

# THE HELM



## Ventura Sail and Power Squadron

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®

Sail and Power Boating – District 13

*Dedicated to **SAFE BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION***

January 2012

*Boating is Fun...Let Us Show You How!*

Volume 55 No.2



### Commander's Comments

*Cdr Don Roy, AP*

#### 2012 CHANGE OF WATCH

It's that time of year again when we will have our traditional Change of Watch at the prestigious Ventura Yacht Club on 25 February, 2012. I have agreed to continue for one more year as your commander, and I look forward to building upon the great work of the past commanders before me.

I am proud to announce that the Nomination Committee has found an amazing group of members to join me on the 2012 Bridge. The NC's toughest task was to fill the capable and passionate shoes of the retiring bridge members, **Christie and Tracey Yeager**. These two have served the Ventura Sail and Power Squadron admirably and we look forward to seeing them around next year with all their enthusiasm and positive attitude.

First new member on the bridge is **Gary Wolfe**, who will fill the Executive Officer position. Gary took Ventura's Safe Boating class back in 1962 and his dad, **John Wolfe**, was a charter member of the Ventura Power Squadron as well. Gary has lots of great volunteer experience under his belt including heading up the

fundraising efforts for the Community Memorial Healthcare Foundation.

We continue to grab the best of the best with **Pat Metheny** accepting the Administrative Officer duties. Pat teaches our Cruise Planning course and has helped organize many of our events. She and husband Rick have traveled extensively aboard *Tenacious* and we are thrilled to have all her energy and goodwill in our corner.

We are honored to have **Kim Morris** as our next Secretary, who we will rely on to keep the entire squadron on the right path. Kim has already shown great leadership as a proctor for ABC classes, volunteering for the Auditing Committee, helping to promote the squadron at the Ventura Harbor Boatyard, and Route 66 sign maker for the Parade of Lights decorations; all this in her first year as a member!

Treasurer **Sue Matthews** will help out for another year to manage our financial responsibilities and **Fred DeLamarter** has agreed to stay on as the Assistant Squadron Educational Officer in charge of the ABC classes. **Ev Ashworth** will move into the very demanding SEO spot and guide the growing VSPS course and seminar offerings for 2012. **Gary Hubler**, last year's SEO, moves to Flag Officer and has agreed to help us to manage our DB2000 database. He's become quite an expert on this system in the last year. In addition, **Hal Wilder, Jr. and Mark Gregory** will be joined by new member **Sture Devemark** as our Members-at-Large on the Executive Committee. We can't thank these members enough for all their contributions to our squadron's success.

Finally, thank you to the members who have stepped up to fill our committee positions. Your collective efforts will guarantee our continued success and make our waters safe for all boaters. Everyone is invited to attend our Change of Watch, and you should send your RSVP to **Pat Metheny** at [rmetheny@aol.com](mailto:rmetheny@aol.com).



**Lt/C John Young Displays Article in the Log**

Governor Brown to Eliminate Cal Boating

**Lt/Cdr John Young** spoke to the members at the Annual Meeting and alerted them of a story in The Log that reports that Gov. Brown proposes to eliminate Cal Boating and move their budget and the agency into Parks and Recreation. Cal Boating is a standalone department and wholly supported by boaters fuel taxes, interest and fees. Not a penny of this proposal would affect the state's \$5 Billion shortfall and is nothing more than a power grab. Contact your state assembly person and tell them to not vote for eliminating Cal Boating.

Find your assembly person at this website:

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/memberinfo>

and the Governor can be reached at:

Governor Jerry Brown  
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 445-2841

Please call and write today and stop this very bad proposal. To express your opinion on this subject, visit [thelog.com](http://thelog.com) and click on the "Take Action" icon on the home page.

## Upcoming Events and Activities

### Lt/C Pat Metheny, AP

We started off 2012 with a bang. Members filled the tables at the **Annual Meeting**. Before the "meeting" part everyone certainly enjoyed the wide variety of appetizers provided by the participants in the

Appetizer Contest. After much munching, some second helping and a lot of serious thought the following appetizers were judged best: First Place, **Marian Breslar's** yummy pork mini sandwiches; Second Place, **Janine Nesbit's** scrumptious Pizzettes ;and tied for Third Place were **Peg Meuser's** Shrimp Mold and **Eve Ashworth's** Yellow tail dip. Thanks to everyone for participating and to **Jennifer Sweet** for organizing the contest.

