

Dec 2008
Jan 2009

WAUKEELOG

Waukegan Sail & Power Squadron, a Unit of the
United States Power Squadrons® District 20

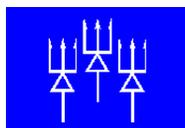
Promoting Safe Sail and Power Boating

Published Six Times per Year

wspsboating.org



**COMMANDERS
COMMENTS
CDR. OSCAR LUTZ, JN**



The Waukegan Sail & Power Squadron has had a great year. All of you really pitched in to make it a success in many ways.

Most of all, we received the Prince Henry Award from our District for getting the most points for course attendance. This was our second year in a row and we are planning to make it a sweep of three years. If we accomplish this, the squadron will get a permanent statue to commemorate the accomplishment. So your part is to sign up for courses this spring to help us reach the goal. We will be having more courses than usual and you will have a greater selection. The educational department was very active with Tom Parkinson and his merry crew presenting four courses, four Public Boating Courses, and six seminars in 2008. Some of these seminars were presented at the Winthrop Harbor Yacht Club and the Waukegan Yacht Club as part of our partnering effort.

Our squadron was also honored by our district with the first place award for being the squadron with the most membership growth of 21.4%. Keith Baldwin, Jan Guthrie, Andy LeBoeuf, Ellen Ludtke, and Mike Ludtke did most of the work to getting us there. We also took third place in membership retention (92.9%). So please stay on the retention list.

To keep in touch with our members, we had five member dinner events that were fairly well attended. Our most recent was the election dinner held in November. Keith Baldwin and Tom Parkinson did an outstanding job in clarifying the new Certificate of Boating Program which enables people to qualify for chartered boats. A review of our expanding list of seminars was made so that everyone has a clearer picture of what seminars they would be interested in.

Thanks to our cruise chairman, David Sallmann, for organizing three cruises. The Racine Cruise was the most successful with about 22 of our members participating. We hope to have three to four cruises next year and would like to get even more boaters to come along for this great event. The Memorial Day Cruise to the Great Lakes Naval Base was well attended with Tom Parkinson bringing three sail boats of Sea Scouts along on a very rough day. They looked really sharp in their uniforms and so did Tom.

Continued on third page...

Coming Events

**12 January – AP starts, P/DC
Keith Baldwin - TBD**

13 January 1900 – EXCOM

**14-18 January – Chicago
Boat, RV Show – McCormick
Place**

**24 January 1730 - Change of
Watch, Country Squire**

**28 January – Seminar Series,
Libertyville HS**

**29 January – Safe Boating
Course starts, CLC**

**29 January – 01 Feb Strictly
Sail, Navy Pier**

**February date TBD Weather
Course**

**7 February D/20 Ops
Training, Hilton Lisle Resort**

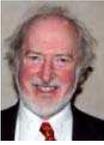
**11 February – Sail Course,
Jan Guthrie, TBD**

**12-16 February – Miami boat
& Strictly Sail Show**

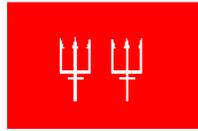
17 February 1900 – EXCOM

**21 February – Social Dinner
Location & time TBD**

**24 February – Safe Boating
Course, Libertyville HS**



**EDUCATION OFFICER
LT/C TOM PARKINSON, JN**



The Educational Department of our squadron aims to provide the members and the public with opportunities to improve their boating-related knowledge and skills. In years past this has been limited to classroom exercises and demonstrations, but with new USPS squadron insurance we now have the opportunity to include “on-the-water” instruction and practice. These opportunities are not fully defined so if anyone has an idea for how to incorporate an OTW segment into any of our classes – please drop me an email.

The Fall Classes are approaching their examinations, Engine Maintenance with Dave Sallmann, Marine Electronics with Rex Miller, and Piloting with Keith Baldwin. I myself have been taking the Engine Maintenance class and I am once again impressed by the quality of the courses that USPS offers through the member squadrons. The small class format is an ideal way to either round out partial knowledge or start in from scratch, with the help of knowledgeable instructors and participating students.

