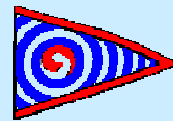


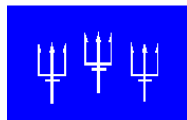
Aug-Sept
2010

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 www.wspsoating.org



**COMMANDERS
COMMENTS**
CDR. MIKE LUDTKE, N



This past weekend I attended the district Cruise & Rendezvous in Springfield IL, hosted by the Land of Lincoln Power Squadron. As our squadron will be hosting the district conference next spring, I thought I'd briefly discuss what is District 20, what goes on at these district events and their importance.

Our squadron is a member of District 20, or simply D/20. D/20 covers an area from Racine to the north, the Iowa border to the west, south to Springfield and east to Michigan City. There are a total of 18 squadrons in D/20. Just like our local squadron, district has an Executive Committee, or ExCom, that carries out district business at monthly meetings. There are also committees at the district level to assist the squadrons. Many members involved at the district level also participate at the national meetings held twice year in September & February, where members of all 33 districts get together.

Three times a year, the D/20 ExCom meets with the D/20 Council, which includes the squadron commanders and immediate past commander of the district. The three meetings are held at the district conferences in October, March and the summer Cruise & Rendezvous in July. These events give the squadron commanders a chance to discuss what's working, or not working within their squadron and share ideas. Bridge officers also have meetings with their counterparts from other squadrons. It's also an opportunity to gather information passed on from National, such as educational changes, policy changes or new national initiatives. It's not all work at these district events and there is plenty for members that don't have meetings to do as well. There is a social gathering on Friday, which is always a good time. There are presentations relating to boating activities. At the spring conference in March, which we will be hosting, there is an Expo, where vendors and groups within the power squadron share information. Some people venture off on local excursions.

Have you heard we'll be hosting the district conference next March? That's one of the reasons I wanted to fill you in what district is, and why it's important for these district events to take place. Now that you know what goes on, and why it's important, I hope you'll volunteer to help on a committee for the conference and keep the power squadron, local, district and national, running smooth.

Mike



Coming Events

30-31 July
D/20 C&R

6-8 August Skipper Bud
Boat Show Reefpoint

10 August 1900 Excom
Waukegan Patio

14-15 August
Kenosha Cruise

14-15 August
Chicago/Water Air Show

10-12 September
Racine Cruise

14 September 1900 Excom

18 September 1800
Oldtimer-Newcomer Dinner

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



When the weather is this hot it makes the time spent by or on the water doubly attractive – but in a few weeks we will start seeing morning coolness and we will feel that fall is on the horizon.

The new <http://www.wspsoating.org/> web page is going to be the principal way for you to check the times and dates of all classes – I have instructions from our squadron web guru Jeff Geltz on how to enter them, so please look for classes to appear in the month of September. The class graduation lists will continue to appear on the web page – always check on these so that you can congratulate successful students.

The great new electronics class “Marine Communications Systems” is set for September. The instructor will be Rex Miller and the class starts from a basic understanding of radio, through how these principles are used in the many devices on our boats. Sessions will cover in detail the VHF radio and Digital Selective Calling, the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS), and High Seas radio (MF/HF and satellite communications). There is also a chapter on troubleshooting of radio installations. For me the star of the contents is the Automatic Identification System (AIS) which provides information on the location, speed, course and name of nearby AIS equipped ships. Go to <http://marinetraffic.com/ais/> to see the “Lake Express” crossing the lake to Milwaukee. There has been so much expansion in the possibilities of marine communications since the previous “Marine Electronics” course that USPS spun this complete course out of ME and it is a follow-up to last year’s “Marine Electrical Systems”.

Also in September, Keith Baldwin will present “Advanced Piloting” assisted by Robert Sloat. This was the course that for me pulled together so many of the ideas and techniques that are introduced in Piloting and applied them to detailed, real-world planning and plotting. The class is highly integrated with the use of modern electronic aids and is a must for grade P members – especially as we do not hold this class often.

An Engine Maintenance course may appear on the calendar but at present we do not have a confirmed instructor for this very hands-on and practical, money-saving USPS class.