NEXT BIG EVENT COMING UP IS THE **ANNUAL CHANGE OF WATCH**. THIS YEAR IT WILL BE HELD AT THE VENTURA YACHT CLUB ON **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25**. Find the menu and details below. NOTE you must send in a check for your dinners before the event. RSVP Deadline is February 15. The evening is sure to be enjoyable and the food delicious. Members are encouraged to come and salute our outgoing and incoming bridges

**NOW FOR THE REST OF 2012.....**

**ARE YOU READY TO HAVE FUN WITH A NAUTICAL EMPHASIS?**

VENTURA SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON  
2012 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

**March 22-23**(Friday-Saturday).... District 13 Spring Conference at the Ventura Sheraton Four Points Hotel. Ventura Squadron will plan, decorate and host our own Host room on Friday night. Each squadron has a room so members of all the squadrons have a great social couple of hours in each others' decorated host rooms. This event needs lots of help. Since alcohol will be served, not an event for kids

**April 14 (Saturday)....**This is the day for our Squadrons' Commander's Cup BBQ, Bristol Boat Judging and Fleet Blessing. A great opportunity to: bring your boat to the docks by the launch ramp in Channel Islands Harbor; enjoy a BBQ; and attend the Blessing of our "fleet". Other activities to be announced. Come by boat, car, kayak, dinghy etc . Watch for VPS e-mails regarding this event by late March. Kids are welcome. Need BBQ chefs for this o

**April 28(Saturday)....** Shakedown cruise to Anacapa Island. A time for sail and power boats to: help or get help with anchoring at Frenchy's harbor; catch a dingy ride to the stairs at the National Park trail head and tour the island. Group will meet at Anacapa by 11 am. More information coming later. Kids are welcome.

**May 12 (Saturday) ....**Ventura Squadron will staff our group's information booth during the Safe Boating Expo to be held in Channel Islands Harbor by the Coast Guard Station. What an opportunity for members to interact with the public, promote safe boating in Ventura County, sign up new students for the Basic Boating Class,

catch a ride on a Coast Guard Cutter and much more!  
We will need lots of help on this one!

**June 15-17** (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) ....The annual Father's Day Cruise to Santa Barbara Harbor. Our boats will be in slips in the harbor. Participants can enjoy a Friday night dock potluck, a Saturday afternoon dinghy poker run contest (no dinghy-hitch a ride with someone who has one), and a catered dinner. This is a great opportunity for members to buddy boat up the coast to Santa Barbara being in contact with other members over VHF. There is always someone at the dock to help you tie up, etc. No boat, join us by car. More information as time gets closer. Kids are welcome

**Late August**...District 13 Cruises to Catalina. Watch for details in the Helm

**Friday, Saturday, and Sunday September 14-16**... Channel Islands Rendezvous (by boat or car) BBQ, dinghy races and more. Contests, Happy Hour, and other fun activities. Kids are invited too.

**October 28**...An opportunity for members to sail on the Bill of Rights tall ship

**Late October through December** is the time for ongoing planning, building, painting and assembling the boat decorations for the squadrons' entry in the Ventura Harbor Holiday Parade of Lights. Our entry in 2011 was the Sweepstakes Winner. To top this we will need lots of help energy, and working time from our members.

**Early December**....Holiday Party

**2012 IS A TIME FOR ALL MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS. THE ORGANIZATION NEEDS ACTIVE SUPPORT TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE. IF YOU HAVE IDEAS OR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL Pat Metheny, Admin. Officer at 805 646 7675 or email her at rmetheny@aol.com**



