



Volume 54, Issue 2

May 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

### May

**12th (Tue)**—Executive Committee Meeting,  
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club  
3200 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

**16th (Sat)**—Safety Saturday, where we will also  
perform Vessel Safety Checks on trailered boats,  
10 a.m. until 2 p.m., Target parking lot,  
S. Moorland Road & W. Beloit Road  
New Berlin, 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

### June

**6th (Sat)**—Marine Electronics Course begins; call  
Instructor Stf/C Mike Wiedel, JN 414-383-8240

**6th (Sat)**—Vessel Safety Checks at  
South Shore Yacht Club  
3200 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

**9th (Tue)**—Executive Committee Meeting  
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club  
3200 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

**13th (Sat)**—Marine Electronics Course

**16th (Tue)**—Squadron Camaraderie & Cookout  
6 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club  
3200 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

**19th – 21st**—District 10 Summer Rendezvous,  
Winneconne Park, Winneconne, WI

### July

**14th (Tue)**—Executive Committee Meeting,  
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club  
3200 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

**21st (Tue)**—Squadron camaraderie, Location TBD.

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

[www.milwaukeepowersquadron.org](http://www.milwaukeepowersquadron.org)

## SAFE BOATING WEEK

**MAY 16th to May 22nd**



## BOATING SAFETY

**Enjoy a Safe Boating Season**

This year the “North American Safe Boating Campaign” starts with the “National Safe Boating Week” May 16 to May 22, 2009. The intent of the campaign is to spread the message of safe and responsible boating and to heighten the awareness of the importance of always wearing a life preserver when near or on the water.



Boaters today have many options of using modern life jackets customized for many different water activities. They are comfortable and light weight.

More than 60% of boating fatalities result from capsizing, falling overboard or flooding. It is the sudden and unexpected in-water experience that can turn in a fatal situation. These deaths are preventable. Having lifejackets close at hand is not enough in case of an accident. Putting on a lifejacket once in the water is almost impossible, even if you are a good swimmer. The best precaution is to “Wear your Lifejacket” before you end up in the water.

Take care of your lifejacket. Periodically check that all the zippers, straps, ties, and snaps are in good working order. Attach a whistle and/or a small light to your life preserver.

Be prepared! I wish you a safe summer on the water.

Gisela Murray, SN  
Safety Officer

## Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron Bridge Officers

### Commander

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### Executive Officer

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(414) 353-8240

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### Secretary

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### Treasurer

Paul Langer, AP  
(262) 821-9763



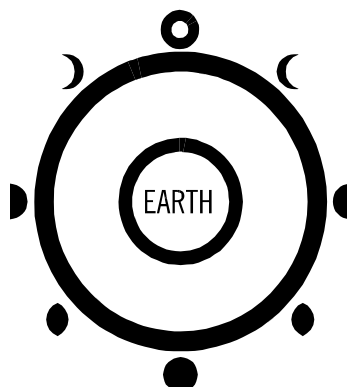
The Deck Watch is published monthly by the Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron, the Milwaukee, WI chapter of the United States Power Squadron, a non-profit corporation located in Raleigh, NC.

Redesign and Editorial Production by Heather McKinney under the direction of the Publications Committee. Items for publication are due the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please submit items to [deckwatch@milwaukeepowersquadron.org](mailto: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](mailto:tmsmyczek@netzero.net)

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

## STAR GAZING



John Goetzman, P



This month the moon's first waxing quarter is on the 1<sup>st</sup>. The full moon on the 9<sup>th</sup>, is known as the 'flower moon' because of the many flowers that bloom this month. The last waning quarter will be on the 17<sup>th</sup>; the last waning crescent on the 22<sup>nd</sup>; and the new moon on the 24<sup>th</sup>. The first waxing crescent for next month's cycle is on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

The planets Mercury and Saturn are evening objects; Mercury will be close to the Sun and will be only visible during the first week of this month. Saturn is the bright yellowish object in the constellation Leo. Look midway in the sky to the southeast, this planet will be visible all month. About an hour before sunrise, Jupiter will be paired with the crescent moon on the 19<sup>th</sup>. On the 21<sup>st</sup>, the red planet Mars, the crescent moon, and the dazzling bright Venus will form a triangle low on the southeast horizon in the constellation Pisces about an hour before dawn.

Between the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 8<sup>th</sup>, peaking on the 5<sup>th</sup>, the annual ETA-Aquarid Meteor shower will occur. Look to the east-southeast between 4:00am and Dawn toward the constellation Aquarius just above the horizon. This is a fairly active meteor shower with swift brilliant meteors and persistent trains peaking at 20 to 30 per hour on the 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be some moonlight that will interfere with the fainter meteors, but overall this should be a good show. This shower is the result of the Earth passing through the dust and gas left behind by Halley's Comet which last passed our way in 1986.

Observers first reported this comet in 240 BC. However, it was not recognized as a predictable periodic comet [a comet that returns in less than 200 years] until the eighteenth century when astronomer Edmund Halley, after whom the comet is named, realized that several bright comets reported by previous observers over the century were reappearances of the same comet. Halley's Comet returns every 74 to 76 years and is always bright enough to be seen with the naked eye. Its next visit to Earth will be in mid 2061.

