

Galley Gossip

COLUMBUS
SAIL AND POWER
SQUADRON



A UNIT OF UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS

MAY 2008

VOL. 46, NO. 3

DISTRICT 29

www.usps.org/localusps/columbus/



Dinner Meeting 1 May Squadron Headquarters



Dinner from 6:30-7:15pm. • Program 7:15pm

Event is catered by Hoggy's Smokehouse.

Menu: BBQ Buffet - BBQ Pulled Pork and BBQ Pulled Chicken, Green Beans with Bacon and Onions, Award winning Mac 'n cheese, fresh coleslaw. Desserts include cookies and turtle brownies.

Cash bar: includes beer, wine, pop & water at Power Squadron prices.

PROGRAM: Have you ever had to use a fire extinguisher? When was the last time you shot a flare gun? Here is your chance!!! In cooperation with the Orange Township Fire Department, we will have a live, hands-on fire extinguisher discharge demonstration and distress flare demonstration. Get all the information you need to save your life before you need to use it.

Cost: \$20 per person - includes catered dinner and program materials.

Items to bring: lawn chairs, your expired flares and guns, friends and family members, money for 50/50 raffle.

RSVP: Michael Hughes 614-488-4758 or mtbuckets@aol.com BEFORE April 25, 2008

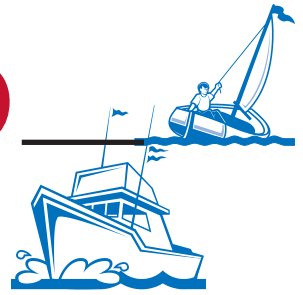
BONUS: The first 30 families who RSVP before the deadline will receive a gift. Don't delay, RSVP today!!



Galley Gossip

COLUMBUS SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

Official Publication of Columbus Sail & Power Squadron



Cdr Larry R. Whiting, P

Commander

Lt David R. Fannon, AP

Editor

Chartered 1940 • Hdq.: 8492 Cotter St., Lewis Center, Ohio 43035-7139 • 614-384-0245 • bdmichael@core.com

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

MAY 1	Thursday	Monthly Dinner Meeting - HQ
3	Saturday	Ice Breaker Dinner - Nor' Easter, Catawba Island
5	Monday	Seamanship Class Begins - HQ
17-18	Sat.-Sun.	Vessel Safety Exams - Alum Creek
17-23	Sat.-Fri.	National Safe Boating Week
27	Tuesday	Executive Committee Meeting - HQ
22	Thursday	Marion Power Squadron 50th Anniv. Celebration
JUNE		
12	Thursday	Monthly Dinner Meeting - Italian Club
20-22	Fri.-Sun.	Kanawha River Cruise
JULY		
3-6	Thurs.-Sun.	Bob-Lo Island/Detroit River Cruise
12-20	Sat.-Sun.	North Channel Trailer Boat Rendezvous
AUGUST		
1-3	Fri.-Sun.	D/29 Summer Council - Toledo Yacht Club
8-10	Fri.-Sun.	Sea Gals Gem Beach Cruise
23	Sat.	Lake Erie Lunch-Hook Rendezvous
26	Tuesday	Executive Committee Meeting - HQ
29-1 Sept.	Fri.-Mon.	Leamington Rendezvous - Canada
SEPTEMBER		
19-21	Fri.-Sun.	Put-in-Bay Rendezvous - Crew's Nest

2008-2009 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

COLUMBUS SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

A Unit of United States Power Squadrons • 1185-29 • Chartered 1940
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Member-at-Large	Lt Jeff Mirgon, S	614 207-2650
Member-at-Large	Lt Sue Nadolson, AP	740 397-8385

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Lt/C Steven Smith, JN

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"**GALLEY GOSSIP**" is published monthly for the members of the Columbus Sail and Power Squadron. **Deadline for receiving articles is the first of the month for the following month's publication.** Articles of information can be mailed to Lt David Fannon, AP, P.O. Box 07798, Columbus, OH 43207-0798 (443-6164), or send e-mail to: dfannon@xlcr.com.

CSPA Web Site:
www.usps.org/localusps/columbus/



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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Cdr Larry R. Whiting, P



As you Acting Commander I was honored to represent your squadron at the D/29 Conference on 29 March for the recovering Commander Larry Whiting, P. This event was held at the Maumee Bay State Park Resort on the shores of beautiful Lake Erie.

One of the burning issues presented at the fireside chat by V/C Dvorak on Saturday morning was that USPS is attempting to make some major changes in the way we enroll new members. The proposal is that a person could join the squadron by going online and paying their dues without ever taking a safe boating course.

The public boating classes are also having some changes being made to them and I'm sure that you will be hearing more about that from our SEO David Clark, AP

Many awards were also given and Columbus received our share. The *Galley Gossip* editors, David and Melissa Fannon received the "Distinction in Journalism" Award and the Squadron won the "USPS Educational Fund Certificate of Merit" for one hundred per cent of the members participating in the USPS Education Fund. I was honored to receive the award for Gustav Schell, P for obtaining his 50th merit mark. This prestigious award will be presented to him at our dinner meeting. Sue Nadolson, AP received her "Education



Achievement" award for obtaining the grade of AP and completing three elective courses.

