



Starboard Watch

Official Publication Of
WATCHUNG SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON
A Unit of United States Power Squadrons®
Sail and Power Boating

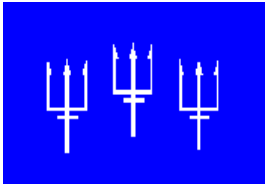
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COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Commander Tracy Swackhamer



Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season.

What a great time to be a member of Watchung! We have been able to do so much already this year and I am anxious to continue on our ride. Since our last communication, the Squadron officially obtained the "Distinctive Communicator Award". A big thank you to Stan Winkler and Wendy Graybeck for their website expertise and assistance in helping us obtain this award. Additionally, we were successful in completing our Starboard Watch requirements for 2011 and a huge thank you to Vic and Mirabel as well as Jamie Butler for their continuous efforts in getting this publication completed. Great job by all!

I was privileged to deliver our \$500 donation to the Children's specialized hospital in the beginning of January. What a gratifying day it was for me to see where our donation will be used. Through a tour of the facility, I was very impressed by all that is available to these children. I am confident our contribution will go far.

Many members of Watchung were able to attend and participate in the Annual Meeting down in Jacksonville Florida at the end of January. Ted Wallace has contributed a couple of comments on the meeting which you will read in this issue of the Starboard Watch.

You will notice in your inbox, our official communication from our Education Department came through mid-Jan. The Marine Communication System course will begin on March 7, 2012. Anyone who wants to participate should contact Harold for more details.

Please mark your calendars as March is the time for the District 4 Spring Conference and Memorial Service and finally our Change of Watch will be held on April 1, 2012.

Hope everyone is doing well. I look forward to seeing you all soon ☺

Regards,

Commander Tracy J. Swackhamer



Watchung Sail and Power Squadron

www.watchungsailandpowersquadron.com

THE STARBOARD WATCH



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2012 Calendar of Events

March 18
D/4 Memorial Service
Staten Island, NY

April 1
Change of Watch
Primavera Regency Restaurant
Stirling, NJ

SAVE THE DATE
APRIL 1st
CHANGE OF WATCH



**WELCOME OUR
NEW MEMBERS**

*Lou and Bernadette
Gloria*

and

Priscilla Pollacek



USPS ANNUAL MEETING

by Ted Wallace

The USPS Annual meeting was held at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Hotel in Jacksonville, Florida. Five members of Watchung Sail and Power Squadron attended the meeting. Those members were R/C Gerry Caprario, Janet Caprario, P/D/C Harold Oslick, P/C Marlene Oslick and P/C Ted Wallace.

There was a lot to see and do this year and you could sign up for as much or as little as you wanted to do. Wednesday, 25 January there was CPR/First Aid training for those who were interested in being certified or recertified. There were Leadership Development seminars for Squadron and District Administration Officers, Executive Officers as well as Commanders. These particular seminars were well attended and there were many favorable comments from those who attended. On Thursday, 26 January, there was a repeat of the above mentioned seminars for those members who were unable to attend the previous day as well as seminars covering Educational topics, Marketing and Public relations, Member Benefits, Environmental, Safety and Squadron Development just to name a few. There was something for everyone. You could attend as many as you could fit into your schedule if you were so inclined.

Friday, 27 January, there were workshops for Sail Angle, where you could learn how to use it as a tool to communicate with our squadron. There was a weather seminar with a guest speaker from NOAA; a workshop for Co-Op Charting where you could learn how to use the new programs and get answers to any problems you may be having using the program.

It was not all work. There were also Award Ceremonies where Squadrons and Districts were recognized for their outstanding performances during the last year. At one ceremony, approximately 40 members were awarded their Life Membership Certificates and were recognized for their hard work. At the end of the day, those members who had previously signed up, attended the "Ship Wreck Party", where they dined and socialized with fellow members from across the country.

Friday night, most Districts hosted a hospitality get together in their suites and you had the opportunity to visit the various District parties and partake of the liquid refreshments and various foods which were available in the various suites. One such party was hosted by District 33 (Puerto Rico). This year, they rented one of the meeting rooms for their hospitality party and the Pina Colada's flowed and the music sounded out a Latin rhythm that had everyone dancing the "Electric Slide" to a salsa beat. I attended the party and had trouble getting out of bed in the morning.

