



WILMINGTON POWER SQUADRON

DISTRICT 5

A Unit of United States Power Squadrons®
SAIL AND POWER BOATING

THE LUBBER'S LINE

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January - February 2011

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Change of Watch

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Log Canoe Racing **FORGET WHAT YOU THOUGHT THIS IS PURE FUN**



So, you thought, just how exciting could a canoe race be with hollowed out logs? Forget that image. Log canoes are sleek racing machines outfitted with sails of multiple designs and sliding springboards that hold the weight of up four crew out over the water and race at hull speed of 8 or 9 knots.

Log canoe racing started in the 1800's as a blue-collar sport with the oystermen along the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake, and, as such, there was a lot of fun and very few rules. Two things remain constant today: the boat design and the fun.

The boat design is centerboard, double-masted, with a sharp bow and stern, and a surprising sail configurations. Sails can be a mix of square, triangular, topsails, asymmetrical staysails, kites – whatever gives the competitive edge, as long as high-tech materials and spinnakers are not used. The wide planks from four or five logs are hewn into shape. The log canoes can take a lot of abuse, and they are very sturdy, which is why much of the racing fleet harks back to the 1800's.

And the fun? Well, all you have to do is listen to Pete Leshner, Director of the Chesapeake Maritime Museum in St. Michaels and a crew member on Island Bird, a log canoe built in 1882.

With a fantastic dry sense of humor and an energetic style, Mr. Leshner brought the history of the sport alive and described the dynamics of today's racing to members of the Wilmington Power Squadron at its Nov. 5th social.

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**COMMANDER'S
MESSAGE**

By Cdr. John G. Ingram, AP



The active boating season for our area of the East Coast is over for the year. The boats have been sadly and lovingly put away for the winter... or pointed south and moved to warmer climes. What a season we had... a really great WPS Cruise in June and then it turned into the year of three Augusts... hot and no wind. We spent a lot of time in the slip with the AC running or at the pool. At the end of September, we had two mini cruises... one stayed in the upper bay and the other made it down to St. Mary's river off the Potomac. Both groups found plenty of wind and high water. It was another great season of 'Friends, Fun, and Better Boating'.

Just because we put the boats away, doesn't mean we are done. Our Education Department will be finishing the 3-part Marine Electronics Course and offering a Piloting Course this winter. Safe Boating Courses are also being offered. The Assemblies Committee has put together a program of fun and interesting events. The November Social had a great presentation on the history and current status of "log canoe" racing on the Chesapeake, and we all enjoyed the WPS Holiday Social hosted by Mike King and Wendy Shipman in their home. In January, we will hear a presentation on the restoration of Poplar Island, in February, we will hold our annual meeting and election, and in March, we will have our Change of Watch. In April we will do all of our winter projects and launch the boats.

At the Holiday social, we collected over 50 boxes of presents for the Seaman's Center of the Port of Wilmington. These gift boxes will be distributed to seamen aboard the Ships visiting the port of Wilmington during the holiday season. Mary Stacy has promoted this effort for many years. I have delivered some of these boxes to the seamen and can tell you that they are greatly appreciated by the men far from home. Thank you to all that participated.

In November, we submitted over 40 Merit Mark recommendations for WPS members who contributed to our successful 72nd

(Continued on page 3)

Executive Department

District Meeting Report

This year's D5 Fall Conference was held in suburban Washington D.C. and hosted by the Rockville Power and Sail Squadron. The attendance was noticeably lower than normal, but the get together provided opportunities for important exchanges between squadron leaders in our area. The three day conference included updates on both district level news and goings on at the national level. Dave Hinder National Secretary delivered the Chief Commander's message. The national bridge is attempting to spur growth in many directions. There are now about 500 new members in the "cyber squadron". This part of our organization is for members who want to take classes but not belong to a normal squadron. Not surprisingly, most of these cyber members do end up transferring into traditional squadrons; because as many of us know, it is often during informal conversations at picnics and cruises that critically important nautical know how is passed along. Meanwhile, the national push to develop on water training is going along slowly. A new grant from the USCG to develop criteria for measuring on water skills should speed up this process. A new partnership with Brunswick Boats may lead to many new customers wanting education in the years ahead.

