



Vol. 48 No. 3

Berkshire Sail and Power Squadron

October 2022

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At the Helm



Fall has come and some of the boats are now on the hard and more will be hauled the rest of this month. Of course, any boats going south will wait until the end of hurricane season (1 November).

Now for the fun part. Remember the Pizza and Salad Party we had last June to start the summer off? Well we're going to do it again — on Thursday, 10 November at Zucco's (Yes, 6PM). There's a

flyer with all the details on another page. Course you do need to make reservations so we'll be sure to have enough pizza and the good salads!

We're also planning our "After the Holidays" Party tentatively on Sunday January 8th, 2023. What can I say except we are just party animals! Haven't nailed down where and what we're having yet but put the date on your calendar.

What did we do this Summer? We had weekly Onota sails for the Concert series on Wednesday nights. Really fun and the music was awesome. We had a Hudson River Rendezvous with 6 boats attending and the culmination was our Lobstah and Steak Fest! Probably one of the hottest days of the Summer but the attendance and food - if you haven't had Peter's Clam Chowdah, you missed one of the best if not the bestest bowl of Chowdah.

Plan to attend the Pizza and Salad Party on the 10 of November and tell us all about YOUR Summer adventures.. Hope to see **YOU ALL** there!

Stay Safe and Well!

Susan Darcy

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David L. Trudeau, JN	

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	Margaret Mary Richards, P (2 years)
Rules	Susan L. Darcy, JN (Chair)
	P/C G. Richard Stidger, SN (3 years)
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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

November 5 - D2 Summer Council and Fall Conference - Hyatt House, Fishkill, NY.
Let Susan Darcy know if you want details.
November 10 - Pizza & Salad at Zucco's 6PM - Details on page .
January 8, 2023 - Tentative "After the Holiday Party" (More Details to Come)
February 19-26, 2023 - USPS Annual Meeting at the Rosen Plaza - Orlando, FL
March/April 2023 - D2 Winter Council - Spring Conference (dates to be determined)
Aug. 27-Sept. 4, 2023 - National Governing Board - Kansas City, MO

Possible Courses being offered soon!

Weather Seminar — 2 hours

New Boat Handling Course (New & Improved Seamanship) — 6 weeks

ABC (Basic Boating) — two Saturday mornings.

What courses are *YOU* interested in? Let either Tom Dailey or Susan Darcy know what you would like to take.

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 Eight Years of Service to Boaters
1974 - 2022



Need information?

Call Susan - 413-637-2275
 or Tom - 413-344-6895
 or Tom or Bev - 413-637-8922
 or Peter - 413-441-5934
 or Fred - 413-499-1030
 or Rich - 413-443-2858

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

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.

HELP! HELP! WE NEED YOU!

Please, please, Volunteer!

We need to verify and maybe update our Squadron By-Laws to make sure they are in agreement with the model Squadron By-Laws.

It will all be done remotely and at your own pace. We still have two openings for members to help for this pure electronic job? **Contact Susan (Rules Committee), 413-637-2275.**

"There are certain queer times and occasions in this strange mixed affair we call life when a man takes this whole universe for a vast practical joke, though the wit thereof he but dimly discerns, and more than suspects that the joke is at nobody's expense but his own."

Herman Melville, from "Moby Dick"

MAYBE WE CAN OFFER SEAMANSHIP ELECTRONICALLY

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. Tom or Susan

Let us know if you need a name tag with our own "Moby" on it (No Charge for them). Send an eMail with names needed to Cdr Susan at sldarcy@roadrunner.com with names needed.



Pizza and Salad Party

Date: Thursday, 10 Nov. 2022
Time: 6 PM to ????
Where: Zucco's Restaurant
What to Bring? \$5 per person for pizza and salad

Reservations a *MUST* to Cdr Susan at:
413-637-2275 or sldarcy@roadrunner.com
Search for more details on other pages!

Did **YOU** Know About This Connection?

There was a very interesting article in the Berkshire Eagle this Summer about a relative of our own George Reynolds. It was actually from the Eagle Archives, from Aug. 27, 1964. The article was entitled: "Heirlooms from retired Cheshire captain recall whaling life of Moby Dick period" By Richard V. Happel.

