



NOW HEAR THIS!



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KNOXVILLE POWER SQUADRON
A Unit of District 17 of the United States Power Squadrons
Sail and Power Boating

Vol. 28, No. 2

February 2016

KPS BRIDGE

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Lt/C Jean Armes, AP
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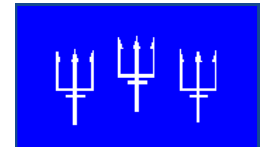
Webmaster:

Ken Bloomfield, AP
(865) 315-4227

Commander's Comments

Cdr Mike Scher, AP, P/D/C

Typically the last article a Commander writes for the Squadron newsletter thanks his staff and the other Bridge Officers, talks about how the Squadron has improved over the past year, and gives support to the new Commander and staff. I don't intend to deviate from this, but do wish there was some way that I could elaborate on how I feel without seeming to go overboard.



I believe the Bridge over the past year is one of the finest we've ever had. From the beginning of my term, I said my greatest challenge for the year would be holding back/managing a highly energized Bridge. Happily, that has been a struggle. Those of you who attend the Change of Watch will hear more about how we did this year. But in the meantime, let me give you a snapshot of some of our successes this past year.

- ◇ **Overall, our membership has increased and we have increased the number of events in which our members can participate.** Even attendance at our dinner meetings has increased, averaging over 40 members in attendance at each dinner meeting. This is contrary USPS overall, which continues to lose membership and has less membership meeting participation.
- ◇ **We have excelled in education.** Although the number of students taking the ABC course was a little less than in the past, the number of students taking advanced courses has increased and interest in continuing education has increased.
- ◇ **Financially, our Squadron is in great shape.** At the beginning of the year, we said we wanted to give back to the members some of the excess cash we had accumulated, which we did by subsidizing three of our dinner meetings. The Treasurer has established a budget process and we track our financial condition monthly.

(Commander's Report Continued on page 2)



United States Power Squadrons®

Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the FriendsSM



Now Hear This!

Our Website is: WWW.KPS-SITE.ORG

ELECTED NON-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

AUDIT:

CHAIR: Paul Dockins, P
2 Year: Larry Lanz, P
3 Year: Dave Ogrod, P

NOMINATING:

CHAIR: Janet Bray, P
2 Year: Cindy Davis, S
3 Year: Maureen Hill

RULES:

CHAIR: P/C Margaret Edidin, P
2 Year: Bill Brumit, AP
3 Year: Mike McCarthy, S

PORT CAPTAINS

WATTS BAR LAKE: Robert McConnel, S/N FT LOUDOUN LAKE: P/C James C. Barkley, SN TELLICO LAKE: P/D/C Mike Scher, AP

APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRS and OFFICERS (Some of the following positions will be updated.)

BOAT SHOWS

Lt/C Dave Powers, AP

MEMBERSHIP

Ed Armes, AP

NATIONAL LIAISON

P/D/C Ronald Lukens, AP

SAFETY

PDC Michael P. Scher, AP

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Ray West, AP

LAW OFFICER

P/C Jim Barkley, SN

SQUADRON HISTORIAN

P/C Nick Tronolone, AP

VESSEL SAFETY CHECK

P/C Bob Bray, JN

PROPERTY OFFICER

P/C Bob Bray, JN

LEGISLATIVE/LIASION

P/C Chuck Smith, P

ROSTER& CALLING COMMITTEE

Nancy Campbell, P

OPERATION BOAT SMART

Lt/C Dave Roberts, JN

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Sue DePew, S

WEBMASTER of KPS Website (www.kps-site.org)

Ken Bloomfield, AP

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATION

Nancy Campbell, P
Sharon Birdwell
Polly Lanz
Charlie Meadows

ABC CLASS COORDINATOR

Otto Schwarz, S

MERIT MARK

Kathie Hawbaker, P

(Commander's Report Continued from page 1)

- ◇ ***In other areas***, we now have a pamphlet that gives new members some insight as to how we operate as a boating organization. We have changed our storage area to save money and we have cleaned up our stores to get rid of outdated material so we can better manage what we have. Over the past year, we have also increased the assets needed for training and events. Our Vessel Safety Program has grown over the past two years and we have given at least two briefings to other organizations about how we serve the public interest.

The Knoxville Power Squadron is in excellent shape and I know our incoming Bridge will provide the guidance we need going forward.

Please don't miss the chance to meet D/Lt C Margaret Sherrod, SN, at our February Change of Watch/dinner meeting. Margaret is the Current Executive Officer for our district (District 17). She previously served as the Education Officer for three years for District and has extensive experience in the Atlanta Squadron. I have known her for several years and have the utmost confidence in her ability to run the District and advance our concerns to National.

I look forward to the coming years and the changes and new events that our new members will organize.

Thank you all,

Michael





OUR 2016 SEASON WAS KICKED OFF AT THE HIBACHI GRILL ON JANUARY 25.

It was the annual election meeting at which time the Nominating Committee Chairperson, Janet Bray, presented the 2016 slate for approval. According to KPS By-Laws, each nominee was presented and approved by all members in attendance.

Approximately 30 people attended this meeting. As in the past, attendance at the January dinner meeting typically falls short due to other commitments that time of year. I would like to mention, however, that at least 12 people made a reservation and didn't bother to keep it. Only 2 of those individuals called to let me know that they would not be able to attend.

As a courtesy to our next Administrative Officer, I would encourage you to show some consideration and help to make their job easier.

Thanks to all who came out to the election dinner meeting!

