

TRUE READINGS

OCTOBER

Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron
A Unit of District 5 of United States Power Squadrons®

2009

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2009-2010

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and Power Squadron

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Next Meeting

Dr. Kent Mountford
Ecologist, Chesapeake Historian,
and Licensed Captain

Thursday, 8 October 2009
Dinner at 1730 (5:30 pm)
Program at 1900 (7:00 pm)

The Mixing Bowl
Lexington Park, MD

Patuxent Pride

USPS® Approves Bylaw Revisions

Cdr Ken Perigo, JN

A definite feel of fall is in the air. When I arose this morning at “O-Dark-30,” the outside temperature was in the low fifties. I think long pants are in order for today.



Mary Jane and I returned home early last week after our 23-

day, 4,600-mile journey out west that culminated at the USPS® Governing Board in Kansas City, MO. The weather was fantastic; only ran into significant rain two times. Sure was glad I had my GPS with us when we arrived in downtown Kansas City in the middle of one of the downpours.

The following is a brief recap of the Bylaw Revisions approved by the 2009 USPS® Governing Board:

1. Transfer the responsibilities of the Operating Committee to the Board of Directors and remove the Operating Committee from the Bylaws.
This reduces the number of board officers from 12 to 7.
2. Make the earning of merit marks and their significance equivalent across all classes of membership.
This means the same “significant contribution” is required by active, family, and apprentice members to receive a merit mark.
3. Clarify the procedures used in the collection of dues by USPS® Headquarters Anniversary billing.

New members are billed by the squadron and renewals are billed by USPS® HQ.

4. Extend the educational requirement exemption for membership until December 2012.

(Continued on page 2)



P/C Kip Hine, AP, receives his 25-year pin from Cdr Ken Perigo, JN. The pin represents 25 years of membership in USPS®. Kip is currently teaching the Marine Communication Systems course.

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Executive Officer's Report: Supporting the "Wounded Warriors" Program

Lt/C Randy Headrick, AP

What happened to summer? I turned around and it was GONE! Well, at least this year the Headrick/Burris clan got out on the water more and we were able to participate in more squadron raft-ups and trips. It was a great summer, just way too short for us. I hope you and your loved ones got in some good "boat time" too.



PATUXENT RIVER APPRECIATION DAYS (PRAD) 10-11 OCTOBER 2009, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM (FREE!)

Upcoming events: 10-11 October is the Patuxent River Appreciation Days (PRAD) event at Calvert Marine Museum. PRSPS will have a table set up and will be promoting safe boating and vessel safety check information, handing out our squadron information packets and telling folks about the squadron. We can start setting up on Saturday at 0800 and the event starts at 1000. I need your help staffing the booth both Saturday and Sunday. If you plan to come anyway you could spend part of a day helping us spread the word about the squadron and what we do, and then go see the exhibits and events. Please call me at 301-475-3278 or email me at RDHeadrick@usa.net if you can help out.

Here is a short informational blurb from their website: "Patuxent River Appreciation Days (PRAD) is a festival, which creates awareness, recognition, and promotion of the economic, social, recreational, cultural and historical impact of the tributaries and environs of the Patuxent River and the basin through which it flows. The festival is held annually on Columbus Day Weekend."

During PRAD, a "Green Village" will feature scores of groups that celebrate the river. Activities also include pony rides (for a fee), an arts and crafts show, a food court, musical performances, an open house at the Calvert Marine Museum, and a Parade at 2:00 pm Sunday. Free harbor cruises will be offered on board 2 historic vessels: the 110-year-old bugeye, *Wm. B. Tennison*, and the sailing skipjack, the *Nathan of Dorchester*. You can find out more at www.pradinc.org.

Also on 10 October, we will be working with the Northern Virginia (NoVA) Sail and Power Squadron to support a boat outing day for the "Wounded Warriors" program. We will help host between 15 and 30 military members from Walter Reed Hospital for a day on the Patuxent.

We are still working on final plans, but at this point I expect 4-6 guests on *RDream* for a boat ride and lunch. I think I have sufficient volunteers for this function, but as it is the same day as PRAD, we are going to be stretched pretty thin to do both of these important events. I hope you can find the time to help. Be Patuxent Proud.

