

# THE PORTLIGHT

The Newsletter of Pennsway Power Squadron, Inc. - Sail and Power Boating

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The Newsletter of **PENNSWAY POWER SQUADRON, Inc.**

A unit of **United States Power Squadrons®**

**District 5 Sail and Power Boating**

## United States Power Squadrons® "on the Web..."

- ✓ United States Power Squadrons® web site: <http://www.usps.org>
- ✓ District 5 web site: <http://www.usps.org/localusps/d5>
- ✓ Pennsway Power Squadron's web site: <http://www.usps.org/localusps/pennsway>
- ✓ Pennsway Power Squadron's E-mail address: [Pennsway@email.com](mailto:Pennsway@email.com)



## *In This Issue...*

- **Commanders Message**
- **Educational Department News**
- **Heavenly Photos**
- **Farewell, George Fesmire**
- **George, I know your up there sailing**
- **From our Chaplain**
- **Captain – Executive Officer Message**

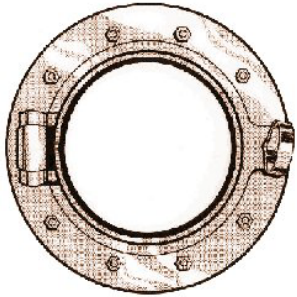
Publisher's Statement: Page 5

## Commander's Message

Many events have taken place this summer for Pennsway. First, the untimely death of our first Commander, P/C George S. Fesmire, SN on Sunday August 11, 2002, was sudden. It was George's helpful initiative and insight that began Pennsway Power Squadron back in 1977. The continued growth and success of Pennsway is one of the best tributes to the life of P/C Fesmire. George will never be forgotten and his legacy lives.

One of the events your Commander participated in was Northern D/5 Commanders Meeting where the area commanders of the USPS® discussed many ideas to improve communication between the squadrons and to initiate joint efforts towards gaining new membership.

We were able to participate in the Roslyn Memorial Day parade where we handed out public boating class information. We also took part in two 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades where we gave out over 1200 brochures on public boating safety. We also were invited to the Change of Watch at the Willow Grove Naval Base where I



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had the pleasure of wishing Captain Blake, the outgoing base commander, good luck in his new command in San Diego, CA as well as meet the new commander, Captain Smith. I was also fortunate to meet the base Director of Education, Frank Karoley who is interested in starting boating safety classes. Through several other contacts made at the base our educational possibilities indeed look very promising.

Pennsway also had its annual summer rendezvous on the Chesapeake at Haven Harbor Marina. In addition to the activities, Lt Robert Scarborough was able to assist D/Lt James Heckman, SN get his 5 assisted vessel safety checks and 1 assisted vessel safety check for me. Thanks Bob and Jim.

I would like to announce that Pam and I are expecting our second child in April 2003. We are very excited about having a second child and our son Alex says he would like a little sister.

Pennsway has got the ball rolling with Promotion, Involvement and Education. Are you an ingredient in the Pennsway PIE ? If not, call me and we'll get you involved.



## Educational News

It is time to call for your place in advanced courses or electives. The fall course for members is going to be held at the Upper Dublin Lutheran Church. Days, times and start dates are as follows:

### **Mondays** at 1930

Engine Maintenance- 16 September

Call: Tom Wisniewski 215 542-0287

Seamanship- 23 September

Call: Jim Heckman 215 643-4929

### **Tuesdays** at 1930

Advanced Piloting- 16 September

Call: Steve Oriold 215 997-9149

Boating classes for the public also begin in September at Bensalem, Upper Dublin, and Hatboro-Horsham. For details call: Bill Bustard at 215 887-9754

## SEO REPORT OF COURSE COMPLETIONS

### **Piloting**

D/Lt James Heckman, SN, Instructor

Dennis Binsfield

Thomas Brun

Edward Dunbar

Michael Finley

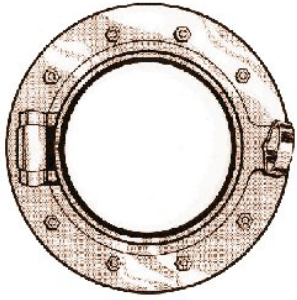
Harry Harp

Kenneth Houser, Sr.

Lewis Lake

Thomas Seaman

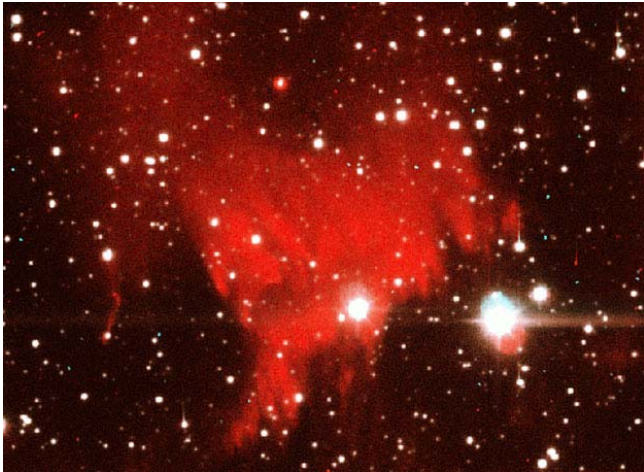
Kevin Waring



# THE PORTLIGHT

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## Congratulations to you all !