Phil Osborne, AP was sworn in as the new D/29 Administrative Officer and Larry Lowe, SN took the oath as the new D/29 Assistant Education Officer.

As you can see, our squadron was very evident at this conference. If you have

never attended a district function I would like to invite you to the next one. It is the D/29 Summer Council and Rendezvous at the Toledo Yacht Club on 1-3 August. The unique part of this meeting is that it will be held on our personal ferry boat plying the waters of the Maumee River and Lake Erie. Please contact me for details.

As Cdr Whiting says, we are "Making Headway". Smooth sailing and I'll see you in class, at a meeting, and on the water.

P/C Larry Lowe, SN

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lt/C Robert L. Prior, S



In mid February, I had the opportunity to attend my first USPS Annual meeting, which was held in Dallas, Texas.

Like most meetings, wisdom doesn't flow exclusively from the formal presentations but from casual conversations as well. Listed below are some items which I thought had merit for our consideration.

The most vibrant squadrons have a very active calling committee. They typically phone each member before each event. This procedure has increased participation in squadron events and greatly aided membership retention. Michael Hughes is actively working on rebuilding our calling committees.

One squadron shared that they utilize a "Welcome Wagon" approach to each new member. The idea would be for each new member to immediately be assigned a mentor and receive a welcome packet. The packet would contain basic information on USPS, the local squadron, schedule of activities and a copy of the current roster.

Some squadrons have formed an active "Environment Committee." Those that have such a committee advertise



that fact to prospective new members when teaching the "Safe Boating" class. It has a great deal of impact on younger members and prospective members by enhancing the relevance and credibility of USPS in today's world. There is a lot of support material available through National.

Create a "Coastal Clean Up Day" that would focus on a specific section of a lake shore or river bank. The event and its mission should be well publicized to generate participants from within and outside of the squadron. The mission would be to pick up and document trash and other debris that is foreign to the shoreline. Our own Skip Woodruff is now involved in this on a national level.

To deal with ever growing technical complexities and opportunities, some squadrons have created the staff position of "Computer Systems Officer." All squadron IT would be grouped under this office. The title is sufficiently self-evident that it eliminates confusion on the part of members about who should be sought out whenever technical issues arise.

The Vessel Safety Check program has enjoyed great success since its inception. Consider the following VSC numbers (checks performed): 2000 = 3,150; 2007 = 33,875. Since 2000, the grand total is 205,875. (Note: Our squadron's goal for this summer is to perform 100 VSC's. If you are interested in becoming an examiner, please contact John Pruitt jmep Pruitt@prodigy.net)



Earlier this month, my judgment was clouded when I placed 3 PFDs on the trunk lid of our family car that was backed into our garage. Upon arriving home one Friday afternoon, I noticed the car was gone – and so were the PFDs. Fear went through me as I looked around the garage hoping to see the life vests laying somewhere. Unfortunately, they had blown off of the trunk lid as the car went down the road. Extremely upset with myself wondering what I could do to get them back, after driving down the road to look for them, I decided to put a large sign in my front yard that read, “LOST 3 LIFE JACKETS REWARD OFFERED” hoping someone had found them and would see the sign. On Monday evening, prior to leaving for the Public Boating Course, our doorbell rang. There stood a lady holding 3 life jackets that looked just like the ones I lost. Goosebumps ran up my arms when I saw them. This Good Samaritan was happy to return them to me and reluctant to accept the reward. Convincing her good deeds should always be rewarded, she finally accepted my token of appreciation – a small amount compared to the cost to replace these items. My faith in mankind has been rejuvenated.



This brings me to our May dinner meeting. I need your help in keeping the spirit of humanity alive. We need 60 people in attendance to make this dinner and educational program break even. It is in everybody’s best interest to understand and know how to use a fire extinguisher and a flare gun. This knowledge could save the life of you, your family and friends whether on your boat or on land. Half of the cost covers the meal and the other half covers the recharging

of the fire extinguishers. We would ask that you bring your expired flares and flare gun as we can shoot them off at Headquarters. In addition the first 30 families to RSVP will receive a special gift the night of the event. So call me now at 614-488-4758 or get on your computer and e-mail me at mtbuckets@aol.com When the surprise is gone, it is gone! Make a good judgment call – bring your family and friends.

FROM THE CSPS LIBRARY

OFF THE SHELF

May ushers in the 2008 boating season and with it BOAT SAFETY WEEK.

With that in mind I would like to put the VESSEL SAFETY CHECK LIST..

“ON THE SHELF”!

