

CROSS CURRENTS

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

Volume XLXIII

March/April 2008

Number 1

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE — **Howard A. Sklar, AP**



This will be my first Commander's message in quite some time so I might be a little rusty at it.

I would like to thank the nominating committee for placing their trust in me to lead the Squadron through the difficult waters that lie ahead. I am however very excited to lead the Squadron "Back to the Future".

Most of you are going to ask me what does this mean? Well, let's break it down: In the second movie they went back in time to right a wrong in the present. We have to look at the future and right the wrongs of the present.

What are the wrongs as I see them? 1. Membership retention. 2. New members. 3. Camaraderie & Fellowship.

Anyone can list them and based on what I have read most people in USPS are doing just that, listing them. We need to come up with a plan of action and I do have some ideas. Emails are quick, efficient and very impersonal; maybe, just maybe we would be better served by a personal phone call inviting members we haven't seen in quite awhile to a general meeting. I propose that a phone committee be set up with the intent to inform and invite these members. Now that we made the phone call we have to have a reason for this member to want to attend the meeting. There is nothing in "the book" that says every general meeting has to have a boating related topic. As we get older, health and nutrition are foremost on our minds so why not a speaker or program on this topic or a speaker discussing retirement and financial planning. There are so many topics of interest that all it takes is a little planning.

On to new members, as most Squadrons do and we are no exception, we get our new members from the Public Boating Class. As students are dwindling in our classes (this spring we have 14 students...hooray), we have to look other places for new members. I do have an idea, I am challenging every member in the Squadron to make one new friend during this year and bring him or her to a General Meeting to see what you belong to and why.

That shouldn't be a very difficult task to accomplish. I am also asking that when we see a new face at a meeting, we should befriend that person and not leave them to fend for their own, which I have seen over the years to be the case.

(Continued on P. 2)

(Commander's Message continued from P. 1)

We seem to talk amongst ourselves and leave that new face like a wallflower at a dance. We have to create the need to belong in that new face. Human beings like belonging to a group and we have to make our group the one they want.

This leads me to camaraderie and fellowship, if we accomplish our first two goals - retention and new members - guess what, we will have created a stronger Squadron full of camaraderie and fellowship. In the coming months I will be asking all of you on how you're progressing in making that new friend.

Respectfully submitted.

It is with deep regret that we note the passing of Ruth Steiner, wife of P/C Arthur Steiner, P.

Our deepest sympathies to Arthur and his family.

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



March Birthdays:

Earl Millett, 1st
Marcia Sklar, 1st
Nettie Goldstein, 9th
Suzanne P. Nentwich, 12th
Joyce Riess, 18th
Miriam G. Stevens, 26th



2008-2009 Bridge

Commander

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT PART I - P/C Arthur Steiner, P (Jan/Feb)

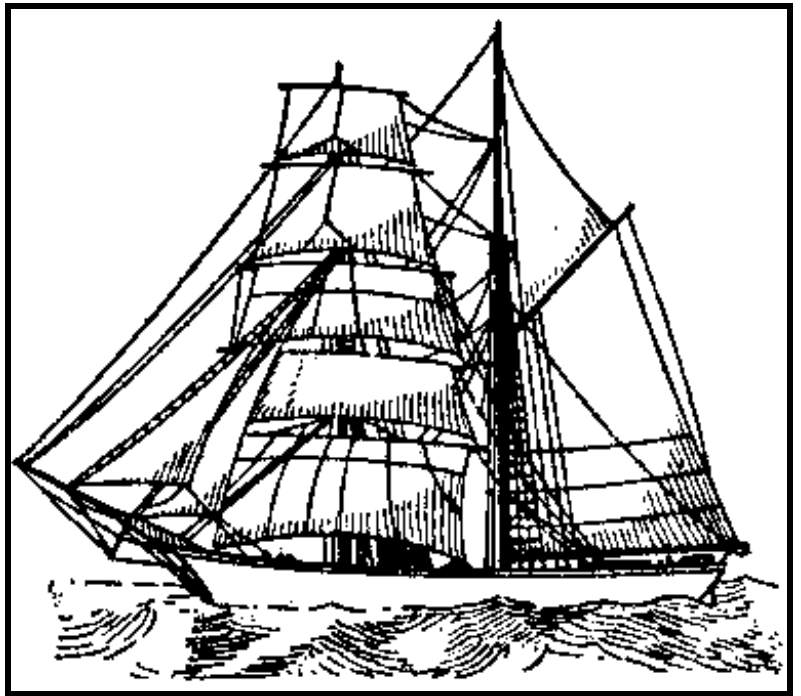
“Broadwater”——frankly, it isn’t often that I get written support in my writings on “legislative” topics. However, since the last issue of this newsletter, I received a newspaper copy of an article stating that the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has a number of reservations. And then, the last issue of *Cross Currents* featured a submission by our Commander (Past, now), relative to the same disapproval opinion. Let me suggest that we have Long Island Sound declared a NATIONAL PARK! Isn’t that what it is to those who have used this grand, protected, body of water for recreation and pleasure? To allow commercial interests to literally own a large section would be similar, or identical, to putting an oil refinery into the heart of Yellowstone National Park. And isn’t Long Island Sound our eastern example of Yellowstone? Sailboats fighting their way from west to east would be inconvenienced ,if not endangered by this obstruction to “long tacks”, as would those traversing from east to west during the afternoon westerly's. Furthermore, this importation of more convenient natural gas would only encourage more development on the already overcrowded Long Island.

