



In This Issue

- At the Helm
- BSPS & USPS Calendars
- Like Us on Facebook
- Thank you from Susan
- Ask Mr. Melville
- The Whale Gourmet
- May 16th - Good to have seen you all!
- Ramblings of a Member
- From the Mouth of Moby Dick
- Merit Mark Recipients
- New FCC Rule for Use of Marine VHF Radios on Shore
- Educational Opportunities
- Upcoming Activities
- Is Your Boat Safe?
- In Sympathy
- 2017 Spring Rendezvous



At the Helm



Change Of Watch has come and a new year begins. Spring is a time of great expectations. Our boats are uncovered as well as our plans. By Memorial Day we will have reached fifteen hours of daylight (sun above the horizon). Add long morning and evening twilights and this is what we waited all winter for!

We have planned a Rendezvous in Provincetown, Mass., June 28-30, organized by Kevin and Cindy Dinan. It sounds like great fun. Come by land or come by sea, however you can, and enjoy one of the nations great capes.

Also this summer, Live on the Lake, an evening of food, fun and music as close as Onota Lake.

We have had a "Pizza Social" on May 16th that seemed to be a success by all accounts. This format, a Bridge Meeting and social gathering, is something we will continue more or less every other month. If there is squadron business you wish to talk about, please come prepared.

I have been handed the helm by our wonderfully competent Susan Darcy to whom we all owe a great thanks. I would like to say thank you for the honor to serve. Please do not hesitate to call for any reason. Respectfully,

David Trudeau

BERKSHIRE SAIL and POWER SQUADRON
 172 Mountain Drive
 PITTSFIELD, MA 01201-7420

Website: <http://www.berkshiresailandpowersquadron.org>

OFFICERS:

Commander	David L. Trudeau, JN	413-717-4012
	Email: omdavia@gmail.com	
Executive Officer	G. Richard Stidger, SN	
Education Officer	Leo O. Robillard, SN	
Administrative Officer	Kevin Dinan, AP	
Secretary	Peter Samsel, AP	413-441-5934
Treasurer	Frederick A. Mason, SN	413-499-1030
Asst. Education Officer	John C. Holden, SN	413-458-5143

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Thomas A. Dailey, JN
 George Reynolds, S
 P/C Susan L. Darcy, JN
 P/C Rick Gore, AP

Paul L. Bouchard, S
 Thomas A. Dailey, JN
 Kevin J. Dinan, AP
 Richard E. Gore, Jr., AP
 George Reynolds, S
 P/C Leo O. Robillard, SN
 G. Richard Stidger, SN

GENERAL COMMITTEES:

Auditing	Paula Dailey, P (Chair) Cindy Dinan AP (2 years)
Rules	P/C G. Richard Stidger, SN (Chair) P/C Leo O. Robillard, SN (2 years) P/C Susan L. Darcy, JN (3 years)
Nominating Committee:	P/C Leo Robillard, SN (Chair) P/C Kevin Dinan, AP (2 years) P/C Rick Gore, AP (3 years)

Berkshire Log

Editor Peter Samsel, AP 413-441-5934
 PO Box 2126, Pittsfield, MA 01202
 Email: peter.samsel@twc.com

The opinions expressed in The Log, by the Editorial Staff or Contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Berkshire Sail and Power Squadron or those of the United States Power Squadron.



BSPS Info Line
413-266-1130

Do you know that we have an informational telephone line? Call to learn details of upcoming events. Refer your boating buddies for information on upcoming on Public Boating classes and VSC inspections.

View, Download, and Print this issue and all back issues of the *Berkshire Log* in LIVING COLOR at:

http://www.usps.org/d2/d2_squadron_news.html



BSPS & USPS CALENDARS

June 28-30 - Spring Rendezvous in Provincetown, MA

Early summer - ABC Course

July 12 - Live on the Lake at Onota Boat Livery

August 8, 6 PM - Dock Party at Onota Boat Livery

September 12 -- Berkshire Leadership Team Meeting, Location TBD

October 10 - Social event

Date to be determined -- CPR/First Aid Course

Like Us on Facebook



Read informative articles about boating

See announcements for courses and social events

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Berkshire-Sail-and-Power-Squadron/528850690570303?ref=hl>

Berkshire Sail & Power Squadron

Forty Four Years of Service to Boaters
 1974 - 2017

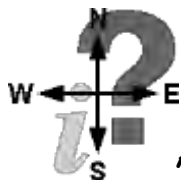
Please Remember...

All members are requested to notify our commander or editor of the death of any other member or a member's family as soon as possible. We want to express our condolences in a timely manner and we need the help of all our members to this end.

Thank You From Susan

This message from our much appreciated past commander Susan Darcy was read to our members at the May 16 Pizza Social Event:

Berkshire Members, Thank you so much for your support and great gifts - I truly am blessed to have such a super group of friends. You all don't know how much I appreciate all your efforts on my behalf. Thank YOU doesn't say it enough but sincerely thank you! Love to all! Susan



Ask Mr. Melville Got a question about BPS or USPS®? Not certain what to do? Send a note to Mr. Melville.

