



# THE WEATHERVANE

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### Kingsway Bridge

- **Commander**  
Bill Nelson, S
- **Executive Officer**  
Jeff Stevens, JN
- **Administrative Officer**  
Brad Humphrey, S  
Asst. Kim Stevens
- **Treasurer**  
Megan Humphrey, S  
Asst: John Calabrese, P
- **Education Officer**  
Clarence Cramer, SN  
Asst: Ron Forst, P
- **Secretary**  
Penn Hess, AP
- **Squadron Safety Officer**  
Ed Rearick, AP

## What's It All Mean?

### GPS, SPOT, EPIRB, PLB, DSC and VPIRB Are You Safe?

Electronics geeks love their acronyms but you can't deny that every boater is safer if they take time to understand and use the latest technology that these crazy abbreviations describe. The core of these new gadgets is GPS, the Global Positioning System. GPS is a bunch of always-there, 24-7 satellites that can pinpoint exactly where you are, anywhere, anytime. If you have a gizmo that receives the satellite info, you've got a

guardian angel watching over every mile and minute of your trip or voyage — on land or sea.

Now if you can send your GPS location to friends, loved ones, search-and-rescue or emergency services then you've got a potentially life-saving connection.

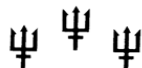
Boaters know that GPS is almost a must-have accessory and now they're even a fixture in many cars. Hikers carry GPS and parents use

it to keep track of the kids.

It's frustrating that electronic stuff changes so quickly and that makes it hard to keep up with but spending some time to learn the basics, is worth it. By the way, don't fall into the convenient trap of relying on your cell phone; it's not your safest option.

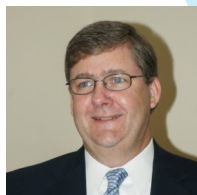
The table on page 3 recaps a few of today's options that every safety-minded boater should consider.

[GPS, SPOT . . . p.3]



## Commander's Message

Seems like only a week or two ago that we were getting the boat ready for spring launching. Now, here it is nearing the end of August and I just received my summer contract for 2010. On the lighter side, we have some of the best boating weather ahead. We look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming September



meeting. It will be our Hurricane Party. Since we are coming into the that season, we thought it would be appropriate way to start the new season. You can never be over prepared for serious storms. If you haven't been to a meeting recently please try to make some time. Our schedule for the upcoming season is published in each issue of the Weathervane and you can also find it on our web site. We are always looking for new ideas that appeal to your interests and fit your budget .

I hope your boating season has been safe and memorable. I previously asked for stories of interesting locations you've visited by boat. Please send your story and pictures to Al Stoughton our Weathervane editor. And don't forget to send pictures of your boat and crew along with any and all bragging rights

The Education Department has been busy and congratulations to everyone on completing their courses.

[Message p.3]



## Education Department News

Congratulations are in order to Brad Humphrey, Megan Humphrey, Anna Mariea Smith and Gene Smith on passing the AP course.

We will be teaching the Instructor Development course in October. This is a 4 week course designed to train and better equip instructors, primarily those who teach the public boating course.

Please contact me, [cwcramer@comcast.net](mailto:cwcramer@comcast.net), about taking a squadron course this year. We are able to teach any course you are interested in taking.

On a different topic, here's a reminder for everyone about NJ Boating Law requirements. PC Bob Baechle, SN, writes to tell us of his bad experience with the DMV in renewing his driver's license and getting the Freshwater boating endorsement renewed. It seems he didn't have his NJBSC (Boating certificate card) with him so the DMV would not renew the fresh water endorsement.

Bob was puzzled because in the past he had no problem with renewal. The reason is, in the past at renewal time, he was exempted from the NEW boating law by his age group, However NOW, ALL boaters (As of June 1 2009) are covered by the law which REQUIRES ANY power boater to have a NJBSC. The DMV will NOT renew any existing fresh Water License (The one listed on your Driver's License) without proof that you have completed the NJBSC program and have a safety certificate. Bob complains that NO ONE reminded him of this, Not SPS, Not his yacht Club or the DMV when they sent the renewal. SO he asked that we remind everyone. SO BE WARNED!! If you want or need that fresh water endorsement, you must have a NJBSC to show the DMV at renewal!

Clarence Cramer  
Squadron Education Officer



**KINGSWAY POWER SQUADRON**

Is sponsoring a

### Delaware Bay Lighthouse Tour

September 26, 2009, 10 AM — a full day of fun and informative narrative

Aboard the *Spirit of Cape May*, sailing from Cape May, NJ

<http://www.capemaywhalewatcher.com/lighthousetrips.htm>

This Grand Tour takes 6-7 hours and shows you 9 lighthouses — Cape May, Inner Breakwater, Outer Breakwater, Brandywine, Fourteen Foot, Miah Maul, Crossledge, Elbow of Crossledge and Ship John Shoal)

Price of \$99 includes both a continental breakfast and hot lunch

Please RSVP to Brad Humphrey at

[brad\\_humphrey@adp.com](mailto:brad_humphrey@adp.com) or 609-743-1649

## Coming Soon

Brad & Megan Humphrey describe highlights of their New England cruise. **Next month.**








## Fire Extinguisher Recall

Kidde XL Fire Extinguishers models FX340SC, FX340H, FX340GW, XL5MR, FX210R, FX340SC-2, FX210W, XL2.5TCZ-4, and E-340-3 manufactured between October 2007 and April 2008.