The Vessel Safety Check involves asking a qualified Vessel Examiner to perform the FREE examination of your vessel....the requirements, recommendations and discussions involved in this process will be outlined below. They are completed by a U. S. Coast Guard approved Vessel Examiner and are based on the size of your vessel. A copy of the VESSEL SAFETY CHECK will be posted ON THE library book SHELF for anyone who wishes to review the list. You can also look over the Administrative Officer’s Report, by Lt/ C Michael Hughes, JN in the April Galley Gossip to get an idea of what will be checked and why. He also has included a list of Vessel Safety Inspectors that you may contact to arrange for your free inspection.

Below are the fifteen basic areas that are checked and eight areas that will be reviewed/discussed with you during the vessel check.

The 15 Basic Areas are:

Display of Numbers; Registration/Documentation; Personal Flotation Devices (PFD); Visual Distress Signals (VSD); Fire Extinguishers; Ventilation; Backfire Flame Control; Sound Producing Devices/Bells; Navigation Lights; State and/or Local Requirements; and Overall Condition: Deck Free of Hazards; Clean Bilge; Electrical-Fuel Systems; Galley and Heating Systems.

The 8 Recommended and Discussion Items are: Marine Radio; Dewatering Device and Backup; Mounted Fire Extinguishers; Anchor and Line for Area; First Aid and Person in Water Kits; Inland Visual Distress Signals; Capacity/Certificate of Compliance;

and Discussions Items: Accident Reporting—Owner Responsibility; Offshore Operations; Nautical Charts/Navigation Aids; Survival Tips/First Aid; Fueling/Fuel Management; Float Plan/Weather and Sea Conditions; Insurance Considerations; Boating Check List; and Safe Boating Classes.

Have a safe and enjoyable 2008 Boating Season! Questions are welcome...just leave a message for me at 740-397-8385.

Lt Sue Nadolson, AP

West Marine Earners Awards

CSPS would like to congratulate West Marine on Sawmill Rd in Dublin OH. At the February West Marine Annual Meeting held in Florida, the Sawmill Rd store took all seven awards for their district. The entire staff had a hand in securing the awards for lowest percentage of shrinkage, highest increase in sales overall, for previous year and sales in electronics. Harold Beidel and the staff at West Marine would like to thank all CSPS members for making this possible. Please visit the store and congratulate them.



USPS has encouraged local squadrons to partner with other boating organizations. We took the opportunity to partner with the Alum Creek Sailing Association (ASCA) and opened our Sail Course to their members. Our members have been invited to take their sail course this summer. It is a good mix since our course is an extensive classroom course with no on-the-water experience. Their course is almost exclusively on-the-water with only about two classroom hours. We hope some of the ASCA members will elect to join our squadron.

Remote education is less remote. Two meetings were held in January. In the first Larry Whiting arranged a linkup with a classroom at Ohio State. Rob Stephens and Larry Lowe found that the system worked as planned and we had an excellent static picture. However, since no one was at the OSU end we were unable to determine the quality of the audio or dynamic (moving) video. Larry Lowe established a linkup at his home for the second meeting. We found during that experiment that the new internet service at headquarters has solved many of our previous problems. The audio quality was excellent at both ends. The video received by Larry was excellent (both static and dynamic) as was the static video received at headquarters. Movement at Larry's end (dynamic video) appeared on the monitor at headquarters as jerky. This should pose no problem when broadcasting a class since high quality dynamic video feedback from the remote location is not important. The instructor needs only to see the class and to respond to

questions. The next step is to attempt a remote broadcast. We will partner with OSU and present a two-hour seminar on 3 May from 10am-noon. We need help from an interested member (i.e., please call). No experience necessary. The person will only need to make phone calls to arrange for people and equipment to be ready for the day of the class - although hands-on help would be greatly appreciated.



P/C David Michael passed all the requirements for Instructor Qualification (IQ). IQ is required of all individuals teaching squadron courses. David will be co-instructing with Bill Lehner in the Seamanship course that begins in May, 2008. David will take over as lead instructor in the following year.

Each of you, and especially Members-at-Large, are encouraged to drop in to the Squadron Boating Course held Monday evenings at the Grandview Heights High School. There is an especially large number of students this year including some with significant boating experience. We would like you to greet and engage students one-on-one. Class starts at 7:30pm and students begin to arrive at 7:00pm. This would be a good time to meet and talk with students.

CS&PS Spring Class 2008

Course	First Class	Length	Instructor	Cost
Seamanship	Mon May 5	9 wks	Bill Lehner, David Michael	\$30.00

Headquarters address: 8492 Cotter St., Lewis Center, OH 43035
For registration call Dave Clark 614-891-4120 or email clark.32@osu.edu

VSC Help Needed!

VESSEL SAFETY EXAMS will be performed at Alum Creek State Park (Hollenback Ramp) on Saturday, May 17th from 9am to noon and Sunday, May 18th from 10am-1pm. If you would like to help with the exams, please contact John Pruitt at 614-236-5074 or via e-mail at jmep Pruitt@prodigy.net There is a need for 3-4 people each day to answer questions about the Squadron, hand out information to boaters and assist the examiners.

