

# THE PORTLIGHT

The Newsletter of Pennsway Power Squadron, Inc. - Sail and Power Boating

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The Newsletter of **PENNSWAY POWER SQUADRON, Inc.**

A unit of **United States Power Squadrons®**

**District 5 Sail and Power Boating**

## United States Power Squadrons® "on the Web..."

- ✓ United States Power Squadrons® web site: <http://www.usps.org>
- ✓ District 5 web site: <http://www.usps.org/localusps/d5>
- ✓ Pennsway Power Squadron's web site: <http://www.usps.org/localusps/pennsway>
- ✓ Pennsway Power Squadron's E-mail address: [ew@anp.net](mailto:ew@anp.net)



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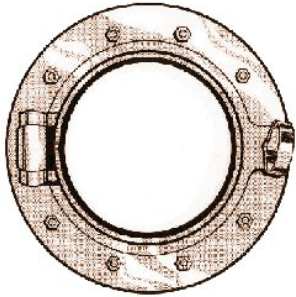
## Commander's Message

During this year I have been working in many areas to improve communications and promotional efforts. We have got the Pennsway PIE program well underway and with great results.

Further, I have gathered the commander's from the local USPS squadrons, so that we could join our efforts to share in various educational programs and resources of each squadron. In line with this I have had the pleasure of attending two Coast Guard Auxiliary meetings and met with their commanders. Recently, while talking with USCG AUX District Captain Cliff Dunn we both agreed that safe boating is at the top of our list. We discussed how there are large numbers of boaters that can use the attention of both our groups. Neither the USPS nor the USCG AUX by themselves can attend to all the boaters. USPS and the USCG AUX have joined efforts to bring the "ABC" (America's Boating Course) to life. However, the USPS is fairly new to the Vessel Safety Exam program. In talking with Captain Dunn and his Flotilla commanders it was discussed that because Pennsway has so few members trained to do Vessel Safety Exams that



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merging our efforts would seem to be the most effective way to get the job done. Because there are so many boaters needing to be examined a joint approach would be the best approach.

We also discussed joining efforts in Philadelphia area Parades as well as working together in future boat shows. I am pleased to see this great combined effort between the local USCG AUX and local USPS squadrons. I look forward to building this joint venture between us.



## COOP CHARTING WITH ART HILL

A BIG thanks to Art for his great presentation on Coop Charting at our last meeting. Art went through most aspects of the Coop Charting and the Verification process. Art is looking to get a few members to go out and complete a few Coop Charting forms. Members were talking about turning Coop Charting into a competitive event. What a great way to get members interested in Coop Charting.

Cdr Edward E. White, S

## PENNSWAY'S P.I.E. AWARDS

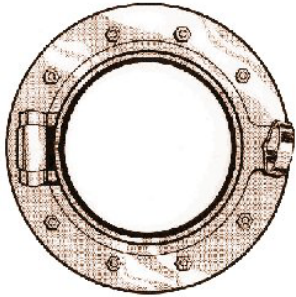


### Promotion Award

#### D/Lt John R. Gill, AP

Promotion Award goes to John for his consistent efforts in promoting Pennsway and USPS as a whole. John, with Bob Howell and others, worked on the program for the 25<sup>th</sup> Change of Watch. He has also been a great help promoting the ABC course through various articles in The Portlight. When it comes to an event that Pennsway is going to host, John always has some good ideas to promote that event. When Pennsway needed artwork for the new Pennsway Banner this year he was instrumental in getting it to the printer.

Even though John has been away a good portion of this year, he keeps in touch with Pennsway and is always willing to help where he can. John is part of the Positive Team Building and has shows that CAN DO attitude that takes our squadron to better places. Thank you John.



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## **Involvement Award**

### **P/C Robert L.P. Howell, AP**

The Involvement Award goes to Bob for his consistent involvement in many areas of Pennsway this year. He was Master of Ceremony for the 25<sup>th</sup> Change of Watch for Pennsway, got involved in putting the program together and helped get the Pennsway anniversary plates made.

Bob also took part in the Safety Day at Rohm & Haas who, with Al Beck, manned the booth for the day and handed out information on boating safety. He is also in the process of trying to update our boat show exhibit which he will discuss at a future Pennsway Executive meeting.

Bob has been a part of the Positive Team Building this year with Pennsway showing that when you put your mind to something, positive results will come to better serve the squadron. Keep up the great work Bob.

## **Education Award**

### **P/C Ralph N. Neitzel, SN**

The Education Award goes to Ralph for locating a new facility for Pennsway to teach its Boating Class. He was able to secure the Anchor Yacht Club in Bristol, PA as our new teaching location.

