

# HEAD LINES

Marblehead Sail & Power Squadron -- District 18  
A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®

Volume 27 Issue 4  
November 2009

## From the Helm Cdr Dan Himes, AP

I'll be pulling my boat out soon, taking that last solitary trip out of Salem harbor and into Marblehead, viewing the foliage (which often turns late in the trees bordering the water- I've never understood why; moderated temperature perhaps?) and reflecting on the season past. I'll recall that it was a late start but nevertheless yielded some excellent days on the water. For these I am grateful.

I've always felt that the pace of the squadron is set more to an academic year than to a calendar year. Deep into autumn, the work of the squadron is in full swing, with Gin Osman scheduling and conducting safe-boating classes (we plan to offer at least three before next summer) as well as member courses, John Bedrossian putting together a slate of seminars, Lou Schoenthal filling out our remaining meeting schedules, Mark Cohen making sure our signs are correct and in place, and all involved making the reports necessary for the function of an organization so large and entrusted with such an important mission.

As you know, our mission goes beyond teaching a few new boaters how to tie a cleat hitch and telling them to wear pfd's. Our mission is about building a community, both within our organization and without. It's about engendering respect for each other, responsible boating behavior, and the sea. It's about getting even those who aren't members to acknowledge and embrace respect for these things.

If that reads as if I had a "close call" this past season, you are right. Apparently some powerboat operator (boat name withheld) couldn't be bothered to

change his autopilot settings in order to observe the rules of right of way.

I know I'm not the only person who has had this trouble recently. Sometimes the results of such ignorance or disregard can be tragic. Other times (like mine), merely irritating. But by building a community and a culture of intelligent boating we can marginalize such operators and make the seas safer for ourselves and our families.

To build the community we must engage the community. Our safe boating course is an important part of this process, but it should by no means be considered the last. Being visible and active in other ways is just as important. I'm grateful to all who have stood with me to greet the public and let them know we are here. (A special thanks goes to Gin Osman for single-handing the Salem Family Safety Day on 19 September.)

Building a community starts with having a strong and fundamentally sound organization. It also takes committed members. If you can spare a little time, I would sure appreciate it. Just a few hours a month would go a long way.

While I'm pleased that our organization is starting to grow again, I'd like to see more members attending our seminars and courses. We all know that it's to our benefit to remain active mentally. You should take advantage of the excellent offerings of your squadron to help you do so. A basic seamanship class can improve the quality of your time on the water dramatically. If you've never had one of piloting classes, you should get started right away! The knowledge you



gain from a piloting class could change the type of boating you do (especially here on the coast). And like any other activity, the more you know about what you are doing the more fun boating is.

If time is an issue and you can't take a full course, drop by for a seminar or two. They are playing to wide acclaim. If we

*(continued on page 4)*



### What's Inside

SEO Message . . . . .	2
Upcoming Courses . . . . .	3
Notes from the D18 Conference . . . . .	3
Seminar Series Begins November 11 . . . . .	4
October Meeting / Holiday Party . . . . .	5
America's Boating Class . . . . .	5
Sail Boston 2009 . . . . .	6
Another Perfect Day . . . . .	7

## 2009 Executive Committee

Commander Dan Himes, AP  
781-990-3001 danhimes@comcast.net

Executive Officer Robert Hirschkron, AP  
781 631 0152 rhtrails@comcast.net

Administrative Officer Louis Schoenthal, AP  
978-745-9746 Louis\_Schoenthal@mksinst.com

Educational Officer Gin Osman, SN  
781-631-1327 ginonrocks@hotmail.com

Treasurer Mark Peters, P  
781-639-2874 mpeters66@comcast.net

Secretary Beth Wolfe, AP  
978-744-1575 emswolfe@gmail.com

Member at Large Mark Sedgwick, AP  
978-337-1453 mark.sedgwick.FEB@fmr.com

Member at Large Rand Folta, S  
781-581-2108 rfolta@b-l.com

Past Commander Dan Shea, AP  
781-631-1716 dshea.hrps@comcast.net

## Head Lines

Janet Merriman, S, Managing Editor

Copy deadline is the 15th of the month preceding the issue date. Send articles, ideas and comments to janetm@theatriumdesign.com

## SEO Message

Gin Osman, SN

The fall public course kicked off with 14 students. After being priced out of Marblehead High School (accidentally and temporarily, we've been assured), we are at the Swampscott Senior Center (rear of new high school). Thanks to many for stepping up ... new course material (ABC-3), new facilities (SSC), web registrations, street signs for course, 1st night registration and back to offering charting. Great job by Steve Jerome, Dan Himes, Skip Whittaker, Lou Schoenthal, Mike Merriman, Beth Wolfe, Brian Schanning, Dale Smith, John Bedrossian, Dan Shea, Mark Cohen, Mark Peters, Dave Walker, Jerry Zanni and especially Merrell Feldman. THANKS so much!!