Saturday, 28 January, the Annual meeting convened in the Grand Ballroom and there were approximately 700 members in attendance. It is during this meeting that all National business is finalized and voted upon by the members. This was also the year that we voted in a new National Bridge and in the fifteen years that I have attended the National Meetings, this was the first time that there was a runoff election for two positions (Administrative Officer and Educational Officer). Usually, the Nominations Committee presents a slate and the membership approves the slate. This year that was not the case. During the meeting, time was allotted for the candidates of the contested positions to speak and ask for the members vote and then a written vote was taken and the winners announced.

After all business was completed, the new Bridge was sworn in and assumed their new positions for the next two years.

Saturday evening, there was a formal Change of Watch conducted, followed by a sumptuous dinner and dancing.

If you have never attended an Annual Meeting, you are missing out on a great opportunity to observe how the organization operates. I have attended these meetings for fifteen years and I learn something new every year. It seems the more of these meetings that I attend; the more I want to attend. Do yourself a favor, get involved. If you don't know how, ask your Commander.

THE EDUCATION CORNER

by Harold Oslick



Squadron Education Officer, P/D/C Harold Oslick has announced that Watchung Sail and Power Squadron will present the new Marine Communications Course beginning Wednesday, March 7, 2012. The course will be given at the home of Harold and Marlene Oslick in Westfield, NJ and will run for 8 consecutive Wednesday evenings through March and April. The closed book final exam will take place on the last Wednesday in April.

The course, released by National in 2010, is the second in the new Marine Electronics Series, following Marine Electrical Systems, which Watchung presented in late 2010/early 2011. The third part of the series, Marine Navigation Systems, is under development but has not yet been released.

Marine Communications Systems covers current marine radio systems, including VHF/DSC, Medium and High Frequency systems for long range communications, some rudiments of frequency spectrum elements, GMDSS (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System), AIS (Automatic Identification System) and satellite systems. The text and presentations are aimed toward students with little technical knowledge of radio theory, but do cover material sufficiently to provide a good understanding for the boater who wants to know a bit more than how to place a call.

At the time of this writing five students are signed up to take the course. Lectures will be given by P/D/C Oslick, and P/C Stan Winkler.



CONGRATULATIONS WSPS NEW LIFE MEMBERS

by Stan Winkler



*Watchung Sail and Power squadron has three members this year who have earned their **LIFE MEMBER** designations. In order to earn this designation, a member must have received 25 merit marks. Obviously this indicates a great deal of service to our squadron for a quarter of a century by each of these gentlemen. As you'll see in their brief bios, they also contribute to society in other endeavors as well.*



L-R Ron Reason, Harold Oslick, Bill Rodgers and Cdr Tracy Swackhamer

WSPS NEW LIFE MEMBERS

(continued from page 4)

P/D/C Harold Oslick, - Squadron Education Officer

Harold, a longtime member and Past Commander of Watchung Sail & Power Squadron, took on the role of Squadron Education Officer in 2009 and continues in this position.

Harold joined Watchung in 1973. He achieved the grade of SN in 2006 and has been active in many Squadron activity areas, including an instructor and proctor for the public boating and Piloting courses, and the Vessel Safety Check Program. He has served as Squadron Secretary, Administrative and Executive Officer and then as Squadron Commander in 1999-2000. He was elected to the District 4 Bridge in 2002 and served as District 4 Commander in 2006-07.

Harold is on the National Safety Committee and the Boat Operator Certification Committee. He is certified as an IN and CN Certifier trainer, and now serves as Regional Director, Northeast Region, BOC Program. He was an Assistant to the National Treasurer, responsible for financial activities for USPS's 90th Anniversary celebration. He acted as Fleet Captain for D-4's role in Op-Sail 2000, and planned and organized a major Boating Safety Expo for D-4 at Liberty State Park.

Harold lives in Westfield with his wife of 52 years, Marlene, who is also an active member of Watchung, and they have four grown children, three of whom live on the West Coast, and six grandchildren.

Harold and Marlene have been boating on Barnegat Bay since 1976. Their current vessel Endeavor IV is a 1989 Silverton 34C, which is docked in Forked River. During their boating life they have enjoyed both Power and Sail boats.

