



The Cornfield Sailor

Commander's Message

Commander Russell G Wahlers, P

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- George D Herrington, N
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Greetings! As we approach the final weeks of the boating season here in the Midwest, our thoughts have probably increasingly started to include checklists for preparing our boats for off-season storage. This is also a great time of the year to consider many of the fall and winter educational and social activities offered by Hoosier Sail & Power Squadron in your plans.

Several HSPS seminar and class opportunities are quickly approaching. "How to Use a Chart", a very practical and interesting USPS seminar, will be offered on 25 September. Details are found elsewhere in

this edition of the Cornfield Sailor or contact Charlie Hamm (317 587-8883 or chamm001@indy.rr.com) to enroll. "Cruise Planning", another popular USPS elective course, will be offered in October by instructor Fred Plantz. See the HSPS Education Page at www.usps.org/localusps/hoosier/educ/ for details and to enroll or call George Herrington at 317 843-1084.

On the social scene, our Mariners' Steak Fry will take place at the Indianapolis Sailing Club on 11 October at 6:30. Reservations are requested by 8 October by calling Joe

Niese at 317 255-1989 or email rgwahlers@comcast.net. This is one of our most popular social events and promises to be fun for all who attend. Later in the season, mark your calendars for the annual Christmas Gala to be held on 7 December. Details on this event will follow soon.

Finally, don't forget to mark your calendars for the District 24 Fall Council and Conference to be held in Covington, KY 2-4 November I hope that you enjoy this issue of the Cornfield Sailor and continue to check our website at:

www.usps.org/localusps/hoosier

Marine Radio Seminar to be Given This Fall

VHF radio is the mainstay of coastal communication and essential for emergency communications. Digital Selective Calling (DSC) is rapidly becoming a reality as more Coast Guard *Rescue 21 System* operations go live. Currently, the mid Atlantic coast is operational with DSC. The Gulf region will be operational early next year and all Cutters will be DSC equipped by next year.

DSC vastly simplifies and improves rescue and routine call signaling – making it easier to make a call while the system frees up Channel 16 for essential communications. However, you need to know how to use it. This

seminar answers those needs and explains basic VHF operation. A CD is included with a DSC Simulator that allows you to practice on your computer at home. A handy waterproof McGraw-Hill Captain's Quick Guide *Using VHF* is included with essential information that you should have aboard, which will explain to anyone on your crew how to use the radio.

This two hour seminar will be given this fall, location to be announced. It is open to members and non-members of Hoosier Sail & Power Squadron. There is no exam. A certificate of completing is awarded and registered with USPS. The cost is for materials only.



Fall Governing Board

The USPS Fall Governing Board was held in Norfolk, VA. The principal item of business was a change of governance for the USPS. The creation of a Board of Directors sparked a long parliamentary procedure debate before being passed.

The national treasurer reported that USPS was now in the black as a result of budget

economies and dues increases. The National dues are to increase yearly the same rate as the cost of living index.

The Governing Board closed with a Pirate Theme Banquet which was attended by many elaborately dressed pirates who enjoyed the festivities in true pirate style. ARRRRR!!!



Charles and Nedra Hamm joined the Pirate Festivities at the United States Power Squadron Fall Governing Board in Norfolk, Virginia.

They also enjoyed touring Colonia Williamsburg and Jamestown, the National Marine Museum and the Battle ship Wisconsin.

Introducing U S Coastguard "RESCUE 21" Saving Lives in the 21st Century

Rescue 21 is an advanced command, control, and communications system that will improve the ability of the Coast Guard to assist mariners in distress and save lives as well as heighten Homeland Security measures. It provides the communications infrastructure for all Coast Guard Missions, Search and Rescue, Marine Safety, Law Enforcement, Environmental Protection, and Homeland Security.

It incorporates direction-finding equipment (digital selective calling) to improve locating mariners in distress, improves interoperability amongst federal, state and local agencies, enhances clarity of distress calls, allows simultaneous channel monitoring, upgrades playback and recording features of distress calls, reduces coverage gaps for coastal communications and along navigable rivers and waterways, supports Digital Selective Calling, (DSC) providing Global Positioning System capabilities and provides portable towers for restoration of communications during emergencies or natural disasters

VHF-FM Marine-band radios are the safest method to notify the Coast Guard of a maritime distress. The Coast Guard will continuously monitor VHF-FM Channels 16 and 70. Boaters are encouraged to take advantage of Digital Selective Calling capabilities, but must register for MMSI and properly connect the DSC radio to their GPS.

A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN C-MAP/USA AND USPS

The collaboration between C-Map and the USPS is designed to further each other's educational goals. The *Memorandum of Understanding* covers a wide array of items from the development and distribution of vector chart training materials produced for USPS to special discounts on C-Map's products and services to USPS members. C-map will supply a demonstration version of its PC-Planner for use in USPS training courses involving piloting and navigation. Any USPS Squadron registered (we are) is eligible for discounts and can sell C-MAP products to members and nonmembers at prices and conditions established by each squadron.

25% off C-MAP Electronic Charts and 20% off C-MAP companion products, PC-Planner navigation planning package and C-Cam CCT cameras for plotter display.

