

CURRENT SET AND DRIFT

Winter 2008

Westchester Sail and Power Squadron: *A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons*



WSPS Commander Candyce J. Corcoran, P

CANDYGRAM

During my extraordinary two year tenure as your Commander, the ever changing seasons have made their presence be known. Many have shared their hearts and souls as one; laughter and tears we've known, fellow WSPS Members took their final journeys, cherished friendships were made both within WSPS and reaching out to other USPS Squadrons. Everlasting memories of our seasons together will forever be in my heart.

As I am writing this farewell, wisps of memories are dancing in my mind and while looking through the photographs of the many Current Set and Drift's and on my computer, I can only but wonder, where did all the time go. Our new name, WESTCHESTER SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON became official, new by-laws were drafted and adopted, a roster was prepared, Current Set and Drift was finally posted on the USPS web-site, new courses were given and friendships flourished.

I was fortunate to have a Bridge that was so easy to work with and I want to thank all of them from the bottom of my heart. And to you, the WSPS Family for your friendship, positive attitudes, support and desire to continue to promote and practice safe boating.

It has been my honor to represent Westchester Sail and Power Squadron for two years as Commander. With a heavy heart, the time has come for me to pass the torch to your New Commander and Bridge. I will only be a click away at aquamoon3@aol.com.

Warmest regards always,

Commander Candyce J. Corcoran, P

SEO REPORT

In the past few months, WSPS held a Boat Smart class, graduating 6 students, conducted a Sail Trim and Rigging Seminar for 5 students, and started an Advanced Piloting class with 4 members. A look at the squadron statistics revealed that WSPS has instructed and/or proctored close to 100 boating students over the last three years.

A GPS Seminar was postponed from December to March 13. A new Boating Squadron class will be offered starting February 26th, and a Seamanship class is being planned for April.

SEO Frank Palmieri accompanied by Secretary John Steger attended a presentation hosted by Captain Harbor Sail and Power Squadron and conducted by D2 Assistant Education Officer and Stanford P/C George Hallenbeck. This seminar was to discuss the new Boat Operator Certification program at USPS and the benefits it will provide to our members. USPS will certify boat operators at four levels: Inland Navigator, Coastal Navigator, Advanced Coastal Navigator and Offshore Navigator. These certifications are expected to provide benefits in several areas, including renting, chartering, or leasing a boat, especially in other countries, and obtaining insurance. These programs will provide more on-the-water experience and will complement, not replace, our current rating system (S, P, AP, JN, N, and SN). Stay tuned to Squadron notices about this exciting new program.



SEO Frank Palmieri and members of the last two Boat Smart Classes

TREASURERS' REPORT

Lt/C Doug Ratford provided a written report of WSPS total assets, expenditures and current financial position. The treasury is in good shape and our net position for the fiscal year, after fully accounting for expenditures and income was a negative \$102. This was good news since our commitment for the 70th Anniversary party was slightly greater than our income for the party.



The Squadron currently has 90 paid members.



FAMILY FUN AND SAFETY DAY

On Sept 15, squadron SEO Frank Palmieri along with Assistant Education Officer Cristiano Tannure and Secretary John Steger participated in the Harrison Family Fun and Safety Day. Frank set up 4 stations to promote boating safety and teach boating skills. Children and adults tried on PFD's for proper fit, loaded a model boat with weights to demonstrate how to properly get into and place passengers in a boat so it wouldn't (would) capsize, experienced the effects of hypothermia, and learned how to toss a line. The day was a huge success as children and parents flocked to the demonstrations and skill activities. The crowd around the Power Squadron exhibit was so great that although organizers asked that the Power Squadron to come again next year they said they would put us at the back of the hall to draw everyone through all the other displays. Frank, Cristiano and John said they had a great time too and would like to do this for other communities.



OUR SQUADRON WSPS NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Recently, I asked all of you for help with several unfilled 2008-2009 squadron committee or Bridge positions. "Last night, the WSPS Bridge met to discuss a new Bridge line-up. We have several committees that need to be chaired and I wanted to reach out to all of you. Some of the openings are: Liaison Officer, publication editor, webmaster, boating activities, treasurer, membership, member involvement, etc. I have been the only Westchester Sail and Power Squadron vessel inspector certified by USPS in years. I sure would like some company, so if any of you would like to take the short course and test, I would love to help you out!" Commander Candyce Corcoran

We received one response from a member interested in becoming a vessel inspector. Several of our squadron positions are still unfulfilled. Unfortunately, only a few members have been doing the work to maintain the activities for the squadron. Our 70th Anniversary, although fabulous, was not well attended, nor was the joint holiday party with CCPS. An excellent Advanced Piloting Class, now in progress, attracted only 4 members. To sustain WSPS as a viable squadron, we need help and participation of its members. We realize that serving is difficult with ever increasing demands on our work schedules, families, etc. However, only a few hrs given to the squadron will help all of us. Please volunteer to help with the following committees: Boating Chairperson, Safety Chairperson, Ships Store, Liaison Officer, Educational Fund, Newsletter Editor, Newsletter assistant editor, Webmaster, Membership Chairperson, Database Administrator, Community Relations Chair.