It should be noted that Ralph not only has been teaching for a number of years, but also has been the Squadron's Educational Officer. Not too long ago he was also nominated for the Charles F. Chapman Award for excellence in teaching. Keeping an eye open for educational opportunities will keep Pennsway in the forefront of the boating educational process. The more boating classes we teach, the more opportunities we have to bring new members to Pennsway. My

hat goes off to you Ralph for your dedication to the Pennsway educational process.

Cdr Edward E. White, S

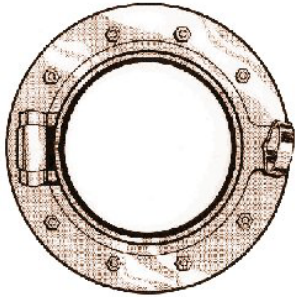


## **SCUBA DIVING ON THE ANDREA DORIA**

WITH WORLD RENOWNED DIVER, GARY GENTILE.

On November the 21<sup>st</sup> at our General Meeting in the hall of the Upper Dublin Lutheran Church at 7:30 PM we'll have the pleasure of hearing Gary Gentile. Gary is a SCUBA diver who has been on many diving expeditions including the Andrea Doria, Lusitania, The Monitor and hundreds of wrecks in the oceans around the world.

The Andrea Doria was selected as Gary's topic for a number of reasons. First, because it occurred just 50 miles of the New England coast. Second, because of the depth of the wreck special equipment and operations were needed to reach the vessel. Third, the Andrea Doria was



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thought to be a floating Italian art gallery in which treasures were certainly to be found, and were.

Come out and hear this fascinating story of the sinking of the Andrea Doria as well as other exciting diving experiences Gary has to tell.



## **PENNSWAY'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**

**Let's all enjoy the season with a happy holiday party at The Cock & Bull Restaurant in Peddlers Village.**

Keep the date of Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> open at 1:30 PM. For those who go are surely to have a great time with your Pennsway friends not to mention enjoying the sumptuous food and drinks. A lunch menu will be served for \$22 per person. If you bring a wrapped gift you may take a gift home. Gifts are not required, but if you do bring one keep the price around \$20.

Of course Holiday Good Spirits are a must. If you have any questions please call CDR Ed White at 215-572-1112.

## **BOATS THAT SINK AT THE DOCK**

Now that winter is fast approaching perhaps those boater who keep their boats in the water should consider the following.

In a recent poll, marine surveyors reported that over 95% of the bilge pumps aboard boats they examined were working. That's very encouraging. (What about the other 5% ?)

But pumps and batteries can both fail, especially when they have to cycle on and off constantly to combat a steady leak.

If you need a reason to visit your boat a little more often, consider the cost of repairing a boat that has been underwater, even briefly or worse-totally lost.

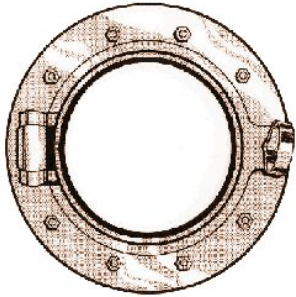
But where does the water come from? Perhaps the obvious is the underwater fittings. Almost half the sinking claims involve leaks at underwater fittings. The majority of leaks were at stuffing boxes, followed by failed hoses or hose clamps. Don't forget the drain plugs or transducer fittings.

Surprise, surprise. Some 12% of boat sinkings are due to fittings above the waterline. How can this happen ? The weight of rain and snow in a cockpit with a clogged drain can often place above waterline outlets below waterlines subjecting a boat to the possibilities of sinking.

Poor docking arrangements can get a boat caught under a dock or banged against the dock so as to cause a hole in the boat's hull.

All too often the skipper relies on the bilge pump to bail him out when he can't visit his boat. If you can't visit your boat once or twice a month consider using a buddy system with other boat owners to watch over each other's boat. If this is not practical, ask your marina manager to keep an eye on your boat. VISIT YOUR BOAT OFTEN.

Submitted by P/C Barry Jones, JN  
Safety Officer



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## Publisher's Statement

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## DIVINE INTERVENTION

A preacher was boating towards an island for a special wedding. On the way he was stopped by the marine patrol. After a quick check of the life preservers on board one patrol officer noticed a box with a few bottles in it.

"What's in the bottles, Reverend?"

"It's holy water," came the response.

The officer opened one of the bottles. Sniffing it he said, " It smells like wine."

"Hallelujah!" the preacher shouted, "He's done it again !"

## SOME INTERESTING FACTS

### HOW CAN YOU LIVE WITHOUT KNOWING THESE THINGS?

- The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV were Fred and Wilma Flinstone.
- Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the US Treasury.
- Coca-Cola was originally green.
- It's impossible to lick you elbow.
- The state with the highest percentage of people who walk to work: Alaska.
- The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28% (now get this...) The percentage of North America that is wilderness: 38%!
- The first novel ever written on a typewriter: Tom Sawyer.
- The youngest pope was 11 years old.