WSPS and the Waukegan Yacht Club are again presenting a series of seminars following the successful 2009/2010 season. These will be once a month – first Tuesday of the month (but check the calendar). Mike Ludtke and Dave Sallmann – Seminar Chairman – will organize a great set of subjects, some proven favorites and some new ones.

Our first summer “America’s Boating Course” (ABC) was held June through July at College of Lake County with 10 participants. It proved a lively class but there was a common thread in the evaluations – that we are trying to cover too much material for the schedule. Those of you who took boating class years ago would be surprised to find the classes covering low-head dams, how to more safely float down a river (when dumped from a boat), and other subjects of interest to boaters in small boats on lakes and rivers. The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators specifies the content of the course and their perceived need for boating education – measured by the number of accidents – is for the hunters, fishermen, and small craft users. This additional emphasis has meant abbreviated attention to subjects such as Rules of the Road and low speed maneuvering. The ABC materials do an excellent job of covering the safe boating skills but we were preparing to lengthen
continued on next page....

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Cool Web Sites

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Get discounts!
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Wind Projections/Weather
www.windmapper.com



**EXECUTIVE OFFICER
LT/C Sheldon Wecker P**



"I don't need a Vessel Safety Check. I'm Past Commander of the ... Squadron, and I've taken every course USPS offers".

I stepped back, a little shocked at the vehement response I received. All I did was ask " Skipper, have you had your free Vessel Safety Check this year?". I thanked him for his time, and moved on - but inside I was surprised and disappointed. On our home page, the first point we make is that USPS is dedicated to making boating safer. Who should know that better than a Past Squadron Commander? Even if confident in his own knowledge, getting a VSC sets a good example for other boaters. After all, if Squadron members don't get Safety Checks, why should anyone else? Besides, you might be surprised. On one VSC I did this year, I discovered that because of a typo, the hull ID number on the boat didn't match the documentation papers. Better to find out now than when you try and sell it.

So, Skipper - have you had your free Vessel Safety Check this year? If not, contact me to arrange for one - and while you are at it, encourage your boating friends and dock mates to get one too.

Shel Wecker

New Member:

Gary Rudd lives in Wilmette, he and Gail sail 40' Symphony from Waukegan. Welcome to WSPS!

SEO corner continued from prior page....

the basic course from four sessions to five when we heard that the College of Lake County has dropped Boating Safety from the Fall Schedule of Personal Enrichment classes. The registration office will track requests for the class and it could be reinstated if there are enough enquiries. The CLC winter catalogue is being put together soon and we hope that our long-running January class will not be a victim of cost-cutting.

I hope to see each member this fall at a seminar or a class.

Fair winds!

Tom

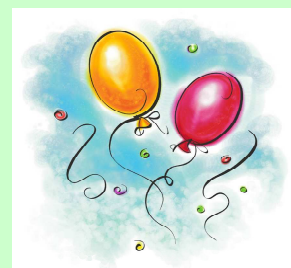
Membership Renewal Procedure

Two months prior to your anniversary an email will be sent to you to renew your membership. If you don't renew online within two weeks of the email, a paper invoice will be sent to you. After your anniversary date passes, if you still have not renewed, another reminder will be sent. The Power Squadron asks that you pay the email invoice to save postage and printing on the additional reminders.

Happy Birthday

Ashley Koziol	Aug 2
Al Richter	Aug 3
John Bucher	Aug 8
Kathy Le Vine	Aug 9
Caroll McIntosh	Aug 10
Essie Shaw Woods	Aug 21
Lauren Eskoz	Aug 24
Ed Fugelseth	Aug 24
Bob Kunath	Aug 27
Anne Miller	Aug 30
Tenney Ford III	Aug 31
Wallis Jean Sloat	Sep 2
Jim Booth	Sep 9
Charles Noble	Sep 12
Marcie Sallmann	Sep 12
Fred Suhr	Sep 16
Tom McIntosh	Sep 18
Paul Green	Sep 19
Roger Ketcham	Sep 19
Jim Holmes	Sep 20
Lynn Straus	Sep 20
Rex Miller	Sep 21
Morgan Holmes	Sep 24

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



Upcoming Major Cruises and Events

Kenosha Cruise 14-15 August
See flyer below

Racine Cruise 10-12 September
See flyer below

"Out of This World"
D/20 Fall Conference
22-24 October Doubletree
Oak Brook - See D/20 Web Site
www.Uspsd20.org



**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
LT/C ELISABETH GELTZ JN**



WSPS PFD Loaners

WSPS has Kids Loaner PFDs at Southport, North Point and Waukegan Harbors. Use of loaner PFD's is free to all boaters



The Milwaukee cruise is on for July 23-25. Paul has a great weekend planned with dinners, a breakfast, and dingy rides on the river.... NO – WAIT, it's cancelled, NO WAIT, it's relocated to Racine !!!