As one squadron commander wrote in a recent newsletter: "Quite frankly, the Squadron is circling the drain. USPS isn't doing much better...our numbers are dwindling. National (they) fail to mention that squadron activities are far more rewarding if members are prepared to pull their weight and take the time to learn new skills...What the squadron is looking for is a few good people – people who value the benefits of their membership and are willing to give something back in return."

Recently, our friends from the Tappan Zee Sail and Power Squadron met their fate due to a lack of interest. Their bridge tried to do everything

they could to motivate the members. The District Commander announced in the D2 January Newsletter that the Tappan Zee Sail and Power Squadron met with him in December to officially disband. This has not happened in over 50 years, and I hope it will not happen again.

Commander Candyce Corcoran, P



BOAT SHOWS

This year the WSPS attempted to coordinate trips to nearby boat shows to encourage car pools and promote camaraderie among members. It's always more fun to attend a boat show with a friend who understands boats. A few members traveled together to the Newport Boat Show, and several others joined up to attend the Norwalk Boat Show together. The attached pictures show some of our members at the Norwalk show. We will continue to offer to coordinate member's attendance at local shows. John Steger has been acting as the Boat Show Committee Chair, but this position is OPEN! We are also invited to participate in manning the USPS booth at the Norwalk Show next year.



Sailing In Holland on the Welvaren in July 2007

Walter O. Baggett

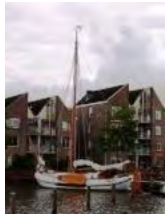


The Netherlands is a country that has long been associated with sailing. After all, yacht is a Dutch word (“jacht”). Our sailing opportunity came about through my wife Lillie’s activity helping Europe’s

second oldest medical school at Utrecht University to start a doctoral program in nursing science. The Dean of the Medical School, Dr. Mebius Kramer, is a keen sailor and a native of Freisland in the north of The Netherlands (where New York’s first mayor and New Amsterdam’s last mayor, Peter Stuyvesant, came from.). We traveled to Stavoren on the banks of the Ijssemeer to join the Dean and his son Ijsbrand and his friend Arjo.

The day we got there the weather was raining and blowing up to forty knots. The Ijssemeer was a sea of white caps. No way was I going sailing in that! But Mebius had other ideas. We downed a few of the traditional smoked herrings and then headed out. Fortunately, instead of heading west into the Ijssemeer, we turned north east up the canal that headed inland. With the wind at our stern and the rain coming down like bullets, up the canal we went doing five to six knots with just the jib raised.

After about three kilometers under sail we took down the jib and motored through our first lift bridge. Later the canal opened up into a lake, the Fluessen. Here we ran up a dredged and buoyed channel. We could tell we were in area A of the world, so unlike the U.S. in area B with “red, right on returning.” As we headed from the Fluessen into the Heegermeer going home, the red cans were on the left.



Once on the lake, I had the tiller. At eleven meters of steel hull with a four and three quarters meters beam, this was a big boat. It draws less than a meter, has a solid wooden mast which is stayed but has no spreaders. Since we were sailing with just the jib and the wind behind us we did not have the leeboards down. Still, keeping the boat in the channel as we could barely see much more than the fifty or a hundred meters between buoys in the driving rain was no easy task.

At the end of the Heegermeer we came to Heeg, Welvaren’s home port and entered another canal. This would take us to the major Dutch north-south canal. At last the rain and wind let up and we turned into the canal leading to downtown Sneak. The canals run right through the center of most towns because at one time they were the main highways of commerce, not tourist attractions. And they still are very effective. In smaller cities like Utrecht which has an ancient downtown core that is impossible to get a large truck into,

beer and other staples go in by barge and trash gets hauled out the same way.

Finding a bulkhead to tie up to in Sneak took a few tries, but we finally found a suitable place. There were bathrooms a few hundred meters away and everything was secured for the night. That evening Mebius prepared a typical sailors dinner of green peas cooked in bacon. I do not know what exactly was in there, but with a few beers and a large dry cockpit, it was heaven.



The next morning, the skies had cleared but the wind was still strong and steady. After a tour around the old city of Sneak we headed back to the boat. We left town through the main canal in the middle of the city. There was a lot of traffic, but we managed to slow down and make it through to the open canals. At that point we were able to turn off the engine and raise both the jib and the gaff rigged main. With the sails drawing well, it was time to look around at the countryside. While there were industrial buildings on the canal, we saw mostly farms with cattle in pastures. The amazing thing was that they were BELOW us. The canal was actually built up at a higher level than the surrounding country. Through a complex set of ditches water is actually pumped up into the canals. From there the water empties into the Ijssemeer where it is either pumped or drained at low tide into the Waddenzee and the ocean.

