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## At the Helm



I cannot believe we've ended the boating season and the leaves have changed and fallen. (Happy Raking!). Since the last Berkshire Log was published we've done tons of stuff.

Did you join us for our dinner train ride? If the answer is no, keep checking with us because we're thinking of doing a Spring train ride/river cruise with either lunch or dinner in CT.

I attended the National Meeting in Louisville, KY and one of the

special items is about DanBoat, a new member benefit. Free for your first year and \$25 for the second year. Check it out. It almost sounds too good to be true.

As for all the things we've got planned going forward, wow George and Karen have been busy and with Dave back from his summer abroad we've got lots lined up — November 19th we will do another pizza and salad night — so sign up soon. The After-Holiday Party is scheduled for Sunday January 11, 2020.

Read on and see all the things we've got coming up! Don't forget those articles from our new contributors.

*Enjoy our late Fall!, early Winter,*

*Susan Darcy*

### **Welcome Guest Contributors!**

***This issue we have an article by Tom and Bev Gilbert.***

***We've also got some helpful hints from one of our members.***

***Got something to share? Just send it to Peter or Susan - Pictures are always welcome!***

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*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 & USPS CALENDARS**

**January 11—After Holiday Party—Cork 'n Hearth  
 Route 20 Lee, MA — Reservations and Meal  
 Choices by December 30.**

**February—Possible Winter Blahs Auction**

**March—Movie and Pizza**

**April—Change of Watch**

Courses being offered for Spring (starting late January 2020)

Weather Seminar — 2 hours  
 New Boat Handling Course (New & Improved Seamanship) — 6 weeks  
 ABC (Basic Boating) — Late March?

What courses are you interested in? Let either Leo Robillard or Tom Dailey know what courses you would like.

**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>



**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

**Berkshire Sail & Power Squadron**

**Forty Six Years of Service to Boaters**

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**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](http://www.usps.org/d2/d2_squadron_news.html)

***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.

***It is with great sadness that we report the loss of our friend, John Holden.***

John Campbell Holden was one of those special people, willing to jump in and help. He was our Vessel Safety Examiner Chair and had served as the Educational Officer and then Assistant Educational Officer when he started wintering in Florida.

An engineer by trade he always had time to share his talents with all of us. His infectious smile and generosity will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Sally and their children and grandchildren. ,



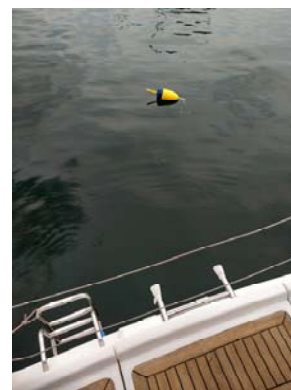
***Cruising in Maine by Tom and Bev Gilbert***

We thought we would submit an article for the Berkshire Log highlighting our 8-day cruise in Maine that we completed in early in August on our boat share Hanse 400. While we heard from Connecticut cruising friends that it was in high 90's on shore during our cruise, we experienced offshore breezes making sailing with Fleeces preferable, and sleeping weather that was very comfortable.

Prevailing winds had us Jibing downwind to get up Penobscot bay for our Camden destination. Our Dutchman Boom Brake and Preventer worked flawlessly. The following day we proceeded to beat upwind to exit Penobscot Bay on our way to Tenants Harbor. The self-tacking 90% jib not only made tacking effortless, but also made our regular avoidance of lobster pots a non-event.

We unintentionally arrived in Rockland just in time for their annual lobster fest. We were on our way down the dock when we got hijacked by marina members to attend their dock party - \$8 per person and all the soft-shell lobsters you can eat and, of course homemade fixings like our rendezvous. We met some really great people on the dock, who changed our intended float plan.

We were convinced at the party that we had to go to Camden. In Camden, we were surrounded by schooners of all sizes in the inner harbor, and it truly looked like a movie set (Peyton's place movie produced around 1957 was filmed here). We met a family the prior day that said they were rocking a lot in the outer harbor with southwest



swells, and another person told us to pick up a "harbor float" in the inner harbor (a mooring with a 30-foot dock attached). We did so and shared our dock with another transient with a boat named "bottle of red". Naturally we took a day off from lobster because our new friends invited us over for, well, a "bottle of red".

