



United States Power Squadrons®

Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the FriendsSM



Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron

District 14

Welcome to the neighborhood! *The Porthole*, the award winning newsletter of the Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron, is where members come to learn about upcoming courses and events, read scintillating articles of members seafaring adventures and engage with fellow boaters.

We have given our *Porthole* new look to comply with the USPS Branding initiative. We hope you like it!



Our squadron is part of the United States

Power Squadrons, a non-profit boating organization dedicated to helping people enjoy boating activities safely. Our membership includes all types of boaters and boating families (power, sail, and paddlers), novices and experienced boaters alike. You don't need a boat to join; just have a keen interest in boating-related activities and an eagerness to meet others who do too!

We have many enjoyable on-the-water and land-based activities,

including boating activities, social events, learning opportunities, and other get-togethers. Many boating activities are held on nearby Cape waters, but we have participated in longer cruises and have joined boating activities hosted by other squadrons. We even managed an October Paddle Event! As we spring forward to warmer weather there are education opportunities, community outreach and social events, starting with our Annual Meeting. You will see details in this edition and in upcoming WhatsUp announcements.

Be sure to check our Calendar of Activities to see what is coming up over the next few months and make plans to join us.

This is the official
Call for the Annual Meeting
as required by the
Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron Inc. Bylaws

Thursday, 22 March, 2018

St. David's Episcopal Church
205 Old Main Street
South Yarmouth, MA 02664



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SPRING 2018**

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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Cdr Tom Begley, P



The engine that powers our squadron and makes everything run smoothly is comprised of the volunteers who contribute their time to make the Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron a success. We have many activities, such as teaching a course, participating in our annual boat show or marching in a parade that wouldn't happen without the help and efforts of our Squadron members. Last year we had 40 of our members who went above and beyond, and in doing so helped make a difference. Our Chief Commander, Louie Ojeda, awarded these 40 members with a Merit Mark in recognition of their outstanding service. In this issue of the *Porthole* Larry Cole, who is a big help to us in organizing the Merit Mark program, has a great article about Merit Marks and in it we have listed the names of those 40 members who will be recognized this year for their efforts. A special note -- This year one of our members, Lana Sands, received her 25th Merit Mark which earns her a Life Membership. As you read Larry's article, think about what you can do to help make your Squadron more successful. Take a look at the Squadron Roster, which can be accessed on our web site www.ccsps.org, to see what positions are available and might be of interest to you. Give me a call and let me know if you have any ideas or suggestions.

Tom Begley, Commander
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MARCH SPAGHETTI DINNER

22 March 2018
St. David's Episcopal Church
205 Old Main St, South Yarmouth
Join us at 1800 for appetizers
Dinner at 1830

Salad
Spaghetti & Meatballs
Garlic Bread
Delicious Dessert
\$17.00/person

**Bring your own beer, wine or soft drinks.
Invite a friend or prospective member!**

ANNUAL MEETING *and* ELECTION

P/C Ron Kessel, SN-IN, will be speaking about European River Cruising

Last October Ron & June Kessel took a 15 day riverboat cruise down the Rhine, the Main, and the Danube rivers visiting five countries - Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Slovakia, and Hungary. Ron is going to talk about European River Boat cruising as well as touching on the geography comparing the US and Western European rivers. Many of us will remember Ron & June's Cruise Up the Erie Canal last year so this is sure to be very interesting and will give us an insight about the popularity of river cruising.

You don't want to miss Ron's presentation about his adventures!

Reservations by 19 March 2018 Paul Katanik phone 703-801-6167
QUICK RESERVE: click [HERE](#) to reserve and pay at the door.

SLATE FOR ANNUAL MEETING

P/C Hugh Blair-Smith, SN

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the slate of officers to be voted on at the Annual Meeting, 22 March 2018. As chair, I gratefully acknowledge the hard work and determination of my fellow members P/C Deirdre Leyden and P/C John Crawford. The participation of Cdr Tom Begley and XO Alex Bizunok is greatly appreciated.

The members named above, meeting as the Planning Committee, have also identified members to fill the appointed offices. With the consent of the Executive Committee, those names will be displayed in an organization chart at the Annual Meeting.

CAPE COD SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON, INC. PROPOSED SLATE OF ELECTED OFFICERS 2018-2019 THE BRIDGE

Commander	Cdr Tom Begley, P
Executive Officer	Lt/C Alex Bizunok, P
Educational Officer	P/C John Crawford, SN
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Erika Kraft, P
Secretary	Lt/C Connie Begley, P
Treasurer	Lt/C Evan Croft, SN-IN
Ass't Educational Officer	D/1 st /Lt Dave Atwood, JN-IN
Ass't Administrative Officer	1 st /Lt Walt Penczar, SN-IN
Ass't Treasurer	1 st /Lt Rick Kimball

ELECTED COMMITTEES

DIRECTORS

Rich Bender
Jim Burke, P
Glenn Greenough, AP
Joe Kiceina, P
P/C Michael Leyden, AP
Lt Hal Petersen, AP
Rick Reed, S

RULES COMMITTEE

P/Stf/C Joan Croft, AP-IN 2019
P/C Walter Baggett, JN 2020

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE BRIDGE
THE DIRECTORS
P/C John Crawford, SN

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Joe Williams, N 2019¹
P/C Walter Baggett, JN 2020

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

P/C Deirdre Leyden, S	2019 ¹
P/C John Crawford, SN	2020 ¹
[to be nominated from floor]	2021 ²

¹ Previously elected to serve for the term ending in the indicated year.

