



Volume 53, Issue 11

March 2009

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March

- 10th (Tue)**—Executive Committee Meeting,
7 p.m., ., South Shore Yacht Club,
2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI;
Please note change to Tuesday evening
- 11th (Wed)**—Squadron Boating Course. Part A,
6:30 p.m., Cabela's, 3049 Hwy 45,
Richfield, WI
- 22nd (Sun)**—Change of Watch, 11:00 a.m.,
Golden Mast Inn,
W349 N5293 Lacys Lane, Okauchee, WI
- 27th-29th**—District 10 Spring Conference,
Jefferson Street Inn,
201 Jefferson Street, Wausau, WI 54403

April

- 14th (Tue)**—Executive Committee Meeting,
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club,
2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI;
- 21st (Tue)**—Squadron Members' Meeting,
6:00 p.m., Alioto's, 3071 N. Mayfair Road,
Wauwatosa, WI
- 22nd (Wed)**—Spring Public Boating Course
begins, Menomonee Falls High School,
Room 127
W142 N8101 Merrimac Dr.
(use north parking lot), Menomonee Falls, WI

May

- 12th (Tue)**—Executive Committee Meeting,
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club
3200 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI
- 16th – 22nd**—National Safe Boating Week
- 19th (Tue)**—Squadron Members' Meeting &
Safety Demonstrations, 6 p.m.
South Milwaukee Yacht Club
101 Marshall Ave.
South Milwaukee, WI
- 30th (Sat)**—One Day Safe Boating Class,
Franklin Recreational Department
Franklin High School
8222 S. 51st Street, Franklin, WI

For more information on these events, please
contact Ted Smyczek at 262-786-2599

www.milwakeepowersquadron.org

2009 MSPS Bridge Nomination Notice

To: General Membership
From: Paul Langer, AP, Secretary

Pursuant to the Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron Bylaws Article 6, Section 6.8, notice is given that the nomination committee has approved the following nominees for the 2009-2010 squadron year. These nominees will be voted on by you, the general membership, at the March 22, 2009 Annual Membership Meeting. Please mark your calendar. Thank-you.

BRIDGE OFFICERS

Commander: Cdr. Melvin P. Fabiszak, P
Executive Officer: Lt/C Kim Rutkowski, S
Education Officer: Stf/C Mike S. Wiedel, AP
Asst. Education Officer: P/D/C Ron Kraase, SN (elected by Executive Board)
Administrative Officer, Lt/C Umberto 'Nappy' Napolitano, AP
Secretary and Treasurer: Lt/C Paul D. Langer, AP

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Lt. Ruth C. Durkin, AP – Chairman, 1 year*; P/Lt/C Gisela Murray, SN – 2 years*; Heinz Kinnius, AP – 3 years

RULES COMMITTEE

Gary H. Bush, S – Chairman, 1 year*; Lt. Daniel A. Noonan, JN – 2 years*; Scott Ziebol, AP – 3 years

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Thomas J. Raveret, P – Chairman, 1 year*; P/C Karen Beckmann, P – 2 years*; D/Lt/C John Winger, SN – 3 years

** Previously elected and have remaining unexpected terms as indicated will not be voted on at the annual meeting.*

MARCH MEETING

**Come Celebrate the 70th
Annual Change of Watch
Sunday, March 22, 2009**

**Commander Mel Fabiszak will
welcome in the Bridge
Commanders for the 2009
watch year.**

**Enjoy a Hearty Family Style
Brunch with a bottomless
Glass of Champagne!**

From 11:00am to 2:00pm at

**The Weissgerber's Golden Mast
Inn, W349 N5293 Lacy's Lane
Okauchee Lake, WI 53069**

Phone Number: (262) 567-7047

Uniform Dress

Cost: \$25

**Please RSVP to Mel Fabiszak at
(262) 966-2743 or
lighthouse966@aol.com**

Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron Bridge Officers

Commander

Mel Fabiszak, P
(262) 966-2743

Executive Officer

Lt/C Kim Rutkowski
(414) 353-8240

Education Officer

Stf/C Mike Wiedel, AP
(414) 353-8240

Administrative Officer

Umberto "Nappy" Napolitano, AP
(414) 870-8050

Secretary

Paul Langer, AP
(262) 821-9763

Treasurer

Paul Langer, AP
(262) 821-9763



The Deck Watch is published monthly by the Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron, the Milwaukee, WI chapter of the United States Power Squadron, a non-profit corporation located in Raleigh, NC.