Dear Mr. Melville. Friends have asked when BPS is going to offer the basic boating course again.

Signed: **A Student's Friend**

Dear "Friend of a Student"

Yes, we are remiss about not offering a class yet. We are working on having a two-morning class at a local venue. One of the instructors will be meeting with representatives of a facility this week as this is being written. Why do we need to meet? Because of our commitment to offer this course to the public, we need to make sure it is accessible to everyone. More to follow. **Mr. M.**

Dear Mr. Melville. Will there be other courses offered this coming Fall?

Signed: **Need to Know More**

Dear "Need to Know More"

Our new Educational team is working on a schedule for the Fall which will be published in the next Berkshire Log. Watch for it! **Mr. M.**

The Whale Gourmet

(Recipes for Every Galley)

Another do ahead recipe that delights the palate and gives you options for either a meal, side dish or a salad.

Macaroni Surprise

Cook and cool the amount you want of elbow macaroni.
Can of mandarin oranges drained
Granny Smith apple cut in small pieces – dipped in fruit fresh so they won't turn brown
Golden raisins
Small pieces of pineapple (use canned chunks and cut up)
Celery stalk cut into small pieces
Poppy seed dressing

Mix well and then add blueberries – mixing carefully so as not to crush the blueberries
Pour into a plastic refrigerator bag.

To serve, pour desired amount of salad into serving bowl – arrange cut/pitted cherries around the top.
(Mixing the cherries will change the color of the salad).

Blue Cheese Biscuits (Needs an oven)

Can of refrigerated baking powder biscuits (10 to a can).
Heat oven to temperature on the biscuit can.
Cut each biscuit into quarters and arrange in a baking pan.
Melt a stick of butter in a saucepan and when melted, add 4 oz. of blue cheese and stir to melt.
When everything is combined, pour over biscuits and bake as directed until brown.
Separate biscuit quarters and put on serving plate – great hot and tasty cool.

Don't like Blue Cheese? Use a small can of deviled ham instead. After cooking the biscuits add grated parmesan cheese.

May 16th - Good to have seen you all!

Tom Dailey, Susan Darcy, Kevin and Cindy Dinan, Tom and Beverly Gilbert, John and Sally Holden, Fred and Mary Mason, Margaret and Anthony Richards, Leo and Maria Robillard, Peter and Bette Samsel, Richard and Carol Stidger, Don and Bruna Tinney, and David Trudeau enjoyed dinner together at Vivaldi's Pizzeria in Pittsfield on May 16th, compliments of Berkshire Sail and Power Squadron. We are planning another dinner (free to members and guest) on October 10th. Add your name and grow the list for the next event!

Ramblings of a member

It's funny for me to think back 6 weeks and realize I was one of those whirling dervishes. Let me explain, the week before the Spring Conference, I was the visiting suit (Chief's Rep) to District 29 in Ohio. The end of April, I was again the visitor but this time to District 19 in Maine and then I had to go to a meeting in Raleigh, NC.

It seemed I just couldn't catch my breath. It's not that I'm that popular but rather as the Nominating Committee Chair, there are some tag along responsibilities. Since I prefer not to fly, I drove to Ohio and Maine which gave me an opportunity to think about the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS). I reflected on why I joined – probably like a lot of Berkshire's members or members in general, to get the necessary education to use my boat safely.

The next obvious question is why did I, and do I, stay involved? The obvious answer is the friends I have made – almost like family. The next question that follows has to do with why do I stay so involved? This one isn't that easy. First, I do believe in the stated mission of the organization: *To promote recreational boating safety through education and civic activities while providing fellowship for our members.* I know it's a mouthful.

But everything just seems to revolve around the USPS triangle of Fraternity, Self-Education and Civic Service. Fraternity or friends jumps out as the first one. If I hadn't made the friends, I wouldn't have renewed my membership.

As for the education side, my first experience with education offerings was with the folks who joined USPS at the same time. We sort of became a group. We took the same courses, supported one another in the classes and went to the events together and really became friends.

The last side, again starts with the mission to promote boating safety to the community. Berkshire excels at serving the community. We've done the 4th of July Parade, hosted Family Days, done Vessel Safety Exams and of course provided boating safety education with seminars and classes.

Besides really believing in the organization and all the other reasons above, I want USPS to survive. Staying involved in an organization is important – and besides, it will give me the opportunity to meet more friends!
Susan Darcy, JN

From the Mouth of Moby Dick (The Squadron's Mascot)



Miscellaneous Snips - Quotes overheard at many meetings and events.