Congrats to P/C Larry Lowe, SN, on the birth of his newest granddaughter Lydia Joy Pike, born 26 March. Mother Lori Pike and baby are doing just fine.



You will notice that this month's *Galley Gossip* includes the coveted USPS Distinction in Journalism award. A successful newsletter is the result of the work of many people. I want to thank everyone who submitted articles, forward looking and informative officer reports and pictures last year. It looks like we are well on our way for another successful year again this next year. If you have an idea for an article, pictures or an idea to improve the *Galley Gossip*, please give me a call at 614-202-1312. P/C David Michael, P



**Columbus Sail and Power Squadron
Minutes of the Executive Committee
25 March 2008**

(These minutes will be approved at the April Executive Committee meeting.)

Interim Cdr Larry Lowe, SN, called the meeting to order at 1930 at the Squadron's headquarters, 8492 Cotter Street, Lewis Center, OH.

Lt Debra Smith, AP, gave the invocation.

Lt/C Michael Hughes, JN, lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken by sight and the secretary confirmed a quorum was present.

The following Executive Committee members were present: Interim Cdr Larry Lowe, SN; Administrative Officer Lt/C Michael Hughes, JN; Asst Education Officer Lt Mike Cohee, P; Treasurer Lt/C John Mattis, S, Secretary Lt/C Steve Smith, JN, P/C David Michael, P, Lt Tracy Garrett, AP, Lt Wade Grosz, AP, Lt Doug Jackson, JN, Lt Ron Lavelly, JN, Lt Jeff Mirgon, S.

Also, present were Lt Debra Smith, AP.

With no objection, the order of business was varied to expedite the meeting.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Commander's Comments (a summary):

Our Squadron's theme this year is "Making Headway."

The Columbus Sail and Power Squadron believes that, with only three months into the new year, we are making great headway toward reaching our goals.

- We have formed a strategic planning committee to be co-chaired by P/C Larry Lowe, SN, and Lt/C and Executive Officer Bob Prior, S, to look at issues such as member recruitment and member involvement, expanded educational opportunities and other concerns.

- Our Vessel Safety Check program's goal is 100 vessel examinations this season.

- Our Youth Program will be busy this spring and summer with the National Poster Contest "Boat Safety – Keep Our Waters Clean." We are working with Special Olympics in Central Ohio to give kids rides on squadron member boats at Alum Creek State Park and Buckeye Lake.

- Under the leadership of our Public Relations Officer Tracey Garrett and others I think we have made significant progress in marketing and promotion.

- The National Water Safety Congress had awarded us an "Award of Merit." This award acknowledges our "outstanding contribution to the promotion of water safety issues and programs within Region 1 during 2007" involving the "Git-R-On" painting at the Delaware Dam. The award will be presented at the international Boating and Water Safety Summit in San Diego in mid-April.

- Membership involvement

- Increase enrollment in our squadron member classes.

- Following National's wish that every squadron add 10 percent of its membership as new members, we are strongly pursuing this goal.

- Executive Committee action in 2007 made it easier to recruit and retain new members. An affirmative vote eliminated the longstanding requirement that prospective members had to sit and pass the safe boating course in order to join. This policy change opens up a great membership recruiting opportunity for us and the Membership Committee wants to take advantage of it.

I want to thank all those who have made phone calls and sent cards and letters and flowers related to my recent surgery. I really appreciated the support and all the thoughts and prayers. They all helped in a big way.

The D-29 Spring Conference is this weekend at Maumee Bay State Park, hosted by the Marion Squadron. I am able to attend – my first big trip since surgery. I thank those of you who are able to attend.

Headquarters had informed the Columbus Sail and Power Squadron that nine of our members have earned "senior" membership status by earning their fifth merit mark this past year. Those individuals are Larry Harris, Douglas Jackson, JN, Matthew Murphy, Steven Smith, JN, Debra Smith, AP, Ronald Stewart, AP, Guy Williams, P, Larry Whiting, P, and



Linda Whiting, S.

I have committed the Squadron to a booth at next February's Columbus, Sports, and Recreational Show, based on the favorable reviews that were given at last month's EXCOMM meeting. The cost will be \$150.

Report of Officers:

Executive Officer Lt/C Bob Prior, S:

On 15 March, P/C Skip Woodruff conducted the "Instructor Development" training at HQ. Good material and well presented. The goal of the seminar was

to help prepare squadron members to become not only qualified but quality instructors as well. I encourage all members who would like to "pay ahead" to new boaters, to please consider becoming an instructor. Dave Clark and his team can always use more.

Two friends of mine are taking the Safe Boating Class. Both give the course rave reviews. My congratulations to all involved.