**Cdr Don Roy Speaks to Annual Meeting Attendees**

## **Report of the Outgoing Executive Officer, Lt/C Ev Ashworth,**

**Annual Meeting January 21, 2012**

Civic Outreach and PR: The Squadron had a significant presence at both the Safe Boating Expo and at the Boat shows. **Cdr. Don Roy, P/C Hal Wilder, Lt. Cdr. Gary Hubler** participated in advance planning for the Safe Boating Expo. Once again, the Squadron had a booth and hosted the PDF fashion show, which has been recognized in the *USPS Ensign*. Ten members of the Squadron helped out with the booth, setting up, and taking down. As in the past, **Jeff and Janeen Gaul** coordinated our Squadron's booth and participation, which was possible only with the help of over 15 members of the Squadron who manned the booth over a four day period, some doing double-duty and long shifts. Between the Safe Boating Expo and Boat Show, we obtained over 120 sign-ups expressing interest in the *America's Boating Course*. Our participation in the Parade of Lights brought in the first prize overall. **P/C Jan Lawson, Lt. Debbie Braun-Lawson**, and the entire *Kiss* decorating committee (which included members of the Bridge, Committee Members, and new members alike) are to be complemented for their continued success in making Christmas special and the Squadron shine. Vessel Safety Inspections: **P/C Dave Williams, SN**, headed up the Vessel Safety inspections this year, with the continued help of VE's **P/C Jim Baldwin, Lt. Mary Baldwin, P/C Eloy Molina, and newcomer Lt. Paul Sadler**. Together, this team conducted over 40 Vessel Safety Checks, and **Cdr. Don Roy** helped coordinate inspections through local yacht clubs. Continued work will be needed to replace members who are retiring as VE's, and new inspectors are needed to continue to coordinate inspections with USCGA, local clubs, and members. Incoming **Ex. Comm. Gary Wolfe**, with his professional relationships at Lake Casitas and long-standing participation in boating in the Channel Islands, is well poised for this task.

Safety/Radio Tech: Thanks to **P/Lt.Cdr John Young** for his role as Radio Tech officer, and participation as an instructor in Safe Boating classes regarding VHF radio. Over the past several years, **John and Harriette** have also worked on safety committees for local marinas, helping to coordinate responses to potential natural disasters.

Thanks to our Commander, and fellow members of the Executive Committee, Elected Committees, Appointed Committees, Vessel Examiners, and Squadron members for making our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year something special, and something to be proud of

# COMING EVENTS

## February 2012

6	Mon	<b>Executive Committee Meeting @ 1900</b> <i>Coast Guard Station Annex- Ch Isl. Harbor</i>
21	Tu	<b>America's Boating Course @ 1900</b> <i>Ventura Yacht Club</i>
25	Sat	<b>Change of Watch @1600</b> <i>Ventura Yacht Club</i>

## March 2012

5	Mon	<b>Executive Committee Meeting @ 1900</b> <i>Coast Guard Station Annex- Ch Isl. Harbor</i>
22-23	Wkd	<b>District 13 Spring Conference</b> <i>Ventura Sheraton Four Points Hotel</i>

More information on each event can be found at [www.usps.org/ventura](http://www.usps.org/ventura) and in The HELM 2 months prior to the event.

## Words from Our New Executive Officer Lt/C Gary Wolfe

This year as Executive Officer I am responsible for promotion of our squadron, but promoting our squadron to fellow local boaters is every member's duty. To join our Squadron, a prospective member must pass our entry level course, now known as Americas Boating Course. There are still openings for the next class, starting February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Ventura Yacht Club, class starts at 1900. For more information call (805) 876-4877 or visit our web site at [www.usps.org/ventura](http://www.usps.org/ventura).

The course is eight weeks and charting has been moved to Piloting, so the ABC course is much friendlier to new boaters. Even with our new name, many boaters who would enjoy the Squadron still don't know who we are. So take a moment next time you are visiting with a new or experienced boater, and share the benefits of joining the Squadron with them.



## News from Howard and Judy Wang!

This afternoon I received a poorly connected call, from Judy and Howard aboard *Laelia*, moored at the Balboa yacht club in Panama City. They're living aboard while some repairs are being done. They transited with some friends who flew down to accompany them thru the canal and now will be doing some sightseeing there. They hope to spend some time in Costa Rica if their permits, and the authorities, allow. They must be gone from Mexico sometime in June so I guess we'll be seeing them before too long. Judy said, "We'll keep doing it as long as we're able". They're happy to be back in the Pacific. They described the better part of their cruise as "Having your boat repaired in some of the most exotic locations in the world".

They asked to be remembered to the Squadron  
*Sincerely, Elliott Breslar*

## Secretary's Message by Lt/Cdr Kim Morris

Two years ago, while out on a daytrip to Santa Cruz Island on a 36' power boat, I found out I wasn't a very knowledgeable or prepared boater. I had been so frightened by the thought of having to suddenly be in command and rescue a diver and a man overboard I decided I wouldn't go boating again until I took a class. I really needed to know how to use a radio for crying out loud.

