



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS

Mark 4

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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Thank you for electing me as District 4 Commander. I appreciate your confidence and, with your help, will work to improve the district during my Watch Year of 2015-2016.

Overall, our goal is to help make the water a safer place to be. The basic problem is that many people venture out in boats and do not know the laws or "the rules of the road". This leads to incidents and accidents that could be avoided with the proper knowledge and training.

The solution to this problem is education and on the water training.

As an organization that has been teaching safe boating since 1914, we provide the means to help solve this

problem. Through class room instruction, as well as on the water practice, the United States Power Squadrons have contributed immeasurably to reducing boating accidents. In addition, we provide a fraternal and community friendly organization where people with a common interest can gather, provide a valuable service, and benefit by making and enjoying new friends.

The next step is to get involved. Remember, when you attend a USPS event, the room is full of friends; all you need is an introduction.

At our Change of Watch I asked our active squadron members to do 2 things:

- 1. Call someone you have not seen in awhile and (continued on page2)**

(continued from page 1)

2. ask them to attend an event or join your committee. Get them involved so they can experience the benefits of membership and want to stay on as a member.
3. Invite a friend or family member to join. You will not only help them gain boating safety knowledge (or perhaps a required boating certificate) but get to see them on a regular basis (no more “let’s get together sometime”) that never happens.

Since this reaches people who did not attend our Change of Watch, I will add one more:

4. If you are a member who has not participated in awhile, (maybe you sold your boat, maybe your spouse passed away, maybe your friends moved away) please reconsider. Call someone you know, call

your squadron commander or call me. We would love to have you join us again at fun filled events. You will be welcome to make new friends, reminisce with old ones, share your experience and knowledge on a committee, or possibly help or teach a class. Remember our motto: “Come for the Boating Education, stay for the Friends”.

The United States Power Squadrons provide a valuable service to their communities and those who enjoy boating-from kayaks to yachts-but also, as our chief commander has stated, “we are not afraid to have fun”. We enthusiastically invite you to join us for a safe, fun filled season.

Richard Pfaff, JN

Commander, District 4

IT IS SAFE BOATING WEEK AGAIN.
PLEASE NOTE RELEASE FROM D/LT
BERNICE FIORENTINI

WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET

Safe Boating week is almost here. May 16 – 22, 2015. Wear your life jacket when you're in a boat! Every boat is required to have a PFD (life jacket) for each person on board. Question 1: They should be: A. all large size, B, fitted to each individually, C. all type III, D all medium size.

Question 2: Any PFD which is to be used by small children should be:

A: Type 4, B: be pretty in color, C adjusted to child while in the water. D, have a crotch strap.

PDF's should be fitted to the wearer. Try them on and adjust all straps. Check snaps, zippers etc. Also do a water test to be sure the Jacket will keep you afloat comfortably? It is too late to replace a worn or inadequate jacket once you are in the water. Child safety is a special challenge. Invest in some comfortable child size PDF's . Another safety tip is to have the child wear a harness with a short tether (so they don't fall overboard) making sure that it is

kept snapped onto an appropriate anchor point at all times.

Answer to question 1 is B.

Answer to question 2 is D.

Don't forget don't DRINK and drive your boat or vehicle. Number of deaths caused by drinking for 2013 was 75, and 187 number of injuries.

(Editor's note, a long time member of Northern NJ Sail & Power Squadron, P/C Lawrence Felman, N, now deceased, always started his classes on PFD's by citing his own almost tragic experience when he tried a PFD on his grandson. On jumping into water, he started to sink. Make sure the PFD is the right size and made to keep the head out of the water)

Have fun this Summer. Wear your life jacket.

Your Safety Officer
Bernice Fiorentini

BOB GREEN CARRIED OUT THE IMPOSSIBLE

Past Rear Commander Robert A. Green, N, passed away peacefully during this first Friday in February 2015. His energy, enthusiasm and idealism made him seem larger than life. He was a husband, father, businessman, playwright, videographer, film producer, historian, and philanthropist. He touched people in amazing ways. His forty-eight year story of contributions to the United States Power Squadrons® is filled with the “impossible”. In 1968 Bob decided to become a boater and purchased a 32-foot cruiser. He immediately knew that he needed a Power Squadron boating course. He joined the Northern New Jersey Power Squadron and soon became its Public Relations Officer. His aggressive publicity programs drew large classes. He was soon the District Public Relations Officer and then he the Rear Commander of the National Public Relations Committee. His uncanny ability to create national interest for boating courses began with his public service announcements involving nationally renowned

showman Joey Bishop, actor John Wayne, and sports celebrity Joe Namath. Bob Green then convinced New York’s WNBC-TV to run a series of thirteen half hour segments delivering a Mini-Boating Course. It involved major news anchormen, TV personalities, and Power Squadron experts.