Dates for 2007 Social

Squadron Social Events

- 11 Oct. --Mariner's Steak Fry
Indianapolis Sailing Club
- 07 Dec. --Holiday Gala
Location TBA
- 02 Feb. --Founder's Day
Annual Meeting
Location TBA
- 01 March --Change Of Watch
Location TBA

District & National Events

- 2-4 Nov. D24 Fall Council & Conference
3 Nov. D24 Educational Seminar, Radisson
Hotel Covington, KY
- 19-24 Feb. 08 USPS Annual Meeting, Dallas, TX
- TBA March 08 D24 Spring Conference & Council, Terre Haute, IN

Executive Committee & Membership Meeting Dates

Location:

Dates

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| MCL Cafeteria | 1 October 07 |
| Township Line Road | 5 November 07 |
| 2370 West 86th Street | 3 December 07 |
| Indianapolis, IN | 7 January 08 |
| Dinner 1730 | 2 February 08 |
| Meeting 1830 | |

PHASING OUT OF 121.5 AND 243 MHz FOR SATELLITE DISTRESS ALERTS

The International Cospas-Sarsat Program will **terminate satellite processing of distress signals from 121.5 and 243 MHz emergency beacons on February 1, 2009**. After this date, mariners, aviators and other persons will have to switch to emergency beacons operating at 406 MHz in order to be detected by satellites.

As part of the United States efforts to prepare beacon users for the end of 121.5 MHz frequency processing by satellites, the FCC has **prohibited the use of 121.5 MHz EPIRBs as of January 1, 2007 (47 CFR 80.1051)**.

Cospas-Sarsat operates a satellite constellation that relays distress alerts to search and rescue authorities through a worldwide ground communications network. The appropriate search and rescue agencies then respond to provide assistance. The beacons used include emergency locator transmitters (ELTs) in aircraft, emergency position-indicating radio beacons (EPIRBs) carried onboard vessels, and personal locator bea-

cons (PLBs) used by individuals. Aviators, mariners and other persons around the globe use these beacons.

Influencing Cospas-Sarsat Program's decision is guidance from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). These two specialized agencies of the United Nations are responsible for regulating the safety of ships and aircraft, respectively, on international transits, and handle international standards and plans for maritime and aeronautical search and rescue. Over 180 nations are members of IMO and ICAO.

121.5 MHz false alerts inundate search and rescue authorities. This is another major factor in influencing the decision to stop the satellite processing. False alerts adversely impact the effectiveness of lifesaving services. While the 406 MHz beacons cost more, they provide search and rescue agencies with the more reliable and complete information they need to do their job more efficiently and effectively.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), along with the United States Coast Guard, United States Air Force and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, are responsible for implementing the Cospas-Sarsat Program at the national level.

The United States Coast Guard is the lead agency for coordinating national search and rescue policy and is responsible for providing search and rescue services on, under and over assigned international waters and waters subject to United States jurisdiction.

The implication of this Cospas-Sarsat decision is that users of beacons that send distress alerts on 121.5 and 243 MHz should switch to beacons operating on 406 MHz if they want the alerts to be detected and relayed via satellites. Meanwhile, anyone planning to buy a new distress beacon needs to be aware and take the Cospas-Sarsat decision into account.

Make the switch to 406!"

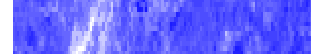


**D-24 NEWS
YOU CAN USE**

Don Cloyd has ask D-24 Squadrons to include a designated space in their newsletters so we can be aware of other squadrons' and District activities that might be of interest to all.

Keep an eye on this space for such information. We are asked to provide information we might have to them as well.

Our contact person is:
Charlie Hamm
317-587-8883 or
chamm001@indy.rr.com.



**The National
Association Of State
Boating Law
Administrators (NASBLA)
awarded the Seal of Safe
Boating Practices to
United States Power
Squadrons (USPS) Water
Smart From The Start
(SM) an "on-line" and
CD based game designed
to provide an enhanced
learning experience for
young boaters.
www.usps4kids.org**



A number of HSPS members gathered at the home of George and Linda Herrington to applaud the recovery of Jim Dolder.

**District 24 Fall Conference
2-4 November 2007
Covington, KY**

The District 24 Fall Conference will be hosted by the Cincinnati Power Squadron and held at the Radisson Hotel, Covington, KY on 2-4 November 2007.

A Survivor (from the TV show) Party will take place on Friday night. Get you best Survivor outfit together and make an appearance. It will be great fun.



**HOOSIER SAIL AND
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The **Hoosier Sail & Power Squadron** is a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®. We are a non-profit organization dedicated to safe boating, education and promoting high standards of navigation and seamanship.. The **Hoosier Sail & Power Squadron** became a charter member of USPS in 1952. We are in District 24 which is made up of ten local squadrons and covers the geographical area of Indiana, northern Kentucky, and southwestern Ohio.

HOOSIER SAIL & POWER SQUADRON WINS BATHTUB RACE

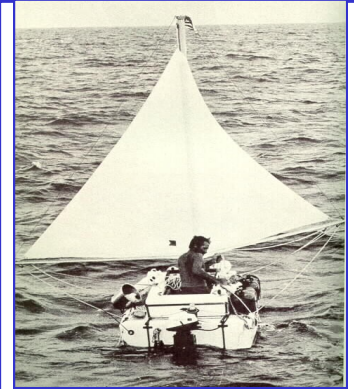


Hoosier Sail & Power Squadron won an unusual race at District 24 Summer Rendezvous. The vessels used in the race were vinyl bathtubs powered with a

paddle. The race always creates a lot of excitement and various types of aquatic vessels have been used in the past, even those made of cardboard. The Sum-

mer Rendezvous is always an enjoyable outing down on the Ohio River. If you have never made it consider putting it on your calendar.

Photos by Ralph Walsh



Smallest vessel to sail across the Atlantic, 5 1/2 feet long. The April Fool, but she really did accomplish the feat.

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