As luck would have it, while attending the local boat show the very next day, I was handed a flyer about some group providing a "Safe Boating Class." That wonderful group, I soon found out, was the Ventura Power Squadron. I signed up thinking one class and I'll be good to go. Well, for me, that wasn't the case. The more I learned the more I learned how much I didn't know and how much more I wanted to know.

After completing the America's Boating Course I was asked to proctor the next class, which I took full advantage of. I figured it was a great way to reinforce what I had already learned. Those who have taken that first class may have heard the story **Don Roy** tells about the friend who got on his boat and their inflatable PFD wasn't armed with a CO2 cartridge. I realized that night that MY automatic PFD, which I was using religiously wasn't armed. Duh, glad I didn't miss that class!

So I proctored a total of two ABC classes also took Seamanship last spring. I've found that the more I learn the more empowered I feel and the more fun I am having with boating.

The squadron people are a blast to be around and the camaraderie is amazing. I was lucky enough to have worked on the squadron's Parade of Lights entry that

won the 2011 Grand Prize. I've also had a lot of fun on the anchoring drill at Frenchy's, the Luau's and appetizer competitions. So there's something for everyone and I encourage all boaters to get involved. You'll gain confidence boating and have a lot of fun!



**Education  
Station**  
*Lt/C Ev Ashworth, AP*

**All's Well that Ends Well**

For the experienced, seasoned reader of the Helm, you'll know that my stint at the Executive Dept. is 2009 redux – I was privileged to serve as **P/C Jan Lawson's** Exec several years ago. For the last year, it has been my privilege to serve with **Cdr. Don Roy** as well. Both are top-flight commanders, who devoted more hours than I can count serving the Squadron. Lots go on behind the scenes, and require braving 2-3 hours of traffic on the 405 on regular basis, coordinating events among members, squadrons, and districts, participating at the District level to bring the best that USPS offers to our members. Don has distinguished our Squadron in many ways, and helped to integrate technology into our organization to streamline functions and assure clear, direct communication. As many of you know, Don devoted weeks and weeks of work, together with lots of Squadron members, to make the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary a big success. He's reached out to other clubs and marinas, leveraged his solid ties with government officials and the press, and firmly positioned the Squadron to move forward. I am both touched and pleased that he's agreed to stay on for another year as our Commander – we're the better for it.

**P/C Hal Wilder** once observed that it's the ambassadors of the Squadron that are pivotal to our success. I included among these ambassadors: current and past members of the Squadron's Bridge and Executive Committee; instructors and proctors who put on *the best* curriculum of marine education for the public, anywhere; Vessel Examiners who not only assure that our boats meet minimum USCG and California requirements, but promote the Squadron as another way to improve a boater's skill and to have fun; Port Captains who help fellow USPS members when in our waters; committee members who coordinate our Safe Boating Expo and boat show displays, events, meetings and cruises; and fellow members that pitch in when help is needed. I was so impressed to see **Jan and Debbie's**

parking lot outside their office when it came time to festoon the *Kiss* with decorations – new and old members alike all busy as one-armed paperhangers.

Recently, **P/C Jim and Lt. Mary Baldwin** inspected the *Goodspeed* and deemed her sound, awarding the 2012 Vessel Inspection certificate (you gotta be the first on your dock to sport this fine emblem). **Jim and Mary** have inspected the *Goodspeed* more years that I can count – and I know they've been inspecting vessels for more years than that. Both showed up in USPS and Squadron attire, were prompt, efficient, and we had time left over for a nice lunch. Jim explained that he had recently inspected a 55' Flemming, and was pleased to report that the owner had taken a USPS safe boating class a number of years ago. Solid Squadron ambassadors, to be sure. Taken together, our Squadron is chock-a-block full of fellow members that promote safe boating, fun on the water, and our Squadron to other boaters and the public. So, when there was a need for a new Education Officer this year, I offered to help out. This comes very easily – we have a great membership, a pivotal and important role in promoting safe boating to the public, and offer some of the best ways to have fun with fellow boaters. I'm very aware that there are big shoes to fill here, as **Lt/Cdr. Gary Hubler and Lt. Fred DeLamarter** have excelled in their positions, and served our members well. I know that they'll continue to give me prompts and advice when I need it, and step in if they think necessary, as will all of our ambassadors.