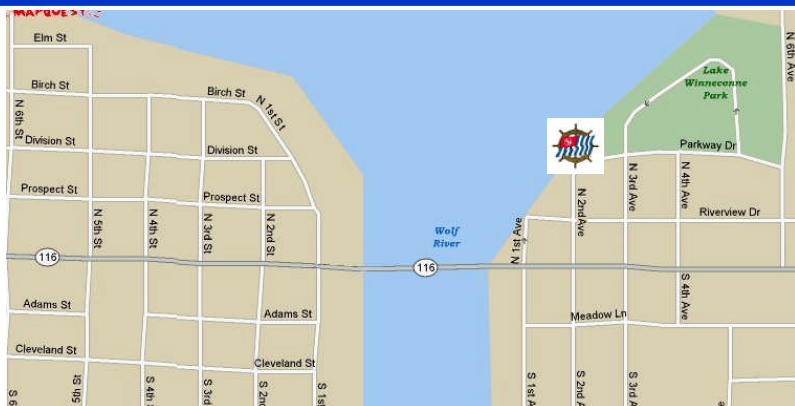


## VESSEL SAFETY CHECK

Call Walt Swenberg at 262-567-4426 for your VSC today.

A VSC from a qualified Power Squadron Examiner is quick—it only takes about a half-hour. Moreover, it'll likely make you a safer boater.





## Lake Winneconne Park – 300 Parkway Drive

### **Registration Deadline June 12<sup>th</sup>**

The cost of registration is \$50 per household for one or more people, i.e. Mom, Dad, and the kids, total of \$50. This is to cover the cost of the facilities along with food and soda on Saturday and Sunday. Please note that there are no plans to serve alcohol at this event, for that you are on your own.

At registration we plan to compensate those attending with a Gas Card, so the cost to you will be considerably less.

Please make your check payable to: Geoff Carman, (memo area enter: **D10 Rendezvous**)

Mail to: Geoff Carman

5115 Violet Lane,

Oshkosh, WI 54904-9527

Contact: (920)582-4205 or email: [jmcarman@new.rr.com](mailto:jmcarman@new.rr.com)

### **Accommodations for the Summer Rendezvous June 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> 2009**

Accommodations in Winneconne could best be described as rustic, but are clean and comfortable. There are various units, cottages, and rooms available, and they are easily within walking distance of the park and local shops. Other options include staying on your boat for \$10 a night, or you can arrange to camp out in one of the Oshkosh Power Squadron member's yards.

Winneconne lodging Directory: [http://www.winneconne.org/Business\\_Directory/lodging.php](http://www.winneconne.org/Business_Directory/lodging.php)

Wolf River Resorts [www.wolfriverresorts.com](http://www.wolfriverresorts.com)

Doug Nelson

17 N 1<sup>st</sup> Street

PO Box 188

Winneconne, WI 54986 920-582-4555

Lang's Landing [www.langslanding.com](http://www.langslanding.com)

Denny Lang

111 N 1<sup>st</sup> Street 920-582-7501

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Squadron: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email: \_\_\_\_\_

If you plan to bring a boat please specify type and size: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are part of a team for the Friday night cook-off what is the name of your team?

\_\_\_\_\_



**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.



**June 19 - 21, 2009**

**District 10, 2009**

**Summer Rendezvous**

The Village of Winneconne is located on the beautiful Wolf River, bounded on the north by Lakes Winneconne and Poygan, and on the south by Lake Butte des Morts. The village is only 10 miles from Oshkosh, 45 miles south of Green Bay, 90 miles north of Milwaukee, and is located in the heart of Wisconsin's vacation land. Due to the suc-

cess of the previous rendezvous here in 2005, the District Bridge plans on expanding the theme of affordable, fun for all the family, and boating activities.

The Friday night event will be an "Over the Transom" cookout competition, where each squadron will prepare their own favorite fare in the tailgating theme. The food will be judged by an impartial, but hungry, group of judges. You will need to bring your own means of cooking and food for this event, but bring enough to share. Prizes may or may not be awarded.

On Saturday we will have activities for members and guests, young and old, and this will probably involve some of you getting wet (note: car keys should not be in your pocket during any of these events!). Concurrent with the activities there will be BOC training for those wishing to complete their certification. We will be serving lunch, followed by more activities on the water, and in the evening there will be an event we like to call "Theatre in the Park". Hot Dogs, Popcorn, and Soda will be provided.

Bring tailgating equipment, chairs, and food, along with boats, water toys, swimsuits, and fishing equipment, to enjoy this wonderful weekend rendezvous. The park has a picnic area and facilities for boating, swimming, fishing, boat launching, and tie-up area, but no camping.

- All the events will be held at the Lake Winneconne Park
- Friday registration begins at 5pm, with the cook-off at 7:30pm
- Saturday registration and activities begin at 10am
- Sunday breakfast 9am to noon.

**See page 3 for Registration Form**