



Volume 55, Issue 4

July 2010

DECK WATCH

Official Newsletter of the Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron

A Unit of District 10, United States Power Squadrons (USPS) ~ America's Boating Club ~

USPS Mission is to promote recreational boating safety through education and civic activities while providing fellowship and fun for our members.

www.milwaukeepowersquadron.org

July

13th (Tue)—Executive Committee Meeting
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club
2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

20th (Tue)—Squadron Camaraderie
6 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club
2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

23rd-25th—District 10 Rendezvous, Bayfield, WI

August

10th (Tue)—Executive Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club
2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

September

1st-5th—USPS Governing Board Meeting
Hyatt Regency Bellevue Bellevue, WA,

14th (Tue)—Executive Committee Meeting
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club
2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee

21st (Tue)—Squadron Members' Meeting, 6 p.m.

SAFE BOATING WEEK



Members of the MSPS were busy during Safe Boating Week. The Week started out on Saturday May 15th with VSCs at South Milwaukee Yacht Club in conjunction with the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

On Tuesday May 18th we returned to South Milwaukee Yacht Club for our annual flare shoot and fire extinguishing demo. Members got an opportunity not

only to put out fires with regular extinguisher carried aboard boats but also CO2 extinguishers (the big ones with the front trumpet).

On Thursday May 20th some of our members were again participating in flare shoots and fire demos at South Shore Yacht Club.

The week capped off on Saturday May 22nd with a one day boating class at Franklin High School and our participation in New Berlin Safety Days where we promoted boating safety and exhibited life jackets.

A very busy and productive week.
Commander Kim Rutkowski, P



2010 GOVERNING BOARD

August 30, 2010 - September 05, 2010

Bellevue/Seattle, WA



Immediately following the GB meeting, starting on Sunday Sept 5 leaving from Seattle you will have an opportunity to cruise **Alaska's Inside Passage** for 7 days on Princess Cruises.

For more information click on: <http://www.usps.org/national/natmeetings/Bellvue%20GB/bellvue%20%20gb%202010.htm> then click on Seattle cruise.

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Redesign and Editorial Production by Heather McKinney under the direction of the Publications Committee. Items for publication are due the 15th of each month. Please submit items to deckwatch@milwaukeepowersquadron.org

The United States Power Squadron is America's number one boating organization. If you would like information about membership, please contact: Ted Smyczek at 262-786-2599 or tmsmyczek@netzero.net

Please send questions, comments, Roster contact information updates/changes, opinions, photos, news, articles, story ideas, etc. to: Deckwatch@milwaukeepowersquadron.org

BOATING SAFETY

Navigation Lights



A bright, sunny summer day is the ideal day to take your boat on the water. While enjoying the day, clouds appear and it gets dark. Did you remember to check your navigation lights? Not only at night but also during the day we may encounter restricted visibility caused by fog, mist, heavy rain or similar events. In this case safety requires the use of traffic lights on the boat. Lights will alert other vessels to your presence. Boats 16 feet in length or longer are required to have the proper navigation lights for use under way or at anchor from sunset to sunrise or when visibility is restricted.

A **Masthead Light** is a white light placed over the fore-and-aft centerline of the vessel showing an unbroken light over an arc of 225° from dead ahead to 22.5° abaft the beam on both sides of the vessel. The term "masthead light" is some times misleading. Often the light is not placed on top of the mast. On motorboats it is often placed on a short fixture on top of the cabin. On sailboats it is usually part way up the mast. The anchor light is actually at the masthead. The masthead light for boats shorter than 40 feet must be at least 3 feet higher than the sidelights. Boats larger than 40 feet in length must mount the masthead light 8 feet higher than the side lights.

Sidelights are colored lights - red on port and green on starboard - showing an unbroken light over an arc at the horizon of a 112.5° from dead ahead to 22.5° abaft the beam on each side. The sidelights may be combined in a single fixture carried on the centerline of the vessel. In boats less than 40 feet long this combination light needs only to be carried as close to the centerline as possible.