Thanks to those who contributed to the Ed Department with items like old charts, lines, PFDs ... will put to good use for upcoming classes, public demos/displays, etc. If in doubt ... give me a call! Thanks.

What do you want to take ... here's the current course/seminar offerings:

Public Courses:	Adv. Grade:	Electives:
ABC3 (Fall & Winter)	Seamanship (Fall & Spring)	Cruise Planning
	Piloting (Fall & Spring)	Engine Maintenance
	Adv. Piloting (Fall)	Instructor Development
	J. Navigation (as requested)	Marine Electronics
	Navigation (as requested)	Sail
		Weather

### Seminars:

Anchoring	Paddle Smart
Boat Handling under power	Boat Handling under power
Knots, Bends, & Hitches	How to Use a Chart
Hurricanes & Boats	Onboard Weather
Marine RADAR	Sail Trim
Trailing	Using GPS
Using VHF/DSC Marine Radio	

If you're interested in teaching a public course, then you'll need to become a certified instructor. Contact me for more information. More seminars are being planned so please let us know of your interests (see above list). Perhaps you're interested in creating training aids or developing power point presentations; how about chairing a board (Public, Advanced or Elective) or chairing the Boating Course? Let me know.

---

---

## Upcoming Courses

*Gin Osman, SN*

Here's our 2009 Fall member course schedule.

---

### Advanced Grade:

Start Date	Course	Instructor	Location
Oct 28	Advanced Piloting	Art Capstaff	Gin's House
Oct 26 (filled)	Junior Navigation	Tim McCaffrey	Gin's House

---

### Public Classes:

Start Date	Course	Instructor	Location
Sept 23	Sqd Boating (ABC-3)	Steve Jerome, Ch	Swampscott Senior Center
Nov 11	GPS Seminar	Mike Merriman	Swampscott Senior Center
Nov 12	Onboard Wx Seminar	John Bedrossian, Ch	Swampscott Senior Center

Here's how USPS describes these courses.

Advanced Piloting (AP) builds on student's coastal & inland navigation skills, allowing the student to take on more challenging conditions (unfamiliar waters, limited visibility, & extended cruises). GPS is primary navigation tool while adding RADAR, chartplotters, & other electronic navigation tools. Topics covered: advancing line of position, electronics (likeGPS, RADAR, depth sounders, autopilots, laptop computer software), hazard avoidance techniques, working with tides & currents, and more "Seaman's Eye". [10 sessions; open & closed book exams]

To register for AP class, contact SEO (webpage or phone). Payment will be collected at first class meeting. Student materials will be ordered PRIOR to class, so there will be a limited number of students. IF you want to take a particular course, then contact me ... otherwise it may NOT happen.

---

## Notes from the D18 Conference

*Gin Osman, SN*

**H**arold Burnham, an Essex Boat Builder, gave an update on Ernestina, a 114 year old Essex schooner. Of the 4000 vessels built in Essex during its 350 year shipbuilding history, only seven historic schooners survive, five of which were built as fishing boats:

\* The ERNESTINA ex/EFFIE M. MORRISSEY 1894 [www.ernestina.org](http://www.ernestina.org)

\* The LETTIE G. HOWARD 1893 [www.southstseaport.org](http://www.southstseaport.org)

\* The L.A. DUNTON 1921 [www.mysticseaport.org](http://www.mysticseaport.org)

\* The ADVENTURE 1926 [www.schooner-adventure.org](http://www.schooner-adventure.org)

\* The EVELINA M. GOULART 1927

\* The ROSEWAY 1925 [www.roseway.com](http://www.roseway.com)

\* The HIGHLANDER SEA ex/PILOT 1924 [www.achesonventures.com/highlandersea](http://www.achesonventures.com/highlandersea)

- John Bedrossian received D18's Chapman Award Nomination. Congratulations John.

- Dex Hyland updated us from recent Governing Board meeting, highlighting USPS University, and presented updates on the Boat Operator Certification program.