Bob returned to the local level in 1975 and in a decade served as Squadron and then District Commander. In 1985 he was again selected as a Rear Commander, this time with the National Safety Committee and became chairman of National Safe Boating Week for the (continued on page 4) (continued from page 3) National Safe Boating Council. He convinced the Hearst Corporation to invest \$300,000 for a United States Power Squadrons eighty-six minute Video Boating Course. It included closed captioning for hearing impaired which Bob arranged through Gallaudet University.

Bob later served as chair for three different Power Squadron National Anniversaries, for which he held events at the Boston Yacht Club the original 1912 (continued on page 5)

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Power Squadron location, and the New York Yacht Club, where in 1914 The United States Power Squadrons was born. For the 2004 anniversary Bob went on a national campaign in which he managed to convince each of the fifty-two state and territorial governors to personally sign the United States Power Squadrons' 90th Anniversary proclamation. He obtained several grants among which was \$206,000 a small boat safety grant and a \$200,000 Aquatic Resources Grant. Both involved sharing video productions with his friend movie producer P/R/C Ted Rankine. The second resulted in the well-known one hour TV broadcast, *The National Safe Boating Test*. That effort spun off a series of six TV public service announcement which promoted boating courses on cable channels from Vermont to Florida to California. These PSAs won national film awards. After becoming the Rear Commander of the Marketing/Public Relations Committee and a member of the Operating Committee in 2007 he joined forces with current R/C Greg Scotten to create an on-line electronic version of PROLOG

which he had republished in hardcopy revised editions for forty years to guide squadrons to fill boating class rooms. Bob and Greg later teamed together to obtain a letter from President Barak Obama delivered to the United States Power Squadrons at their 100th Anniversary in Jacksonville. Over the years, through the William and Bertha Green Foundation, Bob Green donated considerable sums (hundreds of thousands of dollars) to several squadrons and districts as well as to the national United States Power Squadrons and provided personal funding for several (continued on page 5)

(continued from page 4) marketing professional and professors to inform the organization. Through his art project, the organization's headquarters at Raleigh, North Carolina, has two original paintings by the renowned maritime artist, Don Demers. His latest project was an attempt to rejuvenate the squadrons of New Jersey. Through his foundation he was infusing money to reenergize those squadrons that needed help. Bob leaves his wife, Linda-Sue (continued on page 6)

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Green, four children, and nine grandchildren.

Bob was a forty-seven year member of the Northern New Jersey Power Squadron, an associate member of both the Shrewsbury Power Squadron and the Sarasota Power Squadron. In reality, his work reached every power squadron. Call it “impossible”, Bob could do it!

Author:

**R/C Gregory T. Scotten, SN
Public Relations Committee**

(even on his death, our own P/D/C, Bob Green has left a legacy. He committed money from his trust to a study to be conducted by our district aimed at improving membership recruitment and retention. Further information on this will be forthcoming. THANK YOU BOB).

**CONFIDENCE WITH FIRE
PROTECTION**

What is the most frightening thing you could face on your boat? The first thing I think of is sinking, but lately, after reading about the survivors of a boat

fire, I had to admit, that that event would be the worst. A few years ago, I experienced two fires that hit close to home. The first was at a local marina. While boating towards that busy location, I noticed smoke. When I arrived the staff was busy attempting to extinguish a fire. Soon there was resignation and they began cutting lines and pushing boats out into the larger water. It was devastating. The marina suffered quite a bit of damage, but the boat loss was minimized by the quick thinking and actions of those brave people.

The next event occurred on an inland lake. It was a cool, cloudy day with many boaters at a marina doing long needed tasks. Someone alerted us to a big black cloud of smoke billowing (continued on page 6) (continued from page 5) just outside the break wall. A few climbed onto dinghies and headed out to offer assistance while the rest called for help and waited. Those who were rescued told us that, in just a few moments, things went from: from “I smell smoke!” to “Get lifejackets on and abandon ship!”,

There are many potential sources of fire. Boats with (continued on page 7)

(continued from page 6)

galleys, inboards, and multiple electrical systems are at great risk, but so are any boats with gas or battery power on board. There have even been reports of fires originating with laptops and cell phones, yikes! A fire drill is a prudent step. Look around your boat and identify areas of likely threat and call out, “fire in the galley” or the area of threat, and instruct those with which you routinely boat to act. It allows you to identify weaknesses in the response. The law requires at least one fire extinguisher; however a minimum of two is safer. Most fires need more multiple extinguishers. A boat with a cabin, can use a fire blanket to wrap around oneself in getting past the fire and to a safe exit. Check electrical connections frequently and make sure battery posts are covered to prevent any metal from touching them and creating sparks. Be careful when filling a galley stove and ventilation is key. Cleaning rags with traces of chemicals, finishes or oils should be placed in a secure container with an air tight lid. When dealing with fire, stay upwind to the degree that it is possible, the

toxic fumes can be as dangerous as the fire itself..