The fall series of seminars at Libertyville High School went ahead with “Boat Handling” by Bob Kunath, “Using GPS” by Keith Baldwin, “On-board Weather Forecasting” by Paul Green, and “Knots, Bends & Hitches” by Tenney Ford. Adding the attendance for each seminar gave a total 20 for members and 6 for non-members. We will give a series of eight seminars at Libertyville High School starting in January – remember that these are open to the public and to members. The subjects are each presented with an introduction for novices but quickly get into the “meat” of the material – which is targeted at experienced boaters. The squadron has also offered to present three seminars at Winthrop Harbor Yacht Club as part of their spring educational initiative. And for something new - the national office has approved the use of condensed (one hour) seminar presentations suitable for dinner meetings, boat shows, etc. At the Fall Conference of USPS District 20 the squadron received recognition of the on-going effort that members of the squadron are making to improve their different boating skill. The Squadron won the Prince Henry award for the most active educational program in the district. This is the second year running that our squadron has had the “Prince” at our gatherings – be sure to come and meet him at the Change of Watch. Here is a link to a short history of this award:

http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/files/prince_henry_hist.pdf .

The squadron also came second in the Educational Achievement award. In the last year almost a third of our membership has taken part in some educational activity.

The Advanced Piloting class will start early in January (so as to be finished before tax time), Sail will start early February (after the boat shows) and Navigation in March (so that we will not freeze when taking sights). We may also put on a Weather class if the arrangements work out. Jeff Geltz is looking into centralizing our

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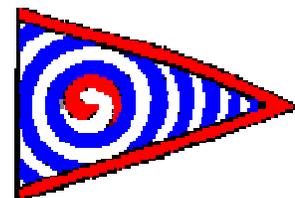
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**EXECUTIVE OFFICER
LT/C MIKE LUDTKE JN**



New Years is just a few weeks away and we all know what comes after that, our annual pilgrimages to the boat shows. Whether you are a power boater or sailor, I'm sure a good majority of you will be making your way to McCormick Place for the Boat, RV & Outdoor Show (Jan 14-18) or Strictly Sail at Navy Pier (Jan 29-Feb 1). Again this year D/20 will be setting up shop at these events. Most of the vendors at the show pay for floor space, D/20 receives free floor because of our community based purpose of educating the boating public. Another difference is those other booths are manned by paid sales people who slog from show to show, tirelessly crisscrossing the county; our booth is manned by local power squadron members, just like you. Our members are there because they want to be there to support the power squadron. Since you're probably planning to go to the show anyway, why not give two hours of your time to help out. If we all give just a little of our time at the show, the power squadron will gain so much. By giving a little time, you'll get a chance to talk with a lot of great boaters about our mission of civic service, education and our social activities, or you may just like to chat with passerby's about the show or hook up with old friends you haven't see all winter. Either way, please give me a call or drop me an email to let me know when you plan to attend the shows and what hours you'd like to help at the booth.

See you at the show.

Mike

Editors note: Consider also the Miami Boat Show, February 12-16. Held at three different locations in Miami, this is the one to visit. Strictly Sail is at one of the locations, one ticket buys both. Visit www.miamiboatshow.com for details.

Commanders Comments continued from first page....

Our next big event is the 2009 Change of Watch for the change of our executive bridge. It is on Saturday, January 24 at the Country Squire. Invitations will be mailed to you. Hope to see you there for a fun evening.

So we had a great year and hope to repeat in 2009 with your support. As the old Irish Proverb says:

May God grant you always

A sunbeam to warm you

A moonshine to charm you

A sheltering angel, so nothing can harm you.

Blessings for a great Holiday Season and a Happy New Year and Happy Boating.

Oscar

Cool Web Sites

USPS MEMBER DISCOUNTS

www.usps.org/national/admin_dept/membenefits.htm

Get discounts on insurance, marine equipment, Dell computers, charts and other stuff.