² The Nominating Committee cannot nominate members to serve on the Nominating Committee. Therefore, the Committee will request a nomination from the floor.

Congratulations, P/C Lee Johnson, SN-IN Member of the Year

The Ed Ruckle Safety Education Award was established in 2012 in memory of Lt/C Ed Ruckle, and is awarded annually.

Member of the Year Award is based on contributions to the squadron and sustained achievement. Criteria includes Vessel Safety Checks, Education – teaching and taking courses, and Community Outreach. The USPS Chapman award was referenced when defining the criteria. The award is given to the member of our squadron who goes above and beyond to promote and enhance the squadron. Nominations are received from the membership, reviewed by the committee and a recommendation is given to the Executive Committee.

Your Member of the Year for 2017 is **P/C Lee Johnson, SN** Reprinted below are two of the nominations received for Lee.

“Lee works diligently and effectively in key activities that bring great credit to the CCSPS. He is best know for coordinating our showing at multiple parades around the Cape, but he also works numerous hours with the Sea Scouts. Not only is he a mate with Ship 72, but he also spends many hours working on their boats doing routine maintenance and frequent repair jobs to wiring, instruments, hardware, and other boat components. He arranges special outings for scouts to provide them with experience and opportunities for advancement. He also gives instruction in boat operation, seamanship, and navigation. In recent years he has done similar things for Sea Scout Ship 76, a sister ship to 72. He goes about these tasks in a quiet, determined and dedicated way always seeking to improve the safety and education of Sea Scouts and others. His work shows what the Squadron stands for and is credit to us all. He has done a great deal toward reaching out objectives for boating safety and education and has presented a very positive image for us in our community. for all that he has done and continues to do he deserves consideration for special recognition”



“PC Lee Johnson is one of the most dedicated and hard working members of our squadron and he goes about his good works in a quiet, unassuming, and determined manner. Most of us know he puts together our parade efforts several times a year. But many are not aware of the tremendous efforts he makes as a volunteer with the sea scouts. He serves as mate for Ship 72 and organizes or participates in many outings for the scouts. Previously he was part of Ship 76 and completed many tasks on boat maintenance and refurbishing as well as deliver lessons on seamanship and navigation. His work includes special efforts to help individual scouts have experiences that inform and inspire them as well as reach advancement objectives. Additionally, he continues to work on scout boats, making sure they have needed repairs, often by himself, doing regular maintenance, and making sure they are prepared for vessel safety checks as required by the Sea Scout Manual. He has devoted countless hours to these activities many of which are unrecognized by fellow squadron members while at the same time reflecting great credit on all of us in the pursuit of some our most meaningful goals of public service, supporting the sea scouts, boating education and safety. I note these achievements with great respect and appreciation for Lee’s achievements and the dedicated, selfless way in which he goes about serving our squadron.”



From the Administrative Officer, an update on our recent social events



Kevin Mingora/Cape Cod Times.
Reprinted with permission.

ART KIMBER HOLIDAY GIVING DRIVE

Our annual December Holiday Party collection is in honor of P/D/C Art Kimber, SN. Every year Art rallied each of us to bring cash and non-perishable food donations for Cape Cod families in need.

Art's community involvement touched the lives of countless citizens and spanned many organizations and decades from the 1970s until his passing on 23 June 2010.

We continue the squadron's annual tradition of outreach in the spirit of Art's good will to all. Thanks to the generosity of our squadron members \$277 was collected for charity at the 14 December gathering at the Yarmouth House

JANUARY LUNCHEON

Our January luncheon was held at Bamboo in Hyannis; we all enjoyed a delicious Asian Buffet lunch followed by an informative talk from Joe DelliCarpini. Joe is the Science and Operations Officer at the National Weather Service in Taunton, MA. He is a native of the New York City area and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Meteorology from the State University of New York at Oswego.

His career with the National Weather Service began as a Student Trainee in Boston before going to the Binghamton, NY office as a Meteorologist Intern. He returned to southern New England in 1996 as a Hydrologic Forecaster at the Northeast River Forecast Center in Taunton, before heading back to the Weather Forecast Office as both a General Forecaster and Senior Forecaster.

Joe's presentation was most timely as our Weather course begins 14 March!

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

Riverway Lobster House provided a soup and sandwich buffet for our 15 February luncheon. It was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Lisa Berry Engler - Assistant Director of the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Group gave a talk at our February luncheon about the local Cape Cod waters and the changes we are seeing now as a result of the environment and what we can expect in the future.

WELCOME ABOARD

Membership Chairman Joan Croft, AP-IN

Squadron members are pleased to meet and introduce our new members at dinner meeting social gatherings from September to May. Education is the primary purpose of United States Power Squadrons® to develop boating skills and confidence. We also enjoy the camaraderie, whether taking courses, instructing or proctoring, at on-the-water activities, or taking part in civic and social activities. We look forward to your participation.

