



# DECK WATCH



A Quarterly Publication Of The  Milwaukee Sail And Power Squadron

*A Unit of District 10, United States Power Squadrons (USPS) – America’s Boating Club*



## The United States Power Squadrons Centennial Anniversary Serving the boaters of America

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The United States Power Squadrons is celebrating 100 years of community service on February 1, 2014. Your squadron needs to be part of that important Centennial event which is a national milestone. To celebrate this national milestone, several projects are underway and a national anniversary web page will post exciting activities and information. The Power Squadrons’ Ship Store will be featuring items with the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Logo. An anniversary postal commemorative is under discussion. All levels of the organization are planning local community activities.

The precise anniversary day is Sunday, 2 February, 2014. But because the Governing Board at the Annual Meeting is held on Saturday, the climactic celebration will be conducted a day early. The Hyatt Regency of Jacksonville, Florida is preparing a major party for members. The city is planning to post signs

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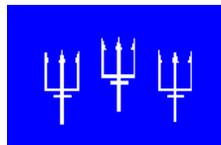
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## Commander’s Comments

As I write this a cool front is passing thru bringing rain and some welcome relief from the heat of this abnormally hot summer. It is also hard to believe that the boating season for most of our members are past the half way point and many are beginning to think about winter storage. Time does pass quickly.



Members of our squadron participated in the Winneconne rendezvous in Oshkosh with the Oshkosh and Sheboygan Squadrons, and a few million Lake Flies. However it was a great time. The highlight for me, was taking a boat thru

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<http://www.milwaukeepowersquadron.org>



## The United States Power Squadrons Centennial Anniversary

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throughout the town and is working with the Jacksonville Sail & Power Squadron to conduct a celebratory boat parade on the St. John's River.

The Power Squadrons Flag and Etiquette Committee has designed a unique boat Ensign, which emphasizes the event, and is to be flown on members' vessels in 2013 and 2014. A special new Power Squadrons logo has been distributed and is available on line.

A yearlong ceremonial activity is planned. At the 2013 Annual Meeting Governing Board, full sized anniversary Ensigns will be presented to each of the thirty-two districts. Then, in anticipation of the 2014 Annual Meeting, each squadron will create unique ribbon streamers of specified dimensions to affix to their district's Ensign. Finally, on February 1, 2014 the districts will parade their Ensigns with accompanying streamers in a flag presentation to celebrate this significant anniversary.

All members are encouraged plan on a year of celebration programs for their communities. Local municipal proclamations, appearances at the meetings of civic and marine organizations, and presentations through boating safety equipment demonstration days are items at the top of the list. It is very important to involve the community which the squadron serves during this historic year.

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*United States Power Squadrons®*

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## Commander's Comments

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the Fox River lock system, on the way to Lake Michigan at Green Bay. It was like going back to a bygone era, when life was possibly a little less hectic.

The District 10 Rendezvous in Waupaca brought members from the entire district together for a weekend of boating fun and frolic, and Milwaukee members were well represented. If you missed any of these boating events this year, plan on attending them in the future.

Speaking of future rendezvous, next year Milwaukee will be hosting the District 10 Rendezvous; it won't get any closer than this, watch for future announcements.

The warmer than normal temperatures did not detour 14 students from participating in our summer Boating Safety Class at Southwind Marine. Also in conjunction with Southwind Marine our Thursday night seminar series is in full



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## Commanders' Comments

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swing with free 2 hours seminars every Thursday from now thru the end of the year. Bring your friends, shipmates and fellow dock mates, to these information packed seminars. Did I mention that they are free?

Milwaukee Power Squadron was also chosen by Tow Boat US and our National organization to be one of the test sites for an automated radio check system. Boaters will be able to select channel 27 on their marine WHF radio, transmit a "request for radio check" message and the system will play back their voice and a boating safety message. The hope is that this will eliminate some not quite legal radio traffic on channel 16. By the time you read this the equipment will be installed and working in the McKinley Basin and will serve boaters in the Milwaukee Harbor area.



United States Power Squadrons

Our partners in recreational Boating Safety, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, have invited members of the United States Power Squadrons to participate in a program they have been sponsoring for many years. This Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program lets you establish local partnerships that you will visit regularly. It is a key element in the US Coast Guard's Recreational Boating Safety Program. The emphasis of Program Visitation is to recruit businesses to display boating safety pamphlet distribution racks to the public. The program is composed of a Program Visitor who maintains the material in the display rack. This also gives the Program Visitor an opportunity to clarify safety issues, promote boater education, and the Vessel Safety Check program. "So what is in it for us?" you might ask. There are many benefits to the Power Squadrons and its members. Program Visitation increases the public's awareness of the Power Squadrons, its goals and its missions. It enhances the Power Squadron's image as an organization dedicated to promoting boating safety. You have the satisfaction of knowing that by participating in Program Visitation, you help save lives and property. Participation also provides a venue for recruiting new Power Squadron members. On an individual basis, participation in the program can earn the member a Merit Mark.