## HEAVENLY PHOTOS

Come to our September 19<sup>th</sup> General Meeting and see an array of pictures from the Hubble Telescope now traveling through space. These pictures are the newest releases of Hubble pictures and include Black Holes, Nebulae, Exploding Stars, newly forming constellations and spectaculars never seen by the human eye.

The pictures will be projected on a screen by a digital projector and narration done by Cosmonauts James Heckman and Arthur Hill. DON'T MISS THIS SPARKLING SHOW OF OUR HEAVENS !

## FAREWELL, George Fesmire

George and I met late in our lives. We met when Pennsway Power Squadron was formed in 1976. George was the founding commander and I was a brand new Power Squadron member.

I barely knew him when one day he asked me to arrange a rendezvous for the squadron that summer. I was successful and we became friends and associated on many other projects.

Pennsway was one of George's major accomplishments and he worked diligently to form it into one of the best squadrons in the district and we won many awards under his direction.

He was diligent and hard working and a stickler for detail. In fact he rewrote the squadron by-laws.

We both kept our boats at Worton Creek and often we would meet on our boats or for dinner and discuss squadron business. George was Pennsway Power Squadron and he provided it with energy and drive that lasted for several years. We became close friends.

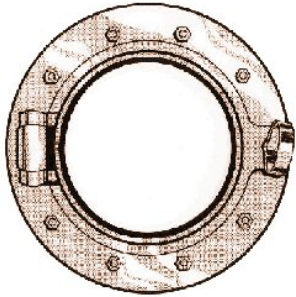
As I think of George I am reminded of John Masefield's poem. "Sea Fever" and its closing lines:

"And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow rover,

And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over".

P/C Arthur Hill





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## George, I know your up there sailing

Somehow this picture represents Pennsway, our first commander and our current commander. Without P/C George Fesmire initiating our squadron way back in 1976 Cdr. Ed White probably wouldn't be standing next to George for this picture. What George Fesmire started 25 years ago continues through a long list of commanders and hundreds of willing and helping members of this squadron. Somehow what George Fesmire started, we as a squadron must try to maintain and continue.

George and I go back some 30 years. I remember when he called me to join a group of men to start a new power squadron for this area. As time went on this group elected me as Pennsway's first Secretary. More importantly, George and I became good sailing friends. My most important memories of George are the rendezvous at Still Pond with Walter Whitehead, my sailing mentor, and rafting out in Cabin Johns

when George, Walter, and others were heading back to Essington on the Delaware for the winter.

One cold morning we all got up for the required hot cup of coffee only to see we were completely fogged in. Couldn't even see our bow. I remember standing on top of our cabin to look around with my head just above the fog. Looking over our port side I saw another head pop up over the fog, coffee in hand. It was George with his familiar laugh and a story to tell.

George had some very definite ideas about almost any subject you'd want to talk about, but was always willing to talk with you and joke about. I'll miss all that, but that's what memories are for.

George, all's well for I know your up there sailing.

P/C Barry Jones

## From our Chaplain

God is Always there

I have known the heights of happiness,

The depths of dark despair,

And at each point I always found

That God was present there.

I have known the feeling of success

And that of failure too,

And when my luck was down and out, God helped me start anew.

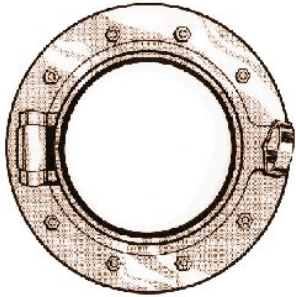
I have known all life's temptations

That tears the soul apart,

But I placed them all behind me,

For God was in my heart.

E.J. Tole, Chaplain



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## Publisher's Statement

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## CAPTAIN

Not a bad sound is it. When someone calls you captain, do you look around to see who they are talking to or do you respond with knowledge and the confidence that you have earned the salutation.

This can be a tough question for most of us at least some of the time. How certain are we of the rules for right of way? How confident are we of our location? What safety equipment is required? Is there anything else to consider before the next weekend trip?

Every boater who has taken the Power Squadron Boating Course has gained a great deal of knowledge, which helps every time we go on the water. But, we all have experienced a time or two when we needed to think twice about a question.

The Power Squadron has an answer for our knowledge gaps. The Squadron offers a series of classes designed to help us all improve our knowledge of boating. From Seamanship to Celestial Navigation there is a course for every level of interest. Start with safety and rules of the road and finish with the satisfaction of understanding celestial navigation.

No matter what your interests are in boating the Power Squadron probably has a class for you. As mentioned earlier is this Portlight issue Pennsway will be offering Engine Maintenance starting 16 September, Seamanship beginning 23 September and Advanced Piloting starting the 16<sup>th</sup> of September. Other courses will be announced in later issues of The Portlight.

If you have taken all the courses offered by the Power Squadron perhaps you would consider helping out in assisting in one of the classes. This does not mean you have to teach, unless you would like to, but help the instructor grade homework papers or assist in answering student questions when you feel you can. Getting involved in the educational process can be just as much a learning experience as taking the course.

If your interested in taking a class or just want to help out in some way please call our Educational Officer, Jane Scarborough, at 215-345-7254 or E-mail her: [Elysium@bellatlantic.net](mailto:Elysium@bellatlantic.net)

**Article Written By: Lt/C Harry Harp, P  
Executive Officer**