Also at the meeting P/C Harwin Smith, SN was recognized for fifty years of membership and P/C Sut Anderson, JN was hailed for his important work in getting a cooperative calendar up and working for the district.

If you would like to know more about district meetings do not hesitate to ask any bridge member or better still plan on attending our next get together in March at Ocean City. There are opportunities to serve and to learn at these meetings and your help will be appreciated.

*P/C W Michael King, AP
Executive Officer*

(Commander's Message, continued from page 2)

year, all were approved by D5 and National. Thank you all and a special thanks to P/Lt/C Jack Bryson, AP who coordinated the effort of collecting and submitting the required data.

USPS Membership Recognition

P/C C. Harwin Smith, SN, one of the fastest sailors on the Chesapeake Bay, has been recognized by USPS and WPS for completion of 50 years membership. Smitty was our Commander in 1983-1984, has been very active throughout his membership, and has his name engraved on a number of racing trophies. He is living in South Carolina and has no plans to come North for some time. So, I have sent him the recognition plaque and lapel pin. Congratulations!

2011 Cruise Reminder

The Annual Summer Cruise, scheduled for 18-24 June 2011, is still in the formation stages as of this writing. Please mark the dates on your calendar accordingly. The itinerary, activities, highlights, reservation forms, etc. will appear in forthcoming issues of the *Lubber's Line*. Additionally we shall be establishing an informational "e-net" for the purpose of keeping our potential cruisers and shore goers apprised as plans move forward toward fruition. All members are invited to participate in all or any portion of this Week on the Bay event.

Interested in receiving the e-mails, have questions, whatever? Contact David Sharpless at 302-239-7995 or send an e-mail to bdsharpless@verizon.net.

*P/C Dennis M. Wallace, P
P/C C. David Sharpless, AP*

Education Department

2011 Spring Class Line-Up

Our Spring class educational calendar is as follows:

Basic Boating Certification Classes - This course teaches the basics of boating safety in four two-hour sessions ending in a certification exam for states MD, DE, PA, and NJ during the last session.

Three dates, times and locations for this Certification class are:

- 5 March 2011 1900 – 2100 - Kennett Square, PA area
- 5 April 2011 1900 – 2100 - A. I. du Pont High School
- 21 April 2011 1900 – 2100 - McKean High School

Piloting - This 16 hour eight week course is the first in the sequence of USPS courses on navigation covering the basics of coastal and inland navigation. The course is new with principal focus on navigation as it is done on recreational boats today by integrating GPS as a primary tool and covering enough of traditional techniques so the student will be able to find their way if the GPS fails. Skills are developed by the student through hands on practice and learning. Topics include:

- Charts and their interpretation
- Navigation aids and how they point to safe water
- Plotting courses and determining direction and distance
- The mariner's compass and converting between True and Magnetic
- Use of GPS - typical GPS displays and information they provide, setting up waypoints and routes, staying on a GPS route
- Pre-planning safe courses and entering them into the GPS
- Monitoring progress and determining position by both GPS and traditional techniques such as bearing and dead reckoning
- The "Seaman's Eye"- simple skills for checking that one is on course

This course starts on 1 February 2011 beginning 1900 at A. I. du Pont High School.

Members wishing to refresh their "P" grade knowledge are invited to audit any and all class sessions. Interested in subject matter/courses beyond this offering? Please contact the undersigned.

Your pre-registration for all classes and seminars is appreciated, but not mandatory.

Season Greetings to all!

Lt/C James Robinson, AP
Educational Officer
1-610-444-5155

(Continued from page 1)

“There were minimal rules, a minimal sense of decorum. It was a rough and tumble sport, the Nascar of the day,” said Lesher. “To win is to finish. To finish is to stay upright.”

Lesher said there is no penalty for adding mast height or sail area. With all the huge sails, it can be rather noisy at the start line of the race, he said. “On a windy day, 50 yards away you can’t hear anything at the 10 minute and 5 minute mark. We prefer a 12 gauge shot gun.”