USPS currently partners with the Auxiliary in the Vessel Safety Check Program, so this is a natural progression of the partnership our organizations have developed. The program is being rolled out at the September National Governing Board in Detroit, so more information will follow.

Milwaukee has an excellent working relationship with the local flotillas we work together with Vessel Safety Checks and at boat show and other public relations events. In order to continuing fostering this relationship I will be extending an invitation to any member of an Auxiliary flotilla to be a guest at any of our functions. If you see an auxiliary member at one of our functions please make them feel welcome. Both of our organizations serve the recreational boating public, our missions are the same, to prevent Boating accidents, and to promote boating safety.

September brings the Fall Governing Board in Detroit and I will be representing our squadron as a delegate. If you have never been to a National meeting, Detroit is the closest it will be to our squadron for quite some time. Events include all the national committee meetings, most of which are open to any member, a number of social events, and the ability to interact with squadron, district and national officers from all of USPS. The Saturday General Meeting is quite the site with up to 1000 USPS members all sporting white, fill the conference center of the Detroit Renaissance Center. If you have an interest in attending the meeting visit the National USPS web site for all the details.

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## Educational Department

You need an update on what the Education Department has been doing this summer. We have conducted an “America’s Boating Class” at Southwind Marina. Of the fourteen registered twelve passed the class on August 2nd. We are now offering the USPS Seminars that would be of interest to Milwaukee Boaters. Commander Weidel taught the session on using “GPS” followed by Past Commander Mel Fabiszak discussing “Anchoring”. The Seminars will continue with “Mariners Compass” and “How to Use a Chart”

Plans for the Fall include offering “Seamanship”, “Piloting” and an “Instructor Development” class. If you are interested in any of these classes please give me a call. Your input will help influence our choice of days and dates.

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*America's Boating Club®*



## Commander's Comments

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November will bring the district 10 Conference in Wausau, this 2 day event conducts the business of the district, along with social events and training programs. See the District 10 website for the latest information.

Speaking of websites, have you visited the Milwaukee Power Squadron website lately? Our webmaster has totally redone the site to make it easier to use, locate information on squadron events, programs and educational activities, as well as links to the national and district websites. The new site also contains a password protected page that has information for members only.

I hope to see you at a squadron event, and thank you for allowing me to serve as your commander for 2012-2013

*Mike*





## Boating Safety– Cooler Weather And The CO Blues

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 United States Power Squadrons®  
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While cooler weather in Southern areas and chilly boating nights in the north challenge the hearty boater, it also brings the deadly shadow of (CO) carbon monoxide poisoning. Boaters will close hatches and canvas: an act of folly that builds a natural gas chamber by which to poison themselves. Stories abound about unsuspecting boaters being overcome.



Carbon monoxide is an insidious killer. It is odorless and colorless. It strikes with deadly efficiency when we are sleeping, and when we are awake. Its symptoms are frequently mistaken as sea sickness or the effects of too much alcohol. It can make you sick in a matter of seconds and in its concentrated form can kill within a few breaths.

Carbon monoxide is created any time you burn a carbon based fuel. This can be fuels such as gasoline, diesel fuel, propane, charcoal, or oil burners. Common sources include engines, generators, cooking ranges, space heaters and water heaters. It is extremely important that we keep all equipment related to burning and exhausting carbon fuels in tip top running order.

Carbon monoxide detectors are inexpensive and effective. Buy and install good ones and test their operation on every cruise. Detectors should be installed near the potential sources (generators and engine compartments) as well as in the forward and aft portions of your boat, where the gas may collect.

When traveling, it is important to maintain a flow of air through the pilot area and the cabin. Slow speeds and a following wind are a sure fire recipe to blow exhaust fumes forward into your boat. Incredibly, some boat hull designs are known to exhibit the “station wagon effect” and actually create a vacuum type of air flow that draws the fumes forward along the hull and into the boat. Be sure to open side flaps, windshield vents, forward port holes or any other openings to allow the air to flow through your inhabited areas.



The symptoms of carbon monoxide include a loss of color, dizziness, disorientation vomiting and extreme sleepiness. To treat carbon monoxide poisoning, get the person to some fresh air immediately. Also evacuate all other persons from the area to prevent more cases. Get fresh air to the effected person. Oxygen is even better. Call for help immediately, do not wait. In the case of this silent killer, you are better off to be safe and to apologize later. CO is extremely dangerous; it would be sheer folly to treat it lightly.



