



Volume 54, Issue 8

November 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

November

6th – 8th—2009 District 10 Fall Conference
Airport – Hilton Mall of America hosted by the
Minnetonka Power Squadron

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

18th (Wed)—Squadron Members' Meeting
6:00 p.m., Alioto's, 3071 N. Mayfair Road,
Wauwatosa, WI.

December

8th (Tue)—Executive Committee Meeting,
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht club
2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

15th (Tue)—Squadron Members' Holiday Party,
6 p.m., Golden Mast Inn
W349 N5293 Lacys Lane
Okauchee, WI

January

12th (Tue)—Executive Committee Meeting
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club
2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

15 – 24—West Allis Boat Show
State Fair Park Expo Center
8200 W. Greenfield Ave.
West Allis, WI

Please come help in the booth.

16th (Sat)—1-Day Safe Boating Class at
Milwaukee Boat Show Class
7:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
State Fair Park Expo Center
8200 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis,
WI; **use the north entrance to the
building.**

20th (Wed)—Squadron Members' Meeting
6 p.m., Alioto's, 3071 N. Mayfair
Road, Wauwatosa, WI.

TBA—*Piloting* course begins, 7 p.m.
Call Instructor P/D/C Ron Kraase,
SN, (414) 541-0134 to reserve a
copy of the Student Manuals and for
location of class.

www.milwaukeepowersquadron.org

BOATING SAFETY

As the boating season is coming to a close, take the time to remember the boating events of the summer. Were you and your crew always safe or as safe as you could have been? Could you have acted differently sometimes to insure the pleasure and safety of crew and boat? Did you always operate your boat safely? Was your equipment always in top shape? Recall the events and think what you could and should have done differently.



This is a good time to make a list of all the maintenance and adjustments necessary before the start of the next season. Could you have used additional equipment to ensure the safety of your boat? Write down your experience and at the start of next spring you will remember what you would have liked and what you should change.

Check your First Aid Kit and replace used items. Do you know how to perform first aid and life saving procedures to help others in trouble? You could take a life saving course. Libraries have numerous books on the subject of first aid, and courses are available as well.

Is your toolkit complete? Do you have enough tools for on-the-water repairs? Is your knowledge of mechanical and electrical equipment adequate or could you profit from a course in these subjects? Would you like to know how to judge changes in the weather while on the water?

Do you remember the rules of the road, basic seamanship? Would a knowledge of piloting make cruising more interesting and safer?

Use the long winter months to get yourself and your boat ready for an enjoyable and safe boating season in 2010.

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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

STAR GAZING

John Goetzman, P



This month's lunar phases started with the Full moon on the 2nd. Known as the "Beaver Moon" because it was time to set beaver traps before the water in the swamps froze over. Trapping beavers insured a supply of warm winter furs for the people of the tribe. The last quarter is on the 9th, the New moon is on the 16th, and the first quarter is on the 24th.

The planet Jupiter is visible all night. It rises at sunset moving thru the Constellation Capricornus. If you look to the southwest, it is the brightest object in that part of the sky. Mercury and Venus are out of sight this month. Mars is a morning object in the Constellation Cancer. Look half way up in the sky to the south, its bright red color makes it easy to locate. Saturn will be visible just before sunrise in the Constellation Virgo. Look to the southeast, it will be the brightest object in that part of the morning sky.

On the night of the 17th and the morning of the 18th of this month the annual Leonids meteor shower will take place. This year's shower is expected to be more active than usual, perhaps producing over 500 plus meteors per hour. Over the past few years, Leo the Lion purred out 10 to 15 meteors an hour, but this year according to NASA the Lion should really roar.

With the help of the New moon on the 16th we have nature's guaranty of dark skies for observing. This shower is the result of Earth passing thru the debris left by the comet Temple-Tuttle that last passed our way in 1966. This year we pass closer to the center of the debris stream than previous years so NASA predicts a very strong display at the showers peak in the early morning hours. The show will start at about 11 pm on the 17th building up to maximum meteors per hour between 3 and 5 am on the 18th. Look to the eastern horizon, this meteor will radiate from a group of stars shaped like a sickle.

In last month's Star Gazing I mentioned the open cluster known as the Beehive is noted as M-44 on the star charts. M-44 is one of 110 objects in the northern sky listed in what is known as the Messier Catalog. It was compiled in the late 18th century by Charles Messier (1730-1817) a French comet hunting astronomer.

In 1758 while searching for Halley's comet he found a hazy object in the constellation Taurus that looked like a comet but that it was stationary. He found what is now called the Crab Nebula or M-1. As he searched for comets he found more non-stellar stationary fuzzy objects (star clusters, galaxies and nebulae) with his (by today's standards) low powered telescope. He decided to publish a catalog listing the location of these non-stellar objects so other astronomers would not confuse these objects with comets. Messier listed 103 of these non-stellar objects with seven more being added to his catalog by other astronomers. All 110 objects listed in his catalog and modern star charts have the letter M followed by its number. The catalog also gives the celestial location of the object and its description.

Not only did Charles survive the French Revolution but he didn't do too bad in the comet hunting business. He was the first astronomer to routinely use a telescope for comet hunting. Most comet hunters of that era just used naked eye astronomy.

Messier observed a total of 44 comets and discovered 13 new comets plus an additional 7 comets he co-discovered with other astronomers.

IN MEMORIUM

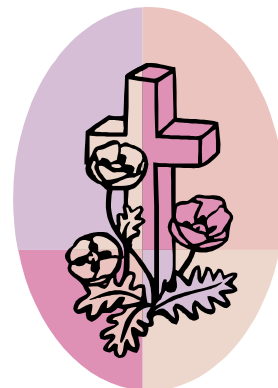
Eleanor Ann Goodnetter

Cherished wife of James Goodnetter for over 55 years, passed away peacefully on September 26, 2009. I

n her career as a homemaker, Ann was a loving spouse, inspiring mother and dear friend to many.

An accomplished hostess, she was known for her knowledge of cinema and well versed in the lyrics of big band tunes as well as popular music. Her kindness and sweet disposition touched many hearts.

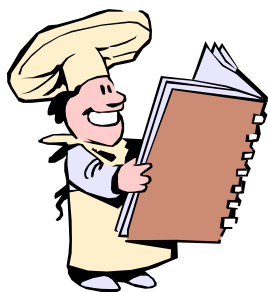
Ann will be missed. Her husband, James and daughter Mary (Goodnetter AP) live in the Milwaukee area and their addresses in the Roster is current.



FROM THE GALLEY

Karen Beckmann, Milwaukee Squadron

Spicy Beef



1-2 Chuck Roasts
1 Jar Pepperoncini
Beef Bouillon

Place meat in a slow cooker or Dutch oven. Pour pepperoncini and juice over meat. Add bouillon. Sprinkle oregano, thyme, basil, marjoram and garlic over meat.

Cook for 10 hours on low or at 225F.

UPDATE YOUR PERSONAL INFO ONLINE

Any member who has signed on to the USPS website using a PIN code can now update their personal information online.

Use the "How Do I" list at the top of the [USPS home page](#) to locate the "Update My Personal Data Online" facility.





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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.

Don't Miss the MSPS Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 15th at 6 pm

Golden Mast Inn

W349 N5293 Lacys Lane, Okauchee, WI



MSPS
Christmas
Party