Justin Cronin spent 10 weeks every summer for 50 years on Cape Cod since he was a kid and knows the surrounding waters well. Although Justin, his wife Leslie, and their two children now live in Centerville year round—a son attends Barnstable High School and daughter is at Brown University—he continues to travel to Houston for business. It was in Houston that he received endorsements in the USPS® Seamanship and Coastal Navigation I (Piloting (P)) Advanced Grade Courses. He is presently repeating the squadron's Piloting class in Yarmouth to prepare for Coastal Navigation II (Advanced Piloting (AP)) and plans to continue taking courses. Homeport for the family's 24-foot powerboat, *Holiday*, is in Osterville.

Joseph Kiceina and **Susan Schwager** live in Yarmouth Port. They are enthusiastic about the educational program and enjoy monthly dinners to participate and meet more members and learn about our club, America's Boating Club. Joe and Susan are enrolled in the Piloting course in Yarmouth to jumpstart their education. Homeport for their 32-foot sailing vessel *Scooter* is Stage Harbor.

We met **Mary White** when she also enrolled in the Piloting (P) class this fall. To get started, her educational interests include Advanced Piloting (AP), Cruise Planning, and Weather. She and Chris Dixon live in Hyannis and sail *Mariah*, their 30-foot Pearson 303 sailing vessel, homeport Lewis Bay. We look forward to Mary's continued participation and assisting her to realize her boating education goals.

The Porthole, our award-winning newsletter, received digitally by email, is a great source for following what's new and interesting in the squadron as is the website, www.ccsps.org. Watch for the newsletter and timely notices sent by email from "WhatsUp." For access to the *Roster of Members and Boats* on our website, contact Joan Croft at Ca-peRedhouse@comcast.net for the members-only password that will also be in the commander's letter in your Welcome Aboard folder presented in person at a squadron dinner or other activity.

We look forward to your participation in the spirit of ***Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the FriendsSM***.



Dave Atwood
Public Relations Officer

At the national Annual meeting in Orlando FL in February 2017, our Chief Commander Louis Ojeda unveiled the concept of promoting the United States Power Squadrons with a new descriptor: *America's Boating Club*. The announcement was received with excitement and enthusiasm. America's Boating Club was felt to be a much more fitting label for who we are and what we do. It is a more descriptive, modern, dynamic title that encompasses boating fun, learning boating skills, and working to improve the boating experience.

After the meeting, the Chief Commander asked the marketing leadership to assemble an ad hoc task force to take the concept further, develop a logo and tagline, and create a marketing strategy. The result of this team's work is contained in the Marketing Guidebook and Branding manual, available on line at the Marketing Department link on the USPS website.

The logo above is one of 4 styles available for squadrons to adopt. The logo is modern, and includes elements of power, sail, and paddle craft. It shows fluidity, movement, and water. It demonstrates action and is forward looking.

The national organization has begun transitioning to the new identity, and so are many squadrons and districts. The transition period is estimated at 6-12 months and will be tested along the way.

Over the next few months, your squadron Executive Committee will discuss how Cape Cod participates in this transition.

"America's Boating Club is a nation-wide boating organization. We learn together, and help each other and other boaters on the water and on land. Our members learn boating skills, engage with boating friends, and connect with the boating community."

Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron, Inc., a Unit of United States Power Squadrons®, is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.

America's Boating Club®- Cape Cod
Presents the



Weather

Course



*A veering wind will clear the sky
A backing wind says storms are nigh.*

Starts Wednesday, March 14, 2018

Registration 6:30 PM

Meets Wednesday evening for 10 weeks from 7 to 9 PM

C-O-MM Fire Station

1875 Falmouth Road (Rt 28), Centerville, MA 02632

The course focuses on how weather systems form, behave, move, and interact with one another and reflects the availability of all sorts of weather reports and forecasts on the Internet. While the USPS Weather Course emphasizes marine matters, it is a general weather course designed for anyone with an interest in learning about this element of our environment.

Learn about:

- ☐ Atmosphere, Temperature & Heat
- ☐ Wind, Pressure, & Waves
- ☐ Water, Humidity, & Fog
- ☐ Clouds & Precipitation
- ☐ Weather & Storms
- ☐ Forecasting

Course materials:

- ☐ Illustrated Study guide /workbook
- ☐ NOAA Cloud Chart



To register, call or email today!

508-240-4603

John Crawford

johncr181@gmail.com

boating is fun ... let's do it together®

www.ccsp.org

CONGRATULATIONS LT/C EVAN C. CROFT, SN



District Educational Officer Jack Marsden, AP presents Evan Croft, SN with the USPS® Educational Achievement Award during the 14 December Holiday Party at the Yarmouth House.

Evan is recognized by United States Power Squadrons® for Educational Achievement. It is the highest educational recognition in USPS® and signifies that he completed all of the five Advanced Grade and six Elective courses. Now recognized as a Senior Navigator, his grade designation suffix is SN. He has also earned 16 merit marks since he became a member in 1999, volunteering over the years as co-chairman of America's Boating Course® (formerly the Basic Boating Course®); Assistant Educational Officer (ASEO) for two years; Squadron Educational Officer (SEO) for four years; and as Treasurer for seven years, his current executive committee office.