Tenants Harbor was a relatively quiet harbor (even for Maine), with mostly lobster fisherman. There was a post office and general store that we were told had no sign, "but you can't miss it", and of course a lobster

The new Boat Handling (replacing Seamanship) has the following sections:

- 0-Getting Started
- 1-Rules of the Road
- 2-Confidence in Docking and Undocking
- 3-Boating with Confidence
- 4-Anchoring with Assurance
- 5-Emergencies on Board
- 6-Knots and Line Handling
- Final Thoughts

**What do you want to learn? Please let us know. Leo, Tom or Susan**



***Coming Up are Some Fun Events along with the ones already listed.***

**After Holiday Party—January 11**

**Winter Blahs Auction - Early February**

**A Movie Night with Pizza - March**

***Keep in touch - Share your eMail!***

shack. We had nothing to mail, so all that was left was Luke's Lobster Shack - a local place that not only had great lobster, but one of the best and most interesting salads (Beverly's idea for a salad, not mine).

We chose Boothbay Harbor to ride out thunderstorms and fog - not a bad place to be stuck for 2 days. Apparently in Boothbay Harbor each mooring comes with its own lobster pot off the transom, or at least ours did (see photo on previous page)

We visited Monhegan island – the island with the tag line of “12 miles out”. We spent the day on several of their many spectacular hiking trails. The views from the hiking trails along the cliffs were amazing (see photo)

Our favorite Transom Showers occurred regularly after sundown during our cruise in the less populated coves.



This is our second consecutive summer cruising in Maine, and we left again wanting more. Still uncharted cruising grounds for us is eastern side of Penobscot Bay going east to Mt Desert/Bar Harbor. And we have yet to discover Portland to the eastern edge of Cape Cod Canal. If anyone happens to see us in that region next summer standing on the dock with our knapsacks and water bottles, you will know that we are ready, willing, and able crew looking to hop aboard. So we find ourselves once again in search of a boat – apparently similar to the recurring need of Captain Jack Sparrow.

Warm Regards,  
Tom and Beverly Gilbert



## *Moby's Helpful Hints*

### CLEANING PROCEDURE FOR THE GPS CHART PLOTTER SCREEN

Submitted by Leo and Maria Robillard

Cleaning of the chart plotter screen is a very important operation and must be done carefully. Since the surface is covered by an antireflective coating, the procedure for cleaning all the surfaces can be performed using the following procedure:

Use a clean, soft, lint-free cloth to clean the glass. We recommend using a micro-fiber cloth. Spray a small amount of ammonia-free cleaner (isopropyl alcohol) onto the cloth. Spraying on the cloth will prevent overspray.

Fold the cloth or lens cloth into a triangular shape, moisten the tip and use the index finger behind a corner to move the cloth across the surface in overlapping side to side strokes.

If the cloth is too wet, a noticeable wet film will be left in its path and you will have to repeat the process. If too dry, the cloth won't glide easily, and may damage the surface.

### *Kitchen Hints*

Make your salad ingredients at home and bring in separate Ziploc bags. When you need salad simply add the desired amounts into the salad bowls toss to mix. Use the empty bags for saving leftovers or to avoid garbage smells.

Need hot water and don't have a hot water heater? When you're boiling water for other things, boil extra and save it in a thermos for use during the day.