I look forward to seeing you at our Change of Watch, and if not, at a class this spring, at our shake-down cruise or the Commander's Cup and general meeting in April. An extra ration of rum for all hands.

**February Birthdays**

<b>3</b>	<b>Emmit Cox</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Victoria Pearson</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Doug Robertson</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Bob Hamilton</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>William Giltner</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Susan Mathews</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Janet Lawson</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Rodger Morris</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>Bruce Pence</b>

The best birthday wishes to everyone this month!



## The Winning Recipe!

### MARIAN'S GARLIC RUBBED PORK TENDERLOIN SANDWICHES WITH MINT CAPER SALSA

AS AN APPETIZER SERVES APPROXIMATELY 30 ABOUT 45 MINUTES PLUS 1 DAY TO MARINATE

By Marion Breslar

#### PORK TENDERLOIN

- 10 garlic cloves, chopped
- 1 ½ tbsp. kosher salt
- 1 tbsp. sweet Hungarian paprika
- 2 tsp. pepper
- 3 tbsp. olive oil, divided
- 2 pork tenderloin roasts (2 – 2 ½ lbs. each) trimmed of fat and silver skin (fascia)

#### MINT CAPER SALSA

- ¾ cup, *each* roughly chopped parsley and mint
- 1/3 cup chopped shallots
- 2 anchovy fillets
- 1 garlic clove, chopped
- 2 tbsp. capers, roughly chopped
- ½ tsp. red chile flakes
- 1 tbsp. *each* lemon zest and juice
- ¾ cup extra virgin olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

1. Sprinkle garlic with salt and mince to combine, then mash to a paste with flat side of chef's knife. In a small bowl, mix paste with paprika, pepper and 2 tbsp. oil. Spread paste all over tenderloins. Wrap meat in plastic wrap and chill at least 24 hours and up to 2 days.
2. Preheat oven to 350°. Scrape a little excess marinade from meat. Heat remaining 1 tbsp. oil in a large ovenproof frying pan over medium-high heat. Brown tenderloins on one side only, 3 to 4 minutes. Turn meat over in pan; the set in oven and roast until internal temperature reaches 135°, about 20 minutes. Let meat rest, uncovered, on a cutting board for about 15 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, make salsa: Put all salsa ingredients in a food processor and pulse several times to combine into a rough sauce.

4. Slice each tenderloin to desired thickness. Layer sandwiches with leaf lettuce, tenderloin slice and a generous tsp. of salsa

\*Prepare your favorite yeast dinner rolls or take advantage of frozen Bridgford Dinner Roll Dough (supermarket frozen section). Cut thawed dough pieces in half for appetizer size. Shape and follow package directions to bake.



**Delicious!**

#### MERIT MARK RECIPIENTS FOR 2011

First Name	Last Name	MM Incl. '11
Everard G.	Ashworth	8
James E.	Baldwin	16
Mary J.	Baldwin	16
Deborah W.	Braun-Lawson	10
Earl F.	Buck	2
Richard W.	Cudworth	2
Fred James	DeLamarter	6
Gareth W.	Dodd	1
Ronald C.	Dolbier	6
Hector R.	Garcia	1
Janeen C.	Gaul	3
Jeffery A.	Gaul	3
William M.	Giltner	1
Joyce D.	Glantz	1
Alan S.	Gosselin	9
Lisa C.	Gosselin	3
Mark A.	Gregory	2
Eva-Maria	Harre	1
Donna	Hendricks	2
Gary L.	Hubler	6
Greg	Kircher	1
Janet A.	Lawson	10
Susan Reed	Matthews	3
Patricia	Metheny	8
Richard Lee	Metheny	13
Eloy	Molina	14
Kimberly J.	Morris	1
Rodger Lee	Morris	4
Janine A.	Nesbit	2
Don	Roy	4
Paul	Sadler	3
Gregory Lynn	Shank	2

Donald E.	Shultz	52
Janet Sue	Shultz	7
Jennifer L.	Sweet	5
Craig E.	Watkins	
Harold	Wilder Jr.	32
David W.	Williams	15
Gary L.	Wolfe	2
Christie	Yeager	2
Tracey James	Yeager	2
Harriette E.	Young	8
John E.	Young	8

## Advice About Living

by P/C Hal Wilder Jr.