- Bob Sweet presented message from the Chief and spoke about the Education department's classroom, home study and online courses. See this link from University of West Florida to see all the "online classes" offered ... [www.continued.uwf.edu/maritimeed](http://www.continued.uwf.edu/maritimeed)



*Harold Burnham at D18 Conference*



*John Bedrossian received D18's Chapman Award Nomination*

---

From the Helm *Dan Himes, AP,*  
(cont. from page 1)

are putting one on that we've already had (some are coming up as you'll see in this issue of the Headlines), then give us a hand setting up and breaking down the room, signing people in and so on, and sit in on it again.

Don't forget to take advantage of the social side of our organization! We've had some remarkable speakers this year, and an outstanding tour of Hospital Point Light. If you missed those, be sure you don't let our holiday dinner and speaker get away from you.

As you probably have heard, Headquarters is changing the way it contacts its members. The USPS is switching to SailAngle.com, a social boating site, to deliver updates and information. Joining is easy: go to USPS.org, log in, go back to the home page and click the SailAngle.com logo. You'll be taken to the site and automatically loaded into the groups to which you belong (district, squadron, etc.). You can connect with boaters from around the country as well as your fellow Marblehead Sail and Power Squadron members. The important thing is that you can set your personal email preferences so that you are notified by email if you receive a message. This service relieves you of having to notify USPS whenever you change your contact preferences, such as your email address. You will, of course, have to notify SailAngle of the change, but hopefully you'll find the site useful as a social site and will notify them of contact changes as a matter of course.

Finally, a nag: If you haven't paid your dues for this year, please do so. Go to <http://www.usps.org/dues> and enter your information. Without your support, we are nothing.

---

## Seminar Series Begins November 11

*John Bedrossian, SN*

The Marblehead Sail & Power Squadron will be teaching two USPS seminars this November at the Swampscott Senior Center, located behind the new Swampscott High School, on Essex Street. Starting time will be 7:00 pm. The seminars, as usual, are open to members and non-members, so please invite a friend. Check out the squadron web page for more details.

**"Using GPS"**, Nov. 11. This seminar explains the principles of waypoint navigation as used on the water. It then explains how to relate the GPS display to your paper chart position which provides essential information about what is around you. Included are a copy of the USPS GPS Guide and a waterproof McGraw-Hill Captain's Quick Guide Using GPS. Seminar will be taught by Mike Merriman, who has done extensive coastal sailing. Cost: \$30.

**"Onboard Weather Forecasting"**, Nov. 12. Being weather-wise will make your boating safer and more enjoyable. Learn how to read cloud formations, wind, temperature and air pressure. Included are the On Board Weather Forecasting, waterproof Captain's guide and Student note book. The instructor will be John Bedrossian. Cost: \$26.

Registration and payment for course materials should be made on the MSPS web page, [www.marblehead-usps.org](http://www.marblehead-usps.org) or call John Bedrossian at 781-639-1739.

---

## October General Meeting

*Louis Schoenthal, AP*

Our social meeting on Thursday October 8, 1900 at Marblehead Yacht Club was off to a great start the day before the event when our speaker, Capt Bob Blair, emailed me to say he had a cruise ship leaving Gloucester at 1800. "The cruise ships are generally on time, I should be done by 1900, if I could come on the pilot boat I should be there by 1930." ON THE PILOT BOAT! So I called our contact at MYC who assured us that the float would be available for the 32 foot pilot boat.

At 1915 I recieved a cell call from Bob asking exactly where the MYC is in relation to the harbor. Since I'm a Salem person and have never had reason to sail into Marblehead, I had to ask the membership where the MYC is.

Armed with this information, Bob found us and we helped him tie up his boat. Bob proceeded to give us an excellent talk about the role of pilots and his work in Salem and Gloucester. And yes, we did verify that the proper lighting for a pilot boat is white over red!

I cut the food right to the wire so for those of you who didn't get seconds, I apologize.

Thanks to Captain Blair for making the extra effort to show up on time and his excellent talk

---

## Holiday Party

*Louis Schoenthal, AP*

Our annual Holiday Party will be at Gerry 5 on Beacon Street in Marblehead on Friday, December 4. Dinner choices will be steak tips or chicken with salad bar and vegetables.

Cost will be around \$25 per person but we are still planning as I write this so please see the postcard which you will receive around November 10 for exact cost and RSVP information.

The speaker will be Mr. Bruce Bateman. He will give his excellent presentation on "The Lore of Shipwreck Legends"

Bateman grew up swimming in Danversport and was "underwater all the time." He has been a Banner Tow Pilot, a Glider Tow Pilot, an Ultra light Aircraft Examiner and a test pilot of experimental aircraft. He was co-founder and president of the Plattsburgh Air Force Diving Club and co-founder of the Air Force Diving Team, where he set up procedures for jumping out of helicopters and rescuing downed airmen.