United States Power Squadron Education Links

USPS main education course link is: <http://www.usps.org/index.php/boating-courses>

USPS online courses are available at: <http://www.usps.org/edonline/>

USPS Digital Media Library: <http://uspsdml.org/>

CCSPS Website: <http://www.ccspss.org/>

Don't hesitate to ask about other courses. If there is a demand we will attempt to identify an instructor and offer the topic. Self-study can be the solution if you can't find a classroom course that fits your schedule. For more information about self-study or any USPS educational offering contact CCSPS Squadron Education Officer (SEO) Dave Atwood: edu@ccspss.org

The Dual Bays Cruise

P/C Hugh Blair-Smith, SN

Part III

Day Six – Wickford to Cuttyhunk

Wednesday 16 August: In another pre-arrangement (did I mention the intricate crew change logistics?), Derek brought us Kent on his way to work in the morning—much appreciated! This was the day that conditions outside the Bay, kicked up by the passage of Hurricane Gert, were reported to be “brutal.” Most of the fleet went down the West Passage to see what that was all about, but hearing from Kent that his back was sore, I decided we should avoid some of the uproar by going a little out of our way. East to the south end of Prudence Island again, NNE through Mount Hope Bridge, then east to the head of the Sakonnet River and down that river to Rhode Island Sound, not only added another bridge to our log but put us in the Sound some ways east of the West Passage, and enough later that Gert’s swells had had more time to ease off. Cuttyhunk was then just a dozen miles to the ENE.



What we found was much more benign than anything we’d heard about: long rolling swells about ten feet high but with several boat lengths between, with just enough wind to ripple their surface, mostly not enough to sail in. We conducted an experiment: close your eyes and see if you can tell when a swell is lifting you up and when one is letting you down. Maybe a hotshot seat-of-the-pants pilot could tell, but we couldn’t. So we motorsailed along, entertained by Falon’s experiences in rural Guilin, China, where Caucasians are great curiosities anyway, but a female nearly six feet tall was a double rarity. Picking up a mooring in Cuttyhunk Pond, we learned that people from other boats in the fleet were going ashore to seek out a small restaurant for dinner, the existence of which was unknown to me. I don’t know what they found, but we had our grill and good burgers.

Day Seven – Cuttyhunk to Marion

Thursday 17 August: After a breakfast of blueberry pancakes, I steered the boat into the narrow channel south of the mooring field, toward a regulatory buoy that I thought was mid-channel. But oops, the channel wasn’t that wide, as I should have remembered, and we came softly but solidly to a stop. A friendly twin-outboard motorboat came by and with full power applied got us off—thanks, fellas! Retrieving the docking line that had been rigged as a stern bridle, I felt it catch and was afraid it was wrapped around the prop. But Walt discovered that it had merely been wedged between the rudder and the skeg, so his tea-bag dunking moves freed it. Motoring gratefully to the outer harbor, I hoped that the forecast north wind would acquire some of the normal southwest flow, but no, just north. Happily, that was just enough to sail gently along the north side of the Elizabeth Islands while Kent brought us up to date on what the world had been doing while we were off the grid.

The wind poached again, and we motored back to dockside at Burr’s to hand the vessel off with a list of things to repair. In addition to the holding tank problem, the upper hinge pin of the Isotherm fridge’s door had sheared off about halfway through the cruise, and we had to make that door’s latch do most of the work. Stuffing my car to the Plimsolls with our personal gear, we paused at the Gateway Tavern for dinner and got everybody home to regain their land legs.

It was only a one-week cruise, but I think *Mashantam* made the most of it.

2017 Merit Marks Awarded

Merit marks are awarded annually by the Chief Commander of the USPS to acknowledge members who have made significant contributions to the success of their squadrons. Merit marks can be earned at the rate of exactly one per year.

A member's efforts must be worthwhile and reasonably substantial to receive the award, and all work the member does throughout the year is considered. Recognition is given to those who teach classes, proctor in our public boating courses, serve on squadron committees, perform civic services such as vessel safety checks, take part in civic events such as parades and boat shows, or assist the squadron leadership in countless ways. Upon earning 25 merit marks, a member is granted "Life Member status and thereafter is exempt from paying dues.

This year, the nation organization has awardee merit marks to 40 members in our squadron (bout 20% of our membership). We greatly appreciate the efforts of the following individuals, each of whom earned a merit mark in 2017

David Akin	Charles Burke	Judy Johnson	Walter Penczar
David Atwood	Lawrence Cole	Lee Johnson	Harold Petersen
Lillie Baggett	John Crawford	Margaret Johnson	James Reed
Walter Baggett	Evan Croft	Lois Katanic	Richard Reed
Cornelia Begley	Joan Croft	Paul Katanic	Wayne Richardson
Thomas Begley	Robert David	Ron Kessel	Lana Sands
Alex Bizunok	Beth Dolan	Erika Kraft	Dean Skiff
Valentina Bizunok	Glenn Greenough	Deirdre Leyden	David Van Wye
Hugh Blair-Smith	Suzanne Haley	Michael Leyden	Donald Vincent
Paul Brown	Carl Johnson	John Marsden, Jr.	Mary Lou Walsh

If your name is in this list and you did not receive either a printable electronic Merit Mark via e-mail, or a paper Merit Mark via surface mail, please notify Larry Cole at coleslawone@yahoo.com or at 508-432-2464.