Commander's Message

(Continued from page 1)

The program has been successful, but needs more time for better evaluation.

5. Approve the provisions requested by a Resolution from District 3.

This provision will allow any family member with 5 merit marks to become a senior member.

6. Incorporate editorial corrections to several provisions of the Bylaws.

These are numerous and not shown in this article. Anyone wishing to review the entire Bylaw corrections, let me know; I do have printed copies.

Fall Conference will be 6-8 November in Rockville, MD. This is our Educational Conference, where the emphasis is on the educational achievements of squadrons and individuals. V/C Frank A. Dvorak, SN, our National Executive Officer, will be the Chief Commander's representative at this conference. One of the issues that has raised its ugly head is re-districting, which means breaking up D/5. Let's show up and let national see our solidarity in keeping D/5 together. Registration forms can be found in the latest *Mark 5* or on line at the D/5 website (www.uspsd5.org).



TRUE READINGS

The monthly newsletter of the Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron, A Unit of District 5 of United States Power Squadrons®

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Administrative Officer's Report: Come Enjoy Our Squadron Events!

Lt/C Laura Magdeburger, AP

Our 8 October dinner meeting will be held at The Mixing Bowl in Lexington Park. Dinner is between 5:30 and 7:00 pm (1730-1900) and the meeting starts promptly at 7:00 pm (1900).



Our speaker this month is Dr. Kent Mountford, an ecologist, Chesapeake historian, and licensed Captain. He sailed the route taken by many 17th

century Chesapeake explorers (including John Smith and the Jamestown Adventurers) to the New World.

Aboard the five-masted full-rigged ship, *Royal Clipper*, Mountford navigated using replica instruments from the late 16th and early 17th centuries (although electronic instruments were also aboard). He will discuss North African and Canaries archipelago ports of call relevant to the early New World voyages, as well as his attempts to reckon position with relatively crude instruments on a rolling deck (see photo, right). I am sure it will be an excellent talk and I hope to see everyone there.

For our September dinner meeting, Capt. Michael Smith of "Maritime Training Resources" gave an interesting talk about what it takes to get your captains license. He is very knowledgeable about maritime training and may be back in the future to cover other topics of interest.



Dr. Kent Mountford attempting to reckon position.

We had a great cruise to Onancock, VA, for Labor Day weekend. The Annapolis Sailboat show is 9-11 October and the Annapolis Powerboat show is 16-18 October. Our final squadron cruise of the season will be 23-25 October to Tilghman Island on the eastern shore. The Fall Fish Fry will be 14 November at the F.O.P. at 1:00 pm (1300)... more details to follow).

So, there are all kinds of great events coming up...I hope to see you at multiple events. There are a lot of great things to choose from. Don't miss out on all the FUN!

Photo by Ken Perigo



WHAT AM I?

1. Air freshener for holding tank.
2. Air horn.
3. Fuel spill stopper.
4. Potion for catching more fish and crabs.
5. Secret hiding place.

See page 4 to find out.

Educational Officer: Don't Miss the Surprise at the Next Member Meeting!

Lt/C Steve Speer, JN, SEO

Did anyone figure out if we had a summer? It is fall



already and boat show season. That means it must be time to hit the books. And

with that, three new classes are underway and number four and five will begin within the next three weeks. A busy time for all. Let's recap what we have out there:

ABC course is underway and P/C Hal Willard, SN, and his team are busy again with 15 students. They have also been busy drumming up "business" and are set to teach a very busy course to approximately 70 students at a company near the Harry Nice Bridge. Hal will need help on this one.

The Navigation Class has also begun and has seven students under the watchful eye of P/C Bob Stammerjohn, SN. Something new for this course is a schedule that will help drive the course to completion in a timely fashion (he says tongue in cheek- it is a challenging course). Jim and Andy we miss you (its way too quiet).