At the USPS National Meeting, a constant theme was expressed throughout the entire convention and that, of course, was that we as an organization must do more to promote the use of life preservers. Note that I used the term "life preserver." After all these years the USCG is abandoning the use of "PFD." They are dropping it entirely. Their research has concluded that in spite of their best efforts, the term simply never caught on with the boating public. Rather than continue to push water up hill, they will revert to the I.D. that all of us grew up with.

Through the years, I have rarely used a life preserver (jacket). Like most of us, I found them to be bulky, hot and uncomfortable. While boating in the British Virgin Islands, I tried my new self-inflating jacket and after a day or two, I never even knew I had it on. This summer, as a group, we should encourage our boating friends as Lake Erie who resists wearing their traditional life jackets to consider the self inflating jackets. The Coast Guard feels so strongly about this that they are going to furnish USPS squadrons with 5 self inflating life jackets for our Vessel Safety Check Examiners to wear while doing their inspections. In other words, the USCS is going to help us lead by example.

John Pruitt will once again head up our Vessel Safety Checks. Anyone wishing to become a VSC examiner is encouraged to contact John at jmepriitt@prodigy.net. Our goal is to conduct at least 100 checks. Think of it this way, if every member of the CSPS has their boat inspected, we will easily surpass our goal.

We are moving forward with the development of a comprehensive strategic plan for your squadron. If you are interested in participating, I would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact me at rlprior@prodigy.net or 614 457-6772.

In closing, consider this: in 2007, Ohio suffered 12 boating fatalities; 11 were not wearing life jackets.

**Administrative Officer Lt/C Michael Hughes, JN:
Dinner Meetings:**

The March 6th dinner meeting held at Barley's Smokehouse was very educational. Due to personal reasons, Surveyor Dan Libby was unable to be the guest speaker. We quickly reorganized and our program involved proper technique for tying of knots for boat lines. Special thanks to P/C Larry Lowe for assisting with the instruction. Everyone had a great time getting all tied up.

Our May 1st meeting will be at Headquarters and catered by Hoggy's. This program will prove to be very HOT! \$20 per person covers dinner and program expenses. Join us for some lifesaving tips from the Orange Township Fire Department. 50-50 Raffle will be available.

The June dinner will be a family cookout hosted by the Sea Gals on the 12th at the Guild Athletic Club. See the Sea Gals report for more information.

This year, our Dec 6th Christmas party will be co-hosted with the Sea Gals at the Reception Room at Raymond Memorial Golf Course on



Trabue Road. We will have a buffet luncheon this year beginning with check in at 11:30am. We are asking every family to bring a wrapped gift in the theme of boating valued no more than \$25. So watch this summer for those bargains at all the great shopping spots on the water.

AO Committee:

I am holding a planning meeting on Wednesday, March 26 at 6:30pm at HQ to discuss membership recruitment, involvement and retention. This committee is comprised of Joyce & John Mattis, Ruth & Glenn Kubinski, Barbara & Ron Hupman, Phil Osborne and Don Delewese. We will be working on ways to attain new members from the 73 current students in the Public Boating Class.

Membership:

I received a list from Ron Stewart of new and reinstated members from 2007-08. There are 7 new members and 5 reinstated members. This information has been forwarded to the Roster Chairperson and the Membership Committee.

Last month Theresa Nadolson was nominated and approved for the position of Roster Chairperson. She is working diligently to present us with an updated roster. As soon as this is in my hands, my calling committee can begin contacting people to verify information and invite them to dinners, outings and upcoming events.

The Public Boating Course will end on April 21st with the test that night. I strongly encourage all members to attend this class. The Sea Gals are planning on cookies and drinks for students. We need people to help grade tests, interact with the students and show support for our organization. In addition, I personally invite all women to this class to show students that women are involved and hold positions of responsibility within our group.

I would like to thank Gerard & Kathy Papp for reinstating their memberships recently. We hope to see more of them at future events.

Cruises & Rendezvous:

See the CSPS Webpage for a complete list of trips scheduled this summer.

Member Benefits:

- Sherwin Williams Neighbor-to-Neighbor program saves anyone who mentions the Columbus Sail & Power Squadron a 20% savings on most purchases.
- The Kroger program benefits the squadron when you use your CSPS gift card. This card can be recharged on a regular basis by cash, check or credit card.
- Dell gives squadron members a discount. Visit www.dell.com/ghc. Use member ID CS25031302 to enter the discount store. See USPS website for more details.

HOUSEKEEPING

Please remember to remove all trash after a class, meetings, or get together in our building. We cannot afford to have uninvited guests (mice) because of poor housekeeping.

Educational Officer Lt/C David Clark, AP:

Jeff Mirgon's Squadron Boating Course is going well. More than 60 students have enrolled. It looks like all the work Tracy Garrett put into promoting the course is paying off. A number of the students have expressed interest in taking the squadron advanced grade and elective courses. We would very much appreciate the help of any of you, including Members-at-Large, to engage one-on-one with students on Monday evenings to sell them the advantages of USPS membership.