He dove under the ice for body and aircraft recovery and trained police and firemen for rescue teams.

He started lecturing on history while he was in the Air Force in 1957 on Lake Champlain. He was also a member of the U.S. Air Force Bobsled Team, which brought yet another new adventure to his life.

Remember Gerry 5 is right at the beginning of Beacon Street which is the extension of West Shore Drive just past the VFW and little convenience store. Please plan to join us for the fun and informative evening with your squadron members.

---

## America's Boating Class

*Gin Osman, SN*

MSPS's public boating class (ABC) kicked off on Wednesday, September 23 with registration and first session taught by Cdr Dan Himes, AP. 14 students joined this course and have been consistantly attending each Wednesday. Our students are involved and asking great questions!

They range from zero to 30+ years of boating experience with boats from under 16' to 26'-39' sail / power and several without a boat.

There are several firsts with this class:

- first time at the Swampscott Senior Center
- first time for offering ABC in a classroom
- first time for exam, then charting.

The team of instructors took the new material and have experienced only one problem (with a video not projecting), but otherwise the presentations are going very well. Each release of course material from National is a concern, but so far this ABC-3 is fabulous ... photos, animation, videos!

This session will offer the chart-work AFTER the exam. So next week will start with the introduction to navigation and follow-up with charts. This is different from past courses where piloting skills were introduced over a three or four week period. It will be interesting to see how well this format works for the students ... will only a concentrated two sessions work?

## Member Notes

Seeking experienced crew to assist in one or two legs of eight week cruise from Tortola, British Virgin islands to Grenada on well founded Beneteau 34. Trip starts early January. Costs and boat handling shared.

Jerry Wishnow  
Marblehead MA  
jwishnow@yahoo.com

Want to know how to get rid of old gas or other hazardous waste? Bring to the Health Department Garage on Tower Way (off Village Street, Marblehead) on 7 November 2009. And bring some form of payment, because getting rid of the stuff isn't free.

For more information, try to type this into your browser without making a mistake: <http://www.marblehead.org/CurrentEvents.aspx?EID=3902>

(there is a link for more information there...)

## Sail Boston 2009

*John Bedrossian, SN*

On July 11, 2009, we joined Jubilee Yacht Club and the Beverly Sail and Power Squadron aboard the chartered boat, Privateer, to tour Boston Harbor and see the tall ships. We departed the Jubilee Yacht Club at 0930, on a sunny Saturday and sailed down to Boston.

The harbor was jammed with pleasure boats, commercial charter boats and Coast Guard vessels; the flow of traffic was counter-clockwise through the harbor to reduce potential collisions. We entered the harbor, below the approaching airliners at Logan, and went in as far as the Charlestown Navy Yard before turning and proceeding past the Harbor Hotel, Fan Pier, the World Trade Center and the Black Falcon pier.

At the Charlestown Navy Yard we saw the USCG Barque Eagle, the Amistad, and the Blue Nose II; at the World Trade Center we passed the Russian four-masted Barque Kruzenshtern, with its fore-mast decapitated. To make things even more enjoyable, the owners of Privateer provided wine, cheese and snakes during our time in the harbor.

All in all there were more than 50 visiting ships in the harbor. After a wonderful time in Boston Harbor aboard Privateer we returned to Beverly by 1500. What a great day.



## Another Perfect Day...

Mark Peters, P

Yes, blue sky and beautiful water. Another perfect day on the boat.

As the winter days get colder, I will reflect on how good those few days were, and how good they will be again in the spring. Amazing how the mind can polish a memory until it shines.

A love of boating is not rational. It is a complicated love / hate relationship. You hate the expenses, since the boat is "a hole in the ocean that you throw money into." The economics don't work, but as they say the rewards are "priceless".

Boats require commitment, strain resources, test patience, and then provide moments better than polished memories. You plan on spending more time with your boat, and enjoy the time when you get the chance. Unfortunately, on cold fall days such as today, it becomes clear once again that the days of summer have slipped away.

Take a moment to think back on the fun you've had on boats. You might be surprised by the number of fond memories, and the variety of the boats that carried you.

My memories start with the Staten Island ferry when I was a kid, enjoying a view of the Statue of Liberty with my family, with our car parked below. During summers as a kid, I learned to fish and water ski on Pickerel Lake in South Dakota. Most recently I have been canoeing, kayaking, sailing and fishing with my wife Evonne and our kids Michelle and Daniel here in Marblehead.