I'm not certain if the "history" of the heirlooms was current or from 1964 but it stated that Captain Reynolds, a real, whaleship captain lived in Cheshire on a large farm. The article referred to Captain Reynold great-granddaughter of Pittsfield who retained not only his log book but also his journals and many artifacts.

So here's our Squadron's connection to not only our mascot "Moby Dick" but also to real whaling thru Captain Reynolds - it is our own George Reynolds! Imagine, connecting directly to "Moby".

I was amazed that Herman Melville got the idea of "Moby Dick" looking north at Mt. Greylock covered in snow from his house on Holmes Road in Pittsfield. How did Melville get to know all about whaling being so far from the sea? As a farmer, maybe he met Captain Reynolds and learned all about whaling from him? I know, it is just my supposition.

"A boat can't have two captains." – Akira Mori

"Shells sink, dreams float, life's good on our boat." – Jimmy Buffet

"A sail boat that sails backwards can never see the sun rise." – Bill Cosby

"You can't buy happiness. But you can buy a boat and that's pretty much the same thing."



BSPS Hudson River Rendezvous **"It's all about Tides and Currents"**

After a few years of pandemic, BSPS was able to schedule an on-water Rendezvous. This time the raft-up was on the Hudson River at what Active Captain refers to as "The Hook" on Schodack Creek. Frank and Tena selected the date and time to coincide with favorable tides and currents.

There was Mistress, MISS B 'haven, Evelyn M, and Sybaris (sort of) at the Rendezvous. Also joining our raft-up were two of our Coeymans marina vessels including Frank and Louise on "Black Pearl", and Barb, Gary and Shawn on "Big N Nuff", with a total attendance of 15 people on 5 vessels.

With a little attention for the mild current, the flat water was ideal for swimming. With no wakes, there were hours of swimming and lounging on floating tubes and cushions. Fortunately, Frank's attempt to chum for sharks with his own blood was apparently unsuccessful. Due to the tidal change and spending the entire day at anchor, our raft-up swung a full 180 degrees without holding issues – thanks to the Mistress's skillful anchor set.



THE BSPS CREW

Consistent with every BSPS event, there was food – with an amazing variety and lots of it. One of the boats had a sign in the cabin that stated: "drinking mandatory and clothing optional". I cannot speak to the latter, but signature drinks provided by multiple boats included Mud Slides, Margarita Jello shots, Dark & Stormy (creating a scuttlebutt on how to prepare it), and a very, very strong single malt Scotch whisky (which marina staff Shawn described as just a rebranded paint remover in a fancy bottle).



George and Karen.

George and Karen were able to provide water taxi service to the captain of "Murphy's Law". And with a vessel name like that, it was probably best that her vessel did not join the raft-up. Seas were calm and skies were blue, and George and Karen, along with Tara sped away on plane into the sunset.

With a favorable almost high tide, apparently George chose to tour Schodack creek for a few more miles inland prior to circling back to the Hudson River for their return voyage home.

With no sharks visible, only one unintentional fall in the water jumping between boats, and a "POSSIBLE MINOR NAVIGATIONAL ERROR" (spoiler alert – Hudson River is Tidal), this appeared to be another resounding successful and enjoyable BSPS rendezvous.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom & Bev Gilbert
BSPS Administrative Officers



Part of the Raftup

Snips and Quips

Where do sick boats go?

To the dock-ter

Why do divers fall backwards off of boats?

Because if they fell forward they'd bang their heads on the deck.

Why are portholes/windows in boats round?

So the water doesn't hit the sailors square in the face.

A very nervous first-time crew member says to the skipper, "Do boats like this sink very often?"

"Not too often," replied the skipper. Usually it's only the once."

Berkshire Sail & Power Squadron

Invites YOU & YOURS to Another Pizza & Salad Party

TIME IT IS 6PM

Date: Thursday, 10 November 2022

Time: 6 PM to ????

Where: Zuccos' Restaurant

Dalton Avenue, Pittsfield, MA

What to Bring? \$5 per person for food and if you want Liquid Refreshments

Reservations a MUST by 3 November 2022

To Cdr Susan - either 413-637-2275 or

sldarcy@roadrunner.com



Don't forget to let us know if you need a name tag with our "Moby" on it.