Now I’ve been reading about a new proposal to dig a tunnel under the Sound between Rye and Oyster Bay. Believe it or not, the use fee would be \$25 for each passage! Who needs it? Ferries have been tried and abandoned over the past years, because they weren’t financially successful. Now and again, a tunnel? There is absolutely no doubt that the non need of this would only be exacerbated by the disruption and probable destruction of natural habitats for our under-water friends, the lobsters, crabs, fish and clams.

Don’t wait, sit down NOW AND WRITE to your local legislators telling them not to allow the destruction of our Eastern Yellowstone Park!

Fort Lauderdale has long been known as the ‘boating capital’ of the world. Unfortunately local legislation has allowed for the shutting down of many boatyards and constructing high-rise condos in their place. Now it is facing the gradual loss of visiting yachts and all the money they bring with them, due to the decreased tie-up space. The same legislators who voted for the now semi-empty condos, are now suggesting dredging the New River so as to allow the larger yachts to travel further inland to find a parking space. The problem here is simple. If they dredge deeper, the shoreline will erode and those nice new empty condos will come tumbling down! Who will you vote for in the next election?

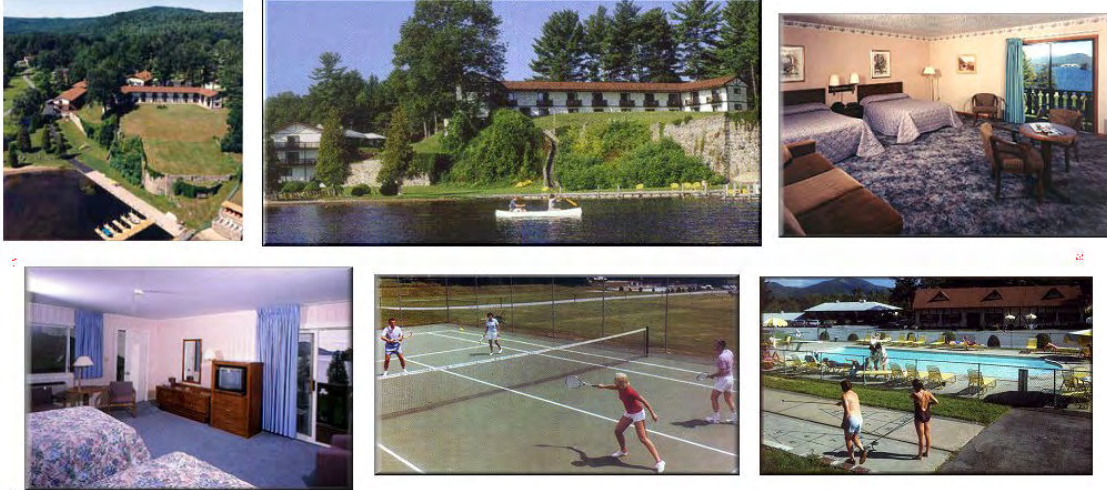
While we’re on this topic, let me fill you in on a couple of salient facts: During the 2006 year, mega-yachts spent over \$220 millions in South Florida; - and to point out the relative unfairness of the various taxing systems, mega yachts increased from about 3,000 in 1967 to 7,000 in 2006! Can this be some of your tax money?