A **Sternlight** is a white light showing over an arc of a 135° and placed as nearly as possible at the stern. It should be visible for about 2 miles.

A **Towing Light** is a yellow light having the same arc as a stem light.

All-round Light. Boats less than 40 feet long may show an all-around white light instead of the masthead light and stem light, visible at two miles. An All-round light is a light showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 360°.

Sailboats under sail only may combine the sidelights and sternlight into one fixture to be placed near the top of the mast.

Rules for boats at anchor require a white all around light at the forward part of the vessel and a second all around white light near the stern, placed lower than the forward light. Boats less than 24 feet long need not show an anchor light.

When navigation lights are required, no other lights, which may be mistaken for navigation lights, may be shown. Navigation rules for sound signals must be observed during restricted visibility. Fog signals are required when visibility is reduced.

Refresh your memory! Knowing the rules will add to your enjoyment of boating.

Gisela Murray, SN





APOSTLE ISLANDS ADVENTURE D/10 SUMMER RENDEZVOUS – BAYFIELD JULY 23 – 25, 2010

Chart your vacation course to Bayfield in July! The Duluth Sail and Power Squadron is hosting the D/10 summer rendezvous the weekend of July 23rd—25th in the picturesque town of Bayfield. Check the D/10 website for more information: <http://www.usps-d10.org/conference.asp>

Lodging reservations for the rendezvous are to be made through the Bayfield Chamber website at www.Bayfield.org

USPS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR "Transition from Warrior to Chieftain"

If you are a bridge officer, a committee chairman or think you might want to be one but are concerned about your ability to lead...this is the program for you. This training would cost you over \$1500 to buy in the open market and is invaluable for anything you do...your job, your church, other organization work, etc.

Mark your calendar for 5-6 November 2010. D/20 is hosting the event for members of D/10, D/20, D/24 and D/30 at the Chicago/Hilton in Northbrook IL. A block of rooms have been reserved for Friday night (5 November) and a few rooms will be available for Saturday night (6 November) for those who want to spend a little time touring Chicagoland. There will be a "get acquainted" cocktail party on Friday night so plan to arrive early. We will start the training seminar promptly at 0900 on Saturday and conclude at 1600.

VESSEL EXAMINERS NEEDED

There are two ways you can help with VSCs:

1. Want a really fun way to get to crawl around on other people's boats, meet other boaters, swap stories AND know you're directly promoting boating safety?

Become a Vessel Examiner:

Go to http://www.uscg.mil/directives/cim/16000-16999/CIM_16796_8.pdf

*Read/study the manual (read on line, download, or print)

*Take the test. <http://safetyseal.net/usps-ve-test.asp?bhcp=1> (It's open book, and you can retake it as needed.)

*Complete your first five VSCs with a qualified examiner.

*Do at least five checks on your own.

2. Don't see yourself crawling on the boats but want to meet other boaters, swap stories AND know you're directly promoting boating safety?

Become a VSC Coordinator/Promoter: Offer boat owners a complimentary check to confirm they have all the required safety equipment aboard and to make sure it's working properly and make an appointment for a Vessel Examiner to stop by.





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Milwaukee Sail and Power
Squadron
A Unit of District 10,
UNITED STATES POWER
SQUADRONS

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Please note: If your address, phone number, or email address changes or you get a new boat, be sure to contact Ted Smyczek at (262) 786-2599.

JULY MEETING—JULY 20TH
SOUTH SHORE YACHT CLUB TENT



Let's go Boating!!!!

Enjoy an evening on the lake with your fellow members.

The evening will start at 6:30pm with a catered dinner.

Then at 7:15 we will board member's boats for a lake cruise.

Cost \$20.00 includes dinner, beverages on board the boats & boat fuel

RSVP by July 10th to Mel Fabiszak @262.966.2743 or kimrutkowski@earthlink.net