Oh, my, yesterday I was actually asked for advice about living, a thing so rare it startled me into thoughtfulness. Since there is no reason to expect a repeat, I feel I must consider and make the most of it

At 93 and counting, the most important thing I have to say is that the worst thing we can do to our elders is to say "be careful." That is limiting advice, truly negative. We old folks already know we won't live forever, some of us are surprised to find ourselves still here now. But to caution against risk-taking, to delay dying, is to limit, minimize living.

I still recall the day I won my 1st foot race. They had about 20 of us lined up for a 50 yd dash, blew a whistle and we all took off. At the end, two men grabbed my hands and slapped my back. They said I'd won and gave me a badge. I was 6 then, I'm 93 now, and still remember.

I remember in 2nd grade when the class bully stopped hitting me because I was hitting him back. In my late teens I had a job on horseback. There was one horse that could always buck me off, but more than all the times he did, I remember the time I finally was still on board when he quit bucking. We got along just fine after that.

These were all challenges, and that is what living is all about. As we age, challenges change, we are satisfied with lesser goals; but excessive caution diminishes us and our enjoyment of the life we do have. Some of us no longer have as many limbs as we once had, or have other physical problems. We are more aware of this than are you. Trust me!

I am aware of how lucky I am to be able to do as much as I do, and I am aware that I can't walk as far or as fast as I once did, nor can I lift as much. But I still want to find out how much I can lift, and be allowed to set my own limits.

We are aware of our age, you need not remind us. Getting older is inevitable, but being old is voluntary; don't encourage it. I say again, any attempt to delay dying will diminish living. Look out for yourselves, let us take our own chances.

## Contacts for Local Mariners

### 24-Hour Emergency Telephone Numbers

U.S. Coast Guard Search & Rescue..... (805)985-9822  
 Channel Islands Harbor Patrol..... (805)382-3000  
 Ventura Harbor Patrol..... (805)642-8618  
 Port Hueneme..... (805)982-4571  
 Santa Barbara Harbor Patrol..... (805)564-5530

### Harbormasters – Administrative

Channel Islands.....(805)382-6864  
 Channel Islands Harbor Patrol..... (805)382-3007  
 Ventura Port District..... (805)642-8538  
 Port Hueneme Public Affairs..... (805)982-4493  
 Santa Barbara Harbor Patrol..... (805)564-5520

### National Weather Service

Oxnard..... (805)988-6610  
 Web site: <http://www.nwsla.noaa.gov>

## The “Tenacious” Metheny’s

*The Scenery Changes as Tenacious Heads South*

Mid July through August was a head- south time for the Tenacious. Along our journey we visited Namu, an amazing abandoned fish processing plant and company town. Like a snapshot back into the 1960's, the original store still had canned goods on the shelves, the huge Caterpillar Generators stood like sentinels in the dark buildings. Three people now live in there, trying to keep the floating houses from sinking, using found objects for art work and planting flowers among the lopsided buildings. From here we spent time in pristine anchorages that surrounded small islands. No other boats at the anchorages; just the calls of the loons and splashes of the otters, fish and sea lions..We went into Fury Cove before we made the passage into Queen Charlotte Straits around Cape Caution. I canoed ashore to walk to the other side of the peninsula to look at weather in the main passage. I didn't check low tide times and ended up having to use my oar to both paddle and push while balancing on my knees in an inflatable canoe. This was not an easy task much to Rick's amusement. Later that night we had to get the oar and boat hooks out to push off a half submerged log that was longer than our boat. It headed right towards us midship. Crossing Queen Charlotte Strait we spent a

few days in Port Hardy. Weather and storms are becoming an issue so we headed back to mainland Vancouver to the Broughton Islands. Piloting skills, pre-planning and careful reading of tide and current tables are essential for this leg because of all the very swift currents, whirlpools and eddies that accompany the strong tidal flows. Guess I get a gold star because with my captain by my side I piloted Tenacious through three sets of rapids and whirlpools. Not my favorite thing to do.