The Marine Communications Course got underway with 16 students (Ted and Nancy McCarley, underway on the Great Circle route, are also in the class). P/C Kip Hine, AP, is at the helm in this second part of the Marine Electronics

SQUADRON FALL CLASS LINE UP

ABC Course (Public Boating Course)
began 8 September, Lexington Park

Advanced Piloting
begins first week of October
(instructor: P/C Pat Farrar, AP)

Navigation
began week of 23 September
(instructor: P/Lt/C Bob Stammerjohn, SN)

Seamanship
begins in November

Engine Maintenance
begins week of 13 October

Marine Communications Systems (module 2 of 3):
began 28 September
(instructor: P/C Kip Hine, AP)

Cruise Planning:
anyone interested?

Instructor Development:
anyone interested?

electives. These courses are brand new (we should know, they are still in Beta testing). Our schedule shows us ending up just after Thanksgiving.

Advanced Piloting will be held mid-October and this is a call for any other candidates who want to move up in the knowledge of safe boating. Three folks have signed up and P/C Pat Farrar, AP, again will be the Instructor.

Jim Reardon, P, has volunteered to lead the Engine Maintenance class, also starting in mid-October. This is a smaller class this time and a perfect time of year to get your marine maintenance questions answered.

Several of our squadron mates volunteered to teach seminars and assist on behalf of District 5 and National HQ at the recent TrawlerFest, held in Solomons, MD, 3-5 October. Bob Stammerjohn taught anchoring and Wayne Rogers taught DSC radios.

We have a little surprise we'll unleash to all of you at the next meeting, courtesy of your Educational Department. Our squadron is a learning organization so this should be fun (almost as much fun as coming home on Labor Day eh?).

We'll see you on the water.

ANSWER TO "WHAT AM I?"

(See page 3).

Answer: 3. Fuel catcher.

This patented fuel recovery container, "No-Spill™," manufactured by Davis Instruments*, fits over your boat's tank vent to capture fuel spilled during refueling, "fuel that would otherwise stain the hull and run into

the water," according to the manufacturer's product description.

Spilling fuel into U.S. waters not only is illegal but is bad for the environment. No-Spill attaches to the hull using two super strong suction cups and is designed for use with gasoline or diesel fuel. It fits all boats with fuel tank vents up to 1.5" (3.8 cm) in diameter.

No-Spill comes with a USCG-required oil discharge plaque and an instruction manual.

Questions? Ask P/C Dan Patke, SN: photo taken on Annie M.

*Not meant to be construed as an endorsement of this product; details provided for information only.



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yourself and
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skills and win!*



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Win Valuable Prizes!

Take and complete a USPS Course
between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010!

United States Power Squadron members can take any one or more of the following courses between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010 to be eligible for the following prizes:

Seamanship:	WIN A HANDHELD VHF RADIO
Piloting:	WIN A HANDHELD GPS
Advanced Piloting:	WIN A SET OF NAVIGATIONAL SOFTWARE
JN:	WIN A CHARTPLOTTER
Weather:	WIN A BAROMETER
Marine Electrical Systems:	WIN A MULTIMETER
Engine Maintenance:	WIN A MULTIMETER

To enter the drawing, all you need to do is the following:

1. Take and complete the qualifying course or courses between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010
2. Successfully pass the examination before June 30, 2010
3. You will be automatically entered in the drawing

The Available Prizes:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. For Seamanship | (3) Handheld VHF Radios |
| 2. For Piloting | (3) Handheld GPS |
| 3. For Advanced Piloting | (3) Sets of Navigational Software |
| 4. For JN | (1) Chart Plotter |
| 5. For Weather | (3) Barometers |
| 6. For Marine Electrical Systems | (3) Multimeters |
| 7. For Engine Maintenance | (3) Multimeters |

The winner's names will be drawn at the 2010 Governing Board held in Seattle from August 30th through September 4th, 2010.

2009 'Patuxent Pride' Boating Activities

Labor Day Weekend Cruise to Onancock

Jim Brueggemann, JN

What a weekend, lots of fun and comradeship! Twelve (12) boats and 33 captains/deckhands braved the journey to the Eastern Shore.