Ronald A. Reason, AP - Executive Committee Member

Ron graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in Elizabeth, NJ. in June 1950. The Korean War was just starting and rather than wait to be drafted, he enlisted in the US Navy in December. Ron was a teacher with a master's degree in Administration and Supervision and retired in 1992.

Ron's father was an active member of the Northern New Jersey Power Squadron and was a Charter Member of the Watchung Squadron in 1956. Ron has been an active member since 1985. He joined the Teaching Aids Committee and served as chairman of the Safe Boating Course. In 1995, in response to the new NJ "PWC" law, he and Al Theurer went to the NJ State Police Marine Division in Trenton to have our course certified as meeting and exceeding state requirements. That authorization allowed every New Jersey Squadron and US Coast Guard Unit to teach this course. Registration for the first course offered by WSPS was a huge success. Ron has been Chairman of the Roster Committee since 2006 and has served on the Executive Committee in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010 and 2011

Every summer since 1996 he and his wife, Lorraine have hosted an annual "Rendezvous at the Reasons" at their home on Green Island overlooking Kettle Creek in an effort to bring Squadron members together by land or sea. It has consistently been one of our best attended and most enjoyable functions.

P/C William J. Rodgers, AP - Squadron Secretary.

Bill has been a WSPS member since 1986. In addition to serving in many capacities and on many committees, Bill served as our Commander in 1992 -1993. He chaired Seamanship for several years and also lectured for the Public Boating Course.

He was born in Newark, NJ and attended Providence College. Bill then had a promising career in banking which was interrupted by the Korean War where he served in the U.S. Army as a military policeman from 1950-1952

Bill returned to banking but left after four weeks to accept an appointment to the Newark Police Department. Most of the next ten years were spent as a detective assigned to the homicide squad. He then resigned from the force as a sergeant to join The Prudential in 1962. Thirty-two years later he retired as vice president in charge of investigations. He earned the designation of Certified Fraud Examiner through the Association of CFEs.

He has been happily married for fifty-nine years to Elaine. They have a daughter and a grandson and have been residents of Union for more than forty years.

Bill currently volunteers as president and board chairman of Senior Housing Corporation III in Union. Bill also works as a volunteer for the Archdiocese of Newark's Office of Child & Youth Protection



MERIT MARK MILESTONES



40 Merit Marks



Anthony D. Carbone

15 Merit Marks

Theodore O. Wallace



Stanley B. Winkler

5 Merit Marks

Robert B. Porter
Richard M. Swackhamer
Tracy J Swackhamer

2011 MERIT MARK AWARDEES

Caprario, Gerardo J. (39)
Carbone, Anthony (40)
Corbliss, Robert J. (22)
Delayo, Jr., Charles* (21)
Delayo, Ruth J. (17)
Eagan, Michael J. Jr. (24)
Eberenz, Andrew N. (22)
Eckenrode, Larry (26)
Fanders, Mirabel (22)
Foy, William M. (14)
Fuschetto, Rocco E. (6)
Miller, John (4)
Nardo, Domenick A. (27)
Nardo, Raymond G. (29)
Nawrotzki, Fred P. (6)
Oslick, Harold (25)
Oslick, Marlene (16)

*Deceased

Porter, Robert (5)
Reason, Lorraine K. (6)
Reason, Ronald A. (25)
Risberg, Margaret E. (28)
Rodgers, William J. (25)
Silvestrini, Jr., Victor (27)
Smith, Everett N. (4)
Swackhamer, Karen S. (4)
Swackhamer, Michael (3)
Swackhamer, Richard (39)
Swackhamer, Rick (5)
Swackhamer, Tracy J. (5)
Wallace, Theodore O. (15)
Winkler, Patricia O. (7)
Winkler, Stanley B. (15)
Wright-Butler, Jamie (9)
Young, Donald G. (33)



BLESSING THE BOATS

Blessing the Boats

May the tide
that is entering even now
the lip of our understanding
carry you out
beyond the face of fear

May you kiss
the wind then turn from it
certain that it will
love you back

May you open your eyes to
water
water waving forever
and may you in your
innocence
sail through this to that

Lucille Clifton
(1936-2010)



ANNUAL MEETING & FOUNDERS DAY

by. Ronald A. Reason

Thirty-six members attended the Annual Meeting and Founders Day brunch which included five guests from the Somerset Sail & Power Squadron at Snuffy's Restaurant in Scotch Plains. After determining that a quorum was present, Commander Tracy Swackhamer called the meeting to order at 1335. P/C Theodore Wallace then offered a prayer and asked for a moment of silent remembrance for our deceased members as he struck the Ancient Mariner's Bell.