Redesign and Editorial Production by Heather McKinney under the direction of the Publications Committee. Items for publication are due the 20th of each month. Please submit items to deckwatch@milwaukeekeepowersquadron.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@milwaukeekeepowersquadron.org

BOATING SAFETY

Preparing for a Safe Boating

Before putting your boat into the water, make a safety checklist. A complete safety inspection of the hull, the engine and other systems is the first step to a trouble free summer.

Take a magnifying glass and go over every inch of the hull. Are there any dents which could cause concern, any holes which are easily overlooked? Check for damage from having struck floating or fixed objects and for any general deterioration from age.

Inspect the condition of the through-hull fittings and their seacocks and fastenings which are susceptible to damage from electrolytic action. Inspect all underwater fittings such as shafts, propellers, rudders, struts, stuffing boxes, and metal skegs. Stuffing boxes should be repacked as often as necessary to keep them from leaking excessively.

Hoses and loose clamps should be inspected and replaced if necessary. If you have gate valves, replace them with more reliable seacocks. Inspect props for dings, pitting, and distortion which can create excessive vibration. Move the rudder. If it is loose, it must be corrected. Make sure the engine intake sea strainer is free of corrosion and is properly secured.

Inspect the other jackets of the control cables. Cracks or swelling indicate corrosion, the cable must be replaced. Check fuel tanks, fuel pumps and filters for leaks. Clean the fuel filters.

Clean and tighten electrical connections, especially both ends of battery cables.

If you have a sailboat, inspect the fittings for rust and cracks. Check wire halyards and running backstays for "fishhooks" and rust, which are an indication that standing rigging is near the end of its life. Spreaders should bisect the shrouds at equal angles. Chainplates mounted through the deck should be re-caulked if necessary, leaks can cause problems.

Do not forget to inspect and refill or replace fire extinguishers if necessary.

Maintain your boat and equipment in top condition. Enjoy a trouble free summer!

Gisela Murray, SN
Safety Officer

Software at Unbelievable Discount Prices

TechSoup Stock is an organization which receives software and hardware donations and, in turn, makes philanthropic donations to nonprofit organizations; it charges a small "administration fee" for each order.

As a Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®, the Milwaukee Sail & Power Squadron MS&PS) qualifies as a recipient of these software donations.

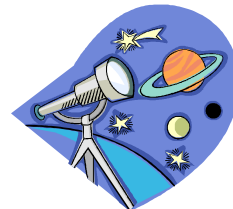
In order to enable MS&PS to accomplish our mission, it has been our policy to allow the members of our Bridge and all committee chairs (instructors qualify as committee chairs) to take advantage of this opportunity.

As we begin a new watch year here in MS&PS, new, as well as renewing, committee chairs may wish to up-grade their computer capabilities with new software or hardware. If you fall into this category, go to www.techsoupstock.org/getproducts to see what is available. Call Ted Smyczek, 262-786-2599 to express your interest in obtaining software/hardware products and for help with navigating the TechSoup Stock web-site.

STAR GAZING

John Goetzman, P

This Month's Lunar phases began when the first waxing crescent appeared on the 26th of February. The first waxing quarter was on the 4th. The full moon on the 10th is known as the "Worm Moon" because it's the start of spring as earthworms (and the Robin's that eat them) begin to appear. The last quarter waning moon is on the 18th. The last waning crescent is on the 25th and the new moon is on the 26th. The cycle starts over on the 27th with a waxing crescent moon.