This complex system of water management is run by a series of water boards which are based upon comprehensive national legislation. All of this allowed us to quickly get back to Heeg and the Heegermeer. Since we had lots of time we headed out to enjoy some sailing. Instead of carefully staying within the buoyed canal, we proceeded to tack up the lake, taking advantage of our flat bottom and shallow draft. Now we did have to use our huge lee boards, raising them up and putting them down and pulling them forward with each tack back and forth in the near twenty knot winds. It was an amazing feat of marine engineering that allowed us to tack close on the wind.

Even more amazing was running aground! The boat did not come to a shuddering halt. The only thing I knew was the helmsman started yelling something in Dutch. The lee boards came up and the sails went down. The boat sort of mushed out, the heel disappeared and away we floated. The sails went back up and the lee boards back down. Those things happen on large shallow bottomed bodies of water.



And so it was that we turned up wind and headed back to Heeg and its home port WWW.heechbydemar.nl. Check it out. These boats are a great sail.

WSPS 70TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

On October 28th the WSPS celebrated its 70th anniversary with a cocktail hour and a wonderful dinner and dance at the Riverview restaurant. With its fabulous views of the Hudson, the music of DJ Richard the Bull, good food and drink, and wonderful décor, the evening was a fitting tribute to the 70 year history of the squadron. It was a special occasion for WSPS members and several of our friends from CCPS joined us in celebrating the event. The festivity also provided the opportunity to present P/C Bill Gratz with an award for 50 years of membership and service to the squadron and to USPS. Bill is our only current 50 year member and he has 47 merit marks. Congratulations were received from the Squadron. P/C Marie Lambert provided a wonderful history of the squadron in pictures which were shown in a neat slide presentation. It was great to see the faces of so many members who contributed so much to the success of the squadron over the years and paid tribute to past.

Those members who couldn't come, you missed a delightful party.



JOINT HOLIDAY PARTY

The CCPS's holiday party to which they invited WSPS was a very festive occasion. Postponed once because of bad weather, it was characterized by good food, good friends and holiday merriment. All of which made for a very pleasant evening. The six WSPS members who attended along with District 2 Commander Martin Feldberg and his wife Alexandra had a very good time.



A BROWNIE RECIPE FROM P/C MARIE LAMBERT

COOKIE'S TURTLE BROWNIES

25 caramel candies, unwrapped
¼ cup evaporated milk
¼ cup butter, melted
1 (10 ½ oz.) pkg. brownie mix
2 tablespoons evaporated milk
½ cup semisweet chocolate chips
½ cup pecans, chopped



In medium mixing bowl, combine caramels and ¼ cup evaporated milk. Microwave on HIGH 2-3 minutes, stirring every 30 seconds. In large mixing bowl, combine butter, brownie mix and 2 tablespoons evaporated milk. Press one-half of mixture into lightly greased 8 inch square baking dish. Microwave at HIGH 2 to 3 minutes. Sprinkle chocolate chips and pecans on top. Spread caramel mixture over chocolate chips and pecans. Crumble remaining brownie mix over caramel mixture. Microwave at HIGH 4 to 5 minutes. Cool completely before cutting.

Total Microwave cooking time 8 to 11 minutes. Makes 16 brownies.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR (Feb – April, 2008)

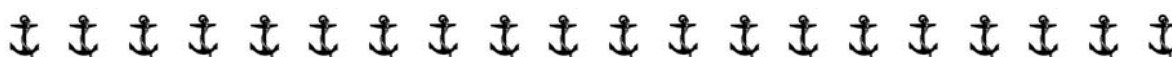
February 2 – District 2 Winter Council in Poughkeepsie. Cost for the day is \$28. See attached flyer

February 26 – Public Boating Course - Starts Tuesday evening 7:30 PM at the Rochambeau School in White Plains and runs once a week on Tuesday evenings for 8 weeks. Each session is 2 hours.

March 6 - Joint Change of Watch Dinner with CCPS at Fogarty's Town Tavern in Bronxville. Cash bar at 7:30, dinner at 8:00PM. Cost \$27. See attached flyer below.

March 13 - Public Seminar – "Using a Marine GPS (Global Positioning System). This is an approximately 2 hour seminar (one evening) that will show the use of the hand-held marine GPS. 7:00 PM at the Rochambeau School in White Plains. The fee of \$20.00 includes a laminated Quick Guide on Using GPS.

April - date TBD – WSPS will offer a Seamanship class for members. This will be just in time for your upcoming boating season.