- Why is it that every time we host a District event, it snows?
- He has 50 Merit Marks? Wow!
- Where did SHE get that hat and those glasses?
- Did you see all the salads? And there is pizza coming too.
- It's nice to just sit and chat with everyone – glad we're doing this every other meeting.
- This is a fun game – who is the sea plane pilot?
- Look at the favors – individual breads with napkins and a knife – how thoughtful.
- Desserts and bags of chocolate – yummy!
- Glad I came – nice to be recognized.
- Did you see? More pizza – tummy is too full!

Get Involved – Just Jump In!



Merit Mark Recipients

Merit Mark earned for outstanding service last year:

Paula Dailey	John Holden
Thomas Dailey	Michael Jezak
Susan Darcy	Frederick Mason
Cynthia Dinan	George Reynolds
Kevin Dinan	Leo Robillard
Carl Filios	Peter Samsel
Richard Gore	G. Richard Stidger
Susan Gore	David Trudeau

New FCC Rule for Use of Marine VHF Radios on Shore

In August 2016 the FCC amended the rule that governs use of marine VHF radios on shore. This revised regulation was published in FCC Report 16-119 on September 1, 2016.

Prior to this rule change, the use of handheld marine VHF radios was limited to vessels on the water, or between the main vessel and a dinghy. For sailors ashore, it was illegal to use a VHF radio to call any other radio station.

This would mean that if you were to go ashore in a dinghy or a launch, you could not legally call your boat, your dinghy, or a launch to arrange a ride back to your boat. Presumably this restriction was designed to minimize the potential interference to maritime communications that could interrupt distress and safety messages.

The new rule now allows use of a marine VHF by persons on shore who are within 3 miles of the water to communicate with the vessel that is subject to the ship station authorization. In other words, you can now use your VHF to call your own vessel or dinghy from the shore within 3 miles of the water.

Although the language of this ruling does not specifically allow land communication to an independent launch to request a pickup ride to your vessel, it is my own opinion that such usage will not be prohibited.

As noted the limited onshore use will promote flexibility in the use of marine radio equipment in a manner that furthers maritime safety by encouraging more boaters to carry a VHF radio. Specifically, use of portable VHF radios will be permitted only in areas adjacent to the water, such as docks and beaches, and onshore communications using such radios must relate to the operational and business needs of the associated vessel, and must be limited to the minimum practicable transmission time.

Operators are cautioned that the FCC's Enforcement Bureau will continue to investigate complaints against operators who improperly use marine VHF radios, particularly any violation that concerns unauthorized transmissions on 156.800 MHz (VHF Channel 16). *Richard Stidger, SN*
Executive Officer

Educational Opportunities

Learn How to Safely Operate a Boat,

To Sail

To Pilot

To Navigate

To Cruise the Oceans of the World Over

It All Starts With the USPS, ABC of Boating

In addition to the ABC Course, USPS offers many additional courses. Call Leo Robillard at 413-499-1625 or John Holden at 413-458-5143 if interested in some of our courses.

Upcoming Activities

Don't miss our activities:

Spring Rendezvous - June 28-30 - an opportunity to visit one of the nation's great capes. See details on the next page.

ABC Course - early summer - 2 day event (Sat-Sun) call Leo Robillard at 413-499-1625 if you'd like to join the event or know anyone interested.

Live on the Lake - July 12 (band Whiskey City) - at Onota Boat Livery; concert is at 6 PM - bring beverages, appetizers, salads, and desserts to share. Arrive at 530 - car pool if possible; rain date: July 19.

Dock Party - Aug 8, 6 PM - at Onota Boat Livery - bring chairs, beverages, salads and desserts to share; BSPS provides burgers & hot dogs.

Social event - October 10 - location to be announced; free dinner is covered by BSPS; alcohol costs are the responsibility of each member.

IS YOUR BOAT SAFE



We perform FREE Vessel Safety Checks all season and even out of season. A VSC checks that you have all necessary Federal & State required safety gear on board. We also review IMPORTANT but not required gear, such as First Aid Kits and Radios. Experience has shown that vessels displaying a VSC sticker are less likely to be stopped for routine safety checks. While not the most important reason, it might save you time and needless anxiety over a routine stop. Please call John Holden, SN at 413-441-3769 to schedule your appointment.

In Sympathy

We are saddened to hear of the passing of Kevin Dinan's mother earlier this year. Our deepest sympathy goes to Kevin and his family.



**Berkshire Sail and Power Squadron
2017 SPRING RENDEZVOUS
Provincetown, MA
June 28 - 30, 2017**

We're expecting many of our members and are expecting a great event. Tena & Frank DeBaggis, Carol & Rich Stidger, Cindy & Kevin Dinan, Maria & Leo Robillard, Beverly & Tom Gilbert, Susan Darcy, and Dave Trudeau are all planning to attend. We're planning 2 restaurant dinners instead of a pot luck event. Restaurants have not been selected. Call Kevin Dinan if interested.



If you're interested in attending the Spring Rendezvous, please contact Cindy or Kevin Dinan for more information at 637-4595. You can also email Cindy at cfdinan@gmail.com or Kevin at kjdinan@aol.com.