For future reference, squadron members need to know that recommendations submitted by the Merit Mark Coordinator up the chain of command for approval must consist of quantitative measures of specific tasks performed; that is, hours worked. Ergo, if you participate in a squadron activity, please keep a record of your time, and if you are the head honcho of a squadron activity, please keep a record of those members who worked and for how long. Likewise if you organize a squadron activity that does not involve other members assisting with, such as a cruise, rendez-vous, or paddle event, keep track of your own time.

For teaching or proctoring classes, staffing the booth at the boat show, marching in parades, or working at the lobster boil or a pot luck dinner, it's easy to record the hours. But things like the number of vessel safety checks, or pages of articles in the Porthole require translating counts into hours. For those I use rough guesstimates.

The threshold value for a recommendation is 15 hours. That is not an explicit standard set by USPS, which doesn't publish one. However, Past Commander John Crawford reported a discussion held at this year's National meetings in which it was stated "Don't even think about submitting a recommendation based on as few as 10 hours". Finally, for the record, travel time to and from events does not count, unless it's in the line of duty: picking up or returning a boat or a truck for a parade, for example.

Questions or comments about the process are welcome.

The Secret Life of Bilge Pumps

September 21, 2016, Newsletter #337

Submitted by Lt. Bob Elder, JN, Safety Officer

Bilge pumps and anchoring have a lot in common. They seem so simple. And yet, there are small details that can make big differences. And like anchoring, bilge pumps are one of the key safety elements on every boat.

Throughout this summer, Red Head has been swarmed with mechanics and techs from Zimmerman's who are rebuilding some of the systems. This has put us in daily contact with exceptional boat builders and mechanical experts. Nearly every day there are over 100 years of experience replacing and fixing things on the boat. Conversations often develop as we're down in the engine rooms doing projects ourselves. These conversations created many, "I never thought about that" reactions by us. Here's just one of them.

You likely have multiple bilge pumps in your boat. If you've been boating for any length of time, there are often a few that burn out or go bad. This can sometimes happen because of bad float switches and automatic mechanisms that turn the pump on and off - the potential subject of other newsletters. But there is something so basic that we had never realized about bilge pumps.

Red Head has about a dozen bilge pumps of various size - 800 gallons per hour (GPH) to 2000 GPH along with a huge, central emergency bilge pump and fire system. Some bilge areas are larger and have larger pumps while sump pumps and condensation collection basins have smaller pumps. That makes perfect sense. Or does it?

There are 4 larger pumps in the main bilge of the boat - they are 1500 and 2000 GPH pumps. But they keep failing. Two failed in June and were replaced. Another failed this month.

"The problem is the outflow hose," said Caleb as I was expressing frustration about the poor quality of the pumps and how they should be lasting much longer. "The hose?" Come on - what could be simpler? Then he showed me.

For whatever reason, every thru hull outlet on the boat has a 3/4" opening. Caleb showed me that the 2000 GPH pump that failed has a 1-1/8" port on the pump. It's designed to push water out that size hose. To connect to the 3/4" hose, an adapter was placed at the pump. That restriction of water creates resistance to the flow. The pump has to work much harder to overcome that immediate restriction. It ends up burning out faster.

Now look at an 800 GPH pump. It comes with a 3/4" hose port. The pump manufacturer is telling us to use that pump for a 3/4" outlet. But we're not listening.

So as a first step in making your own bilge pumps more reliable, go check them and the thru hulls. Are they matched in size? Are you experiencing shorter life on the larger pumps? Perhaps the next switch should be to a smaller pump that will push just as much water, but not burn out. They're also much less expensive.

There are many other things we never realized - hose configuration, lift, fittings inserted, and especially check valves. If there's interest in more info about bilge pumps, let us know and we'll add more to this secret life series over the next few months.

Reprinted with permission from Jeff and Karen, founders of Active Captain.

Boating Safety Has Become A Priority For Tom Begley

by Elizabeth Van Wye

Boats were never part of Harwich resident Tom Begley's life until he retired to Cape Cod. But for Begley, who is now the commander of the Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron, that first step to owning a boat was a little rocky.

Begley, a graduate of the University of Colorado, had a successful career in sales, moving from his native Colorado to Boston, Dallas, Minneapolis and finally Madison, Wisc. Much of his career was with Rayovac, and since retiring in 2008 he has continued to work part time for them as a sales consultant for hearing aids.

With retirement came the move back east. Connie Begley, a native of Gardner, was especially happy to settle on Cape Cod, where the family had often vacationed. A friend lived in Harwich so that was where they wound up.

Begley was impressed with the waters of Cape Cod and decided, "we ought to have a boat." Neither he nor Connie had any experience boating, he recalled, citing possibly "once on Lake Erie." Connie was skeptical and made it known, Begley said with a smile. "Over my dead body," he recalled her quipping.

Begley made a commitment to take it slowly. "If we get a boat we will learn all about it," he stressed, and they started to look for the right boat for them, "a safe boat," Begley recalled.

A trade show Begley attended brought him into contact with a friend who had just bought a Boston Whaler on Craigslist. Upon his return home, Begley looked up the site and "lo and behold there was a great 21-foot 2006 Boston Whaler Conquest for sale on Lake Winnepesaukee!" Begley saw it had 50 hours on the engine, "practically new," so he had the boat surveyed by a professional who pronounced it very good. Begley bought the boat and had it brought back to Nauset Marine.

