 **EVENTS AND SPEAKERS**  **A Guide for D2 Squadrons**

Think differently, embrace change, and offer unusual programs to all.

**Create** flyers with impact – punchy text and sharp graphics. Include the QR code to your website or event registration. Always brand with USPS logo. Print on colored card stock or paper.

**Distribute** your flyers WIDELY . . . maintain a mailing list that in additional to your members includes those from Coast Guard Auxiliary, yacht clubs, marinas, Marine police, harbormasters, lakeside communities, and wherever you know boaters go to. In addition, **email** flyers widely – and several times before an event.

**Events**:

**Venues** can be:

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* + - A member’s home
    - Local yacht club (invite their members to enlarge your attendance)
    - School or church (use their newsletter/bulletin board to advertise event)
    - Town library
    - Park or other public open space (may need advance permission)
    - Hotel (ask for a space without charge and a cash bar)
    - Marina
    - Locale of the organization giving the presentation
    - Your boats – a raft up – and include members without boats

**C:\Users\Susan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\AIFCKLVK\MC900442022[1].wmfCombine** with nearby squadrons to share organization and fun.

Have a **THEME**:

* Pizza night: theme could be Italian, with Italian flag on tables
* French hors d’oeuvres: red and white checked table cloths
* Soup night with members bringing favorite homemade soups (hand out recipes)
* Pirates: Good for boat events with children (have one boat be a pirate ship)
* Chili contest – hand out recipes - and HOT prizes
* Cookie exchange – good around the holidays
* Red, white and blue (remember the balloons)

**How to pay for events:**

C:\Users\Susan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VV1OFZGY\MC900440412[1].wmfThe same old pot luck meal OR

* + - Supply inexpensive snacks and have a cash bar
    - Supply snacks and ask members to bring a bottle
    - Order pizza and charge $5 each
    - Join with another squadron or yacht club and share expenses
    - Have a raffle with 4 or 5 items (ours bring in about $200)
    - Have a 50-50 – no labor involved and half the money is yours
    - If you have good reserves, give a free event once a year (brings most numbers!)
    - Negotiate, negotiate, negotiate with all vendors and use tax free status.

**Speakers:**

C:\Users\Susan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\Z3KA1MMW\MC900292594[2].wmf Keep an Ideas folder to keep newspaper clippings, your own notes etc. of topics of interest to

you. Think close to home; often a member has a specialty that s/he’s dying to talk about.

Below are speakers who have presented to USPS events over the last few years. If you are interested in contacting them, please let me know and I can probably put you in touch.

Something very different:

* \*‘**Sailing on Hard Water’**; Bob Scherr of Salt Pond NY will bring his ice sailing boat and explain the physics of how it can go 5 times the speed of the wind.
* **Marine Artist** Peter Arguimbau giving a Painting Demonstration at his studio in Greenwich CT.
* Jennifer Herring, head of **Norwalk Maritime Museum**, talking about Long Island Sound.
* Captain Chris German of **CT Community Boating** tells of his work to ensure ‘no child is left ashore.’ A great young speaker, a great cause.
* National **Audubon Society**; ask an expert to talk on shore birds; maybe at their place.
* **Shellfishing**; Roger Bowgen of Greenwich Shellfish Commission talks about local waters.
* **Authors**

- Karen Jewell wrote a book about the **History of the Greenwich Waterfront**.

- John Laurence Busch wrote on first crossing of the Atlantic Ocean by a steamship, entitled

"**STEAM COFFIN**: Captain Moses Rogers and The Steamship Savannah Break the Barrier.”

* “Ship Models as an Art Form”; Michael Wall owns **Marine Model Gallery** in Gloucester, MA, and brings exquisite models for you to examine.
* **\***“**Diving Down Under”**; Andy Cummings talks about cruising and diving the Great Barrier Reef.
* \*Ed Weber of Port Ewen, NY helped restore **Esopus Lighthouse** – fascinating story.
* Moran **Tugboats** will send someone to talk about their work.

**Boating Adventures:**

* \*The Mangelsdorfs give a great show on the **NY State Canal System.**
* Row for Hope; Chris Reeve **rowed from the US** to the Canary Islands.
* \*The Kuhners of Rowayton **lived aboard** for 4 years and talk about ‘Sailing Around the World’.
* Three young men talk about a **hazardous trip** on a 34 ft catamaran from VA to the Virgin Islands.
* \*First class sailor Sohier Marks talks well on ‘**Blue Water Racing to Bermuda’.**
* \*Marie Genteale and Chris Nitzsche have many **offshore cruises** to talk about in beautifully.
* Captain Brian O’Donnell, an ex marine police officer, discusses **wintering in the Bahamas.**
* Stamford’s Vivian Warner has an interesting tale ‘**Cruising the Baltic Sea’**.
* \*“They said we were Crazy” - The Gardners of Stamford built a 29” diesel sloop in their backyard and then sailed it on the **French canals**.
* Patrick Sikorski, 12m Yacht Development Foundn. loves to talk about the **America’s Cup boats**.
* \*Ed Briganti from Darien participated in the **Transatlantic Race** from the USA to the UK and discusses what to do before, during and after such a race.
* **Derecktor Shipyards** headquartered in Mamaroneck, NY, offers tours. They construct and maintain all types of boats, including state-of-the-art racing yachts.
* Adam Loory, General Manager of UK-Halsey Sailmakers in City Island, NY and Rocco Campanelli, avid racing sailor and mentor, enjoy speaking on “**Light Air Sailing** in Long Island Sound along with cruising and racing spinnaker”

**Instructional:**

* Ask a knowledgeable member to speak on ‘**Spring Commissioning’** or ‘Winterizing’.
* Ask West Marine or local dealer to speak on their **new products** for boats.
* \*Jeff Taylor of City Island, NY, explains: “**Navigating by Sextant** in the Electronics Age.”
* Ed Cesare, an avid ocean racer in Darien, discusses ‘**Weather for the Navigator’.**
* **Bennett Marine** has a video on heavy weather sailing that can provide interesting discussion.
* Most **sailmakers** are delighted to talk to sailors and may invite members to their loft.
* Jef d’Etivaud, a local sailor, showed us how he designed and built the **Mari Chai IV**.
* **“Safety – Coastal & Offshore**”; a hands-on demonstration of latest equipment from Dwight Norrgard, President of Sea Safety International. We inflated a life raft!
* Captain William McGovern, Full Branch Sandy Hook Pilot speaks on “**Avoiding Collisions with Big Ships**; No room for error in the Port of NY/NJ.
* Mark Chanski from CT Department of Environmental and Ecological Protection has a great video on his personal Cold **Water Survival**.
* \* Peter Corsi, an avid sailor and skier, spearheads the sailing program in New Rochelle for “STRIDE” a charity dedicated to providing sport and recreational opportunities for kids with disabilities and our recently wounded soldiers. He says: “**Sailing is for Everyone**”.
* \*Anne Peskin talks on “**History of Navigation**; How finding your way on the water was done in the old days.
* Ask your SEO to give a **seminar** at your general members’ meeting.

**A Standby – a Good Video:**

Favorites have been: Run Silent, Run Deep; Master and Commander; The Perfect Storm; Endurance; 1938 Hurricane; Titanic; The Bounty; Amistad.

Offer a no frills night; just beer, soda and popcorn.



\*Asterisked speakers are members of USPS.

*The above is a work in progress and we hope to hear about YOUR events and speakers to add to it. Please contact us for additional information.*

*Susan Ryan and John Steger*