Commander Swackhamer presented her report followed by distribution of the minutes for the October membership meeting along with copies of the proposed budget for the 2012 year. A call was issued for any comments or corrections to the membership meeting minutes and hearing none, the minutes were approved by the membership.

Budget Committee Chairman, Everett Smith then presented the budget report and explained the proposed budget for the coming year which was then voted on and approved by the membership.

Education Officer Harold Oslick reported that the Boating Course is no longer attracting students and he plans to concentrate efforts on attracting students to the Squadron's Advanced courses which can now be offered to non-members, and forget about offering the Boating Course at all. The State certification requirements for course instructors have become burdensome and expensive as well.

The final report presented for the Nominating Committee and delivered by P/C Robert Corbliss is as follows and was accepted by the membership.

2012-2013 BRIDGE OFFICERS

Commander - P/C Theodore Wallace

Executive Officer - Vacant

SEO - P/DC Harold Oslick

Administration Officer - P/C Rocco Fuschetto

Secretary - P/DC Richard Swackhamer

Treasurer - P/C Marlene Oslick

Executive Committee

Susan Regan

Everett Smith

Fred Nawrotzki

P/C Anthony Carbone

Andrew Eberenz

Joseph Dempster

Rules Committee

P/DC Richard Swackhamer (Chairman)

P/C Rocco Fuschetto

P/C William Rodgers

Auditing Committee

Domenick Nardo (Chairman)

Frank Faiello

Raymond Nardo

Nominating Committee

P/C Tracy Swackhamer (Chairman)

P/C Robert Corbliss

P/C Harold Oslick

P/C Anthony Carbone

Lt Jamie Wright Butler



ANNUAL MEETING & FOUNDERS DAY



Founders Day History

by Everett Smith

Each year on this day, February 2nd, the USPS celebrates the founding of the organization and publicly acknowledges the work, growth and progress of the organization and its founding fathers.

To excerpt from the USPS Ops Manual, Chapter 11 - Meetings and Ceremonies, section 11-53 (page 11-13)

Founders' Day

11.53 By Governing Board resolution,

Whereas the United States Power Squadron was organized on 2 February 1914, and through the succeeding years, in peace and war, has demonstrated its value and importance in the teaching of navigation, seamanship and good sportsmanship afloat; And whereas the ensign of the United States Power Squadrons is recognized by the nautical world as a signal that the vessel flying it is under the command of a lover of the sea who is skilled, capable, trustworthy and law-abiding; Now therefore, be it resolved that February second of each year be designated by the Chief Commander as Founders Day, and on that day throughout the United States recognition be given publicly to the work, growth and progress of the United States Power Squadrons and to its founders.

To fully understand what this encompasses, one would have to look back to the events occurring in the United States in the early 1900s. America was in the midst of the "Industrial Revolution" that had begun in the latter part of the 1800s.

The nation was transitioning from human manual labor methods to a more efficient, mechanized means of accomplishing its objectives. While animals and earlier mechanical inventions were still being used as a means of moving people and things from one place to another, newer, more efficient and more compact mechanical devices were being invented and developed by entrepreneurial individuals, that would propel this nation into the modern age we find ourselves in now.

The invention of the internal combustion engine brought with it, the ability to travel over longer distances on land in much shorter periods of time. Of course this new technology, that had revolutionized land travel, would soon be applied to travel over water, as traveling over water in the 1800 to 1900s was accomplished either by steam powered or wind powered vessels. Toward the end of the first decade of the twentieth century, internal combustion engines began appearing in smaller recreational boats.