A number of Alum Creek Sailing Association members have taken us up on our offer to take the sail course taught by Ken Spilke and Doug Jackson. At the time the offer was discussed at a previous bridge meeting, we all concurred that it was a good idea and one that would be supported by National. We have learned since then that the concept of "Partnering" promoted by National is alive and well, but is does not apply to Squadron Courses. All advanced grades and elective courses may be taken only by active members of the USPS. We have elected to honor our offer to Alum Creek Sailing Association members and they will be allowed to continue to attend classes. I think our good will will pay off. Several of the guests in the class have indicated an interest in joining the squadron.

Secretary Lt/C Steve Smith, JN:

Minutes of last month's Executive Committee Meeting were approved. A motion was made by Lt/C Hughes, Seconded by Lt Grosz to move the date of the June meeting to 12 June. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Lt/C John Mattis, S:

Copies of the Treasurer's report for last month were distributed.

Members-at-Large Reports:

Lt Ron Lavelly, JN:

The Kanawah River trip is coming up. Get your reservations in for the hotel soon as this will be a big celebration weekend and the rooms will go fast. Ramonda DeCapio is heading up the Bob-Lo Island rendezvous.

Lt Jeff Mirgon, S:

There are 72 people in the public boating class. We will have a wrap-up meeting Monday, 28 April at Michael & Tracy's house at 1900. This will go over the public boating class and review all that happened.

We will have a meeting on 27 March at HQ at 1930 to develop a survey for the public boating class. This will hopefully provide good insight into what worked and what we can improve on next time.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL COMMITTEES:

Squadron Remote Education: P/C Larry Lowe, SN and Joe Hetzel, AP, have a tentative class scheduled with O.S.U. on 23 May.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Sea Gals: Lt Debbie Smith, AP:

- 17 April – Italian night at Mirgons' house, bring your own wine.
- 20 May – Sea Gals annual meeting and change-of-watch at the Clintonville Women's Club.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

MARKETING: Lt Tracy Garrett, S

11th Annual USPS National Youth Poster Contest – information has been sent to over 60 art teachers in Central Ohio, Boy & Girl Scout leaders, Columbus Dispatch and Youth Services at libraries in Central Ohio. Since this is the week most schools re on break, I have not had any responses. Posters must be in our possession by June 10th. We will vote in July for the Squadron level, District level votes in August and National is September. We will try to add the information to our web page if space allows.

Delaware Dam Painting – In conjunction with the US Corp of Engineers, we will again paint the orange PFD with the message GIT-R-ON on the earthen dam. We try to do the first painting during safe boating week and a second painting about 6 weeks later (end of June). Anyone interested in helping with the preparations or with public relations, please contact P/C Larry Lowe or Lt Tracy Garrett.

Sick Bay:

Commander Larry Whiting, P.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on 22 April 2008 at 8492 Cotter St., Lewis Center, OH 43035. The meeting adjourned at 2145.

Acceptance Speech, 2008 Spring Conference

D/C Al Hess, AP



As your new Commander, it is my responsibility to meet *head on* the challenges that we face in the coming year. This is what I would like to briefly focus on here tonight. At the top of our list of course is the recruitment of new members. For the past

several years, as you know, our membership has been declining. We, as a District, are currently under 1100 members. National has given us a goal for a 10% increase in membership. That means with 8 squadrons we have a tremendous challenge ahead of us, but you know what, we can do it. With each squadron doing their greatest potential, WE CAN DO IT. With creative ideas to attract new members, we should be able to achieve our goals.

I can hear the rumbling already. "We have tried everything in the book", and it just seems we keep batting heads against the wall. Well, let me tell you, there are ideas out there that we haven't scratched the surface yet. Let me just share with you one idea that Columbus is doing. They have contacted marine dealers around Columbus and are holding seminars and classes in these facilities. Vessel Safety Checkers, get your name out there. The more you do, the more people you meet, the more potential members. Place a flyers in the marinas or on the boats. Let them know when you'll be back or make an appointment to do an inspection. Set a goal and achieve it. Hold more classes. Teach 1 extra

class. Again, get some flyers out. Check the results. You never know when you might sign up a Squadron Commander.

Now I have said that to say this. Member involvement is member retention. Organize a telephone committee and start calling your members on the telephone. Personal contact is a great tool and it works better than anything. The more people you get involved, the less work you have to do.

Well I want to keep this short, so I am going to leave you with this. To help motivate you with membership and member involvement, we are going to have a contest. This contest will be based on a whole year's attendance starting with the next Summer Council Meeting, and ending with the Spring Conference in '09. The District will be offering a prize, such as a lap top computer, projector, or the winner will have a choice of an educational award valued at \$750.00. Details will be sent to all Squadron Commanders soon after the conference is over, so you can get prepared to be the winner. I will clue you in a little bit, to give you something to talk about. As I said, it will be based on a whole year's attendance for both the Winter and Summer Council Meetings, and Fall '08 and Spring 09 Conferences. There will be points given for attendance. It won't be easy but attainable.