Dear All,

Many thanks for your patience with the Milwaukee Cruise that.... wasn't. Unfortunately due to the storm on Thursday the river turned into a roiling mess with copious amounts of debris that ranged from thick mud to clog your intakes to full trees flying down the river. Hence, a very poor environment for boats and passengers and we collectively felt it was in everyone's best interest to initially cancel and then relocate to Racine.

Our next event/cruise which will hopefully be less "eventful" is the Kenosha Cruise Saturday August 14 to Sunday August 15. We had a great group and a wonderful dinner last year – hope you ALL can join us this year! Please reach out to Marlene Cox quickly with your reservations.

September's event is what is becoming our annual Chicken and Rib dinner at the harbor house in Waukegan. Chef Andy LeBoeuf will kindly be grilling for us. As we get closer we will send out details as well as a reminder, but please put 6:00 Saturday 9/18 on your calendars now if you haven't already. Hope you are all enjoying your summer and getting to spend lots of time on the water.

Happy and Safe Boating,
Elisabeth

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Friday and Saturday Evenings 5:30 - 9pm

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Open to the Public

For Reservations Call (847) 623-4188

last Call...

**DISTRICT 20 SUMMER CRUISE &
RENDEZVOUS 30 – 31 JULY 2010
Springfield, Illinois**

**Here's a link to the D/20 Trident page
with schedule:**

<http://www.uspsd20.org/CalendarOfEvents/2010%20Cruise%20&%20Rendezvous%20Flyer.pdf>

Visit the new Waukegan Sail and Power Squadron web site!

Based on your feedback, the Squadron has implemented a completely new web site. This is *not* a face lift. This is an entirely new design that is intended to be far more interactive than the comparatively static site we had previously. Some of the features of the new site include:

- Member Registration functionality in order to provide additional content to Squadron members that is not accessible to the general public
- A graphically oriented on-line calendar of all Squadron events
- Real-time login reporting to show which of your Squadron pals are logged into the site
- A private messaging capability to send instant messages to your Squadron pals
- Site update capabilities for each Squadron Bridge Officer in order to keep the data on the site relevant and up to date
- Polling capabilities
- A photo gallery that allows us to display candid shots of Squadron events
- A Squadron awards gallery that shows all of the awards our Squadron has received
- Web links to various boating related sites as well as a capability to submit suggestions for new links that you feel other members would find valuable
- Finally, the new site has a full forum capability that includes areas to share ideas and boating experiences - including a swap and sell area to either sell unused items or find elusive parts for your boat

Come check out and register on the new site at www.wspboating.org and let us know what you think of the new site. The more we leverage the site the more beneficial it will become for all of us!



WAUKEELOG
EDITOR
Bob Kunath, JN
bobkunath@gmail.com



Well, we just got a taste of what can go wrong when the weather fails to observe the Squadron calendar and gets crazy.

Four of our boats captained by the Greens, Geltzs, Levines and Rudds decided to get a jump on the Milwaukee Cruise on Wednesday and sailed to Performance Yacht Services on the Milwaukee River, which was in its usual quiet, slow-moving mode. Thursday evening brought a system of tornados, severe T-storms and flooding to the city and upstream, which turned the river into a raging flash flood, the "roiling mess" mentioned by Elisabeth.

Water levels upstream of the harbor were up 7 feet above normal, creating severe pressure on the lower river and PYS docks, causing several to be twisted and others to break free. This forced a rapid getaway by the two sailboats to avoid being damaged by the docks or being swept downstream by the flood.