CROSS COUNTY POWER SQUADRON

And

WESTCHESTER SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON



REQUEST THE HONOR OF YOUR PRESENCE
AT OUR JOINTLY HELD ANNUAL CHANGE OF WATCH



Thursday 6 March 2008

JOHN FOGARTY'S TOWN TAVERN
60 KRAFT AVENUE, BRONXVILLE, NEW YORK

1900 (7 p.m.) CASH BAR
2000 (8 p.m.) DINNER AND CEREMONIES FOLLOWING
(Dinner: \$27.00 per person)
Dress Code: Uniform A or Suitable Attire

MENU

Choice of Mixed Green Salad or Soup
Choice of Broiled Sliced Ribeye Steak with Mushroom Sauce
or Chicken Marsala, or Filet of Sole, or Loin of Pork
Dessert: Apple Pie or Chocolate Cake
Coffee / Tea / Decaf

Town Tavern (914-337-1122) is located across the street from the northbound side of the
Metro North Bronxville RR Station

----- -DETACH HERE- -----

Dinner Reservation not mandatory for attendance to the meeting/ceremony
Dinner reservations, accompanied by check made out to
CROSS COUNTY POWER SQUADRON
should be received **NO LATER** than 29 February 2008

NAME _____ GUEST _____

I am enclosing my check of \$ _____ for _____ number of dinners
@ \$27.00 per person

MAIL TO: P/C Virginia P. Moore 3 Undercliff Street Yonkers, NY 10705
(If late, phone reservations to 914-963-9409)



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

D/2 Winter Council

Saturday 2 February 2008

Held at the **Best Western Inn**

2170 South Road, Poughkeepsie, New York



The cost for the day is \$ 28 - includes Continental Breakfast and complete Buffet Lunch.

General Directions

From: South. Take the NY State Thruway (Interstate 87) North. Take Exit 17 (Stewart Airport, Route 300, Route 17K, Interstate 84 Newburgh). Take Route 300 North to Interstate 84 East. Take Interstate 84 East to Exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie, Route 9, Peekskill). At the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Route 9 North. The Best Western Inn & Conference Center is approximately 9 miles on the right just past the Olive Garden.

From: North. Take the New York Thruway (Interstate 87) South, Exit 18 (New Paltz, Route 299, Poughkeepsie). At end of ramp, turn right onto Route 299 East, to end turn right onto Route 9W South. Take 9W South about 2 miles, follow Route 44/55 East to Mid Hudson Bridge (toll). After crossing the bridge, take first exit on right to Route 9 South. The Best Western Inn & Conference Center is approximately 4 miles on the left.

From: East. Take Interstate 84 West. Take Exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie, Route 9, Peekskill). At the end of the exit ramp, turn right onto Route 9 North. The Best Western Inn & Conference Center is approximately 9 miles on the right just past the Olive Garden.

From: West. Take Interstate 84 East. Take Exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie, Route 9, Peekskill). At the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Route 9 North. The Best Western Inn & Conference Center is approximately 9 miles on the right just past the Olive Garden.

Registration will begin at 0900

Reservations must be received by 18 January 2008 - Late Registration fee: \$5.00

Mail reservations to:

D/Lt Alexandra Digilio
25 Thomas Ave
Fishkill, New York 12524
Questions? Call (845) 896-6644

CUT & MAIL

District 2 Winter Council

2 FEB. 2008

| | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| NAME _____ | SQUADRON _____ |
| ADDRESS _____ | RANK/GRADE _____ |
| _____ | SPOUSE/GUEST _____ |
| PHONE _____ | SQUADRON _____ |
| | RANK/GRADE _____ |

BREAKFAST/LUNCH \$28.00 PER PERSON

I will attend the "Onboard Weather" Seminar YES _____ NO _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: USPS DISTRICT 2



Westchester Sail and Power Squadron 2007 – 2008 Bridge



COMMANDER:

Cdr. Candyce Corcoran, P

EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

Lt/C Efrain Hernandez

EDUCATION OFFICER:

Lt/C Frank Palmieri, AP

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

Lt/C Norwood Beveridge, P

SECRETARY:

Lt/C John Steger, P

TREASURER:

Lt/C Douglas Ratford, AP

ASST. SQUADRON EDUCATION OFFICER:

1st /Lt Cristiano Tannure S

FLAG OFFICER:

Lt. David Corcoran

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

P/C Alan Goldman, AP

Lt. Dennis McGrath, AP

Lt. David Corcoran

Auditor: P/C William Gratz, SN

Historian: P/C Marie Lambert, P

Westchester Sail and Power Squadron
Current Set and Drift
136 Hartsdale Ave
White Plains, NY 10606
Commander Candyce Corcoran, P



We need your Email address
Please forward it to Aquamoon3@aol.com