Basically now the trip is very familiar. We've boated and anchored in the anchorages and little towns in Desolation Sound. I remember 5 years ago on our first trip how scary it was to pass through Hole in the Wall going into the Octopus Islands with only a couple of feet on each side of the boat. Now we laugh about it. Our last main anchorage, one of my favorites, was Montague Harbor on Gailano Island; glorious sunsets, places to tie up the dinghy and hike to the other side of the island, and this year a floating bakery. You'd dinghy over and order sticky buns and go back the next day and the goodies would be hot and ready to eat. What fun.

Now it is August 21 and we still have nothing but changing load dates. We are getting really uneasy and with both our cell and email not always coming through we decided to go back into the states and spend a little time back at Cap Sante Marina in Anacortes. Finally we got a date, cruised back to Victoria on Vancouver Island and then waited for two weeks for the freighter to actually arrive. Tenacious was loaded and we flew home. Ten days later we picked up the boat in Ensenada. Watching your boat swing over the deck of a huge freighter and hang in the air for awhile is not an easy task. Finally we were able to head north and arrived at Ventura Yacht Club on October 7. Final thoughts: we learned a lot about cruising in northwest waters. Currents, winds, tides and set and drift etc. all are concepts that are vital to cruise safely in these waters. Being in a boat, completely alone with no way to contact others is something you need to be comfortable with. The importance of provisioning correctly for your boat, having the spare parts, instruction booklets and a million different tools is essential. Being able to work together as a smooth team is one thing we agree we accomplished. There is only one captain on the boat, but he also values, listens to and relies on the first mate. Keeping daily journals, log books, work lists, etc made our journey run smoothly. Both Rick and I are comfortable with silence, in other words we are happy cruising without ongoing chatter.

Our experiences in the northwest and especially two trips to Alaska have allowed us to experience

things most people never even can imagine. True, we had some mechanical stuff, some medical stuff, and some weather stuff along the way. But we could always laugh afterwards and problem solve for next time. The gift of good health, the gift of the right spouse and wonderful boat and especially the gift of time were the cornerstones of our trips in 2008 and 2011

## **Ventura Sail and Power Squadron CHANGE OF WATCH 2012**

**SATURDAY February 25, 2012**

**Location: Ventura Yacht Club,  
1755 Spinnaker Drive Ventura  
Elevator to dining room is available  
Cocktail hour begins at 1600  
Dinner Service Begins at 1730**

**Gentlemen: Uniform A Blazer or other Coat and Tie --  
Ladies: Similar Semi-Formal Attire**

***Dinner Menu: Soup, Salad Bar, Roast Beef  
Carving Station, Chicken Florentine, Twice-  
Baked Potatoes, Green Beans Almandine  
and Chocolate Cake***

**\$36.00 per person Tax and Tip  
Included ---Cash Bar**

**Reservations Required: Please re-  
turn your RSVP with check by Feb-  
ruary 15, 2012.**

For your convenience, please use form below. Send RSVP and check made out to VPS to: Pat Metheny, 919 Daly Road, Ojai, CA 93023. This is not a pay at the door function. You can also pay for the event at our January Annual Meeting.

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Send check and this form to: Pat Metheny 919 Daly Road, Ojai, CA 93023 by Wednesday, February 15, 2012  
**RSVP: VPS Change of Watch Dinner and Ceremony for members and their guests**

***Hope you can join the Squadron for this special event.  
It's an opportunity to thank the outgoing officers and  
welcome the new 2012 officers.***

Our 2011-2012 Bridge

Commander  
Lt/C Don Roy AP (818) 439-3211  
donroy@gmail.com

Executive Officer  
Lt/C Gary Wolfe (805) 658-8091  
casitamarina@roadrunner.com

Administrative Officer  
(805)646-7675  
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**Ann and Gary Wolfe, Rick Metheny,  
Cal and Peg Meuser, Elliott and Marion Breslar,  
Janine Nesbit, Cdr. Don Roy**

## Annual Meeting Pictures!

The photographs by Joyce Glantz!



**Debbie Braun-Lawson looks over  
the selection of appetizers;)**



**Sue Mathews, P/C Hal Wilder,  
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Robertson, Hat Young,  
Jennifer Sweet's guest Steve, P/C Ev Ashworth**



**Janine Nesbit wins not once,  
but twice at the 50/50 Raffle!**



**Education Officer Lt/C Gary Hubler  
Giving his State of the  
Education Department Address!**

# Ventura Power Squadron

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

*February 2012*