The problem was that the Begleys still didn't know much of anything about boating, he recalled. "Now we needed to learn."

Begley searched the web and found that the U.S. Sail and Power Squadron offered a five-week "Americas Boating Course."

Tom and Connie jumped into the course, which focused on the rules of the road, and then decided they also needed practical hands-on training. They saw that the former principal of Dennis Yarmouth High School, the late Don Eldredge, offered practical lessons.

"He took us out on Pleasant Bay five times," Begley recalled. "We had never driven or been on a boat like this and he was great!" Because of that course and those lessons, Begley said both he and Connie became comfortable and confident with the boat.

In addition to offering courses, the Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron holds monthly dinner meetings to bring those who love boating together to share information and make friendships. The Begley's decided to attend and get involved. They took more courses to learn more about boating and found it was a "terrific, wonderful great group of people." Like many organizations, the Squadron was looking for volunteers and before long both Begleys became involved, with Connie serving as secretary and Tom rising through the ranks to become commander..

Education and safety are important aspects of the Power Squadron, Begley said. The group has partnered nationally with the Coast Guard Auxiliary to provide free boat safety checks to "make sure when people are on the water they have fun and do it safely."

In addition, a big part of the group's mission is to get everyone on the water to wear a life jacket. At the Chatham Fourth of July parade the group hosts a boat float and passes out lifesavers with the reminder, "Don't forget to wear your life jacket!"



No license is needed by an adult to operate a boat, said Begley, and “It’s really critical to be responsible on the water.” The Squadron offers courses, listed at www.ccsp.com, from navigation to boat maintenance and seamanship. “We took a course on weather,” Begley said, “and now we can read what’s coming so we know when and where it is safe.”

He added, “Paddle craft like kayaks are becoming popular now and water safety is equally important for those who paddle. Whether you have a 50-foot yacht or a kayak, there are the same safety issues,” Begley stressed.

Boating is not Begley’s only interest, however. The couple enjoys traveling and has had many rewarding home swap experiences in the United States and abroad. And his work for Rayovac has included missions to under-served countries, including South Africa, Guatemala and Mexico. Rayovac has given away hundreds of aids and millions of batteries, he said. “When you fit a mother for a hearing aid who had not heard her child speak and now can hear them for the first time, that’s really special,” he said.

And the couple is still committed to boating safety. There are about 200 members in the Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron, living from Provincetown to Osterville, Begley said. The organization is one of about 350 squadrons nationwide. “If you have or love boats, even if just enjoy the fellowship of boaters and enjoy talking about boats, the Power Squadron is a great place to be.”

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MARY LOU WALSH PROMOTED TO GODDESS P/C Hugh Blair-Smith, SN

District 14 has an offshoot that is, as far as I know, unique in USPS. It is the Royal Order of Pilot Fish, in which membership (attained by nominations from within) is sort of like a high-grade Merit Mark, only rather more fun. Its hierarchy is drawn from Roman and later mythology, featuring:

Neptune Rex
Davey Jones
Assistant Keeper of the Locker
Royal Shellbacks (three)
Court of Dolphins (three)
and non-mythological Audit and Nominating committees

Davey Jones and his assistant have been Lee Blackburn and Bob Pardi since more or less forever, and are expected to continue in those roles indefinitely. Neptune Rex has been George Cambra for maybe half a century—or maybe not, I really have no idea, but it’s been a while. Anyway, George has opted to abdicate his throne, creating a constitutional crisis which has been resolved by solid classical scholarship. The Order has never been constrained by the medieval Salic Law stating that only men can reign, so it became possible to nominate Mary Lou Walsh to succeed.

But that wasn’t the crisis. The problem was, you can’t go around referring to Mary Lou as “Neptune Rex;” that would require her to become transgendered, which the Order can’t afford and she doesn’t want anyway.

Enter the scholarship of the Nominating Committee, which uncovered a little-known Roman deity named Salacia, goddess of salt water. As a beautiful young goddessette, she caught the eye of King Neptune, but was too modest and diffident to entertain his advances. Wily Neptune, ever mindful that charming a woman is best achieved by deploying a really cute animal, sent a dolphin to persuade Salacia to come and share his throne, and so she did.

Accordingly, at White’s Pilot Fish Tank in Westport on 2 November, Mary Lou Walsh was acclaimed as **Salacia Regina**, reigning monarch of the Royal Order of Pilot Fish. Her loyal subjects hope she will revive the role of the Order in the Founder’s Day celebration, as well as similarly semi-dignified interactions with Davey Jones at the Order’s Annual Meeting. Anyone who is henceforth inducted into the ROPF can look forward to a regal whack on the shoulder with Her Majesty’s trident.

Sea Scout Corner

P/C Lee R. Johnson, SN

Besides our local close relationship with Ship 72 of Orleans, Nobska Ship 40 of Falmouth had a grand celebration in November of their 75 Anniversary! CCSPS had received its Charter one year prior under our first commander, George Swansey. Both Cape Cod organizations were chartered during the rough war years 1941 - 1942. In addition, Skipper Al Beal celebrated his retirement after 30-plus years at the helm of Ship 40. He will be relieved by the new skipper, Bill LaRuffa. He has a boat load of scouting and sea scout experience.



