



Meriden Masthead

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Year 2012 at a glance

FEBRUARY

- 03 District 1 Council Meeting
- 04 Cover Check/lunch at Bill's 1100
- 15 Annual Founder's Day Pasta Dinner
St Mary's Church Hall, 626 Willard Ave,
Newington CT 1730/1830 Dinner \$10
- 21 Instructor Development – Quinnipiac River
Watershed Assoc), Meriden
- 23 Piloting – Yankee Gas

MARCH

- 24 D1 Spring Conference – Cromwell
- 28 MPS Annual Meeting

APRIL

- 14+21 America's Boating Course – Pattaconk
- 22 Annual Change of Watch &
Past Commander's Dinner
Sorrento on the Green, Century Hills Golf
Course, 600 Cold Spring Road, Rocky Hill

MAY

- 19 Safe Boating Display/VSC -Hays 1000
- 20 (SBD/VSC rain date)
- 23 MPS General Meeting

JUNE

- 02 District 1 Fishing Contest
- 16 VSC @ Indian Neck YC – Branford
- 22-24 D1 Council & Rendezvous
- Saybrook Point Inn
- 27 Annual Potluck Dinner & Greenbacker
Scholarship presentation – Pattaconk YC

JULY

- 06-08 MPS Rendezvous, New London
- "Sail Fest 2011" Burr's Marina
- 21-28 MPS Extended Cruise to Block Island

AUGUST

- 10-12 District 1 Mini Cruise (to Port Jeff ?)
- 25 District 1 Poker Run, Hamburg Cove

SEPTEMBER

- 02-09 Taste of Mystic - Rendezvous
- 26 MPS General Meeting

OCTOBER

- ?? Oct D1 Council Meeting - NEU at 1900
- 24 MPS General Meeting

NOVEMBER

- 16 MPS General Meeting "Bell's Pie Night"
- 19 District 1 Fall Conference @ PYC

DECEMBER

- ?? District 1 Holiday Party
Tickets available from MPS Cdr
- ?? MPS Holiday Party

Commander's Report



Well we've made it through the festivities of the holidays. That means we're one step closer to spring!

The squadron celebrated the holidays at CDR's Bud's Holiday party; I told you this is always a winner. We ate, we sang and awarded a well deserved 'Bent Propeller Award', P/C Roger Breunig's name was added to a long distinguished list, we appreciate you making our decision easy and unanimous. A new recognition this year, 'the Bent Ski Award' to P/C John Conroy, I guess fishing is a lot safer! So glad to see you back.

So we've reached the midpoint of the winter hiatus, in just a few months we'll be removing boat covers, cleaning and waxing again. Meanwhile if you're having withdrawals, you need to come out for our [cover check](#) – spend the day in a boat yard- you'll refocus and regain perspective. I like to observe the captains when they first come upon their boat, some touch it, some run their hand over the hull, maybe it's an official time honored greeting, like a handshake, a bonding. A sight to be admired! We return for lunch and some tall winter tales. Some of our best cruising ideas come from these 'think tanks'.

Our [calendar](#) is out- always open to suggestions on meetings or rendezvous. Bring me your hints tips and advice, the good, the bad and the ugly...this is your boating club; your input makes it even better.

Check out the February 2012 'Soundings Magazine' you'll recognize the boat, if not, the face for certain. (*hint- he's our webmaster, editor, seminar teacher, to mention just a few*)
CDR Christine Casarella, AP

Wed 15 February General Meeting 1900 Annual Founder's Day Pasta Dinner

St Mary's Church Hall, 626 Willard Ave,
Newington CT 1730/1830 Dinner \$10

[Directions](#) are available on last page.

Editor: Jim Long

Publisher: Joe Fernandes

Meriden Meetings: Except for special occasions, Meriden Power Squadron Meetings are normally held at 1900 in the Yankee Gas building at 56 Cooper Street in Meriden, CT.