One of Lesher’s pictures depicted a log canoe trying to inch through the race course wing on wing. “Wing on wing --- we call it ‘reading both pages’ -- is a recipe to capsize,” said Lesher. Capsizing is an art form in log canoe racing. On *Island Bird*, the 200 pound, 39-foot mast can be resteped in the water by the seven member crew and the race resumed. Lesher noted that another boat with a 59 foot mast weighing 450 pounds took three hours to restep – one hour was spent trying to figure out how to go about resteping since it had been so long since the crew had capsized.

The canoe log boats, which generally range from 27 to 35 feet on deck, use 4 to 8 crew members. Along with the fun of capsizing is the, hmmm, fun of getting left in the dust, hmmm, water, when crew falls off a slippery or slipping springboard. The springboards slide freely from one side of the boat to the other for the crew to counterbalance the weight of the sails. Staying put on the boards is quite tenuous. “You’d really like really nimble linebackers,” said Lecher.

The first recorded log canoe race was in 1859 on the miles River. The silver goblet put up by Thomas Oliver, who also crossed the line first that day in his log canoe Douglas, is on display at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum. The boat to beat in the late 1800’s was *Island Blossom*, built in 1893. She was the boat to beat in the 1980’s, and she’s still sailing and winning.

Next season, watch for information about log canoe races on the Chester River and other places along the Eastern Shore. “Come see us,” said Lesher. “We only race when the water is warm.”

Lt/C Rita A. Shade, P
Administrative Officer

2010 - 2011 Yearbook

It's the time for our yearbook to be assembled and printed. If you have any changes to your listing in the member roster section of the yearbook please email your changes to Barbara Sharpless at: bdsharpless@verizon.net

***JANUARY ASSEMBLY
Poplar Island Restoration Project
Friday, 21 January 2011***

Please join us and learn about the Paul S. Sarbanes Ecosystem Restoration Project at Poplar Island located in the Chesapeake Bay. Laura Baker is the Outreach and Education Coordinator for Maryland Environmental Service. On behalf of the Maryland Port Administration, Laura delivers classroom programs and Public presentations, educating Maryland citizens about the beneficial reuse of dredged material and the environmental impact on Poplar Island. Laura will be showing a 30-minute PowerPoint Presentation and a 5-minute video about wildlife on Poplar.



2008 aerial photo of Poplar Island

The Paul S. Sarbanes Ecosystem Restoration Project is located in Talbot County, MD, and is an international model for the beneficial use of dredged material. Since the 1990s, the US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (USACE) and the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) have been using clean dredged material from the Baltimore Harbor access channels to restore an extensively eroded island to 1,725 acres of habitat. Restoration has re-established Poplar Island as a wintering site, transient stop, and nesting location for a variety of wildlife.

The restoration provides beneficial habitat, dredged material placement capacity, and serves as an outdoor classroom and an important learning facility for communities throughout the Bay. Poplar Island, along with three other Dredged Material Placement Sites, has established unique examples of the collaboration of economic, environmental, and educational responsibilities between industry and Bay health.

The evening begins at 1830 (6:30 PM) with appetizers and soft drinks and continues with dinner at 1900. Dinner will include hot roast beef sandwiches, side salad and dessert. The cost this year is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 12.

Our meeting will be held at the Brandywine Community Center on Naamans Road, just off Concord Pike (Route 202). The Community Center is a free-standing building with a dome, and is by the fountain in front of the shopping center.

Reservations due by Tuesday, 18 January 2011

RESERVATION FORM ON PAGE 9

Lt Judy Stadler

Betty Ingram

Co-chairpersons

Assemblies Committee: Mary Stacey, Geri Walker, Zelma Robinson, Lt. Rita Shade, P/C Donna Zimmerman

**FEBRUARY ASSEMBLY
 FOUNDER'S DAY & ANNUAL MEETING
Two Summers on the Maine Coast
 Friday, 18 February 2011**



Mistake Island Light, Down East Maine

Please join us for our Founder's Day and Annual Meeting on Friday, 18 February 2011. P/C Donna Zimmerman, JN and William Zimmerman, JN will be our featured speakers and will share what they learned and their favorite places on Mystic Star's recent trips to the Maine Coast.

The evening begins at 1830 (6:30 PM) with appetizers and soft drinks and continues with dinner at 1900. Dinner will include Pizza, Salad and Dessert. The cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 12.