Real Time Buoy Data

www.ndbc.noaa.gov/

Log on to NOAA buoys for the latest waves, wind, etc. Link to Marine weather forecasts.

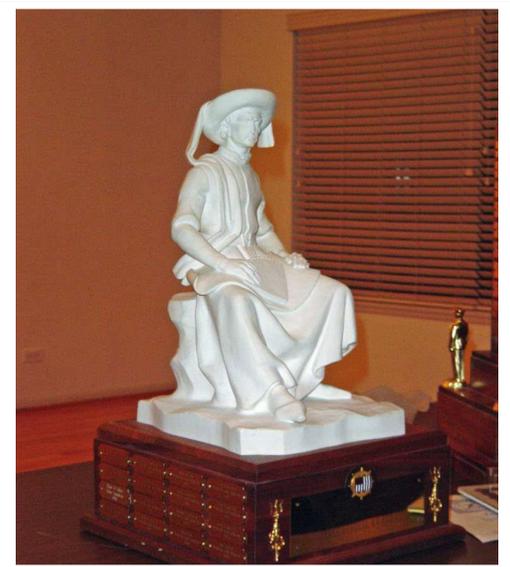
Free Electronic Charts

www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/

Wind Projections/Weather

This is really cool.

www.windmapper.com





**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
LT/C ANDY LEBOUF, P**



Change of Watch Dinner

***Location – Country Squire Banquet Facility, Grayslake
Route 120 just west of Route 45***

Date – Saturday, January 24, 2009, 1730 - 23:00

Cocktails at 1730

Dinner 1830

Program 1930

Entertainment 2030 to 2300

***Dinner – 7 Course Dinner with Champagne Toast. Entrée
choice of: Roast Sirloin of Beef, Chicken Vesuvio , Lake
Superior Whitefish***

Refreshments – Pay Bar open all evening in room.

Dress Code – Formal

Cost/Donation – Dinner cost is \$35.00 per person

Entertainment – Disc Jockey and dancing

Invitations - Will be mailed in December

***Information- Further information: Elisabeth Geltz
elisabeth@egeltz.com***

Andy

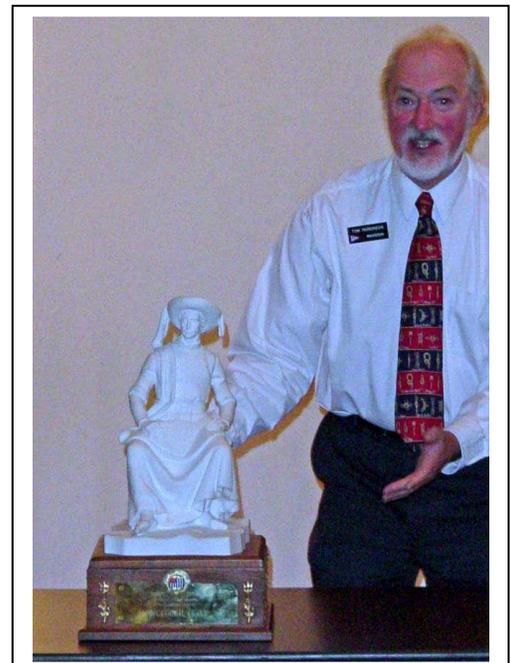
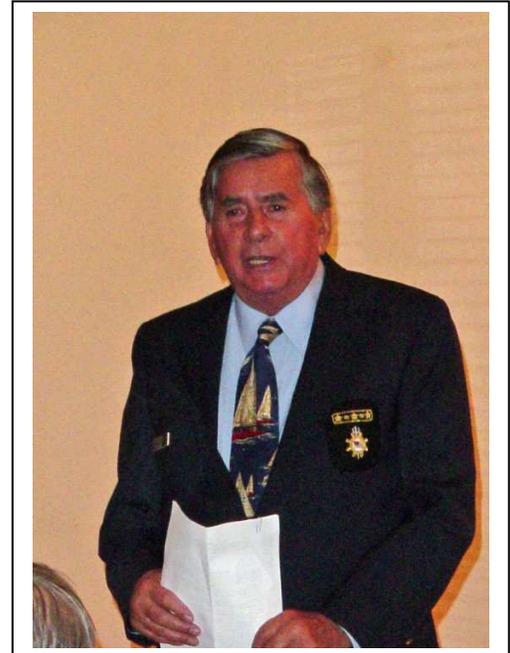
SEO Comments continued from second page...

entire educational calendar on the WSPS web site so watch out for announcements about how to access this.