FEBRUARY CHANGE OF WATCH/DINNER MEETING

Date: February 22
Location: Lakeside Tavern
 10911 Concord Park Drive
 Knoxville, Tennessee 37922
 Phone: (865) 671-2980
Social Hour: 1800
Dinner: 1900
Speaker: D/Lt C Margaret Sherrod, SN

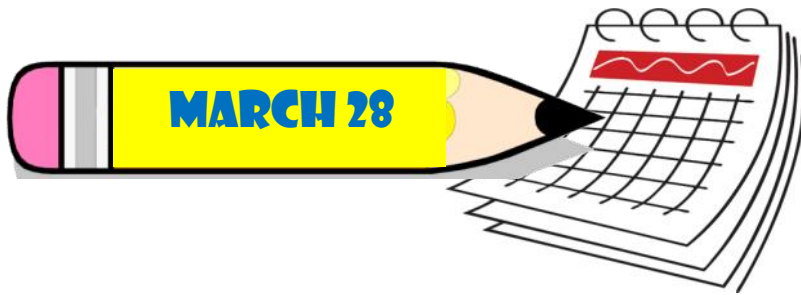


The formal Change of Watch will take place at the February dinner meeting at the Lakeside Tavern. Everyone is encouraged to attend this prestigious event. It promises to be an entertaining evening for everyone. The cost of \$30 per person needs to be received by me no later than **February 15**. And don't forget, I also need your menu option choice of either chicken pasta, wood-grilled salmon, or hickory grilled sirloin.

Linda Sundstrom
 1410 Tomahawk Trail
 Maryville, Tennessee 37801

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Our March dinner meeting will be on the 28th — so mark your calendars! We'll be meeting at the Dead End BBQ, 527 West Broadway Avenue in Maryville. The cost will be \$14 per person and our meal will be served family style.

On the menu:

- ◇ Pulled pork, chicken, and brisket
- ◇ Variety of sides — beans, corn, mac 'n cheese, green beans
- ◇ Dessert
- ◇ Non-alcoholic beverages

There is an open bar where alcoholic beverages may be purchased.

If you will be attending, please let Esther Webster know and send her your checks made payable to the Knoxville Power Squadron no later than **March 18.**

**Esther Webster
1021 Marina Harbour Drive
Maryville, Tennessee 37801**

EJWebster9396@gmail.com



The winter months are always slow times for education programs. However, that is about to change !

CRUISE AND CRUISE PLANNING

Beginning March 1, Tom and Marbeth Dietrich will be teaching Cruise and Cruise Planning. The Dietrichs have done extensive boating in various U.S. and international waters, encompassing timeframes from weeks to months. You will enjoy their wealth of knowledge and especially their delightful way of presenting the material.

The Cruising and Cruise Planning Course focuses on the planning and preparation necessary for safe and enjoyable extended cruises on both inland and coastal waters. It is designed for members who cruise either by sailboat or powerboat (owned or chartered) and covers the following topics:



- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| ◇ General Cruise Preparation and Planning | ◇ Crew and Provisioning |
| ◇ Boat and Equipment | ◇ Voyage Management |
| ◇ Anchors and Anchoring | ◇ Communications |
| ◇ Security | ◇ Navigation |
| ◇ Chartering | ◇ Weather |
| ◇ Cruising Outside the United States | ◇ Emergencies |

This course is expected to run seven weeks, one evening per week. Cost is \$60 for a KPS member or \$83 for two family members sharing one student manual. For registration and additional information, contact the Dietrichs at 865-657-9190 or tdietric1@aol.com. Or you may contact Delila Callahan at 931-456-0505 or deiliacal@gmail.com.



Following the Cruise and Cruise Planning Course, *Engine Maintenance* will be taught by Ken Bloomfield in late spring. Engine Maintenance will also be featured in the March "*Now Hear This!*" Newsletter.

Three ABC Classes are planned for 2016--one each in April, May and July.

DINGHY POWER ALTERNATIVES

Many of our members like to make some moderately extended cruises on their boats and therefore must contemplate anchoring at some point. To that end, many of us have a dinghy that we take along one way or the other. This being the case, we often like to have some form of motivation for the craft other than the oars for longer trips gunkholing around our chosen anchorage area.

This is typically when some aggravation begins, namely getting the dinghy motor to run reliably. With the advent of Ethanol fuels sitting on top of the historic rigors of storing gasoline for outboards, this is often the occasion for some colorful language on startup and reliable running. Now, there are a couple of very viable alternatives that are both free of these hassles.

The top photo shows the Torqeedo all electric outboard. This has a built-in battery and all up weighs right at 30 lbs. It has a range of about 10 miles (5 out & 5 back) which is typically more than enough for most anchorages. The built-in battery can easily be taken off the motor for recharging. This motor will equal the performance of a 3-hp gas outboard in terms of push. These are fairly pricy (about 2x an outboard), but if the objective is to have reliable starting, very low (no) effort, light weight, and silent running, then these are a good choice. They have proven to be very reliable. In essence, you pay a lot of money to avoid hassle.

The bottom photo shows another alternative in today's market. This is a fairly classic outboard with the major exception that it is run by Propane. At the top left of the photo, you can see the Propane cylinder laying horizontal and screwed into the motor. This means no carrying liquid fuel, easy refueling, and reliable starting. The downside of these is that they are a bit heavier and are about 10% to 15% more expensive than a conventional gas outboard of the same performance. The main advantage of this motor is the ease of starting, for which you pay a relatively small premium.

In both engine families, there is a fairly large range of power available at, naturally, a rapidly increasing expense.



TORQEEDO MODEL "TRAVEL 1003"



LEHR 2.5 HP MODEL