GPS, SPOT, EPIRB, PLB, DSC and VPIRB (continued. Click image for link to more info.)

<p>SPOT</p>		<p>A simple one-way device that sends GPS location for graphic display on Google Earth maps or message via text messages or e-mail. Has 3 button for “OK”, “HELP” and “911”. SPOT uses a private satellite company, Globalstar, to communicate and there is a service fee. Units cost around \$150. Ideal for inland or near-coastal areas and aren’t limited to marine use.</p>
<p>EPIRB</p>		<p>Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon has just one purpose, to signal emergency responders that you need help. Activation (manual or water immersion) sends a satellite signal to authorities anywhere in the world. Must be properly registered and identifies you, your boat and location. Starting around \$500 they’re suited for off-shore use.</p>
<p>DSC (VHF)</p>		<p>Digital Selective Calling lets your DSC enabled GPS and VHF radio to work together to send a mayday signal that identifies you, your boat and location with a single push of a button. Requires a Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) registration that is transmitted as part of the mayday message. Best for near-coastal; must be within VHF range.</p>
<p>PLB</p>		<p>Personal Locator Beacons come in two flavors, with and without GPS. They’re used to summon emergency assistance when out of 9-1-1 range. PLB’s transmit on the same 406 MHz frequency used by the search and rescue satellite system – they’re little cousins to EPIRBs and are designed to be worn on a personal flotation device or fit into a pocket and are convenient to carry. Prices start at \$350.</p>
<p>VPIRB</p>		<p>A VPIRB (VHF Position Indicating Radio Beacon) is specifically designed to alert a parent vessel that it has lost one of its crew overboard. It is equipped with an internal GPS receiver and uses VHF DSC and synthesized radiotelephone (voice) transmissions to broadcast this GPS position to all DSC equipped vessels and shore stations in range. VPIRBs activate automatically on contact with water or can be manually switched on. Cost is in the \$750 area.</p>

**[Message]**

We’re in the process of becoming NJ certified which will allow us to offer the new public boating courses. We also have what like to call “mini seminars” covering a wide range of topics. We are always looking to form a one evening class. Please check the USPS web site for the list of seminars and contact Clarence Cramer our Education officer for details.

The newest USPS service is a web site called Sail Angle. This site is similar to Facebook. The purpose is to bring the USPS community together in an online forum. It’s easy to register and we encourage you to join. Just log into the USPS web site using your certificate number and PIN. This is the PIN assigned to you at membership renewal. On the upper left click on the Sail Angle button and follow the instructions. This is a continual

effort by USPS national to make it easier to communicate among national, district, and squadrons . I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who renewed their membership for their continued support of both USPS and Kingsway. Special thanks to the bridge members for taking time every month to support our squadron.

*Bill Nelson*

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Don't forget the kids!



## Live Links



**D**o you know that you can click on any e-mail or web address mentioned in an electronic version of *The Weather-vane*? It will open a new message for you to send or it will route you to the site. Links are usually in **blue**. Try these.

- Kingsway** [www.usps.org/kingsway](http://www.usps.org/kingsway)
- Sail Angle** <http://www.sailangle.com/>
- Got Charts?** <http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/OnlineViewer.html>
- Need Knots?** <http://www.animatedknots.com/>
- Local Info** [www.boatinginfousa.com](http://www.boatinginfousa.com)
- Boating Safety Stats** [http://www.uscgboating.org/statistics/accident\\_stats.htm](http://www.uscgboating.org/statistics/accident_stats.htm)
- Rules of the Road** <http://marineblog.jeppesen.com/blog/jeppesen-marine/0/0/rules-of-the-road-summarized>

## Upcoming Events 2009 – 2010

- |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                |               |                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Sep 17</p>  | <p>Hurricane Party!! 1900 Hours<br/>365 New Albany Rd, Moorestown, NJ</p>                                                                                                                      | <p>Jan 22</p> | <p>Bowling – Laurel Lanes<br/>Time TBD<br/>2825 Rt. 73 South<br/>Maple Shade, NJ<br/>856-778-7467</p> |
| <p>Sep 26</p>  | <p><b>Special!!</b><br/>Delaware Bay Lighthouse Tour 1000 Hours<br/>Departing from Cape May, Sponsored by Kingsway<br/><a href="#">See enclosed feature (Page 2).</a></p>                      | <p>Feb 18</p> | <p>Founder's Day 01900 Hours<br/>Location TBD</p>                                                     |
| <p>Oct 15</p>                                                                                     | <p>BoatBoy Marine<br/>Training Presentation 1900 Hours<br/>365 New Albany Rd, Moorestown, NJ<br/><a href="http://www.boatboymarinetraining.com/">http://www.boatboymarinetraining.com/</a></p> | <p>Mar 18</p> | <p>Tie One On! 1900 Hours<br/>365 New Albany Rd,<br/>Moorestown, NJ</p>                               |
| <p>Nov 19</p>                                                                                     | <p>Kunkles Restaurant (live jazz!!) 1900 Hours<br/>920 Kings Highway, Haddon Heights, NJ<br/>856-547-1225 BYOB</p>                                                                             | <p>Apr 17</p> | <p>Change of Watch<br/>Time TBD<br/>Location TBD</p>                                                  |
| <p>Dec 5</p>                                                                                      | <p>Holiday Party- Villari's Milmarian 1800 Hours<br/>Rt. 73 North &amp; Spring Garden St., Palmyra, NJ<br/>856-829-7373 Cash Bar</p>                                                           |               |                                                                                                       |