Meanwhile the new America's Boating Course – which replaces the Squadron Boating Course and Boat Smart – will be given at College of Lake County and Libertyville High School by John Josko, with Tenney Ford and his band of presenters. Remember that these classes are usually the first contact with the squadron (they were for me) and it is a great opportunity to put forward our social and service side – as well as the educational (how about cookies for the break-time?)

Then comes the boating season again – see you on the water.

Tom





WAUKEELOG
EDITOR
Bob Kunath, AP
bobkunath@gmail.com



Happy Birthday

Bronst Dietrich	Dec 3
Frank Herbst	Dec 11
Dick Kofsky	Dec 22
Dick Lazar	Dec 27
Mark Davenport	Dec 28
Gayle Booth	Jan 4
Carol Kunath	Jan 6
Michelle Vavrusa	Jan 15
Andy LeBoeuf	Jan 19
Robert Sloat	Jan 30
Sharon Bucher	Jan 31

If you don't see your special day listed contact Roster Chairman
 Ellen Ludtke.
 815-678-4300



Some random thoughts and comments.....

For the past few years Maptech has provided free NOAA raster charts online as part of their contract to provide the charts to NOAA. Apparently, at least that provision of their contract has run out, so you can no longer get free electronic charts from Maptech.

Fortunately, you can download these BSB charts free at www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/; this site offers both raster (they look like paper charts) and vector (digitally layered charts) ECN's. The site is not as easy to use as Maptech's, but the product is the same. These charts work well with all versions of Maptech software and any other software that uses BSB charts, such as Maptech's Chart Navigator and Chart Navigator Pro (formerly Cap'n). These programs can interface your on-board laptop with most any GPS to track your position, and also perhaps your boat's autopilot. Making a long trip becomes much easier and safer with this kind of technology. It's worth mentioning that we spent over \$1600 for electronic charts when we did the Great Loop; those are now available totally free. You can even print out daily charts and forgo buying paper charts altogether, which cost us another \$1600 or so. Now there's no excuse for having old charts on your boat.

Someone sent me a great new weather site, www.windmapper.com. This is really cool, no, way more than cool. Totally interactive, all you do is select the area of your interest on a national map, and you get a local map showing wind speed and direction, displayed as little arrows on the map. Hover over an arrow, and you get full digital stats. Click on the arrow, you get forecast wind speed and direction by hour for the next few days, along with rain, clouds, etc.

Finally, we've been at our winter headquarters in Venice, Florida for the past month. I was fishing off the bank of the canal behind our house within 3 feet of the edge when a porpoise swam by within 3 feet of the bank, or maybe 6 feet from me. The swimming mammal was so close that my line rubbed down its back as it swam by. The next day on a friends boat in Sarasota Bay, we were at hull speed (no wake zone) when another porpoise came up alongside the boat, raised its head out of the water, and opened its mouth, clearly begging for a snack. What a world!

Have a great Holiday Season!

Bob



Casperson Beach, Venice, Florida

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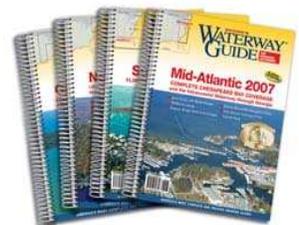
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Waukegan Sail & Power Squadron
A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®
WAUKEGAN SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON
2009 CALENDAR (11-20-2008)