The recreational boat owner of the early 1900s would be a sail boater and likely a member of a yacht club, where there was little interest in these new-fangled, foul-smelling dirty creations. After all, yachting was the sport of gentleman sailors and yacht clubs promoted and taught the sport of sailing. Still, the idea of a liquid fueled engine powering a boat persisted and began to take hold.

This new breed of power boaters joined yacht clubs (some were even converts from wind power), but found themselves out of place on club cruises and in club races.

One of this new breed of boater was Roger Upton, a sailing member of the Boston Yacht Club. He was fascinated by these new powerboats. The owner of a 50 foot ketch, he often sailed up the coast to Maine. However, as a businessman and because, as all blow-boaters know, wind power is often unreliable, he purchased one of these new powerboats in 1909; a 35 foot motor launch. Powered by a gasoline engine, its purpose was to serve as a tender for the ketch and to tow her when nature refused to cooperate. His love for this new way of plying the waters off the New England coast was immediate, so much so, that the following year, he installed a 20-hp kerosene/gasoline fueled engine in the ketch which allowed him less dependence on nature's whims and to return to his business commitments, on time.

In the summer of 1911, Upton presented his thoughts to his colleagues in the Boston Yacht Club about forming a club-within-the-club for the growing number of power boaters, which would develop new forms of racing and cruising suitable for the new vessels. Upton's idea was founded on three principals:

1. improvement in navigating abilities of power boaters
2. promotion of acquaintance and "social intercourse" by power boaters
3. the "fitting" of power boaters to be of possible use to the US Navy in time of war

With his ideas accepted, he was elected Rear Commodore of the Boston Yacht Club in 1912 and given charge over the newly created *unofficial* Power Boat Division of the fleet. R/C Upton, himself being a perfectionist of sorts and self-taught in the ways of navigation and boat handling, took the initiative to pass his knowledge onto the 36 members of the newly formed division. He developed courses for study, cruises and races suitable for powerboats and drills modeled after U.S. Naval maneuvers to improve his members' boating skills.

The division was not all work and no play. There were monthly meetings that included social events, dinners and guest speakers.

During this period, the U.S. laws governing navigation applied only to steam powered vessels and was controlled by a governing board of old, crusty sea salts, known as steamboat inspectors, who had little use for these new gasoline powered, recreational boats. However, they desired to gain control over them and apply the same stringent rules that applied to larger steam powered vessels, to these new boaters. Upton and others set out to protect the new power boaters from the stigma of ignorance and foolhardiness of these inspectors.

(continued on next page)

During the summer of 1912, the benefit of power boating came full circle, when, on the annual Boston Yacht Club cruise to Portland, Maine, twenty members of the power boat division set sail with forty sailboats. During this cruise, the power boaters cruised in formation and demonstrated an elaborate system of maneuvers executed by means of flag signaling. While at sea, a Nor'easter unexpectedly blew up, disabling many of the sailing vessels. Under Upton's command, the power boaters went to the rescue of their sailing counterparts and towed the disabled vessels to safe harbor. No losses were reported. The September 1912 issue of Motor Boating Magazine reported the incident with a six page photo story. Needless to say, the event dispelled any negative views held by sailing members of the Boston Yacht Club and proved the practicality of recreational motorboats.

On October 14, 1912, R/C Upton petitioned the Executive Committee of the Boston Yacht Club to officially establish his Power Boat Division. The committee unanimously granted Upton's petition. At the Boston Yacht Club's annual meeting in January 1913, the Power Boat Division was officially recognized and its name was changed to the Power Squadron.

The names of the officers and rules of the new organization were published in the 1913 edition of the Boston Yacht Club Yearbook. The officers were: Roger Upton, commander, C. N. Burnell, lieutenant commander, and Nathaniel L. Stebbins, secretary.

As with any idea that comes into fruition and proves its usefulness, the development of a power boat organization became an active movement. The media of the day spread the news of the activities of this new organization. Yachting Magazine and Motor Boating Magazine with its associate editor, Charles F. Chapman featured this new organization and promoted the movement. As a result, many new clubs and associations were formed along the Eastern U.S. seaboard. The Boston Yacht Club contacted thirty delegates representing seventy clubs and associations in November of 1913, to meet at the New York Yacht Club for a conference to consider the formation of power squadrons. The result of this meeting was the formation of the Power Squadron Conference Committee. With interest increasing, the new committee met again on December 5, 1913 at the New York Yacht Club and an outline of the suggestions of the meeting was sent to all who were interested. A second Conference Committee meeting was called for on February 2, 1914. It was at this meeting when the final work of organizing and launching the United States Power Squadron was accomplished.

