink with their surroundings. They mark Strawberry Shoal. Your seaman's eye will make visible what is visible on the chart. The narrator's voice barely audible in the background is Jerry Saballus our old friend and former Squadron member.

Porter Fox put the dangers of the Great Lakes into perspective in an article he wrote about riding an Ore Boat in the Sunday New York Times on Aug 21, 2016. He wrote, "The Great Lakes Basin spans 10 degrees of latitude and 18 degrees of longitude – set almost exactly between the Equator and the North Pole. The circumference of all five lakes combined is 10,500 miles, nearly half the distance around the world. An average of 200,000 cubic feet

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precipitation falls somewhere on the lakes every second. The lakes sit in a low land between the Rocky Mountains and the Appalachians, creating a vortex of dangerous weather. Winds can blow 40 to 50 knots and whip up waves 25 feet tall. The slender and flexible lakers seek shelter or heave-to to survive these storms. The Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum estimates that 6,000 ships and 30,000 lives have been lost on the lakes."

Too many of us become complacent and overconfident in part of the Great Lakes and allow familiarity to breed contempt. Please practice your navigation skills regularly in familiar waters so that when the lakes roar you are not caught unpracticed and unprepared.



We are nearing the end of our Seamanship and Advanced piloting courses that are being offered in adjacent rooms on Thursday nights at NWTC. Karl May and Jim and Pat Eggers are working on Seamanship under the instruction of John Hermann and Craig Weis.

Rex and Linda Pope and Dan Balch are about three quarters of the way thru Advanced Piloting under Bob DeNoto's and Steve Rank's instruction. With the two classes being taught next door to each other, I was able to demonstrate the chip log I made last summer to both classes. I want to have multiple classes being taught next to each other in the future because of the opportunity to have demonstrations and special demonstrations that would benefit both groups.

In late January or early February we will be offering JN with Alan Wentworth, Bob Denoto, and Steve Rank instructing. If you are currently an AP, think about taking this next step in your navigational career. We will consider teaching this live at NWTC and on-line in a Go-to-Meeting format to include students who cannot attend NWTC classes. After April 15 we will offer Piloting and Marine Communications in the same consecutive rooms and night of the week as we did in the fall of 2016. I will talk about the summer seminars, ABC, and fall courses in a future issue.

Why not think about joining us in honing your navigation skills. Next time you find yourself in troubled waters you'll be glad you did .

Fair winds and following seas,

Steve



Steve Rank and John Hermann demonstrating the chip log

## HOLIDAY PARTY

Thirty-one members came to talk boating and, incidentally, sample the homemade meatballs, pasta, tuna salad, rum cake and so many other tasty delights. We were pleased to welcome Rebecca and Bob Hoover to their first squadron social event. Thank you Commander Bob for providing a visual delight with photos of your recent trip to Italy. Thank you to all who came and may all our members enjoy a wonderful holiday season with family and friends.



# COMING EVENTS—2017 SQUADRON CALENDAR

## January 2017

31—Executive Committee Meeting



## February 2017

TBD—Squadron Annual Meeting & Change of Watch

TBD—Junior Navigation

19-26—USPS National Meeting, Orlando

TBD—Squadron Cruise Planning Meeting



## March 2017

24-26—District 10 Spring Conference —Wausau

28—Executive Committee Meeting



## April 2017

TBD—Vessel Safety Examiner Season Prep Meeting

TBD—Piloting and Marine Communications



## May 2017

19—Fitting Out Meeting and Social

30—Executive Committee Meeting



## June 2017

3—Vessel Safety Checks every Saturday

TBD—ABC Class begins

11—Squadron Summer Social

TBD—Flare Shoot



## July 2017

25—Executive Committee Meeting



## August 2017

11-13—Squadron Rendezvous—Menominee MI



## September 2017

10-17—USPS National Meeting— Dallas TX

26—Executive Committee Meeting



## October 2017

TBD—Lay-Up Meeting & Social

TBD—District 10 Fall Conference



## November 2017

21—Executive Committee Meeting



## December 2017

1—Holiday Party



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*Commander's Department*

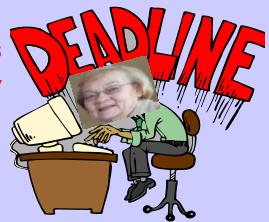
<b>Chaplain</b>	<b>Lt. Karen DeNoto</b>
<b>Flag Lieutenant</b>	<b>F/Lt Craig Weis, S</b>
<b>Merit Marks</b>	<b>P/R/C Alan Wentworth, SN</b>
<b>Public Relations</b>	<i>Executive Department</i>
<b>VSC Officer</b>	<b>Lt/C Lou Pasquesi S</b>
<b>Safety Officer</b>	<b>P/C John Hermann, AP</b>
<b>Port Captain</b>	<b>Lt Markus Ritter, AP</b>
<b>Adv. Grade Courses</b>	<i>Education Department</i>
<b>Elective Courses</b>	<b>P/C Robert Stierna, SN</b>
<b>ABC Representative &amp;</b>	<b>P/Lt/C John Welch, SN</b>
<b>Boat Operator Certification</b>	<b>Cdr Robert DeNoto, N</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<i>Administrative Department</i>
<b>Cruise Planning</b>	<b>Lt/C Cynthia Weis, AP</b>
<b>Meetings &amp; Programs</b>	<b>Lt Terry Keating, N</b>
<b>Member Involvement</b>	<b>Lt Michelle Anderson</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Lt Dolores Hermann, AP</b>
<b>Webmaster</b>	<i>Secretary's Department</i>
<b>Ships Store</b>	<b>Lt Dolores Hermann, AP</b>
	<b>Lt Markus Ritter, AP</b>
	<i>Treasurer's Department</i>
	<b>Lt/C Cynthia Weis, AP</b>

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, 2016.

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)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

1st—Quinn Brennan

8th—Ben Coons

22nd—Janelle Peotter

23rd—Don Cameron

26th—Glenn Deedon

29th—Suzanne Brennan

