

CROSS CURRENTS

Newsletter of the Cross County Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®, District 2

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VOICE FROM THE BRIDGE

Where did the summer go? It certainly wasn't much of a boating season, but maybe Mother Nature will be kind to us this fall and keep the temperatures mild enough to do some boating before the frost arrives.

Although summer is generally slow administratively for most squadrons, Cross County was busy taking part in a number of District and National activities. The D/2 Rendezvous and Summer Council in July was a lot of fun for those who attended. August brought the National Governing Board Meeting to our door step with meetings, presentations and activities in and around New York City. The September Annual Education Meeting had our own Lt/Cdr Mark F. Hennelly, S , speak on this year's Around Long Island Race. It was very interesting to hear about the tactics used in the race to take advantage of wind and current conditions in trying to beat the competition. We also had Squadron representation at the recent Norwalk Boat Show. Members who volunteer to man the USPS booth get free admission. Keep that in mind for next year.

Our fall season starts with the Squadron Boating Course, 4 October, General Meeting 5 October and the D/2 Fall Conference in Albany on 20-22 October.

So you can see there was plenty to do this summer if you were willing to participate.

Come to meetings! Get involved! Take a class!



With deep regret we report the recent passing of our long time member P/C Frank A. Bizzoco, AP.

Our sincerest condolences to Frank's family.

Frank will long be remembered for his many contributions to our Squadron. He shall be missed by all who knew him.



2006-2007 Bridge

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September Birthdays:

Joseph J. Hvisc, 13th
Peggy E. Howland, 29th



October Birthdays:

Alfred P. Belluscio, 4th
Benjamin T. Parker, 9th
Edwin Fisher, 10th
John A. Wieggers, 22nd
James H. Levi, 28th



LEGISLATIVE REPORT Part I - P/C Arthur Steiner, P

I'm terribly sorry to have missed the Commander's Party and "Fleet Blessing". - However I was pleased to note the participation of our neighboring Westchester Squadron in the affair. This makes for a good publicity source and certainly enhances the USPS image. Possibly, next year, the City Island Squadron can be included? We all share the same waters and problems.

Our local newspaper has editorialized on the increase of boating accidents in Florida. Thirty-eight people died in the first six months! Almost 3/4's of the fatalities were from drowning and 77% of them were not wearing life jackets! Forty percent were blamed on alcohol or just plain carelessness. In view of these figures, which may indicate a national trend, I might suggest that all three local Squadrons get together on a prominent advertising campaign and list the time, date and location of their Boating Classes in a large advertisement. Additionally, and this may be part of the local programs now, boat dealers and marinas should be asked to help by posting information prominently.

It's interesting to note that some of Hurricane Katrina's destruction is being put to good use! A good number of live oak trees were downed during the storm. Mystic Seaport is now collecting these fallen trees and is using this relatively scarce lumber in the rebuilding and repair of their historical vessels.

The National Assn. of Marine Manufacturers (NMMA) has done a polling on the effect of high fuel prices and boat usage. They find that yachtsmen will give up or reduce other activities in order to afford boating! Forty-five percent will cut back on dining out, another forty-five percent will pull back on entertainment. Driving shows fifty-two percent and only TWENTY-FIVE percent will cut down on boat usage!

SOUNDINGS magazine's August issue features a long discussion on cruising the Peconic Bay area. This is a fairly frequent destination for many of our members and might be of interest to you. It makes me a little homesick!

The "Long Island Sound Study" has released some interesting facts on progress, which is slow. Warmer water (caused by multiple factors) is primary. Colder water fish, such as winter flounder are diminishing and there has been no resurgence of oysters and lobsters since the huge die-offs of the 1990's. They divide the Sound into three sections - Western (Westchester to Bridgeport), Center and Eastern. Improvements were fair in the west, fair to good in the center and good in the eastern section.



**New Rochelle Skyline
from
Long Island Sound.**

Photo credits, Lt/C Melvin Goldstein, AP

Cross Currents

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Address Correction
Requested

The following was submitted by P/C Paul H. Wieland, AP:

*Today is ours, let's live it.
And love is strong, let's give it.
A song can help, let's sing it.
And peace is dear, let's bring it.
The past is gone, don't rue it.
Our work is here, let's do it.
The world is wrong, let's right it.
The battle is hard, let's fight it.
The road is rough, let's clear it.
The future vast, don't fear it.
Is faith asleep, let's wake it.
Today is ours, let's take it.*

— Anonymous