

# CROSS CURRENTS

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

Volume XLXIX

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Number 1

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



Hi all. Long time no speak. Sorry for being absent from here for awhile, family and health problems have been keeping me busy and occupying a lot of my time of late.

I hope you all have survived the winter and are thawing out and beginning to warm up to spring and eventually summertime. Ah summertime, to be back on the water boating, warming to the sun and catching that spectacular sunset. To drop a line and fish off of the stern or power up to cruise and explore new and old places. To catch the wind and sail off to places unknown and uncharted by us. Do you know what can

able? Friendship and camaraderie.

Being a member of Cross County can not only provide that, it is built in for you. Being involved in your Squadron and its functions creates the environment that can and will fulfill all of the above. So here is a novel idea, show up to a meeting and get involved, don't just be one who sits on the fence and watches life roll by, instead be part of it. Take a more active role in your Squadron and share in these experiences. I know from personal experience your life will be more rewarding as mine surely has been. Enough said.

What's new:

Our public boating class has started up again and is in full swing with SEO D/Lt/C Mel Goldstein, AP and me teaching the course with our "band of elves" faithful proctors, P/C Paul Wieland, AP, 1st/Lt Guido Dattaro, SN, Lt Joseph N. Pizzuti, AP and Lt/C Virginia P. Moore, P. Also, congratulations are in order to Mel who now is a D/Lt as he serves on the D/2 Bridge as Treasurer. The calendar for the year is printed within these pages, so take a second, check it out and make your plans accordingly. As for the District Conference, the news is that Life Members will no longer be charged the District Assessment (dues). Hooray...they got it right.

We are attempting to put together a cruise and rendezvous this summer, so I am waiting for your suggestions and where you would like to go.

This is just a short message for now with more to follow in the upcoming issues.

Respectfully submitted.



# MESSAGE FROM THE SEO

D/Lt/C Melvin Goldstein, AP

I am pleased to report that we have ten students in our spring Public Boating Class. As of this writing, we have had three sessions. Stay tuned for further news on this subject.

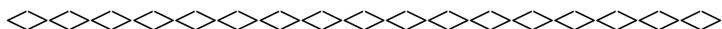
I am also pleased to report that Lt/C John Steger, AP, of the Westchester Sail & Power Squadron, completed and passed the USPS Weather Course under the excellent instruction of ASEO 1st/Lt Guido Dattaro, SN.

On other education matters, there are now 14 Seminars available from National:

Advanced Powerboat Handling; Anchoring; Boat Handling under Power; How to use a Chart; Hurricanes & Boats; Knots, Bends & Hitches; Marine Radar; Mariner's Compass; Onboard Weather Forecasting; Paddle Smart; Sail Trim & Rig Tuning; Trailering your Boat; Using GPS and Using VHF & VHF/DSC Marine Radio.

National also now has a special program for Boat Operator Certification, which includes requirements for four levels of recreational boating proficiency: Inland Navigator, Coastal Navigator, Advanced Coastal Navigator and Offshore Navigator. Requirements for these grades are made up of a combination of current USPS courses and seminars.

Please let me know if you interested in any of the above.



# Activities Calendar

May—July 2009

7 May, Thursday, General Meeting at the New Rochelle Municipal Marina at 2000.  
Program: Mr. Jim Pinto, Director of Waterfront Development, City of Yonkers. "New York 400", the 400th anniversary of the exploration of the Hudson River and Lake Champlain

15-17 May, Northern Trek, Lake George, NY.

16-22 May, Safe Boating Week.

28 May, Thursday, Executive Committee meeting at the New Rochelle municipal Marina at 2000.

4 June, Thursday, General Meeting at the New Rochelle Municipal Marina at 2000.  
Program: TBA

18 June, Thursday, Executive Committee meeting at the New Rochelle municipal Marina at 2000.

27 June, Saturday, Blessing of the Fleet & Squadron picnic.  
Details TBA.

25-26 July, D/2 Rendezvous. & Summer Council. Details TBA.



**CROSS CURRENTS** is an official publication of the **Cross County Power Squadron**, a Unit of the **United States Power Squadrons®**

Members are encouraged to submit material for publication in **CROSS CURRENTS**.

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Lt Paul H. Wieland, AP, Associate Editor

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

The Governor of the State of Florida has, at a public meeting, declared that he will not allow the "Calypso" natural gas terminal to be created off the sandy and tourist heavy coast of the State. Good for him! We have more than sufficient natural gas in this country to supply our needs, let's just get our money laden oil and gas companies to spend some of their windfall profits to develop the sources. "BUY AMERICAN!!!"

As I've previously noted, the USCG will no longer monitor low frequency EPERB distress signals. For those of you who own an older EPERB, donate it to the "deep-six". The CG will now only monitor 406MHz.

Well, what d'ya know, the marine industry down here is hurting badly. Dealers say that the 2008 sales were down any where from between 25 to 50 percent! The yards that were so anxious to expand are now openly talking about consolidation! It serves 'em right. They forced their "bread and butter" bunch, the small boat owners, out of slips and onto trailers. There isn't a yard around that can't find a place for you now, and that's true with the municipal slips too. So, hey, come on down and strike a bargain!

While we're still discussing EPERBs, there's a warning out about counterfeit EPERBs and life raft releases. If you are looking to buy, BE CAREFUL, they may not work.

As previously indicated, boat dealers are falling all over each other to offer unheard of bargains and, if you are in the buying market, our friends the bankers are happy to lend you the bucks providing you can put 20% down, have a good credit score, have proof of income are not burdened with other heavy debt.

Did you read about the proposal to build a 495 foot hotel on the premises of the South Street Seaport in Manhattan? Additionally, they're proposing to "modernize" the existing structures. Developers are getting me sick. The Seaport has always insisted that it is something from New York's history. Now this! And what about Gov. Patterson's proposal to place an ADDITIONAL sales tax of 5% on boats selling for \$200 M's!

I recently read and then reread a book entitled "CONDEMNED TO BE FREE". This is a fictional story about the ongoing life of one of my sailing friends. I've known "Bernard" for at least 25 years and heard him tell of his many experiences, especially while living in Haiti. Another of my friends also decided to write his story as fiction and the end result is quite an enjoyable book. It's in paper-back and you can get it via 1-800-AUTHORS. Bernard is now in Ft. Lauderdale and is outfitting for a round-the-world cruise.

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### MORE NEWS FROM THE U.S. COAST GUARD

30 April. The Coast Guard removed a 3 year old boy with appendicitis from the cruise ship **Carnival Miracle** by helicopter. The ship was sailing off of the coast of North Carolina when the incident occurred.

1 May. Authorities said that they were able to launch a remotely operated vehicle to verify the final resting place of the **Lady Mary** fishing boat that sank off of the coast of Cape May, New Jersey on 24 March. Six crewmen died in the accident.



**More Photos from the 2009  
Cross County Power Squadron  
&  
Westchester Sail & Power Squadron  
Change of Watch  
5 March**



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## **Cross Currents**

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**Address Correction  
Requested**