You can't beat the thrill of a 15 knot breeze sailing toward Gloucester, unless perhaps it's the excitement when someone reels in a striper. [Check out the beautiful fish my son Daniel caught during fishing camp with Randy Ziglar.] There are those times on commercial

boats as well, such as when we went deep sea fishing out of Gloucester, went whale watching out of Provincetown, or went on a classic tall ship out of Rockland, Maine. Even the rental boats offer tons of fun - during our summer vacation this year my kids enjoyed the thrill of water skiing again, and I proved that I still know how to slalom.

Every summer our family ventures out toward Manchester by the Sea, Little Misery, or Gloucester. When we are sailing in our sloop, or are tooling around in a powerboat, the smiles are ear-to-ear. Unless, of course, the engine is temperamental. Or, perhaps, the wind picks up beyond the comfort zone. Or either the captain or first mate is a bit grumpy.

Anyway, you get the picture. But at the end of the day, and the end of the season, the outings on those sunny summer days are priceless. Just smooth out the rough edges of those memories, and stockpile the smiles to ease your way through another winter.



## Thank you to our Friends of MSPS

**Green's Ace Hardware** 70 Atlantic Ave. Marblehead, MA 01945  
Phone: (781) 639-2257 Fax: (781) 639-1053

**Green's Ace Hardware** 14 Forest Ridge Dr. Rowley, MA 01969  
Phone: (978) 946-7333 timgreen@rowleyhardware.com

**ACE** **Tim Green**  
President

**WILLIAM C. BURKE, JR.**  
**INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.**

Personal and Business Insurance  
18 Brown Street  
Salem, Massachusetts 01970-3830

**CLAIRE M. GERRISH**  
claire@burkeinsagcy.com

Work (978) 741-7810  
Fax (978) 741-7800

"Steering you in the right direction"

**FAIR WIND**  
**OUTBOARD**  
MARBLEHEAD, MA

95 Ocean Avenue  
at Devereux Beach  
Marblehead, Ma. 01945  
(781) 631-3388

**Frank A. Lord**  
MARINE STORE  
EXHIBITS  
AQUASPORT  
JONHON  
PUMPS  
LOAD RITE TRAILERS

**Jory Berkwitz, CFP®**  
First Vice President - Investments  
International Financial Advisor

Global Wealth Management  
125 High Street  
High Street Tower, 19th Floor  
Boston, MA 02110  
T 617 946 4249  
T 800 695 2251  
F 617 946 4376  
jory\_berkwitz@ml.com

**Merrill Lynch**

**Jerry A. Zanni, D.D.S.**  
COSMETIC DENTISTRY • TMJ • GENERAL DENTISTRY

"EXCEPTIONAL DENTAL CARE WITH NO EXCEPTION"

277 WASHINGTON STREET  
MARBLEHEAD, MA 01945  
TELEPHONE (781) 631-2044 www.jerryzannidds.com

Want to become a friend of MSPS?

See back page for details!



www.marblehead-usps.org

# HEAD LINES

Marblehead Sail & Power Squadron – District 18  
*a Unit of the United States Power Squadrons*

Volume 27 Issue 4  
November 2009

## Upcoming Events: Mark your calendar

October		December	
26	Junior Navigation Class (filled)	4	Holiday Party
28	Advanced Piloting Class	January	
November		14	Salem Beerworks Social
11	GPS Seminar	February	
12	Onboard Weather Seminar	7	Change of Watch

*If you are a business owner or manager, please consider supporting MSPS through a partnership. The "Friends of MSPS" program allows you to place an ad in our newsletter "Head Lines" for an entire year and it only costs \$150 – this program has been vital in paying for the newsletter, and MSPS depends on your support going forward.*

*If you are willing to extend discounts to MSPS members, we are also interested in featuring your business on the MSPS website – please contact Dan Shea at [dshea.hrps@comcast.net](mailto:dshea.hrps@comcast.net) for more details and to renew your "Friends" status or become a new Friend.*

## Head Lines Boosters

Mark Cohen  
Alexander Falk  
Robert Sant Fournier  
Howard M. Knight  
Susan & Brian Schanning  
Joan Thayer  
Skip Whittaker

*Show support for our Safe Boating Courses! Your \$10 contribution goes toward the cost of Head Lines for our SBC students. Checks, payable to MSPS, can be sent to the editor.*