2008 NORTHERN TREK

MELODY MANOR and NORTHWARD HO RESORTS
LAKE GEORGE – BOLTON LANDING, NEW YORK

FRIDAY, MAY 16, Saturday, May 17 and Sunday May 18, 2008



A CASUAL BUSINESS WEEKEND WITH D/2 FRIENDS, A LOT OF FUN AND GAMES, SATURDAY AFTERNOON ENTERTAINMENT IN THE PLANNING STAGES. THE PRICE (PER PERSON/DOUBLE OCCUPANCY) IS \$200.00 for two nights lodging and five meals including steak or lobster for Saturday Dinner.

\$200.00 PRICE PER PERSON/DOUBLE OCCUPANCY – TOTAL FOR TWO (\$400). SINGLE OCCUPANCY RATE PER PERSON including all meals and activities is \$300.00 A DEPOSIT OF \$100.00 (Please make the check out to: D2 Northern Trek Rendezvous) will hold your reservation.

For additional information and to confirm your reservation, send your deposit check of \$100.00 made out to the **D2 Northern Trek Rendezvous** to:

Stf/C SUSAN L. DARCY, JN
7 Hutchinson Lane, Lenox, MA 01240-2217
eMail: Susan@darcy-systems.com

Your final payment is **DUE** by **APRIL 15, 2008** along with your Friday and Saturday night meal choices. BY POPULAR DEMAND, THE SATURDAY EVENING ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE THE RAFFLE AND WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION. So bring some entertaining items for the auction. [This will be a good time to clean out the boat, the basement, the attic, and/or the recreation room.]

Please save us a Room:

Clip and Send with Deposit

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Squadron _____
eMail _____

Friday Dinner Choices (Please Indicate Choices) Chicken _____ Fish _____ Special _____
Saturday Dinner Choices (Please Indicate Choices) Lobster _____ or Steak _____

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
2008 DISTRICT 2 Fall Conference



October 24 & 25, 2008

Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center

542 Route 9, Fishkill, NY 12524

Hosted by

Peekskill Sail & Power Squadron

Celebrating 50 Years of Boating Education

Friday:	3:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Registration Table Open
	4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	P/D/C Meeting
	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Cocktail Party (cash bar)
	7:00 PM	Dinner with C/C's Representative
Saturday:	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Registration Table Open
	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Lite Continental Breakfast
	9:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Business Meeting
	9:30 AM	Guest Program Departs
	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Social Hour (cash bar)
	12:30 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch
	2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Business Meeting Reconvenes
	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Social Hour (cash bar)
	7:00 PM - 11:00 PM	Dinner Dance (cash bar) 1950s Theme

Guest Program

Options

Tour The FDR Estate
At Hyde Park
\$14 pay when you get there

Tour The Vanderbilt
Mansion
At Hyde Park
\$8 pay when you get there

**Caravans Will Depart
Hotel At 9:30AM**

Honoring Peekskill's 50th Anniversary

(above times subject to change)

Cut Here -----

REGISTRATION FORM

First Registrant: Name _____ Grade _____ Rank/Position _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Squadron: _____

First Time Attending A District 2 Meeting

Second Registrant: Name _____ Grade _____ Rank/Position _____

Reserve Hotel Lodging through Holiday Inn directly at 845-897-6761 (negotiated daily rate @ \$99 + tax)

Note: Cut-off Date for Hotel Room Reservations is September 23, 2008.

Reservations received after this date are subject to Space Availability & Rate Change.

Friday Dinner: *Dutchess Buffet* _____ @ \$39 = \$ _____

Saturday: *Lite Continental Breakfast & Executive Deli Buffet Lunch* _____ @ \$32 = \$ _____

Saturday Dinner: *Prime Rib* _____ *Stuffed Sole* _____ *Vegetable Lasagna* _____ @ \$49 = \$ _____

Deadline for receipt of meal reservations is October 3, 2008 or incur late charge of \$10 per person = \$ _____

Indicate Which Guest Program Option You Will Attend: _____
 (Send No Money – Pay When You Get There) **TOTAL = \$ _____**

Please make checks payable to **Peekskill Sail & Power Squadron**
 and mail with this form to Diane Supple, P.O. Box 209, Lincolndale, NY 10540
 email: jhsupple@optonline.net Phone: 914-248-7720 Fax: 914-248-9618

Photos from the 2008 National Meeting Dallas, Texas



Photos
Courtesy of
D/2 Cdr
Martin E.
Feldberg, AP



Cross Currents

*Cross County Power Squadron
c/o Lt/C Melvin Goldstein, AP
64 Cherrywood Rd*

Yonkers, NY 10710



**Address Correction
Requested**