JANUARY 2009

Monday 12 Advanced Piloting – Keith Baldwin Instructor - Location TBA
Tuesday 13 Executive Committee Meeting at 1900
Wed-Sun 14-18 Chicago Boat, RV and Outdoor Show, McCormick Place
Saturday 24 CHANGE OF WATCH Dinner at 1730 – Country Squire in Grayslake
Wednesday 28 Seminar Series starts at Libertyville HS for eight sessions.
Thursday 29 Public Safe Boating Course at CLC completes March 26
Thu/Fr/Sa/Su 29-01 Strictly Sail at Navy Pier

FEBRUARY 2009

Date Open Weather Course – Location TBA
Saturday 7 District 20 Operations Training Workshop, Hilton/Lisle Resort Hotel
Wednesday 11 Sail Course – Jan Guthrie Instructor – Location TBA
Thurs-Mon 12-16 Miami Boat Show/Strictly Sail Miami
Tuesday 17 Executive Committee Meeting at 1900
Saturday 21 Social Dinner – Location TBA
Tuesday 24 Public Safe Boating Course at LHS completes April 14.

MARCH 2009

Date Open Navigation Course – Paul Green Instructor - Location TBA
Tuesday 10 Executive Committee Meeting at 1900
Saturday 14 Member's Quarterly Meeting at 1700 at Prairie Cove Yacht Club
Date Open Winthrop Harbor Yacht Club Vendor and Boat Show. WSPS has a booth.
Fri/Sat 20-21 D/20 Spring Conference, Clock Tower Inn, Rockford, IL

APRIL 2009

Date Open Larsen Marine Open House 1000 to 1700 - WSPS has a booth there
Tuesday 14 Executive Committee Meeting at 1900
Saturday 18 Social Dinner- Location TBA

MAY 2009

Tuesday 12 Executive Committee Meeting at 1900
Saturday 16 Safe Boating Week begins, Used Equipment Sale 0900
VSC Day Waukegan 0900, Picnic 1300 on Harbor House Patio
Monday 25 Blessing of the Fleet & Cruise to Naval Station-Great Lakes
Jim Moran, Cruise Captain



SAFETY AT SEA THROUGH EDUCATION



JUNE 2009

Date Open

Tuesday 9

Pancake Breakfast fund raiser, Waukegan Harbor Patio 0830 - 1100

Executive Committee Meeting at 1900

JULY 2009

July 4 weekend

Tuesday 14

Saturday 18

Saturday 25

Squadron Cruise – Location TBA

Executive Committee Meeting at 1900

Mac/Hook Sailboat Races

District Cruise & Rendezvous hosted by Fox Valley at North Point Marina 0900 to 1700. This is a one-day event.

AUGUST 2009

Sat/Sun 8, 9

Tuesday 11

Fri 14 – Sun 23

Friday/Sat 14 & 15

Squadron Cruise – Location TBA

Executive Committee Meeting 1900

Illinois State Fair in Springfield – Our district has a booth there.

Larsen Marine Boat Show in Waukegan

SEPTEMBER 2009

Date Open

Tuesday 8

Saturday 12

Date Open

Date Open

Squadron Cruise – Location TBA

Executive Committee Meeting at 1900

Old Timers & New Comers Rib Dinner at Waukegan Harbor Patio

Squadron Fall Courses - Location open

Seminar Series of 4 Sessions

OCTOBER 2009

Date Open

Tuesday 13

Fri-Sat 23-24

Squadron Courses - Location TBA

Executive Committee Meeting at 1900

District Fall Conference location TBA

NOVEMBER 2009

Saturday 7

Tuesday 10

General Membership/Election Dinner 1800

Executive Committee Meeting at 1900

DECEMBER 2009

Saturday 5

Sunday 6

Executive Committee Meeting at 1800

D/20 ExCom Mtg & Christmas Party - early afternoon.

JANUARY 2010

Date Open

Tuesday 12

Saturday 16

Thu/Fr/Sa/Su 28-31

Squadron Winter/Spring Courses and Seminars – Location Open

Executive Committee Meeting at 1900

COW Dinner 1700, location TBA

Strictly Sail at Navy Pier

FEBRUARY 2010

February 6

District 20 Operations Training, location TBA