To learn more about safe boating, contact your local United States Power Squadrons® unit and ask for information about the many courses and seminars, or go to their national website, [www.USPS.org](http://www.USPS.org).

As it members remind us: “Boating is fun...We’ll Show you how”

Lt. Bill Hempel  
 Senior Feature Writer  
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# Boating Safety– Safe Boating Week Activities May 19-25

## “Ready Set Wear It!”

MSPS kicked off Safe Boating Week with its participation in “Ready Set Wear It” Life Jacket World Record Day. On May 19, 2012, seven members of the Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron along with 16 students from the One Day Safe Boating Class held at Franklin High School donned life jackets to help set a world record, for a third year, for the most life jackets worn. The goal is not only to promote the comfortable and versatile options when it comes to life jackets, but also to educate the public about life jackets and safe boating in general. Tuggin” joined in on the fun.



YEAR	2011	2012
Participants	1,685	3,993
Inflatable Life Jackets	1,191	1,092
Inherently Buoyant Life Jackets	494	2,901
Total Number of Events	99	146

*"Setting a World Record to bring a world of change to boating safety and life jacket wear"*



### FLARE SHOOT

The May member’s meeting was held at SSYC where MSPS members, SSYC members, Milwaukee Police Harbor Patrol, Coast Guard, and the general public participated in the annual flare shoot. About 50 participants received hands on experience using both aerial and hand held pyrotechnic safety devices required on federal waters. The flare shoot was a perfect opportunity to learn best practices for using flares and get rid of out-dated flares at the same time. One attendee brought flare guns from World War I and World War II. The pyrotechnics used in those guns went off with quite a bang.





# Events Tuggin' Along Travels

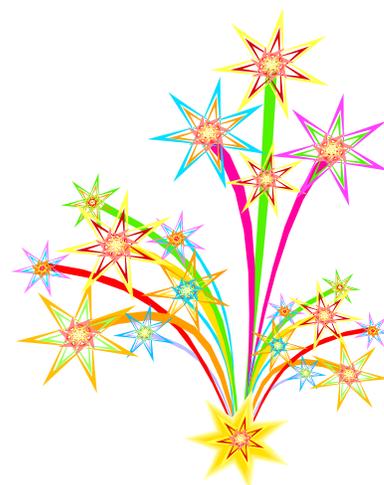
I t's summer and I (Tuggin' Along) am back in Milwaukee participating in activities and representing The Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron.

In May I was part of the photo taken for Safe Boating Week's Ready Set Wear IT! Campaign. June found me participating in SSSYC's dinghy drift with Commander Mike Wiedel, Secretary Kim Rutkowski, and Captain Jerry at the helm. A fun time was had by all.

July brought the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades in Greenfield and Franklin. Accompanying me were Commander Mike Wiedel, Executive Officer Chuck Kersey, Secretary Kim Rutkowski, and Captain Jerry.

This year I have a new sign board and can better promote Safe Boating and advertise our classes. That's all for now...see you at the rendezvous.

Tuggin' Along







*In Days Of Yore ....*



*Guess Who  
Circa 1975*



(Answer Page 10)

**...Birthdays...**

**September**

Mel Fabiszak 9/21

Ray Hernday 9/2

Chuck Kersey 9/22

Kim Kubatzke 9/19

Kathy Robbins 9/18

**October**

Mike Beckmann 10/21

George Mitchell 10/8

Bonnie Roberts 10/5

**November**

Richard Hobbs 11/23

Mark Humphrey 11/13

Linda Kenneth 11/18

Trevor Kubatzke 11/18

James Neumeyer 11/4

David Pleskatchek 11/17



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*Please send questions, comments, Roster information, updates/changes, photos, news etc. to:*  
capluck@yahoo.com

*P/C Carl Pluckhan SN  
Editor*



Your Right ... It's moi. ... Anyone else with pictures from the past? Email them to me ...The Editor

**The Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron is part of the United States Power Squadrons (USPS)**



United States Power Squadrons

Organized in 1914, USPS is a non profit, educational organization dedicated to making boating safer and more enjoyable by teaching classes in seamanship, navigation and related subjects. Our members are boating families who contribute to their communities by promoting safe boating through education. We enjoy participating with our fellow members on the water and in the classroom. USPS has some 45,000 members organized into 450 squadrons across the country and in some US territories. USPS is America's largest non-profit boating organization and has been honored by three US presidents for its civic contributions.

