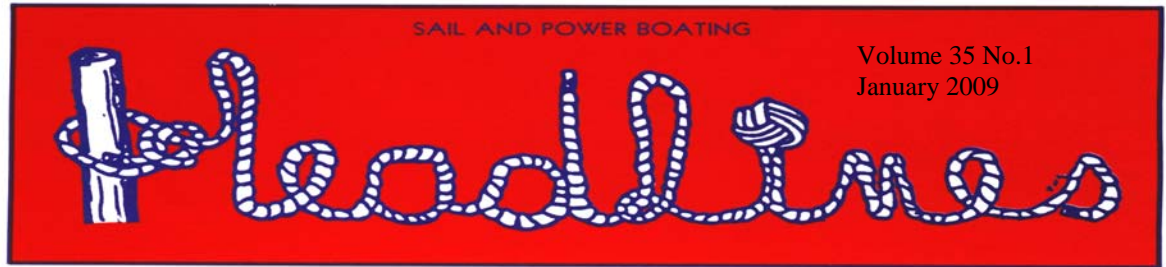




MID ILLINI POWER SQUADRON



Commander's Message

Happy New Year! 2008 is now history and we are in the beginning days of a year which, hopefully, will be one of your best ever. I want to wish all of you and your families every success in 2009.

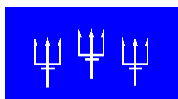
As we begin the year, we will be starting a Seamanship class on Monday, January 12th. We are in hopes of attracting more and more participation in our educational activities in the coming year. Take the time to invite some of your friends to take a class. USPS and District 20 are both doing their very best to encourage membership through opening classes to the public and getting more new people involved in USPS and our mission. You can help! Bring a friend to a general meeting or class to introduce them to what we've all about. The rewards could be great.

We are fast approaching the time of year when we will be electing and installing our new bridge for 2009/2010. Watch the Headlines for details of upcoming events. More information will be coming, so keep a weather eye out!

Please plan to join us at this months meeting on Saturday, January 17th at the Hudson Fire Department. I recently had the opportunity to visit and tour their new station and I think you'll be impressed with their new facility. The meeting will be what has become our annual chili cook-off. Plan to attend and participate, if you dare. The competition is getting tougher each year and I'm sure you will enjoy the results of the participants.

I hope to see you all in Hudson.

Cordially, Mike Petro, P Commander



From the SEO Desk

Our Seamanship class will be starting up on January 12. Gary Magnuson has done a great job at organizing our first Seamanship class in a while. Mike Petro has volunteered to get the class started on Monday Night, January 12th. The books and materials are on hand, and he will have them for the first night of class. The class will be held from 1900 to 2100 in the activities room of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1822 E Lincoln St in Bloomington.

This course is based on the latest edition of Seamanship, so it should prove to have some interesting updates. If you get a chance, please come on out. If you haven't achieved your Seamanship yet, this will be a great opportunity. If you already have taken the course, it will be a great chance for you to see the new format and presentations as well as add your boating expertise. Your participation is one of the things that truly makes this class a great learning experience.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt. Cmdr. Ben Pounds, SEO



Chicago Boat Shows

District 20 will have a booth at both Chicago boat shows this winter: **January 14-19 at McCormick Place** and **January 29 – February 1 at Navy Pier**. And this year we will also be at the **Schaumburg Boat and Sport Show February 12-15** (free parking available). Volunteers interested in promoting our organization, **as well as receiving free admission to the shows**, are needed to staff our booth. We will be distributing our winter/spring public boating course schedule and giving out information on our vessel safety check program and other educational opportunities at the shows.

To sign up, contact your local squadron Boat Show Chairman or District 20 Boat Show Co-Chair D/Lt Louise Potter (815-933-1470 or lp0331@att.net). **To ensure your choice of date/time, sign up early.** Instructions for manning the booth will be available to all volunteers.

Sign up Deadlines: **McCormick Place, 1/5/09** **Navy Pier, 1/21/09** **Schaumburg, 2/4/09**

From the AO Desk



January 17, 2009

Chili Cook-Off 5:30 PM

Hudson Fire Department

502 N Broadway St. Hudson, IL 61748 (309) 726-1501

Bring: Chili, your drink of choice

And whatever else you might like!

We will be playing **Buzz Word Bingo** while watching a movie.

We are planning a fun night. Be There!!

RSVP Judy 309-726-1517 ragtime@gte.net by Tuesday January 13th

(Our answering machine is broken and we will be out of town, so either send an e-mail or call Kathy Shultz 309-473-3221

February 20, 21 A Night Out at the Grand Café!! 6:30 PM

RSVP Judy 309-726-1517 ragtime@gte.net by February 16th

More to follow.

March 13/14, 20/21 Still under construction!

Awards Night

From the AO Judy Magnuson, AP



Proposed Amendment To The Mid-Illini Power Squadron By-laws

The bridge officers of the Mid-Illini Power Squadron are proposing a change to the name of the organization to: Mid-Illini Sail & Power Squadron. This is the first notification of the proposed change and the official wording of the amendment to the by-laws will be forthcoming. This change will be officially voted on at Mid-Illini Power Squadron Change of Watch in April.

January Schedule of Events & Birthdays

1st *Happy New Year*
3rd *John Sadler Happy Birthday*
5th *Ladies Luncheon at La Peep at 1130*
14-18th *Chicago Boat, RV, and Outdoors Show*
15th *Colleen Hepner Happy Birthday*
15th *Bridge Meeting at Cdr Mike Petro's House at 1900*
17th *Chili Cook-Off at the Hudson Fire Station at 1730*
19th *Glen Vetter Happy Birthday*
25th *Merry Christmas*
25th *HEADLINES Deadline*
29th-1 Feb *Strictly Sail at Chicago's Navy Pier*



Future Events

Jan 14-18 *Chicago Boat, RV, and Outdoors Show at McCormick Place*
Jan 15 *Bridge Meeting at Cdr Mike Petro's House at 1900*
Jan 17 *Chili Cook-Off at the new Hudson Fire Station at 1730*
Jan 29-Feb 1 *Strictly Sail at Chicago's Navy Pier*
Feb 7 *D/20 Operations Workshop*
Feb 12-15 *Schaumburg Boat & Sport Show*
Feb 20 or 21 *A Night Out*
Mar *Awards Night*

Mid-Illini Ladies Luncheon

The Mid Illini Ladies will meet for lunch on the following dates at 11:30 - please mark your calendars.

Jan 5th *La Peep*
Feb 2nd *J Buck's*
Mar 2nd *C J's*
April 6th *Medici's*



Kathy Johnson, AP

MID ILLINI POWER SQUADRON

Richard R Kempf
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To:
Mid Illini Power Squadron



Mid-Illini website at http://www.usps.org/localusps/mid_illini
If you no longer wish to receive this publication, please contact the editor at rrkempf@verizon.net