All of our winter meetings will be held at the Brandywine Community Center on Naamans Road, just off Concord Pike (Route 202). The Community Center is a free-standing building with a dome, and is by the fountain in front of the shopping center.

Reservations due by Tuesday, 9 February

Lt /Judy Stadler, AP

Lt/Betty Ingram

Co-chairpersons

Assemblies Committee: Lt/Mary Stacey, Geraldine R. Walker, AP, Zelma Robinson, Lt/Rita Shade, P

-- FEBRUARY 18, 2011 --

Names of those attending _____

_____ @ \$8.00 _____ @ \$4.00 Total = \$ _____

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BETTY INGRAM and mail with this form to
 Betty Ingram, 8 Tarragon Court, Wilmington, DE 19808**

Nominees for 2011-2012 Bridge Year

As the current Bridge year is quickly coming to a close, the Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following candidates for next year's Bridge and Executive Committee Assignments. The Nominating Committee, on behalf of our general membership, wishes to extend thanks to all of those dedicated members who have agreed to serve.

The nominees for 2011-2012 Bridge year are as follows:

Bridge Nominees:

Commander: Lt/C James Robinson, AP
 Education Officer: P/C C. David Sharpless, AP
 Administrative Officer: Lt Judith C. Stadler, AP
 Secretary: Lt/C Barbara L. Sharpless, P
 Treasurer: P/C Martin G. Wagner, AP

Executive Committee General Members:

P/C Harry S. Anderson, II, JN
 Lt Donald R. Engler, P
 Cdr. John G. Ingram, AP
 Lt John E. Koval, Jr., P
 P/C Jay R. Minshall, AP
 Lt John S. Ross, AP
 Lt/C Rita A. Shade, P
 Charles R. Stadler, AP

Audit Committee:

P/Lt/C John A. Bryson, AP
 Lt Thomas S. Webster, SN

Nominating Committee:

P/C Donna F. Zimmerman, JN
 P/C Harry S. Anderson, JN
 Cdr. John G. Ingram, AP

Rules Committee:

P/C Martin G. Wagner, AP
 P/C Donna F. Zimmerman, JN
 P/C W. Michael King, AP

The vote on these nominations will be held at the Founder's Day Assembly on 18 February, 2011. The Founder's Day get-together begins at 1830 at the Brandywine Community Center off Naamans Road.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee:

P/C C. David Sharpless, AP
P/C Donna F. Zimmerman, JN/P/C Harry S. Anderson, JN

WPS 2011 CHANGE OF WATCH

The 2011 Change of Watch, our 72nd, is fast approaching. At the request of Commander John Ingram, AP, we will be returning to a favorite location for this event, The "D" at Deerfield. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, 20 March 2011, and join fellow members in both recognizing and honoring outgoing Commander Ingram and his Bridge and to welcome incoming Commander James Robinson, AP, and his Bridge. Socializing will begin at 1130 followed by an all-you-can-eat brunch with the Change of Watch ceremony starting at 1300. A cash bar will be available. The cost is a very reasonable \$35.00 per person. Please see the enclosed **Registration Form on Page 11** for details.

2011 Change of Watch Committee



WPS Birthday List - January - February

<i>Jan-Feb</i>	<i>Date</i>
Robert V. A. Harra Jr.	Jan 2
Lois B. Radcliff	Jan 2
Deborah L. Rodenhouser	Jan 3
James Robinson	Jan 4
Irene DuPont Jr.	Jan 8
Kathy Scott-Reager	Jan 15
Frank V. Bailor	Jan 17
David I. Netting	Jan 21
Richard Parton	Jan 21
Patricia S. Maher	Jan 28
Pierce W. Johnston Jr.	Jan 29

<i>Jan-Feb</i>	<i>Date</i>
George C. Bentley	Jan 30
Erich D. Smith	Feb 9
Sue F. Engler	Feb 11
Francis H. Richardson Jr.	Feb 12
D. Jeffrey Russell	Feb 12
Paul David Ehrlichman	Feb 13
Pat Esterle	Feb 17
John J. Polk	Feb 18
Nancy N. Goettel	Feb 22
Harry S. Anderson	Feb 23



**Poplar Island in the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Project
- JANUARY 21, 2011 -**

Names of those attending (for name tags) _____

_____ @ \$8.00 _____ @ \$4.00 Total = \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BETTY INGRAM and mail with this form to

Betty Ingram,
8 Tarragon Court, Wilmington, DE 19808(H)
(302) 633-1733 (W) (302) 999-2631
Email: Betty-Koo.Ingram@usa.dupont.com

District Five's Mission

The following list of strategic objectives was adopted at the D-5 meeting in Rockville. These objectives are meant to clarify and augment the mission statement; providing guidance to every member working at the district level. These objectives make clear D-5's *raison d'être*.