(There is absolutely No Charge for Nametags).

Send an eMail to Cdr Susan at sldarcy@roadrunner.com



The List of Benefits has just been UPDATED - there is pet insurance, loans for boats, check out some of them—actually the benefit savings pays for your Membership!.



Our benefit package is growing rapidly. The benefits are structured to the **USPS MEMBER**, and can only be obtained by a person with a current membership card. For more information on each benefit go to the link below and click on the benefit you want to know the details:

<https://www.usps.org/departments/14000/1450001/1450001-benefits-alphabetical>

GoCoastGuard.com



Coast Guard to Approve Level 100 Inherently Buoyant Lifejackets

The Coast Guard has issued a policy letter on obtaining Coast Guard approval on Level 100 lifejackets. This policy builds upon previous efforts the Coast Guard in cooperation with Transport Canada (TC) and members of the Personal Floatation Device (PFD) community to harmonize North American PFD standards.

Policy Letter 02-21, Adoption of ANSI/CAN/UL 12402-4 states the U.S. Coast Guard has determined that a Level 100 jacket which meets the requirements of UL 12402-4 using inherently buoyant material provides equivalent performance to a non-standard lifejacket meeting the requirements of 46 CFR 160.055.

Level 100 lifejackets are intended for commercial vessels. However, they are acceptable for use on recreational vessels. They do provide face-up flotation with a level of support sufficient for open water use and turn most users face-up, even when the user is unconscious.

Policy Letter 02-21 can be found here:

<https://www.dco.uscg.mil/ENG/Policy/>

Will this cause a change to Enforcement, Vessel Exam or Safety Checks?

No - Just like with all lifejackets, authorities will check for the Coast Guard Approval number, that the device is in serviceable condition, and is being used in accordance with any requirements on the approval label. Please note the Coast Guard has evaluated only the performance of inherently buoyant Level 100 lifejackets. Lifejackets that rely partly or entirely on inflation for buoyancy are not covered by this policy.

U.S. Coast Guard Lifejacket requirements:

A wearable lifejacket for each person must be onboard the vessel. These lifejackets must be U.S. Coast Guard approved, the proper size for the intended wearer, in good and serviceable condition, and properly stowed (readily accessible). When a vessel is underway with children under 13 years old, they must be wearing a lifejacket unless they are below deck or in an enclosed cabin. NOTE: On some state waters, this age requirement may vary. The Coast Guard recommends that you always wear your lifejacket.

Where can I find more information about lifejackets?

Life Jacket Wear / Wearing your Life Jacket

<https://www.uscgboating.org>

More Information on Life Jacket Labeling

<https://www.usps.org/images/Exec/Safety/>

[Life Jackets/2020-05-](#)

[28 New Life Jacket Labels and Icons.pdf](#)

"What is your boating score!"

Answers are Yes or No

1. Are gasoline fumes lighter than air?
2. Do boats under sail always have the right of way over powerboats?
3. Is the PORT running light a GREEN light?
4. Is 'WINDWARD' a direction AWAY from the wind?
5. Should a POWERBOAT sound a bell when underway in fog?
6. Does a SPRING LINE often help in docking a boat?
7. Should you treat hypothermia by warming the victim's extremities?
8. Are NUN buoys usually even numbered and painted red?
9. Is the purpose of the 'Navigation Rules' to prevent collision?
10. Is a life preserver necessary for every person aboard a boat?
11. Does the LUBBER LINE hold the compass in place?
12. Would a boat on a true course of 270° be heading East?
13. Is the skipper liable for damage caused by the vessel's wake?
14. Do coastal navigation charts show water depths?
15. Is TIDE the horizontal movement of water?
16. Do six feet equal a fathom?
17. Do the white colored areas on nautical charts indicate deep navigable waters?
18. Would a compass bearing help determine a vessel's position?
19. When anchoring, does the amount of line you pay out affect the holding power of an anchor?
20. Is the USPS Boating Course offered in your area?

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Answers in the Next Issue or if you really have to know the answers right away, send an email to the Cdr and she'll send you the answers.