I cannot do the job alone. But together, we can make a difference.

Together, — we can do great things!



A first for District 29, the prestigious Chapman Award is given to P/C James Sommers, SN (Toledo).



District 29 Bridge for 2007-2008

P/D/C Samuel Woodruff Jr, AP (seated), R-L D/Lt/C Pablo Prieto, SN, D/Lt/C William Hall, AP, D/C Albert Hess, AP, D/Lt/C Hal Joe Shafer, JN, D/Lt/C Philip Osborne, AP



CSE&PS was well-represented at the Fifties Party!



Bonnie & P/C David Michael,

Spring Conference Memories 28-30 March Maumee Bay Resort



From left: Don Sudek (Toledo), Bob Rayburn (Columbus), Janet Runner and Kathy Runner (Sandusky), and Georgia Rayburn (Columbus).



These "First Timers" enjoyed their first District Conference!



D/C Al Hess and P/C Sharon Manter (Ft Wayne).



District newsletter editors and helpers received Distinction in Journalism Awards.



D/29 Safety Officer Ruth Wilcox is presented with the Safety Award by the Chief's Rep National Executive Officer V/C Dvorak.



The "Sister Act" kept everyone in stitches!



Tracy Garrett and Dorie Backus (Toledo).

Summer Cruises & Rendezvous

Since there is only one more *Galley Gossip* coming out before the summer boating season, make sure your name and email address is listed for any and all events you want to attend. Contact Ron Lavelly at rlavelly@columbus.rr.com.

Depending on the distribution schedule for this month's *Galley Gossip*, you may have a few days to still get in your reservations for the "Spring Ice Breaker". It is being held on May 3, at the Nor'Easter Club on Harbor Island. The address is 2801 Nor'Easter Cove Drive, Port Clinton Ohio. Festivities start at 1800 hours with a cash bar and dinner at 1900 hrs. Prior to April 26, its \$25.00 per adult and \$12.50 for children under 12. \$1 additional after April 26. Contact Sherry or Dave Ehrbar as soon as possible. dre1353@yahoo.com.

Our first cruise of 2008 is fast approaching. On June 20-22 the **Kanawha River Trailer Boat Cruise** will be held. We will be departing from Gallipolis and then traveling up the Kanawha River to Charleston WV. If you do not have your hotel reservations in yet, hurry. This is a busy week for our destination Port of Charleston WV. Charleston will be celebrating their week long "River Front Festival" while we are there. To make reservations contact "Holiday Inn Charleston House, 304-344-4092. Rooms are \$89 per night if you mention the US Power Squadron when making reservations. The Charleston Sail & Power Squadron is welcoming us with open arms and hosting a cookout for us. For more information on this event, contact Mike Hughes mtbuckets@aol.com and Jeff Mirgon will be hosting this event.

Our next event is coming fast also. **BobLo Island 4th of July Cruise** is July 3-6. Decorate your boat in its finest Red, White and Blue. Boats will be judged and prizes will be awarded. Let's show this Canadian Island how proud we are of our country. This cruise will include a trip to a local casino to see if anyone can break the bank there. Contact, Ramonda DeCario ramonda20@sbcglobal.net and the gang will be hosting this event as soon as possible.

July 12-20 will be the **North Channel Area Trailer Boat Cruise**. This will be a new cruise for the group. They will be trailering their boats to the North Channel Area of Ontario Canada. This exciting event will include stops in Tobermory, Little Current, and Perry Sound. This will be a trip to be remembered for a life time. Contact Ron Lavelly to get your name on the list for this great trip. Phil Osborne and Ron Lavelly rlavelly@columbus.rr.com will be co-hosting this event.

We have the **Sea Gals Gem Beach Cruise** coming up on August 8-10. Contact any Sea Gals for more information on this event.

Then August 23, we have the "Lake Erie Lunch Hook" hosted by Larry Lowe. Contact Larry at lhowe7298@wowway.com for more information.

September will bring our traditional **Lemington Labor Day Cruise**. Contact Romanda DeCario for more information on this event. September also brings our trip to Put-in-Bay on Sept 19-21. We will be docking at the Crews Nest this year. Contact Ron Lavelly for more information on this event.

Check the website out for additional information on these cruises.

If you would like to attend one of these events and do not have boat appropriate for the voyage we will solve that problem. We will attempt to match anyone who wants to go with members that could use an additional couple extra crew members. Or if you have a tow vehicle we can match you with someone that needs their boat transported. This is our new "Ride Alone" program

Ron Lavelly home 614-879-7388, cell 614-595-1762, rlavelly@columbus.rr.com

Kanawha River Trailer Boating Trip 20-22 June

Launch from the Twin Rivers Marine Dealership in Gallipolis, OH on Friday morning. Head up the Kanawha River for 63 miles going through 2 locks. Shuttle service to and from the marina is provided by the Charleston House hotel.