Empower, encourage, and commit to help enlarge each Squadron through retention and membership growth.

Promote to the public all opportunities for recognition of USPS and its Squadrons as the premier source (provider) of Education and Skills, Civic Service and Social Activities for boaters.

Serve as facilitator among Squadrons, Districts and National encouraging Squadron/District activities and gatherings across boundaries.

Promote the use of electronic media as a route to progressive training and open communication such as SailAngle with use of alerting emails and reminders, DB200, Power Point, Excel, and websites.

Encourage and mentor the formation or reformation of Squadrons utilizing active members to solicit the boating community to join the organization.

Each District Officer and Committee Chair maintains accurate training and operations manuals, policies and/or procedures to facilitate changes in positions.

Foster collaborative efforts with other boating agencies (federal, state and not-for-profits) to expand our civic service.

Foster lasting friendships through social activities on land and on the water.

Promote major outreach programs at community events and boat shows using tools like SeaVester and the Events Trailer.

Identify, recruit, develop and provide opportunities for members for service and leadership at the District and National levels.

*P/C W Michael King, AP
Executive Officer*

Skippers please be aware that if your boat is insured and your insurance company thinks your boat is over wintering on land when your boat is in water they may resist paying a claim. If they think you're in the water when you are in fact on the hard, they are likely to be charging you a premium. Communicate with your insurance company save money and avoid hassles.

WILMINGTON POWER SQUADRON

Change of Watch

Sunday, 20 March 2011

The D at Deerfield - 507 Thompson Station Road - Newark, Delaware

Arrive at 1130 to socialize with your friends. You may purchase drinks from the bar.

DELUXE BRUNCH BUFFET

Seasonal Sliced Fresh Fruits and Berries

The "D" Mixed Greens Salad - field greens, shredded carrots, sliced cucumbers, tomatoes, red onions and house-made herbed croutons with balsamic vinaigrette

Grilled Vegetable Pasta Primavera - roasted red peppers, yellow squash, zucchini, carrots, basil, garlic and olive oil

Deerfield pan-seared Crab Cakes, Old Bay remoulade

Beef Burgundy - seared tenderloin tips, shallots, gourmet mushrooms, Burgundy wine and demi-glace

Long Grain Rice Pilaf

Zucchini and Squash Medley

Chef's Selection of Assorted Desserts

Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Assorted Hot Teas or Iced Tea.

CHANGE OF WATCH CEREMONY - 1300

Please send in your reservation slip and check **payable to WPS** to:

Mary Stacey, 600 Benham Court, Newark, DE 19711-6015 by **Monday, 14 March 2011.**

(Please don't be late. Thanks)



WPS Change of Watch

Sunday, 20 March 2011

Names of Attendees _____

_____ @ \$35.00 per Person = \$ _____

Calendar of Events



			Weekly Luncheons: Lucky's Coffee House Concord Pike, Talleyville DE, Wednesday
21	Jan.	1830	WPS Social Brandywine Community Center
26	Jan.	1930	WPS Executive Committee Meeting Conectiv Energy & Technology Center, Newark DE
31	Jan.		USPS Annual Meeting Disney Coronado Spring Resort, Orlando FL
01-05	Feb.		USPS Annual Meeting Disney Coronado Spring Resort, Orlando FL
1	Feb.	1900	WPS Spring Educational Courses begin Advanced Grades and Elective Courses A. I. Dupont High School, 50 Hillside Rd., Wilm., DE
07	Feb.		Deadline for March, April Lubber's Line Material
18	Feb.	1830	WPS Annual Meeting & Founders Day Social Brandywine Community Center
23	Feb.	1930	WPS Executive Committee Meeting Conectiv Energy & Technology Center, Newark DE

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