The following list of names of the delegates and their respective organizations or associations at the Power Squadron Conference Committee meeting was excerpted from The USPS Ops Manual, Chapter 1, USPS History:

- Yachtsmen's Club of Philadelphia; C.L. Lagen, Commodore
- Power Boat Squadron of New Haven, Conn.; J.N. Champion, Commodore
- Larchmont Yacht Club; Francis M. Wilson
- Atlantic Yacht Club; Theodore D. Wells
- Corinthian Yacht Club of Philadelphia; C. Longstreth
- Rhode Island Yacht Club; William St. Streeter, Commodore
- New York Motor Boat Club; C.F. Chapman
- Hudson River Power Squadron; Franklin P. Pratt
- Lynn Yacht Club; A.D. Grover
- Knickerbocker Yacht Club; William E. Spencer
- Harlem Yacht Club; R.S. Haydock
- Portland Yacht Club; Holman F. Day, Rear Commodore
- Savin Hill Yacht Club; Charles A. J. Smith
- Kennebec Yacht Club; Charles E. Hyde
- Hudson River Yacht Racing Association; Worthington Scott
- Sachem's Head Yacht Club; W.C. Stringer
- Baltimore Yacht Club; Dwight F. Mallory
- Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club; Elliot Tuckerman
- Indian Harbor Yacht Club; Frank Bowne Jones
- Boston Yacht Club Power Squadron; William A. Hopkins

The signatures of Messrs. Longstreth, Stringer, Tuckerman and Jones are affixed subject to ratification of their respective clubs."

And that is all. Yet it contains what the national body prescribes we shall forever know: the names of the founding fathers.

At this same meeting, the organization was made complete by the election of officers and members of the Governing Board included:

- Henry A. Morse,
- Captain DeWitt Coffman, USN (Boston Navy Yard);
- Charles Longstreth,
- Frank S. Cornwell,
- Francis M. Wilson
- and members of the bridge.

The creation of this organization by these forward-thinking gentlemen, who were ahead of their time, and its purpose and profound effect on modern day recreational boating is what was resolved by the USPS Governing Board to be commemorated annually on February 2nd.



WSPS ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

by Ray Nardo

The Watchung Sail & Power Squadron's Holiday Party was held at the Spanish Tavern in Mountainside December 11th. It was a great occasion for the Watchung family & friends to get together and enjoy and celebrate the holiday season. For many, it officially starts the holiday season and festivities.

The gathering was brought to order by Cdr. Tracy and a welcome extended to all our members and special guests. There was a good turnout of 45 people which included members from District and other squadrons.

Ted Wallace gave the invocation with a special prayer for our deceased members and our military serving our country. And, Dick Swackhamer led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

After the introductions and acknowledgements the party began. The menu included assorted appetizers, choice of sirloin steak, salmon, veal and rack of baby lamb all prepared and served in a most festive atmosphere. There was a cash bar but the dinner included choice of sangria, wine, beer, soft drinks, rounded out with dessert, coffee, cappuccino or tea. All in all, it was a great dinner menu.

The highlight of the party was the Holiday Gift Grab Bag game which was originated for our group last year by Pat Winkler. This year, Pat was ably assisted, by our commander Tracy. Briefly explained, everyone who wanted to participate brought a gift of \$20 or less and each received a ticket, one ticket per gift. The 1st number drawn picks any gift on the table; the 2nd number has the option of selecting a new gift or taking a gift which was previously selected. This continues until all the gifts are selected. Obviously, the last number drawn is in the "cat bird seat" since that person (in this case Fred Nawrotzki) can take any gift in the room.

We also ran our usual fund raiser 50/50 raffle handled by Lorraine and Ron Reason. There were 2 winners this time. Pricilla Pollack (\$60) and to keep it in the family, Pricilla's father Ed, (\$28) who was up from Florida and happens to be 101 years young.

Holiday Party