LUNA the O'Day 23 Nauset SSS 72' s flagship, was returned to its owner after a 7 year "loan". In its place, very generous Eagle Scout donated his beautiful O'Day 26. The Sea Scouts renamed it **SOLIS**. A VSC by **David VanWye** was completed and necessary upgrading will be done over the winter to bring the vessel up to compliance for the 2018 season.

Joan and Evan Croft arranged a Hobie 14 donation for the fleet. After several months rehab (getting parts was a major delay) it passed inspection just in time to winterize the sleek craft. The scouts are very anxious and already signed up to test this "rocket". It will be one skipper at a time...maybe two. We are very grateful to **Sturgis Boat Works** of West Yarmouth for their expert help and rigging clinic.



For the frosting on the cake, **Joe Kiceina** donated his dinghy to Ship 72. This large stable craft will be worked hard ferrying scouts and supplies to the fleet on Pleasant Bay.

Haley Kent and **James Lord** have advanced in rank and the latter is presently taking the Coastal Navigation Course at the Yarmouth Port fire station.

Thank you all for your continued support of this fabulous organization. You're investing in the future members of USPS.



Bass River Cookie Stroll 9 December 2017

A group of CCSPS members braved the rain and wind to participate in the annual Bass River Cookie Stroll, a fun holiday event held along historic Old Main and Pleasant Streets in the Village of Bass River. We were welcomed into several historic homes, chatted with the property owners, sipped hot cider, admired holiday decorations and Christmas Trees. Each hostesses offered a delicious cookie to take home; well, some cookies made it home, others were enjoyed between our stops!

St. David's Church provided a much needed rest stop where we took the opportunity to dry out while viewing a marvelous collection of Nativity figurines from around the world.

It began to snow as we headed to our last few homes which did not disappoint. Our final stop was the Cultural Center where an artist sale was occurring that afternoon.

After a delightful Cookie Stroll we all headed to Riverway for lunch!



Pictured: Peg Elder, John Crawford, Erika Kraft, Bob Elder, Walter Baggett, Lillie Shorridge-Baggett, and Peg Johnson. Missing from the photo: Deirdre Leyden, our event planner for the day; she had to go back to work!



**CLASSIC EXPERIENCE ACKNOWLEDGED;
CLASSIC WORK OF ART FOR SALE
P/C Hugh Blair-Smith, SN**

Mashantam. A sachem (chief) of the NobsCUSsetT people, and a sagamore of the Mid-Cape Wampanoags, in the 1630s. A forty-foot yawl whose skipper was the first to pay toll (\$8.00) to the Cape Cod Canal Company on its first day of business in 1914. A series of cruising sailboats in which that skipper's son and daughter-in-law (my great-aunt) roamed the New England coast up to the last third of the twentieth century. And finally: Mashantam, my boat for more than half my life.

Built by Notesunds Varv in Henan, Sweden in 1973, as a cruising sloop 35' by 10' by 5'2", a Vindö 50, her class number designating her sail area in square meters according to the European fashion. Brought to Annapolis to demonstrate the Vindö line, sold to a Connecticut thoracic surgeon who loved beautiful boats but learned that he was afraid of the sea. Put up for sale in the spring of 1975, and bought by Vicki and me in the middle of that year. Our kids were small: Bob was just six, Caroline four and a half. We knew the high mahogany coamings would help a lot to keep them safe.



Look at a picture. “Is she all wood?” people ask. Not all. Everywhere the people are is wood: varnished mahogany, oiled teak, sturdy marine plywood cabin soles, warm colors that each morning reflect the glory of sunrise light. But everything that has to be glass is glass: hand-laid-up, solid, never a blister, impossible to oilcan, thick enough to take whatever the ocean hands out and yet not remarkably heavy, thirteen thousand pounds when light. Not designed as a racer, but moves surprisingly well in a variety of airs. No wonder that Ferenc Maté celebrated the Vindö line in *The World’s Best Sailboats: A Survey* (Albatross/Norton, 1986) pp. 209-218

Mashantam. A member of the family. Seakindly to all. A patient teacher of her skipper, rewarding me whenever I showed signs of (late-blooming) leadership. A friendly environment for Vicki, conspiring with her to show an extraordinary talent for steering a straight course while facing aft, and other cool tricks. A gifted governess, generous with ways to make the kids strong, courageous, self-reliant, realistic and resilient. A center of hospitality for generations: my mother in her eighties, friends and relations from as far as England and Germany, people whose dates of birth span a century. A floating clubhouse for me and many colleagues, from MIT, the Charles River Power Squadron, a few unstable startup software companies, one actually viable software company, and the Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron. As the decades have passed, I have become increasingly appreciative of her greatest seakindliness of all: at the end of a day’s sailing, I feel younger and stronger than before.

Those little kids have grown up, now middle-aged and pushing 50. Bob has brought his family out from Chicagoland several times, his kids Amelia and Adam making the fourth generation of Blair-Smiths on this boat. Caroline was my greatest cruising buddy as a teenager and young adult, earned her turn as captain in my absence for some Maine cruising and has devoted her family life—one husband and thirty sled dogs—to paying it forward. She helps kids and some adults receive, from Hurricane Island Outward Bound School programs in Maine, the same gifts Mashantam gave her.

Even the most fortunate captain must eventually acknowledge that he is not made of immortal fiberglass—that at least some of his parts really are eighty-two and counting. At some point, it is time to hang up the captain’s hat.