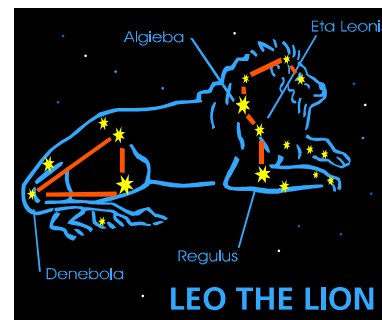
The Planets this month:

Mercury is too close to the Sun to be seen this month.

Venus is in the western evening sky moving closer to the Sun and setting less than an hour after the Sun drops below the horizon. After the 29th, the glare of the Sun puts Venus out of our sight. On the 27th, its orbit takes it between the Earth and the Sun [this is known as 'inferior conjunction' in astronomy speak.] After that Venus will be an early morning object for the rest of 2009.

Saturn is the bright yellowish object next to the constellation Leo. Look high to the south. It will be visible all night this month. It reaches its peak visibility on the 20th.

For you early risers, Mars the red planet, and Jupiter can be seen in the East an hour before sunrise.



This month there are no meteor showers, but keep an eye in the sky for some of the sporadic "shooting stars" that burn up in our atmosphere. In a dark location, I've seen as many as six in an hour.

On the 10th, the moon will pass three finger widths [6 degrees] to the south of Saturn at 10pm.

On the 17th, the moon will pass very close to the red star Antares at 12 am.

The spring equinox begins at 6:44am on the 20th in our hemisphere. It's the start of spring and we start to think of warm sunny days and the up coming boating season!

REMINDER:

USPS DISTRICT 10 2009 SPRING CONFERENCE

Friday, Sat. & Sun. 27,28,29 MARCH 2009

Jefferson Street Inn

201 Jefferson Street

Wausau, WI 54403

(715)845-6500 or 866-855-6500

Ask for: Central WI Sail & Power Squadron Group

Note: Instructor Re-certification will be conducted at the conference.

Contact Ron Kraase for more information:
414-541-0134 or karronca@aol.com.

Mark Your Calendars for the 2009 WINNECONNE RENDEVOUS!

JUNE 19-21, 2009

at the Winneconne Park

Hosted by District 10 & The Carmen's.

**Contact Cindy Winger: 262-646-4941 or
cwinger@wi.rr.com.**

***Boating Navigator Certification will be
conducted including on-the-water training -
docking, anchoring, rescuing etc.***



Deck Watch
Official Publication of the
Milwaukee Sail and Power
Squadron
A Unit of District 10,
UNITED STATES POWER
SQUADRONS

Membership Director
Ted Smyczek
12600 W. Crawford Drive
New Berlin, WI 53151-5422

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.

WELCOME ABOARD

As they say: "Better late than never."

If you haven't yet said "hello" to our newer members, do so when you see them at a Squadron meeting, class, Vessel Safety Check event, Adopt a Chart event, rendezvous, etc.

Oct., '05

- Scott Ziebol

Feb., '06

- Oliver Miller
- Sally T. Miller
- Ken N. Shea
- Howard Snyder

Apr., '06

- Patricia Horn

July, '06

- David J. Arthurs

Jan., '07

- Arthur "Skip" Dietrich

Mar., '07

- John Adamson
- James M. Purvis

Jan., '08

- David S. Brown
- David K. Wiertzema
- Lori J. Wiertzema

Sept., '08

- Frank R. Datzer

Dec., '08

- Brian T. Cota

Feb., '09

- Linda J. Kenneth
- Dawn M. Korth
- Robert E. Osborn, Jr.
- James A. Sommers
- Doug S. Winkie

Several of these new members are very active in our squadron activities and already....

"Flying our *Ensign* proudly,"

D/Lt/C Thad. M. Smyczek, SN
Membership Chair