The getaway was not without difficulty. Both boats were damaged by the mangled docks as they tried to break free. Engines in both boats sucked in the awful river water and debris, requiring both engines to be shut down to avoid overheating. Fortunately, the city marine police and USCG were standing by and towed both vessels to safety at McKinley without further damage.

A recreational boater must be self-sufficient, which means that he or she needs to know how to navigate, know the boat systems, and have on board the necessary tools, knowledge, manuals and skills to handle basic emergencies. Part of the USPS mission is to help the boater understand those needs, and to help pass on the knowledge required to fulfill that obligation. But sometimes bad luck simply takes over. This situation could have been much worse but for the quick action taken by the captains and crew to minimize the damage, and in fact there were no injuries. I'm not sure that there is a lesson to be learned here, except that we must always expect the unexpected.

Some of us were able to continue to Reefpoint Marina and enjoy the rest of the weekend, which turned out fine if not as planned.

Expect the unexpected!

Bob



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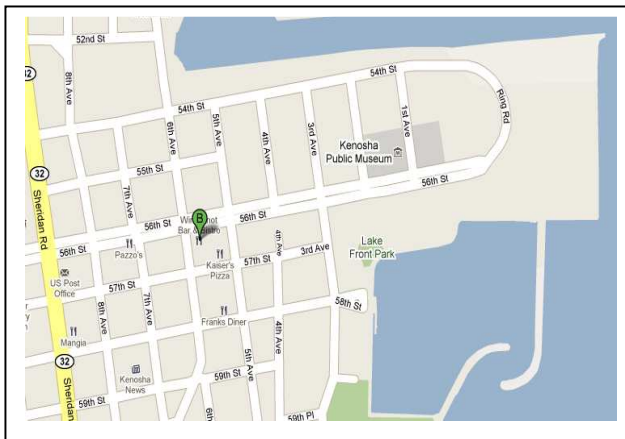


making you shine!

Kenosha Cruise – August 13 & 14

Cruise to Kenosha's Southport Marina is just around the corner! Book your slips with the marina NOW!!! Call Allie at: 262.657.5565. Please let her know you are with WSPS as she has set us up for priority status.

Please also e-mail Marlene Cox at marlene.w.cox@gmail.com so you will be counted in for joining us for dinner. We'll have dinner Saturday night at [Wine Knot](#). Wine Knot is an American Bistro with a variety of great wine and beer – AND it is within walking distance of the harbor – just 4 blocks.



RSVP by August 6 to Cruise Capt. Marlene Cox:
marlene.w.cox@gmail.com

Fall Cruise – Racine Reefpoint Marina 10-12 September



WSPS is cruising to Racine, Wisconsin the weekend of 10-12 September, Friday to Sunday.

The Reefpoint staff has pledged to make every effort to put our boats together in slips in the West docks. Early reservations are essential, especially for the larger boats. Call Deb at 262-633-7171 now to make your reservation. Identify yourself as part of the "Waukegan Group" to help ensure that we are located together.

Reefpoint has it all. Plenty of restaurants within walking distance, West Marine, 4 travel lifts, diesel and gas mechanics, the Johnson art museum and numerous galleries, shops and of course, taverns (this is Wisconsin). And we're boaters. What a match.

We're planning a dock cocktail party (bring stuff) followed by a dinner Saturday, pot luck dock breakfast (bring more stuff) on Sunday. And, of course, some stupid to-be-determined game.

Come up Friday for an early start to the cocktail and dinner activities.

RSVP by 6 September to Cruise Capt. Carol Kunath:
mailto:carolkunath@gmail.com or 847-721-8175

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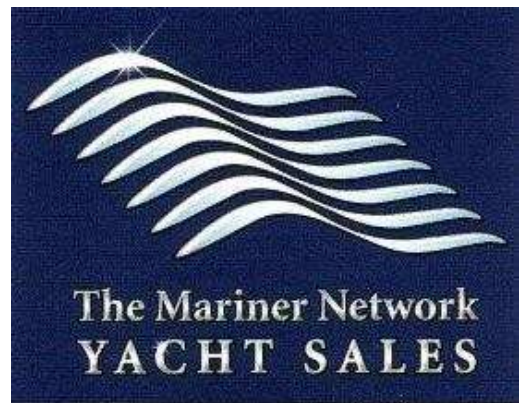


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