Executive Officer's Report



February starts off with District 1 Council Meeting at Northeast Utilities Berlin, CT starting at 1900 all members welcome.

The next day we venture to Westbrook for our annual cover check to see the conditions of our pride and joys. Then off to Bill's Seafood to share our findings over lunch.

We later venture off to the local marine stores for donations for our annual Founders Day raffle and pasta dinner the 15th.

This year it is being held at St. Mary's Church Hall 626 Willard Ave., Newington, CT starting at 1730.

February 17 – 19 is the Northeast Hunting and Fishing Expo at Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford. So for all you hunters and fishermen go catch up on the latest gear and stop and visit the Power Squadron booth.

- Lt/C Dave DiStasio, AP

Friends of the Masthead

This has been created to help defer the ever-rising postal expenses. There's always plenty of room at the tables. Anyone interested in joining the Captain's/Barnacle's Table please use the form below.

Memberships are for the calendar year 2012:

Captain's Table:

Chris Casarella
Paul Casarella
Charlie Flynn
Bob Thompson
Al Lucitti

Barnacle's Table:

Ellie Lucitti

Membership Form for the Friends of the Masthead

Name: _____

Please Circle:

Captain's Table (\$15.00) or Barnacle's Table (\$5.00)

Amount Enclosed: _____

Mail to: CherieLee Bell
21 Atwood Street
Newington CT 06111

Administrative Officer's Report



During our January general meeting Mel Emond was sworn in as a new member.

Congratulations Mel and welcome aboard!

We also had an excellent presentation by Jim Long on the trip he and his wife took on "Nancy Ann" from Chester, CT through New York City and all the way up the Hudson River to the locks at Troy, NY. The presentation contained excellent photos and descriptions of many of the marinas along western Long Island Sound as well as those on the Hudson. I think Jim has demonstrated his ability to "out-do" many professional travel magazines as the photographs and level of detail he provided for each stop gave the audience the kind of information we wish we could find in the travel books but never do. Thanks Jim, this was fantastic!

Please see our Web Site. We will have the "Cover Check & Lunch at Bill's" on February 4th and the "Pasta Dinner" will be February 15th. Lt/C Bill Sheridan, AP

Education Officer's Report



I'd like to thank Jim Long for the nice presentation of the VHF Seminar he gave on 19 January. We had 21 attendees for a very informative presentation.

The Basic Boating course is underway at Southington High School with 31 students. This is a large class and we could use some help on 7 February with test correcting and student processing. Please contact Ken Bell Sr. or me, if you would like to volunteer.

We have two classes starting in February, Instructor Development 21 February and Piloting 23 February. Please contact Ken Bell Jr or me, for info or to sign up.

We will be doing a two Saturday Basic Boating course at Pattaconk Yacht Club on 14 and 21 April. We would like to see some younger people in the class but are not limiting it in any way.

Please contact me if you have questions on this or any other educational opportunities.

Bill Podlisny, JN

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CHECK THE ROSTER

The membership roster is available anytime from our website. Please check the roster to make sure that we have your correct address, phone number and e-mail address.

The website address is <http://www.usps.org/meriden>.

Once you are in, go to the top row (where the burgee is) and click Bridge, then scroll down to Secretary Dept, click on roster (highlighted). You will then need to put in our password. The password will be available at the general meeting or you may contact me or Chris Casarella for it.

- Kim Forcier

Change of Watch and P/C's Roast & Toast

Please mark your calendars for the Change of Watch and P/C's Dinner, Sunday 22 April 2012. This year's event will be held at the at **Sorrento on the Green**, Century Hills Golf Course, 600 Cold Spring Road, Rocky Hill CT 06063. The focus of the evening will be the official dismissal and swearing in of the Bridge for next year as well as a ceremony honoring all Past Commanders. Happy hour with hors d'oeuvres will begin at 1500 and dinner will begin at 1600.

Please make reservations by 12 Apr.