**BERKSHIRE SAIL & POWER SQUADRON**

**AFTER THE HOLIDAYS PARTY  
11 JANUARY 2020**

**4 PM Cocktails - 5 PM Dinner  
At**

**Cork 'n Hearth**

635 Laurel Street (Route 20), Lee, MA

**APPETIZER**

Mixed Green Salad

**ENTRÉES**

- Chicken Almondine
- Fresh Grilled Atlantic Salmon
- Roast Prime Rib of Beef au jus
- \* Vegetarian Entrée available on request
- Vegetables & Potato
- Fresh Baked Rolls

**DESSERT**

Chef's Choice

**BEVERAGES**

Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee and Tea

**Reservations a *MUST* with  
your MEAL CHOICE**

Free to Members & their Guests

**BY 3 JANUARY 2020**

to

**Susan Darcy**

7 Hutchinson Lane Lenox, MA 01240-2217

**413-637-2275**

or

email [sldarcy@roadrunner.com](mailto:sldarcy@roadrunner.com)

**Chinese Gift Exchange  
Bring a Gift – Get a Gift  
\$15 Gift Limit**

*Like last year, Santa will be on Vacation!*



## ***It is Lobster not Lobsta!***

We did it again! The Reynolds were so generous to allow us to use their beautiful property again. So on August 17, 24 of us came and enjoyed appetizers, clam chowda (chowder), chili, plus the main course. Steak and wonderful Lobster plus boiled potatoes, salads and lots of drawn butter.

We stuffed ourselves and had a great time laughing and telling not only fish tales but boat tales. Then it was time to clean up, pack up and leave.

All of a sudden, the wind picked up with lots of gusts, the rain came in a deluge. And voilà, the tent was down. We ran to shut car windows and gather up things that were blowing. Most of us ended up in the gazebo.

Almost as fast as it came up, it was gone and we continued cleanup

It sure was easy collecting the tent pegs. If you missed it, you missed another great feast — if we do it next year, (PLEASE let us George and Karen and Mrs. Reynolds) sign up early just so you won't miss it.



## ***A short report on our Dinner Train Spring Rendezvous in Rhode Island***

Not only was the food delicious, but the train ride was spectacular! We had a beautiful sunset and lots of things to see along the tracks! They actually hand changed the tracks. Sparkling waters of the Bay plus beautiful homes—tremendous! On Saturday we had a late lunch right on the waters of Greenwich Bay (RI). Terrific time.

Look for another train ride combo (with a boat ride) next summer on the Connecticut River in Essex, CT.

## ***Geodetics with Dave Trudeau***

A few years back, Dave and a few others went in search of those pesky geodetic markers which over the years have been lost. He wants to do it again and knows you'll have a fun experience. What it involves is walking around Berkshire County (including cities, towns and land areas). What you need are good walking shoes/boots and a GPS if you have one and a pen and paper. Contact Dave directly at: [omdavia@gmail.com](mailto:omdavia@gmail.com) and sign up.

## ***Berkshire Eats!***

Someone asked me what Berkshire Squadron does when we're not boating. It's an easy answer, we EAT! Even at our ExComm meetings you can come early and join the group for supper on yourself.

Then of course we had our Spaghetti Dinner as a sort of celebration of Fall. Even if you didn't like spaghetti, you could order from the menu. Did you miss out on that one?

And to celebrate Dave being back from his summer travels in Europe on a motorcycle (leave it to Dave), we had a pizza and salad night.

So if you missed all of those you've got another chance to enjoy dinner on the Squadron with our annual After the Holiday Bash at Cork 'n Hearth on January 11th. The meal choices some fantastic—Prime Rib, Chicken Almondine, and Grilled Atlantic Salmon.

So don't miss this one - sign up - find the flyer on the previous page and make your reservations. Our gift exchange is optional BUT if you bring a gift, you get a gift! There is a limit of \$15 and there are lots of items - last year a white throw was the most contested item. In a previous year it was a bird feeder! And once, one of our members didn't want to give up his gift so he opened it and started eating his CHOCOLATES!

## ***A New Member Benefit***

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

One of our new Member Benefits is a MOU with Dan Boater which was started as a aid for deep-sea divers - it provides our members with travel insurance when you travel 50 or more miles from home.

It is free for the first year and when we renew, we have the opportunity to re-up for only \$25 per year. I looked it over and it seems very worthwhile — especially for those who travel abroad, or any distance from home.

Check out the website: (<https://danboater.org/travel-insurance/>)