Boats making the trip included *Utopia*, with Pat Farrar, at the helm and first mate Sue Waters, with Tracy Eno and Laura Magdeburger, assisting with deck and cabin duties; *Phantom Moon*, with Abdel and Pacita Ismael; *Salty PawS*, with Rich and Barbara Jenkins; *Last Chance*, with captain and crew Mike and Barbara Walter (last to arrive cause he can't spell either); *Voyager*, crewed by Peggy and Joel Ekhaus; *Ham & Letters IV*, crewed by Ross and Carol Burgess and deck hands daughter, Sara, and son-in-law, John; *Annie M*, with Dan and Annie Patke; *Dazzle*, with Bob Prior and Cheryl Budd; *OffWeGo*, crewed by Larry and Clare Whitbeck; *RDream*, with its regular crew: Wendy, Randy, Barry (TM2) and Mom, with deck and galley duties left to Captain Jim and Pat Dawson; honorable guest *Cat Morgan*, crewed by Jack and Nicki Goodman; and last but not least, but surely late, *instigator*, piloted by "Captain in training and failing" Jim Brueggemann with first mate Penny and galley mate Marianne Seltenrich.

Cruisers departed on Friday and Saturday and all experienced beautiful weather with smooth seas. Forced entertainment consisted of a Poker Walk on Saturday afternoon and a wonderful dinner at the Mallard's by the Wharf restaurant on Saturday evening (great place and most accommodating).

The Poker Walk was an excuse to gather 31 friends and PRSPS finest card sharks; 5 bucks a head with winnings going to Abdel Ismael (best hand), Cheryl Budd, and Carol Burgess, and worst hand going to Pat Dawson.

Sunday was another beautiful day that invited biking, kayaking, town touring, and of course, a get together on the boats. Sea stories abounded; most not verified. Sunday was also a day of departure for some to make their way home or to sail closer and lay up in safe harbors further north. Most others departed on Monday morning, which turned out to be a very rough and challenging day at sea. Cruisers tried several different routes, but all proved just as bad as the other. By night fall, all cruisers were safely accounted for.

In closing, I had a great time and I trust others did to. Onancock is a beautiful place and well worth a return trip.



Warming the Liar's Bench on Onancock are Jim Brueggemann and Rich Jenkins. I know what each is thinking: "I cannot tell a lie: it was him!"

Phantom Moon and *RDream* at anchor in Onancock. The trip back across the Chesapeake Bay on Monday was, by all accounts, a white-knuckle experience. All returned home safely.



(Left to right) Annie Patke, Dan Patke, Pat Dawson, Randy Headrick, and Barry Burris.

News & Notes

More From Safety Sam, An Environmental Man

The revision of the “**FEDRAL REQUIREMENTS & SAFETY TIPS for Recreational Boats**” (11/06), is in process and scheduled to be released next year. Significant changes to the principal regulations are not anticipated. The current document is chock full of useful information and will be addressed in some detail in the following months as space permits. Topics will include Vessel Safety Checks, navigation rules, operator’s responsibilities, anchoring, fueling precautions, float plans, weather, cold water survival, carbon monoxide hazards, predeparture check lists, recommended equipment, safety checks and tests, and some thoughts of my own.

Visit USCGBoating.org for boating safety recalls, boarding procedures, defects in boats, and answers to boating safety questions.



Dining on Onancock: No Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron event would be complete without great food and camaraderie!

Patuxent River Sail and Power Squadron Calendar 2009-2010

Date/time correct as of press time; watch your E-mail for any changes or visit the squadron web site: www.usps.org/localusps/patuxent/

October 2009

- 8 Dinner Meeting, 1730-2100, Dr. Kent Mountford
- 10-11 Patuxent River Appreciation Days (PRAD) Festival; Calvert Marine Museum, free
- 13 Engine Maintenance Course begins this week (location to be determined)
- 15 Bridge Meeting, 1930-2130
- 23-25 End of the Season Cruise to Tilghman Island

November 2009

- 12 Dinner Meeting, 1730-2100
- 14 Fall Fish Fry, 1300, FOP, Lexington Park, MD
- 19 Bridge Meeting, 1930-2130