Mashantam. She needs a good home. After forty-four years, she has had a variety of upgrades, all faithful to the principles of her soul as I have known it for all but the first two years of her life. She is ready to apply her talents for teaching, conspiracy, governance, hospitality, collegiality and general seakindliness to a new family.

BOATBUILDERS SHOW

2-4 February 2018

Several CCSPS members participated in the annual Boatbuilders Show in Hyannis.

Pictured below: Erika Kraft, D/C Mary Lou Walsh, AP, P/C John Crawford, SN, P/C Dave Atwood, JN-IN, XO Alex Bizunok, P, Valentina Bizunok, P, and Lt/C Evan Croft, SN-IN



Opposite top: P/C Charles Burke, AP instructing on the Boating Simulator

Opposite left: Anchor display

Opposite Right: Student at the Boating Simulator

Photos courtesy of P/C John Crawford, SN



New 75th Anniversary Nametag

Membership Chairman Joan Croft, AP



Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron celebrates its 75th anniversary. The burgee's gold 50th anniversary border becomes platinum. Also, the squadron meets United States Power Squadrons® brand standards, adding the national ships wheel logo prominently to the nametag design.

The \$10 nametag will have a magnetic backing unless a pin backing is specifically requested.

Contact Joan Croft at 508-420-9023 or CapeRedhouse@comcast.net to order. It is worn at educational, civic, and social activities.

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Gail Burke
P/Stf/C Joan Croft AP
P/C Lee Johnson, N
Erika Kraft
P/C Deirdre Leyden, S
P/C Michael Leyden, AP
Pt Hal Petersen, AP
D/C Mary Lou Walsh, AP

Calendar of Meetings and Events

March, 2018

- 10 Post Parade Party, Leydens, 167 Capt Nickerson Rd, South Yarmouth
- 14 Weather Course, COMM Fire Station, Centerville, 1830
- 20 America's Boating Class, COMM Fire Station, Centerville, 1830
- 22 Annual Meeting & Election, St David's, South Yarmouth

April, 2018

- 7 District 14 Spring Conference, Fairfield Suites Hotel, New Bedford
- 12 Executive Committee - Dennis Police Station, 1900
- 26 Monthly Membership Meeting - Change of Watch, Riverway Lobster House, S Yarmouth, 1800

May, 2018

- 1 Basic Coastal Navigation Course, COMM Fire Station, Centerville, 1830
- 10 Executive Committee Meeting, Dennis Police Station, 1900
- 19 District 14 Founders Day Luncheon, Elks Lodge, Newport, RI
- 24 Annual Budget & Audit Meeting, Yarmouth House, 1800

WEBSITE NOTE

Webmaster Jim Reed, JN

The Bylaws of Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron, Inc. are available on our website. Visit www.ccsp.org or link directly to the bylaws: <http://ccsp.org/files/CCSPS-BYLAWS.pdf>

The CCSPS Roster link can also be found on the website; note it is password protected.

PORTHOLE GUARANTEED DATE

**16 March deadline for
April newsletter**

*Materials received by the guaranteed date
will appear, but late materials may or may
not appear.*

CCSPS SUPPLY STORE

The Cape Cod Squadron 50-year logo burgee is in stock: small 12x18, \$23; large 16x24, \$28. Contact any CCSPS Officer for your burgee!



United States Power Squadrons® apparel embroidered with the USPS ship's wheel logo can be placed at the national website, <http://store.shopusps.org/>.

Parade uniform is: USPS polo shirt and \$12 stone colored cap item 0555689. Men's polo shirt is item 1500240 and women's polo is 150254. The shortcut link is <http://store.shopusps.org/Catalog/Jackets-Hats-Bags-More/>

CCSPS logo can be locally embroidered on the above articles by Lyn Gardiner, 12 Scargo Hill Rd, Dennis, MA lyn-capecod@comcast.net or cell 508-364-3032. Price \$7 each.

United States Power Squadrons® uniforms, insignia, pins, etc. can be ordered on www.commodoreuniform.com.



Website visitors should verify inventory availability by calling the phone number listed on the website, 800.438.8643. The website is not affiliated with CCSPS. If you plan to pick up uniform purchases in Chatham to avoid postage and handling charges, be sure to include your preference by phone or on the website.

The PORTHOLE

Cape Cod Sail and Power Squadron, Inc.
P. O. Box 415
West Dennis, MA 02670



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"A billion here, a billion there, and pretty soon you're talking about real money"
Everett Dirksen

We may not be talking about billions, but we have an opportunity to create a little income for the squadron without any cost to us!

How, you ask?

The opportunity is based on purchases that we make online through Amazon. They have created a program called AmazonSmile. To start, instead of going to the regular Amazon web site, go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-6116171>, log into your Amazon account as usual, click on the "Start Shopping" button, and follow the prompts.

Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchases to the squadron at no cost to you (eligible products are marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages). USPS is shown as the organization to which the donations are sent, but they are actually sent to Evan Croft, our Treasurer, to credit our squadron.

Thereafter, go to <http://smile.amazon.com> to log in. Give it a try the next time you're ready to buy something online. While the amounts from individual purchases may look small, they add up. Charities have received over \$32M through the program so far.

Happy shopping!

Questions? Call Evan at 508-420-9033.