

CROSS CURRENTS

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

Volume XLXI

January/February 2007

Number 6

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE — Teresa F. Hennelly, P

Without you all, there would be no season's cheer...

Winter is here in earnest, we can no longer float out of our marinas with balmy 60 degree immunity. No! No! We can't fool Mother Nature. But we CAN continue to be a party crew...

And party we did! The Cross County PS put together another memorable Holiday Party, and together with about fifty friends and family members rang the bell. Though the weather outside was frightful, everything was so delightful.



There were many elves afoot, and my thanks go out to Edwin Martinez, P, for making the arrangements to have our event at the Willows Condominium Meeting Room. Our party bridge was staffed by D/FI/Lt Virginia P. Moore, P (who brought along friends and family); D/C Susan C Nentwich, AP; Lt/ C Peggy E. Howland, P; Lt/C and Mrs. Robert E. Beardsley, SN; Lt/C and Mrs. Melvin Goldstein, AP; Lt and Mrs. Joseph N. Pizzuti, AP; P/C Paul Wieland, AP; P/C Arthur Reichling, SN; 1st/ Lt Guido Dattaro, SN; Lt/C John A. Wieggers, AP; Lt/C Howard A Sklar , AP and yours truly. Everyone contributed to the festivities. And the party couldn't have been nicer. Thank you all!

The Cross County Squadron has been invited to participate in the Headquarters Advisory Billing (HQAB). Advantages are: members may pay dues by check, online renewal of dues, retrieval of online Squadron reports and electronic banking for Squadrons. If you have any questions, please call Lena Pado at 8888-357-8777 X 212.

I will be attending the D/2 Winter Council in Poughkeepsie on 27 January. I am looking forward to a great time and telling you all about the adventure in the next issue.





2006-2007 Bridge

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December Birthdays:

Robert D. Richardson, 4th
Mark Hennelly, 11th
Lawrence E. Headen, 12th
Paul H. Wieland, 16th
Phyllis Z. Bernard, 24th
Dorothy L. Bartlett, 31st
Arthur P. Reichling, 31st



January Birthdays:

Benny A. Caiola, 2nd
Ian Millett, 4th
Joseph N. Pizzuti, 10th



February Birthdays:

Howard A. Sklar, 3rd
Stephen J. Lowenstein, 8th
Arthur Steiner, 20th
Angelo W. Lovallo, Jr., 26th



LOOK AT THIS, only a few days before Thanksgiving and only a few days ago it was still summer! In keeping with the season, our temperatures have dipped to 65/70 during the shortened daylight and down to the mid 50's at night, with the promise of mid-40's in the next few days. Swimming? 'Forgedaboutit'!

For those of you who plan to cruise out of the country, it's being made a little more convenient. If you are departing from Miami, Tampa, Puerto Rico or U.S. Virgins all you must do is register with the U.S. Customs, answer a few simple questions and away you go! You'll be given a registration number and upon returning, a quick advisory phone call, instead of presenting yourselves at Customs will be all that's necessary.

The big Ft. Lauderdale Boat Show is now just a memory. It's been said that most of the sellers came away with smiles on their faces. I haven't gotten statistics, but considering that exhibits were forty feet going up to 228, a lot of "tax free" money must have been put on the table.

I recall, many years back, when the New York Yacht Club house was moved by barge from Glen Cove to its present location at the Mystic Seaport Museum. Apropos of that move, I now read of a 7,000 square-foot, 94 year old mansion that was placed on a barge and towed some 27 miles for a new owner, to a suitable location and to save it from the terror of a developer's bulldozers. Believe it or not, the three story mansion was sold for one dollar!

A Federal Court Judge has ruled that flood waters on private property should not be considered "navigable waters" and those boaters using them may be prosecuted as trespassers. Any of you live near the Mississippi?

Now, back to the proposed LNG terminal in Long Island Sound. On 19 September there was a collision between a 92' sailboat, under power, and a 625' freighter. The sailboat was sunk with the loss of one life. I don't intend to go into detail on this terrible incident, but want to point out that with the restricted areas to surround the LNG terminal, this will undoubtedly be the underlying cause of many more collisions. Don't you agree? Write to "Boaters Against Broadwater", giving them your support. Incidentally, the USCG report on the terminal has been published and, at best, is "lukewarm."

Good news for you who cruise Long Island's South Shore. Transferring the USCG dispatch center to the New Haven complex, should enhance, not decrease coverage, in that more and better equipment will be used and "local knowledge" will be maintained. All of the personnel from the previous Moriches location will be transferred to the new site. Furthermore, all rescue personnel and their 23 boats will remain at the five South Shore stations.

A NON-LEGISLATIVE REPORT

WOW!! Thanks to you all, to the Commander, for recommending me, and to my good genes and good luck, I've just received my 50th Merit Mark! When you achieve this sort of milestone, you sort of reflect on the past, and so I'll share some of my reflections with you: (Congratulations Arthur - Ed.)

After many years of small boat sailing, plus about five & one-half years in the enlisted USCG, I bought my first small cruising sailboat. At about the same time, I saw an advertisement announcing that the "Yonkers Power Squadron" was about to start a "Piloting" class at the Halstead School on North Broadway in Yonkers. I figured that this was a great opportunity for me to refresh and update my navigational skills and registered for the twelve week course. Upon completion of the course I was invited to join the Squadron after an interview by the then National Secretary and founding Commander, F. Gil McGlaughlin.