Charleston will be hosting their week long 'Festival' when we arrive. On Friday, WV Day Live on the Levee explodes with music and food. Saturday sees the 10th Annual Smoke on the Water Chili Cook-off. Join in on Saturday for a trip continuing up the Kanawha River to the headwaters at Alloy, WV. Come see why this state is called "Almost Heaven".

We will be having a cookout with the Kanawha River Power Squadron on Saturday evening on the water. Joining us will be the Kanawha River Navy consisting of 200 members.

Hotel reservations must be made by May 15th in order to receive the \$89 room rate. Contact the Holiday Inn Charleston House at 304-344-4092. Mention the US Power Squadron to obtain the \$89 rate. If you need a boat to ride on, a crew for your boat, or more information about this trip contact Ron Lavelly at rlavelly@columbus.rr.com or by phone at 614-879-7388. He is coordinating the "Ride Along" program for all trips.

Please drop an e-mail to mtbuckets@aol.com so we know how many are coming.

WANTED - Boating items you no longer want or need

The Sea Gals are hosting the June 12th dinner meeting and the Power Squadron will conduct an auction of your unwanted or unneeded boating items. This could be things from your boat (child life vests, fenders, equipment) or nautical items for the home (coasters, flags, pictures). No broken or soiled items please. As you are prepping for the upcoming boating season, keep in mind the auction. Bring your donations to the June 12th dinner meeting. REMEMBER, one man's trash is another man's treasure.

Scenes from the Sea Gals' St. Patricks Day Party



Lunch Hook Rendezvous

Sat., 23 August

**Location Lake Erie Islands
Bad Weather Location:
Herl's Harbor**

Saturday Lunch Hook Rendezvous (Previously known as the Lake Erie Anchor Out)

Is your anchor getting rusty in the anchor locker?
Do you know where your anchor is?

Why not drop it in the lake and wash the spiders off of it?

Instead of doing lunch at the dock, why not do lunch on the hook?

You are invited to the Saturday Lunch Hook Rendezvous at School House Bay, or North Bay, Kelley's Island (wind direction will determine location).

On 23 August for a day of dining enjoyment and social pleasure. Formal attire not required, or permitted, but an RSVP would be appreciated.

Bring your favorite dish to share along with your dingy, or small boat of choice, or maybe you just want to come in your dingy.

We will start dropping our lunch hooks at 1000 and the fun will begin immediately after. Lunch will begin at anytime.

Larry Lowe 614-885-3601
llowe7298@wowway.com

By the time you read this, our 2nd annual Italian night will have passed. We are getting a good response to it and I can assure you that we will have had a wonderful time. Thank you Jeff and Mary for a special evening. Mary, the food was out of this world !!!!

MAY 20 is the date to mark on your calendars for the ANNUAL MEETING. This year will be at CLINTONVILLE WOMENS CLUB. There will be flyers and a personal phone call so be ready. We need YOU there. There is much to do and we really need YOUR input.

Our deepest thanks to Michael and Tracy and to Dave and Sherry for hosting the Valentine and St. Patricks parties. Valentines was a very small party, due to Mother Nature and her ice show, but those couples had a good time. St. Patty's was enjoyed by many of you and as usual, the Ehrbars were great hosts. Again many thanks for opening your homes and letting us enjoy the fun and fellowship.

June 12 will be a picnic with the squadron and the SEA GALS WILL BE DOING THE COOKING !!!!! We will be getting ahold of everyone as the time gets nearer, but mark it on your calendars NOW.

Our new rosters are ready and will be passed out in April and May. Mary did a wonderful job on them and I know it was a chore. Thanks Mary for all the work.

So mark those calendars and plan on joining us for many fun times with friends. Remember, It is YOUR organization, and without YOU, it isn't as great.

See you soon,
Mary and Debbie



Galley Gossip Sponsors Club



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Moody Buoy

PRIORITY

She'll Love It

Excaliber

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Baroness

DAVE & WANDA WELLS

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THE NINETEENTH HOLE

SHELLY-B

LADY LINDA

Summer Star

Georgie Girl

House-A-Rest

ESCAPED

Terrie Lynn

SOJOURNER

Would you like to have your boat, business or pets listed on the *Galley Gossip* Sponsors Club page? Your \$20 contribution will receive a full year of sponsorship listing beginning January 2008. Please indicate below the exact manner (UPPER & lower case) in which your listing should appear.

Your Name: _____

Please PRINT your listing as it should appear. Indicate UPPER & lower Case (A a):

Send your \$20 **per listing** fee made payable to Columbus Sail and Power Squadron to: Tracy Garrett, 1263 Oakland Ave, Columbus, OH 43212. If you have any questions, please contact via e-mail at mtbuckets@aol.com or by phone at 614-488-4758.

If you wish to be listed in 2008, please complete and mail the request form with your payment. Submissions received before the first of each month will be in print the following month.

COLUMBUS SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

Lt/C Steve Smith, JN

535 Pointview Dr.

Westerville, OH 43081

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED