

# Galley Gossip

COLUMBUS  
SAIL AND POWER  
SQUADRON



A UNIT OF UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS

SEPTEMBER 2008

VOL. 46, NO. 5

DISTRICT 29

[www.usps.org/localusps/columbus/](http://www.usps.org/localusps/columbus/)



CS&PS Dinner and Meeting

## Rx For Your Engines Spaghetti Warehouse Thursday, 11 September, 2008

6:30 social time ~ 7pm dinner  
Cash Bar ~ Cost \$16 per person

### MENU:

Your choice of Incredible 15-Layer Lasagne, Four Cheese Manicotti, Fettuccini Alfredo, Spaghetti & Meatballs, Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad  
*All entrees include a crisp house salad, freshly baked sourdough bread and choice of coffee, tea or soda.*

### SPEAKER:

Surveyor Dan Libby will discuss Rx for your engines. Sample bottles available to have different liquids in your engine tested. A report will be sent to you with the findings. What to look for in a surveyor. Problems you may be experiencing on your boat and how to solve them.

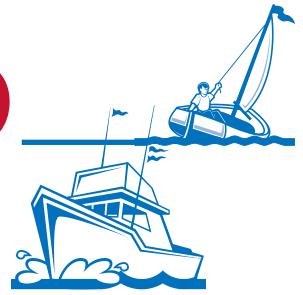
RSVP BEFORE SEPT 8TH to  
Michael Hughes at [mtbuckets@aol.com](mailto:mtbuckets@aol.com) or  
call 614-488-4758 with number in attendance.



# 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

### SEPTEMBER

- 3-7 Wed.-Sun. National Governing Board - Detroit, MI
- 8 Monday Piloting Class begins - HQ
- 10 Wednesday Cruise Planning Class begins - HQ
- 10 Wednesday Engine Maintenance Class begins - HQ
- 11 Thursday Dinner Meeting - Spaghetti Warehouse
- 19-21 Fri.-Sun. Put-in-Bay Rendezvous - Crew's Nest
- 23 Tuesday Executive Committee Meeting - HQ
- 26 Friday Merit Mark info due

### OCTOBER

- 6 Monday Navigation Class begins - HQ
- 9 Thursday Pig Roast co-hosted with Sea Gals - Guild Athletic Club
- 28 Tuesday Executive Committee Meeting - HQ
- 31-Nov.2 Fri.-Sun. D/29 Fall Conference - Lima

### NOVEMBER

- 6 Thursday Dinner Meeting - TBA
- 25 Tuesday Executive Committee Meeting - HQ

### DECEMBER

- 6 Saturday Christmas Luncheon - Raymond Memorial Golf Course

## 2008-2009 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COLUMBUS SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

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Member-at-Large	Lt Ron Lavelly, JN	614 879-7388
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

### Photography

Lt Jeff Mirgon, S

### Distribution

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Note: The Post Office does not forward or return to sender 3rd Class Mail. Therefore, we have no way to know if you are not receiving your CSPS mailings unless you tell us. Mail name or address changes to: Lt/C Steve Smith, 535 Pointview Dr., Westerville, OH 43081.

**"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.

### CSPS Web Site:

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



Articles, opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect USPS policy or endorsement unless so designated.

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Cdr Larry R. Whiting, P



In the August edition of the Toledo Sail and Power Squadron's "Breeze" newsletter, Toledo Commander Wayne Osborn stated, "There is no doubt that Toledo will once again be the outstanding VSC Squadron in the District!! Hear that Columbus?"

Toledo reported that it had in August over 175 vessel checks. It is likely that we will not top that, but as of this writing we have 116 checks, 16 more than our goal of 100. Thanks to VSC Chairman John Pruitt and his team of examiners, we achieved our goal for the year, and there is still a chance we can at least seriously threaten Toledo. I am sure we have passed Fostoria this year, which publicly shamed us a couple of times last winter for our low VSC numbers. I suggest we set a new goal for next year: flat out beat Toledo! I think we could do it by building on what has been accomplished this year. Thanks also to those Colum-



bus members who had their vessels checked by our team. If you haven't yet done so, there is still time to get your boat safety checked and help add to our numbers for the year. Could we hit 200 by the end of October?

I have had a great summer despite having to deal with chemotherapy and surgery. As I write this more surgery is being scheduled for this week.

I thank all of you for your well wishes and wonderful support over the past few months.

**Save the Date!**  
**D/29 Fall Conference is 31 October thru 2 November**  
**Lima, Ohio**

**Watch the GQ next month for registration form.**



## EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lt/C Robert L. Prior, S



Your Strategic Planning Committee has been formed and has two planning sessions under its belt. The committee's goal is to draw up a Strategic Business Plan that, when completed, will provide a three year operational guideline for the squadron.

The committee consists of the following squadron members:

Pam Carr  
David Ehrbar  
Larry Lowe  
Sue Nadolson  
Bob Prior  
Bob Rayburn  
Debbie Smith

Although the above are charged with generating the plan, input is being sought from all quarters of the squadron.



It was agreed at our first meeting that the plan will consist of the following sections:

History  
Squadron Philosophy  
Mission Statement  
Marketing Summary (two sections)  
1. Environmental Scan  
2. Competitive Analysis  
Objectives - strategy and tactics  
Human Resource Plan  
Critical Success Factors  
Contingency Plan

Economic Assumptions and Analysis (inclusion not certain at this point)

As this is being written, the first three sections are almost complete and research is nearly complete on the Marketing Summary.

When the plan is complete, it will be presented to the squadron in draft form for comment. Members are encouraged to contact me (457-6772) with questions or comments.



This summer I have had the opportunity to expand my relationship with fellow boaters on several rendezvous. These trips are meant to be fun. Those of you who have not attended a trip because of uncertainties of boat launching, retrieval or operations should reconsider this way of thinking.

Rendezvous are an excellent opportunity to go to new places, see new sites and make new memories with squadron members. We have shared stories and told many jokes, shared snacks and drinks, the camaraderie at dinner is great, cussed at engines having trouble, ducked under trees to avoid rain showers, enjoyed music and food with local people, saw some of our people dancing to live music, met and toured other boats, got a hook wet, snapped thousands of pictures, and picked up a few souvenirs. These are memories of a lifetime.

Helping fellow boaters is what we do – be it on the water or on land. Yes things do go awry sometimes, but this just adds to the memories and the funny stories. For



example, if you make too sharp of a turn on the land, you could damage a bumper and fender of another vehicle. But from that you get a good ribbing and possibly an entry for the bungle jug award. These trips are all in good fun, just adding to the memories.

If you have never attended a rendezvous, you are missing out. Please come join us for one of these fun filled trips with squadron members, meet some new friends, and get involved with people who are willing to lend a hand. We have a few trips left this year and another full schedule will be planned this fall for next year. If you have any specific trips you would like to take, please bring your ideas to the planning meeting.

## KROGER GIFT CARDS

Fellow Members:

At last, we are once again underway with a great fundraiser for your squadron.

I now have in my hands 40 Kroger gift cards hot off the press ready to send to you.

Since we all have to purchase food, we are in a position to *painlessly* generate badly needed money for the squadron! For every \$100 spent at Kroger, your squadron will receive \$5. What is easier than that? Remember you keep the same gift card and add money to it each time you go to Krogers.

Remember, your card is not only good for food purchases, but *prescriptions* and *gasoline* too!

If you'd like to have one, please drop me a line. Please enclose \$5 for each card you wish (encourage your friends and family to use one of our cards) to the following:

Bob Prior  
1525 Bridgeton Dr.  
Columbus, OH 43220-3907

Question? Call me a 614-582-1119. Here's wishing you safe boating!



Our Holiday party is a luncheon scheduled December 6th. We are asking everyone to bring a wrapped gift with a nautical theme valued at less than \$25 for the gift exchange. While you are on or around the waters this fall, keep an eye out for an item to give.





Michael Hughes and David Canale successfully completed the three segments that make up our Marine Electronics course. Penny Newman successfully completed Advanced Piloting. Don Delewese and Michael Cohee passed Junior Navigation. We wish hearty congratulations to all.

Ron Lavelly successfully completed Seamanship. National does not formally recognize successful course completion of the upper Advanced Grade courses until all of the previous courses in this series are completed. That is, a student like Ron who completes P, AP and JN is not formally recognized until he completes Seamanship. With the completion of Seamanship, Ron is now recognized for completion of all the courses up through Junior Navigation. We look forward to having Ron in the new version of Navigation that will be offered this fall.

In my July 29<sup>th</sup> phone conversation with National I was told that there have been delays in distributing materials for the beta version of Navigation. The final version of Navigation was to be available to us for use in class about October first. The delay in distribution of the beta version will translate to a delay in the October first distribution date of the final version. The people at National were unable to give me new distribution date. We may be forced to



**The Seamanship Class 2008**

David Michael (center, front row) taught Seamanship this summer for the first time. He is flanked by Matt Murphy and Theresa Nadolson. In the back row from the left are Tom Norman, Robert Stephens, Matt's son Eli Murphy, Kevin Miller and David Brewer.

change our plans and offer Navigation after the first of the year.

## CS&PS Fall Classes 2008

Courses	Classes begin:	Member Cost
Piloting	Sept. 8 for 10 weeks	\$50.00 * \$35.00
Cruise Planning	Sept. 10 for 15 weeks	\$40.00
Engine Maintenance	Sept. 10 for 16 weeks	\$50.00
Navigation (when available)	Oct. 6 for 15 weeks	~\$150.00

\* With & without Weekend Navigator

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



The Charting Session of the February Boating Class.



**Columbus Sail and Power Squadron  
Minutes of the Executive Committee  
27 May 2008**

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

Cdr Larry Whiting, P, 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 Bob Prior, S, 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: Cdr Larry Whiting, P;

Executive Officer Lt/C Bob Prior, P; Administrative Officer Lt/C Michael Hughes, JN; Education Officer Dave Clark, AP; Treasurer Lt/C John Mattis, S; Secretary Lt/C Steve Smith, JN; Lt Pam Carr-Jackson, P; Lt Tracy Garrett, S, Lt Wade Grosz, AP; Lt Ron Hupman, S; Lt Jim Igo, P; Lt Doug Jackson, JN; Lt Ron Lavelly, JN, P/C Larry Lowe, SN; Lt Jeff Mirgon, S; Lt Sue Nadolson, AP.

Also, present were D/L/C Phil Osborne, AP; Lt Debra Smith, AP; Jim Myers, SN; and Teresa Nadolson.

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

The minutes of the April meeting were approved.

**Commander's Comments (Prepared by Commander Larry Whiting):**

I was able to attend the Marion Squadron's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner meeting last Thursday evening along with a very respectable delegation from Columbus. Columbus was well represented and I think that was so noted and appreciated by Marion. Columbus was the sponsor of the Marion Squadron when it was formed in 1958.

In 2007 we had 90 members receive merit marks. I also received a communication from Headquarters that we have three members who are just one merit mark (25 are required) to receive the Life Member designation. They are James Meyers, Kenneth Spilke, and Donald Orrick.

I have received the award certificate (our 31st) for 100 percent participation in the USPS Educational Fund.

The *Galley Gossip* and its staff received a "Distinctive Performance" award in journalism from the USPS National Publications Committee.

By my count we have 12 new members and one new family member. We are more than a third of the way to meeting our new membership goal this year. Long story short, we need 18 more new members to reach our goal of 30. I am aware of one reinstatement in progress and one potential new member to whom I mailed an application form.

The D-29 Summer Council Meeting will be August 15-17 at the Toledo Yacht Club Pavilion. More information is to come. Note that this is a date change. More details are in the June *Galley Gossip*.

The 3 May GSP using the Remote Education System between Headquarters and the OSU campus was a success in that the equipment worked well. It was a little disappointing in that we had only two students, one member and one non-member. I would have liked to have seen some of our instructors there to observe the system.

I had my two boats safety inspected on 17 May by P/Cdr's Larry Lowe, SN and Phil Osborne, AP. With that inspection Phil was recertified as a Vessel Safety Examiner. I think we are off to a very good start with the program this year. I am sure executive Officer Bob Prior and others will have additional information to report tonight. Remember, our goal is 100. I want every member of the EXCOMM committee to get their vessels checked and set a good example for the organization.

I am also pleased that the Strategic Planning Committee membership has been completed and the committee has its first meeting scheduled for tomorrow night. Executive Officer Bob Prior will have more on this in his report.



**Report of Officers:**

**Executive Officer Lt/C Bob Prior, S:**

I represented the squadron at the 21 May ODNR – DWC public comment for update of the district's plan for Ohio Boating. Eighteen were in attendance. This was one of ten meetings. DWC is mandated to administer just about everything in Ohio related to boating. The plan goes back to 1978. They hope to have a new plan by the end of the year.

The division's primary strategic goals are: facilities and waterway access, boater education, law enforcement (60 – 95 officers) regulation, improve the quality of the boating experience in Ohio, and improve boat registration process.

The division is seeking input through the questionnaire.

The division of water craft sited its partnership with the Coast Guard Aux. for vessel safety checks. There was no mention of USPS.

In conjunction with safe boating week, in four state parks they will be loaning inflatable PFDs to boaters who sign a pledge card to wear PFDs.

Other comments from the meeting included: 10% of boaters take classes in person vs. online; there are strong negative response state wide to wave runners.

Safe Boating Week is off to a good start considering the cruddy weather. Our team of vessel safety examiners conducted 21 VSCs. We now have 31 total checks, maybe more. This puts us 1/3 of the way toward our goal. Tracy's publicity machine was, as always, helpful. John Pruitt, Larry Lowe, and Jim Meyers are shouldering most of the load. John encourages more squadron members to get certified.

Our strategic planning group will hold its first meeting tomorrow night.

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

The May dinner meeting was well attended with close to 60 people at Headquarters. A special thank you to Fire Inspector Mike Clark of the Orange Township Fire Department for assisting us with the fire demonstrations. Everyone had the opportunity to put out a small fire and let off a flare sticks.

The June 12th dinner will be a family cookout co-hosted with the Sea Gals at the Guild Athletic Club located at 1114 Ridge St. in the Grandview Heights area. We will hold the great 50/50 raffle. In addition, we will have a live auction of your unwanted or outgrown nautical items from your boat or home. This could be life vests, electronic equipment, flags, coasters, pictures, decorations, etc. Please bring them to the cookout. This is a BYOB party. Cost is \$12 per person.

Sep 11<sup>th</sup> dinner meeting will be held at Spaghetti Warehouse 397 W Broad St in Columbus. Cost is \$15 per person with your choice of 15-layer lasagna, four cheese manicotti, fettuccini alfredo, spaghetti with meatballs, or grilled chicken caesar salad. Each entrée includes endless house salad, fresh baked sourdough bread and choice of coffee, tea or soda. The speaker will be announced in the September *Galley Gossip*.

**AO Committee:**

Operations Training was presented on 5 May by Instructor P/C Don Delewese, AP and assisted by P/C Bob Van der Wissel, AP. The graduates are Patti Prior, Ruth & Glen Kubinski & Tom Norman. Congratulations to these 4 people.

An updated roster is nearing completion. Watch your email for a downloadable file.



## Membership:

At our last ECOM Meeting, all new members were assigned to a bridge member. The intention of this was for each bridge member to contact the new member on a regular basis to invite them to dinner meetings, squadron activities and general camaraderie. If you are having problems contacting your new member, please let me know tonight.

We receive new member certificates on a regular basis from National and would like to have new members recognized at the dinner meetings to present them with these certificates. This is something that has gotten away from us and I feel we should get this recognition started again.

## Cruises & Rendezvous:

Kanawha River Cruise – the 20 rooms we reserved at the Charleston House have turned into 24. We will have a cookout with the Kanawha River Power Squadron and the Kanawha River “Navy” on Saturday night at the Boat Club where our boats will be docked. Since they are providing all food for the evening, they have asked for a \$6 contribution per person. BYOB. Many are staying at the Super 8 Motel in Gallipolis on Thursday night. If you need any more information, please contact me at 614-562-8182.

Our webpage has a complete list of trips and contacts.

## Youth/Civic Activities:

Delaware Dam painting will be done sometime in June and again in July.

## Member Benefits:

Please use your Kroger card. This benefits you (by gas discounts) and CSPS by cash back proceeds.

The Sherwin Williams Neighbor-to-Neighbor program saves anyone who mentions the Columbus Sail & Power Squadron a 20% savings on most purchases.

## Education Officer Lt/C David Clark, AP:

Marine Electronics graduated two students, Michael Hughes and David Canale. Ron Lavelly successfully completed Weather. Seamanship class is up and running under the leadership of David Michael.

Our first attempt at remote education was a success. Larry Whiting arranged to partner with Ohio State and use the Power Squadron GSP seminar for the event. Larry Lowe presented the seminar in a classroom in Kottman Hall on the OSU campus. The remote location was here at headquarters. I was particularly impressed with the quality of the images on the monitors.

Tracy Garrett advertised the event with a poster and flyers at West Marine and all the central Ohio marine dealers. Through Steve Smith, we also invited all squadron members and instructors in particular, to attend. We were pleased to see Wade Grosz and one non-member attend. The weather was cold and rainy which should have kept people away from their boats. We had hoped that more members would take advantage of the opportunity to see the remote education system in operation.

## Secretary Lt/C Steve Smith, JN:

Minutes of last month's Executive Committee Meeting were approved.

## Treasurer Lt/C John Mattis, S:

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

## Past Commander Phil Osborne, AP:

The squadron has an opportunity to advertise in a door-to-door handout called “The Bag.” This publication will feature an ad for wearing PFDs with the slogan “Get R on.” We could have our organization listed as part of the ad for a fee. There was discussion followed by a MOTION **not** to participate in this add campaign. The motion passed. There was a second MOTION to spend \$1000 for advertisement this FY to be used by Tracy Garrett. There was additional discussion and this motion passed.

## Rules Committee Chair P/C Bob Van der Wissel, AP:

I am looking for ideas/suggestions for our by-laws and standing operating procedures.

## Member at large reports:

### Lt Pam Carr-Jackson, P:

I am working on completing my VSC exam.

### Lt Tracy Garrett, S:

The *Galley Gossip* articles are due by 25 July. The Grandview High School has been reserved for next year for the public boating course.

### Lt Ron Hupman, S:

New member packets have been provided to our new members and contact by phone has been made.

### Lt Doug Jackson, JN:

Because of the grant money we have received, I need a report from each person who helped with the class.

### Lt Ron Lavelly, JN:

Rendezvous planning is well under way. There will be a planning meeting at Ron Hupman's house at 1930 on next Wednesday for the north channel trip.

### Lt Jeff Mirgon, S:

We held a public boating class review meeting to discuss what went well and what needs to be improved for next year.

### Lt Sue Nadolson, AP:

The GPS seminar went well and the student learned a lot. Marion's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration was very nice..

## REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

### STANDING COMMITTEES:

#### Sea Gals: Lt Debbie Smith, AP:

The Sea Gals annual meeting was held last week. Joyce Mattis received the member-of-the-year award.

### SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

### MARKETING: Lt Tracy Garrett, S

The Columbus boat shows are scheduled next year for 10 – 18 January and 12 – 15 February. Our public boating course will start on 23 February so that it follows the second boat show by about a week.

I would like to see us use the Piketon OSU branch as a distance facility. I feel its location is excellent for facilities and we can draw a good population from the area.

### Web Master Teresa Nadolson:

Per a request made at the previous meeting I have checked into pricing for additional web storage space. A MOTION was made to authorize the expenditure of squadron funds to purchase additional web storage space. After discussion the motion passed. Along with this additional storage, we need a web domain name. A list of available names were discussed. A MOTION was made to select the domain name “ColumbusSailandPower.org” and the motion passed..

### New Business:

A report from Bob Wells of the Audit Committee was received by the Commander and it states as of 31 Jan 2008 the records and financial statements appear as in conformance to accepted principles. A MOTION was made to approve the report of the Audit Committee. This motion passed.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on 26 August 2008 at 8492 Cotter St., Lewis Center, OH 43035. The meeting adjourned at 2155.



# A Hot Time at the May Dinner Meeting 1 May • Squadron Headquarters



Commander Whiting enjoys a cook drink.



Jeff Miron shows how to stamp out fire as Fire Inspector Mike Clark supervises.



Everyone listens to Inspector Clark's presentation.



Lucy Grosz makes it look so easy.



Ron Lavelly shows how smoke flares are effective.



New members Kevin Miller & David Brewer.



Phil Osborne and Ralph Behner are ready for a meal catered by Hoggy's.



# **Did you see it?** **Thousands of other people did!** **See what?** **The PFD painting on the Delaware Dam!** **GIT-R-ON**

On July 1, CS & PS members Steve Newton, Michael Hughes, Larry & Mary Harris, and Larry Lowe painted a huge PFD measuring approximately 75 feet X 35 feet on the side of the Delaware Dam to remind motorists traveling Rt 23 on the way to their favorite lake to wear their lifejackets, and at the same time giving us an opportunity to get our name out to the public.

This worthwhile project was in partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers Bob Wattenshardt and John Wargo.

Everyone had such an enjoyable time releasing their hidden artistic talents that we repainted it again on July 15 so it could be seen for a longer period of time.

The GIT-R-ON paintings that you see on the launch ramps at Alum Creek

Lake and Delaware Lake are the after effects of our painting on the dam last year. You will be hearing more about GIT-R-ON in the future. Tracy Garrett really started something with this phrase.



## CRUISE REPORT - Ron Lavelly

As I write this we have just arrived back from the "North Channel Trailer Boat Cruise". The "North Channel Cruise" was a huge success due to members taking their fuel efficient small boats. We had 12 members and two guests attending using six boats. This was the perfect size group for this cruise. For anyone that has never been to the North Channel and the Georgian Bay area of Canada, the beauty cannot even be described.

We will be featuring an in-depth report on each of the summer cruise events in this winter's *Galley Gossip*. Each month we will feature a different event. This gives us time to really do each event justice and to also spice up our winter time remembrance of these special events. In this report I will just give you a few highlights of each event.

In May we had a very successful **Ice Breaker** put on by Dave and Sherry Ehrbar. They had a very good turnout of members attending this event that was held at the Nor'easter Club on Catawba Island. A good time was had by all. Many then attended an "after party" party at John Mattis's condo on Catawba, to continue on with the good times.

In late June we had the EXTREMELY successful "**Kanawha River Cruise**" put together by Mike Hughes &

Tracy Garrett. Eleven watercraft with a total of 32 people attended. There is just so much good to tell about this event it can't be contained in a simple "Cruise Report". Stay tuned to the winter edition of the *GQ* to get all the wonderful details of this event. A few hints of what's to come: A FREE pig roast, a live show "A Streetcar Named Despair", held on a streetcar, and a large festival going on in front of our hotel. The marina where we docked even asked Mike, "if \$10 a dock was too much to ask for overnight dockage." Many other fun-filled events so stay tuned for all the detail with some pictures.

The **Bob-Lo Island Cruise** was cancelled due to lack of participation. The high cost of fuel is affecting many peoples' decisions on how far and how much to travel with their boats.

I will be reporting on the **Sea Gals Cruise** and the **Lake Erie Lunch Hook** in next month's *GQ*. You should still have time to get in on the **Labor Day Leamington Cruise** and the **Put-In-Bay Cruise** by the time you receive this edition of the *GQ*. Contact me immediately reservations for these last two events.

Cruise Director Ron Lavelly

## SEA GALS AUXILIARY

Lt Debbie Smith, AP, Co-Commander

Hope this finds you having a fabulous and safe summer. By the time you read this our annual rendezvous will be in the books and I am sure all will have had a wonderful time. Thanks to Bonnie, Lea, Dave and his crew and all who helped make this a super event.

September 23 will find us having a tailgate party at the Mirgons. Mary already has a great meal planned so mark it on your calendars. October's meeting will be combined with the squadron for our pig roast. More information on these events will follow as time draws near, but keep the time and dates open so you will be sure and be there.

We are happy to report that Joe and Mary Hetzel, who have been out of the picture for awhile, are doing as well as

they can. Joe has had some heart problems, but when I last heard from him, things are looking up. We look forward to seeing them both again real soon. If you know of anyone who is ill or having problems, please call either myself (890-5864) or Laura Williams (486-1232) and let us know.

We look forward to seeing everyone as the fall sets in. If you are interested in the out to lunch group, give Vesta Williams a call (882-3368). Hope everyone can join us for at least 1 lunch during the year. We really have some interesting conversations.

See you soon.

Debbie





Dan Libby is a Marine Surveyor who owns Quarterdeck Enterprises in Lancaster, Ohio. His true passion is boating with over 25 years experience and is currently sailing on a 34' Jeanneau sloop located on Lake Erie. Dan is a member of SAMS (The Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors), ABYC (The American Boat and Yacht Council), IAMI (The International Association of Marine Investigators), The Columbus Sail and Power Squadron and Boat US. This column is for anyone who owns a boat or is considering one. Sometimes a fresh set of eyes and ears are all it takes to diagnose and solve a problem. He is here for you.

Members may pose questions via e-mail at dan@qudeck.com. All questions should have as much information as possible about the vessel and the concern. Please put "Surveyor Insights" in the subject line and include your contact information.

### **Dear Dan: How do I combat fungus growing in my bilge and mold growth on my boat?**

In today's world everyone is thinking green. Environmental impact is everywhere. The use of chemicals has become commonplace, to the point of abuse and boating is no exception. One area that is a concern is the bilge. Here are some ideas on how to keep your bilge clean and keep the impact to the environment to a minimum.

Air flow is paramount. Last thing, before closing up the boat after a long weekend, wedge open the bilge boards to allow air flow in the bilge. This act alone will keep mold growth to a minimum.

Baking soda can be used to neutralize odor and trap moisture. Keep it in the box, open the top, but do not place the box in the bilge. Instead, save a mesh bag that produce comes in from the supermarket. Mount a tea cup hook to the bottom of the bilge boards and hang the bag with the baking soda box inside from the hook. This keeps the baking soda and the wet cardboard box from clogging the bilge pump. Change it 3 times a year.

Baking Soda mixed with water combats mold if used as a scrubbing agent. When the time comes to change out the baking soda, mix in some water and make a paste. Use this to scrub down the bilge. Be careful not to allow it to cake up and clog the bilge pump. Make sure to rinse completely away.

Vinegar can be used to combat fungus. Years ago, I received a call from a young couple that had just purchased a used vessel and had entered the world of boating. While looking around the vessel for the first time, they noticed fungus growing on the carpet in the deep, dark corners of the boat. With a limited budget, ripping out the carpet and purchasing new was not an option. The repair was simple and very cost effective. I suggested they spray white vinegar, slightly diluted with water in a spray bottle, once a day for three days. The fungus was gone, never to be seen again. No harsh chemicals, no environmental impact and

minimal cost with amazing results.

Baking Soda: \$0.69  
Mesh Bag: \$0.00  
Vinegar: Had some in the galley  
Spray bottle: \$0.99  
Fresh smelling bilge and no mushrooms: Priceless

### **Dear Dan: What should I do with my batteries for the winter?**

The age old question, do you leave the battery in and take a chance or pull it out and strain your back. This is a question only you can answer, but here are some ideas for keeping your battery alive for the next boating season.

- Keep at room temperature and **never** store below freezing.
- Store in a dry location.
- Fully charge your battery before final storage.
- Consider a battery maintainer (trickle charge) this keeps the acid active and the battery warm. Remember to have proper ventilation if doing this indoors. Maintainers are available at boating and auto parts stores. **CAUTION!** If this is installed on a gasoline powered vessel, near a gas generator or fuel storage, this must be marine grade and non-sparking! Gasoline fumes can be ignited when this unit automatically turns on. Make sure it is ignition protected (non sparking)! Do not mount the charger above the battery as batteries give off a flammable gas while charging.
- Keep batteries clean. Not just the terminals but the entire battery.
- Do not set batteries on a cement floor. A block of wood works great.
- Test each cell with a hydrometer. Add distilled water or battery acid as needed.
- Keep liquid level full but do not over fill.
- Label Batteries with the year of purchase and keep your receipt. Label them A and B or  
1 and 2 to match your main DC switch.
- Always keep the terminals covered to keep fire potential to a minimum. The severity of DC (direct current) fires are commonly underestimated.
- Consider battery terminal sealer when you next install the batteries to keep the terminals dry and corrosion free. Terminal sealer can be purchased at an auto parts store. This is kind of messy so watch for overspray. Dielectric grease is another option.





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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

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