(Continued on P. 5)

(A Non-Legislative Report continued from P. 4)

I, shortly thereafter, attended my first meeting and found that I'd joined a relatively new group (3 years old) and, while all of the members were totally active, there were the usual growing pains. One of the topics discussed and high on the list was publicity and public relations. I raised my hand and offered some input on how other groups I belonged to overcame these problems. Whammo! I was (and at my first meeting!) appointed to the Public Relations Committee. From then on, I worked on all aspects of getting information out, from making myself known to newspaper writers, magazine editors, etc. In addition, a number of years later, I took on the Editorship of "Cross Currents", which I held for some twenty-one years.

But enough about me, let's see how the Squadron matured. Piloting Classes were our only source of members and during those years our classes averaged approximately seventy-five students. On interviewing, we could afford to be choosy about who we invited to membership.

We had a succession of great, hardworking and generous Commanders who offered their homes (and well stocked bars) for Executive Meetings and who allowed their business employees to work on Squadron projects. I could name names, but it isn't necessary. Just look at about the first dozen past commander names and they were all huge contributors.

The Squadron grew and we decided that 125 members would be our maximum, in order to keep the spirit and camaraderie intact. Our Exec Meetings were then shifted to a cellar-garage on Pondfield Road in Bronxville for a couple of years, then to an apartment donated by a member, over his Hertz car rental shop. A couple more locations and as you now know, the New Rochelle Municipal Marina.

Parties? We were specialists on them! Halloween Costume parties were always big hits as were our "Come as you were shipwrecked" balls. Our Educational Meetings were held annually hosted by the TAP Restaurant in Bronxville, where we were served venison which had been contributed by a couple of our gunnery experts. Christmas parties, with gifts for all, were always hugely successful.

We've been honored by having three District Commanders including the current one. We've had a number of our people serving on National Committees and now even me, with 50 Merit Marks, being an "emeritus" member of the Governing board!

I could ramble on and on, but I won't. I once learned that the mind can only absorb as much as the "seat" can take. So I'll finish off with this final observation: USPS is essentially a boating educational organization. We all joined with the idea and purpose of improving our boating skills. How many of you have signed up for a class lately?

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

So, what's new up there in the chilly, but-so-far snow-free Nor'East?

I've been reading lots about that gas storage/transfer monstrosity proposed for the center Sound, but nothing solid has been accomplished by the "oil giants" proposing it. Now, there's one proposed for Southern Florida - about three or four miles off-shore. The one thing that strikes me is that these behemoths are not of USA origins. Long Island Sound is being proposed by BP (British) and "Canadian Oil". The one down here is proposed by "Suez", a French outfit. Where are our USA oil giants? Are they looking for more government subsidies?

The USCG has requested all cell phone services to eliminate the "*CG" sequence for emergency calling - VHF radio is the approved method. However, if no VHF is available, then dial 911.

(Continued on P. 6)

United States Power Squadrons®
DISTRICT 2 SPRING CONFERENCE 2007



Hosted by
Storm King Power Squadron

Friday and Saturday, MARCH 30-31, 2007

The Best Western Inn & Conference Center

2170 South Road
 Poughkeepsie, New York, 12601-5847
 845-462-4600

- Friday: 3:00 pm Registration begins
 5:00 pm Social Hour
 7:00 pm Dinner with the Chief Commander's Representative
- Saturday: 8:30 am Continental Breakfast/Registration
 9:30 am Morning Session begins
 12:00 Lunch
 1:00 pm Afternoon Session begins
 6:00 pm to 7:00 Cocktail hour
 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm Dinner and Dancing

Dress Code: Fri. Dinner – Blazers, Sat. Meeting - Uniform F or appropriate attire, Sat Dinner – Uniform A or appropriate evening attire.

Cut and mail

REGISTRATION FORM

.....

1st Registrant Name _____ Grade _____ Rank _____ Position _____
 Address _____ Phone _____ Squadron _____
 City, State & Zip _____ Email: _____

2nd Registrant Name _____ Grade _____ Rank _____ Position _____

Room (double or single)	Friday _____	Saturday _____	Total No. of Nights	_____	@ \$ 90.00 =	\$ _____
Room (Non-smoking) <input type="checkbox"/>	Room (Smoking) <input type="checkbox"/>					
Friday Welcome Dinner		No. of Dinners	_____	@ \$ 29.00 =	\$ _____	_____
Sat. Continental Breakfast & Luncheon		No. of Br/Lunch	_____	@ \$ 29.00 =	\$ _____	_____
Saturday Dinner Dance		No. of Dinners	_____	@ \$ 45.00 =	\$ _____	_____
Roasted Rib Eye _____	Chicken Francalse _____	Filet of Salmon _____				
Social Program –Tour of Art Museum, Chapel & Library at Vassar College including Lunch				@ \$ 29.00 =	\$ _____	_____
Late fee if postmarked after March 10, 2007				\$ 10.00 =	\$ _____	_____
First timer? Please check <input type="checkbox"/>					TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE	\$ _____

Please make checks payable to Storm King Power Squadron and mail with this registration form to:
 Alexandra Feldberg
 25 Thomas Ave
 Fishkill, NY 12524
 Phone: 845.896.6644
 Fax: 845.896.1459

PARTIAL CALENDAR FOR THE BRIDGE YEAR 2007-2008

GENERAL MEETINGS

5 APRIL

3 MAY

7 JUNE—SAFETY

6 SEPTEMBER?—EDUCATION

4 OCTOBER

1 NOVEMBER

SPECIAL EVENTS

23 JUNE—COMMANDER'S PARTY & BLESSING OF THE FLEET

13 DECEMBER—HOLIDAY PARTY

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

26 APRIL

31 MAY

30 AUGUST

27 SEPTEMBER

25 OCTOBER

29 NOVEMBER

24 JANUARY

Cross Currents

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**Address Correction
Requested**