Lastly, know when to give up. Always act on the side of caution. Boats and their contents can be replaced. Never be afraid of calling it a loss and abandoning ship, if it saves lives. To learn confident boating, contact your local unit of the United States Power Squadrons or the national website at www.USPS.org. To be sure that your boat in ready for cruising contact them for a free voluntary Vessel Safety Check Its members always send the invitation: “**Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends.**”

Leigh Ann Long
Mark Long
Staff Writers
Public Relations Committee
United States Power
Squadrons

On the Light Side

The head counselor at a kid’s summer camp held an orientation meeting with all counselors at the start of the camp. He reminded them that while they were poorly paid, (continued on page 8)

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they could do well with tips from the parents on visiting days. He gave them this advice.
To make sure you get a good tip, remember parents want to hear good things about their children. If a parent asks about their son or daughter, just tell them “Jimmie is a great baseball player, or Ellen is great in volleyball, etc”.

Once in a long while a child comes along that you cannot say anything good about. When Richie’s ’s parents ask about their son just say “What a Boy”.

AROUND THE SQUADRONS

With many squadrons unable to run all courses, an alternative while the district is exploring other possibilities, is for members to take classes given by another squadron. The following courses are being offered at this time.

Raritan Bay Power Squadron is holding our
**America’s Boating Course At Keyport Yacht Club 115 First Street
Keyport, NJ 07735**

The classes will be held from 6 PM to 9 PM

Monday June 15, 22 & 29
At the completion of the final class a test
Will be given and if you pass you will receive
A New Jersey Safe Boating Certificate
You must register by **May 27, 2014**
The cost is \$85 per person
For more information call
Tom Delaney 201-320-1994

Lackawana Power Squadron and R/C Chris Windeler, SN will have an ABC 2 day class at his house on 6/14 and 6/15 from 9am to 2 pm each day. You are invited. Please RSVP to Chris at cwindeler@comcast.net by **June 4, 2015**. If you wish to participate.
**Chris Windeler,
Chester, NJ 07930
908-879-5066**

Northern NJS&PS is conducting an ABC class with P/D/C **David Meshulam . AP** as instructor at the **Atlantis Yacht Club, Monmouth Beach, NJ**, on **Saturdays, June 6 (2 hours) and June 13 (6 hours)**. On passing exam, **NJ Safe Boating Certificate** will be issued. Cost is **\$70**.
Sign up by May 17. Call Dave Meshulam at (973) 727-9892

WE HAVE A WINNER

This is the second time in the four years that I have been chairperson for the Boarman Youth Poster Contest that we have had a National Winner. Last year we had a third place winner, and this year I was excited when Sarah Hanna, a Lackawanna entry, came in first place in the 6 to 8 year old category. This is exciting since this is a National Contest; it is open to all Districts, so she was up against some excellent posters.

The Youth Poster Contest is a United States Power Squadron event that furthers youth appreciation of the water and how safe boating is fun boating. It is open to all children ages 6-14. National has asked all the Districts and Squadrons to participate. Each squadron runs their own contest and the winners in each of the three categories are then judged at the District Fall Conference. It is suggested that squadrons award a monetary prize to the winners. The winners at the District level will each receive \$25.00 and the winning posters are taken to the National Meeting in Florida for final judging. The first place winners, in each age group, will each receive \$150.00, second place winners \$100.00 and third

place winners \$75.00. So as you can see, not only is the satisfaction of winning a great feeling, but the monetary amount can be substantial for a child.

This year's theme is "When You Boat Be Ready to Float... Wear It". Talk to your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends and neighbor's children, as well as schools and organizations. I will be happy to forward the information to you.

You can reach me by email at elaine.pfaff@lackawanna.org, or find my phone number in the Directory.

D/Lt/C Elaine Pfaff, JN

SAD NEWS

2015 has not been a good year for Past District Commanders of District 4. We also Lost P/D/C Frank McHugh, AP, (1993), Pallsades PS, and as this issue of Mark 4 was being completed, I just got word of the passing of P/D/C Hank Griffin, SN, Staten Island PS. Hank was also a Past Rear Commander. They, along with P/D/C will be missed.



Lackawana Change of Watch



City Island PS Change of Watch



Lackawana Change of Watch



Northern NJ Change of Watch



Shrewsbury and Liberty Harbor Joint Change of Watch



Palisades Change of Watch

(My apologies to those squadrons whose pictures are not included. Just a reminder, in the future all squadrons are urged to provide pictures and other releases we can use in Mark 4,)



Mark 4 is the official publication of District 4, USPS. Published 4 times a year. P/D/C David J. Meshulam, AP, Editor, Gail Merson, Assistant Editor, with the help of many loyal members. Articles and announcements from squadron officers and members are welcome by email at DJMGEM@AOL.COM

P/D/C Dave Meshulam, Editor