December 2009

- 5 Solomons Yacht Club Christmas Boat Light Parade, Solomons, MD
- 12 Squadron Christmas Party (tentative)
- 17 Bridge Meeting, 1930-2130

January 2010

- 7 Dinner Meeting, 1730-2100
- 14 Bridge Meeting, 1930-2130

February 2010

- 2 ABC Class begins, Lexington Park, MD
- 13 Change of Watch (COW) Centerpiece Workshop
- 11 Dinner Meeting, 1730-2100
- 20 Change of Watch (COW) Centerpiece Workshop
- 18 Bridge Meeting, 1930-2130
- 27 Change of Watch (COW) Centerpiece Workshop

March 2010

- 11 Dinner Meeting, 1730-2100
- 18 Bridge Meeting, 1930-2130

District 5 Activities

- 6-8 Nov D/5 Fall Conference, Rockville, MD

National Activities

- 8-12 Oct U.S. Sailboat Show, Annapolis, MD
- 15-18 Oct U.S. Powerboat Show, Annapolis, MD
- 1-6 Feb 2010 USPS® Annual Meeting, Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort, Disneyworld, Orlando, FL

Visit the squadron Web site:
www.usps.org/localusps/patuxent/

Safety Sam, An Environmental Man

Lt Andy Barr, JN

SAFETY INFORMATION

Safety information is being published by many safety conscious organizations. Just use your web browser and you could be overwhelmed if you are not selective. I would suggest viewing Federal, State, County, and City sites; and adding the USCG, USPS, and BoatU.S. Web sites. From those sites you will be able to determine what is going on with the weather; track violent storms; prepare your home to withstand hurricanes; and educate your family and friends in violent storm survival. In addition, as boaters, we must educate ourselves in how to protect our vessels in the event of violent storms, and practice, in advance, the procedures required to accomplish that goal—waiting until the storm is headed your way may not leave you enough time to work out the bugs in your plan.

Hurricane season will last until late November. I found the following Storm Categories (5) and guidance provided by CarolinaLive.com to be to be instructive. :

1 Winds	74-95 mph	potential surge	4-5 ft.
2 Winds	96-110 mph	"	surge 6-8 ft.
3 Winds	111-130 mph	"	surge 9-12 ft.
4 Winds	131-155 mph	"	surge 13-18 ft.
5 Winds	155+ mph	"	surge 18+ ft.

When a **Hurricane Watch is issued**, gas the car, secure the boat, eliminate potential flying objects, protect exterior glass, and grab your survival kit. When a **Hurricane Warning is issued** find a safe place in the home for the family and pets, fill water containers, and turn the refrigerator and freezer to max cool. **If you have to**

evacuate, shut off the water and electricity, take small valuables and important papers, put out food for the pets (some shelters won't take them), and lock the home before heading to a shelter. At home **During a Storm**, get into the safe room, use flashlights/not candles, don't cook, and don't be fooled by the calm in the **Eye of the Storm**. **After the Storm**; wait for the all clear to go outside, beware of power lines and contaminated food and water, make temporary repairs to your property to prevent further damage, and assist your neighbors with food, shelter, and home repairs.

The **FEMA HURRICANE** site also provides useful information on what to do before, during, and after a hurricane. (I viewed the site and it is very informative.)

Summary of some facts published by the BoatU.S. Foundation on "Alcohol and Boating":

- Alcohol affects balance, judgment, reaction time, and the ability to distinguish red from green—when boating at night
- Almost half of all boating accidents involve alcohol
- Intoxication is a federal offense, subject to a \$1,000 fine
- BUI could cause you to lose your boat, affect your driving record, and have your boating privileges suspended
- A 12 oz. beer contains the equivalent of 1.5 oz. of alcohol
- Cold showers and coffee won't help—your liver and time will
- Alcohol will not warm you up, but it will reduce your body's ability to guard against heat loss in fall and winter boating

REMEMBER! THINK SAFETY, PROTECT OUR WATERS, HAVE FUN, and WEAR IT!



TRUE READINGS
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