Dinner buffet **\$28.00**

MEMBER'S DATA UPDATE

It is that time of year again when every member needs to verify that their contact information (email address, phone, mailing address, spouse information, etc) is up-to-date on the national roster. This information is the main source of information for the squadron, district, and National Rosters.

To verify using the website:

1. Go to www.usps.org

2. Logon. (Member Stuff/Logon). Use your member number

and the password issued when you received your new ID card.



3. Choose the "How Do I..." link at the top of the page.

4. From the list, click on "Update my personal data online". You will see a form with your primary personal contact information that is stored in the database.

5. Make changes as necessary and click on "Submit All Changes" or Click on "Cancel No Changes Necessary". Check your email address to be sure it is correct. Please remember that the national database is only good to everyone if everyone is keeping their own information up-to-date.

6. If you changed your email address, stop on the USPS home page and click the Access SailAngle.com button. This will force an immediate email address update from USPS to SailAngle.



Operations... "In The Know"

This is the second in a series of articles to help inform everyone of how the US Power Squadron operates, and in particular we are concentrating on the officer positions that make up the "Bridge". The **Commander** is assisted by an executive officer, an educational officer, an administration officer, a secretary and a treasurer, each of whom serves with the rank of lieutenant commander (**Lt/C**). Last month we discussed the role of the **Secretary** and this month we will talk about the **Administrative Officer**.

The duties of the administration officer (**AO**) parallel those of the national and district officers. In general, the administration department handles the internal affairs of the squadron. In the Meriden Power Squadron, the AO helps organize topics for the general meetings and internal special events such as fund raisers. The AO will also report information from sub-committees such as membership or port captains to make sure the squadron is well informed of these activities. Because the administrative officer may progress to executive officer and then to commander great care should be taken by the nominating committee in the qualifications and selection of a nominee for this office.

The AO is next in line of command in the event of absence or incapacity of the commander and executive officer. As is the case for all officers on the Bridge, assigned duties and responsibilities should provide the right background for this officer to progress to positions of more responsibility.



Drag Boat disintegrates. (Driver was ok) [link](#)

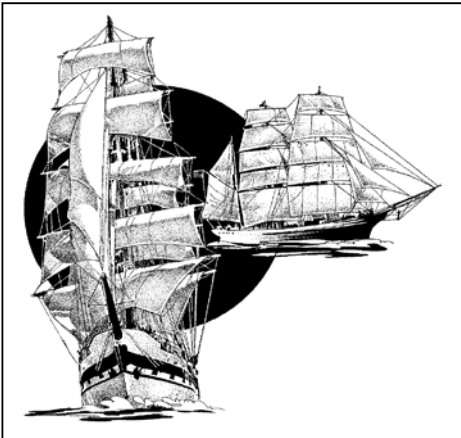


Sprint Boat racing [link](#)

Meriden

Masthead

Joe Fernandes
188 Malcein Drive
Southington, CT 06489



FORWARD & ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Directions to [St Mary's Church Hall, Newington CT](#)

From the South:

From **I-91 N**

Take exit **22 N** to merge onto **CT-9 N** toward New Britain

8.8 mi - Take **exit 29** for **CT-175** toward Newington

0.2 mi - Turn right onto **CT-175 E/Cedar St**

1.2 mi - Turn left onto **Willard Ave**

0.2 mi - **626 Willard Ave**

Destination will be on the right.

From the North:

From **I-91 S**

Take exit **28** to merge onto **CT-15 S/US-5 S** toward Berlin Turnpike/Wethersfield/Newington

3.7 mi -. Take the exit toward **CT-175**

W/Newington/New Britain/Hartford Regional Center/U. S. Veterans Hosp/Central Conn. State Univ.

0.1 mi - Merge onto **Russell Rd**

305 ft - Turn right onto **E Cedar St**

1.5 mi - Turn right onto **Willard Ave**

0.2 mi - **626 Willard Ave**

Destination will be on the right.

Please visit www.usps.org/meriden for updates