

THE PORTLIGHT

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

Volume 27 Number 6

June 2003



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

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

District 5 Sail and Power Boating

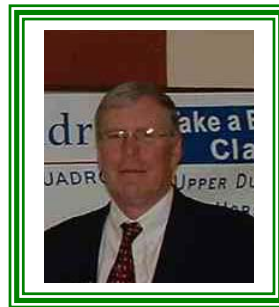
United States Power Squadrons® "on the Web..."

- ✓ 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: hharp@doublehplastics.com



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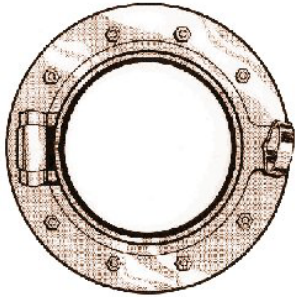


COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Summer Safety

Here we are at the beginning of summer and for those of us in the northern Latitudes the beginning of the boating season. Some are boating or getting ready to go boating. Others are working on boats not quite ready for the summer. This is a good opportunity to give some extra time and thought to safety on the water. As members of Pennsway we have committed ourselves to Boating education with the objective of improving safety on the water. Take the time now to inspect your boat and your boating practices. A Vessel Safety Check would be a good way to have someone else take a fresh look at the things we may have accepted over time. A review of our emergency signaling equipment is always a good idea. The

PENNSWAY WILL NOT BE MEETING AT THE UPPER DUBLIN LUTHERAN CHURCH IN SEPTEMBER, BUT HOPEFULLY ON THE TUGBOAT JUPITER. MORE ON THIS LATER IN THE SUMMER.



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pyrotechnics have an expiration date and should be replaced. Do we have the mechanical or electrical spares we would need to keep going? This might be the year to install the second battery or a backup radio. The first aid kit in the bottom of the locker should be refreshed. Would you be prepared to deal with a major laceration or burn? Maybe this would be a good time to review the basic first aid course materials that we all put away after our last course. Do we let someone know where we are going and when we should be back before we push away from the dock or have we gotten complacent? If you are reading this far along you probably don't need me to remind you of basic boating safety but you might have a friend or dock neighbor who could use some help. Find a diplomatic way to encourage safety among your boating friends. Bring them to a Pennsway meeting in the fall or bring them along to the Rendezvous on July 19th or the District 5 Rendezvous on July 26th. Give the helm your full attention while you are underway. Not everyone out there knows or follows the rules of the road. Remember it every operator's responsibility to avoid accidents. Boat Safely!



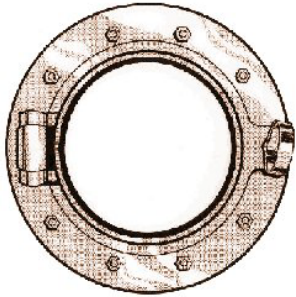
Navigation Contest District 5 Rendezvous
The District 5 Summer Council and Rendezvous will be in Baltimore the weekend of July 25, 26.

There is a block of rooms reserved at the Best Western Hotel and Conference Center at 5625 O'Donnell St. (800) 633 9511 \$95.00 per room breakfast included. The Rendezvous will be at the Marina at the Baltimore Marine Center. Pennsway is putting together an entry in the District 5 Navigation contest on July 26th in Baltimore. So far we have two boats and about 8 members interested. We are going to hold a training session on one or two nights in June and a practice in July. If you are interested in participating as a boat owner or crew contact me hharp@doublehplastics.com or 215 884 5649 and I will let you know the dates for the training session.

May Meeting

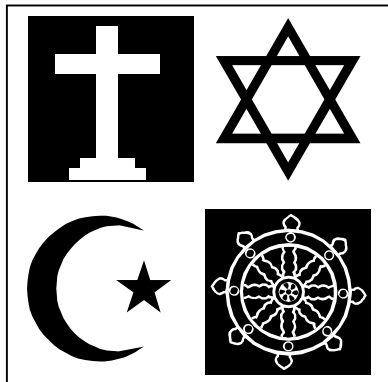
What a great meeting we had in May. We learned that Pennsway was the recipient of the USPS National MICA Award (Member Involvement Committee Award) for the PIE program that our own P/C Ed White developed last year. I had the opportunity to present P/C Stephanie Ward with an award from D/5 for her service as Chair of the Marketing Committee. It was a real pleasure to see two members of Pennsway receive recognition at the District and National level. We had representatives of the Philadelphia Police Marine Unit give us a presentation on the history and mission of the Marine Unit and they gave us a tour of their truck and rescue equipment. Plans are in works for a September General meeting aboard the tugboat Jupiter at Penns Landing and we have a great speaker lined up for November. If you have a suggestion for a speaker for the October Meeting let us know.

Cdr. Harry Harp, P



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FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

GUIDANCE *

I was thinking about the word GUIDANCE recently. As I looked at it, I kept seeing "dance" at the end of the word. It occurred to me that being tuned in to God is a lot like dancing. When two people try to lead, nothing feels right. The movement doesn't flow with the music, and everything is uncomfortable and jerky.

When one person realizes this and lets the other lead, both bodies begin to flow with the music. One gives gentle cues, perhaps with a nudge to the back or by pressing lightly in one direction or another. It's as if two become one body, moving beautifully. The dance takes surrender, willingness, and attentiveness from one person and gentle guidance and skill from the other.

The same principle applies when sailing my boat. I need to listen to the wind, feel the current, react to the waves. Each in their own way giving me silent signals about how to best sail the boat in that moment.

Being tuned in to God means being willing to trust the cues He sends and to act on them. I must be willing to let God lead, on the dance floor, on the water and in life.

Lt. Ken Vail, AP
Chaplain

* Adapted from an anonymous letter found on the Internet

ATTENTION ATTENTION

As you all know by now the Philadelphia Boat Show has been cancelled. We have been asked by the Absecon Island Power Squadron to help them with the Atlantic City Boat Show. It is a long drive so if a couple want to get together and drive down to man the booth that can be arranged. The show is September 4th to the 7th.
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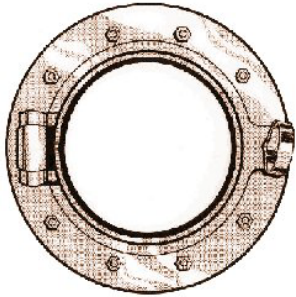
The hours are:
Thursday 9/4 - 11 A.M. to 7 PM
Friday 9/5 - 11 AM to 7 PM
Saturday 9/6 - 10 AM to 7 PM
Sunday 9/7 - 10 AM to 7 PM



This is an in water boat show. The show is located at the Farles State Marina. It is located adjacent to the Trump Marina Hotel.

If you are interested in manning the booth and seeing the show please let me know.

P/C Al Beck, SN
(610) 715-9337



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Vessel Safety Check Department



CONGRATULATIONS JUDY

Judy Gill with her boating husband John presenting her with a certificate making her the first woman Certified Vessel Safety Check Examiner in the U.S.P.S. Knowing Judy, she will not only be the first but one of the best out there checking your boat. Perhaps you may call John or Judy to find out how you can have your boat vessel safety checked or how to become a Vessel Safety Check Examiner. Not a bad idea as most of us either have our boats in the water or will shortly.

P/C Edward E. White, S has taken and passed the VSE exam and is ready to do his 5 assisted vessel safety exams to become a certified examiner. The Vessel Safety Team is growing. Come out and join the VSE Team.

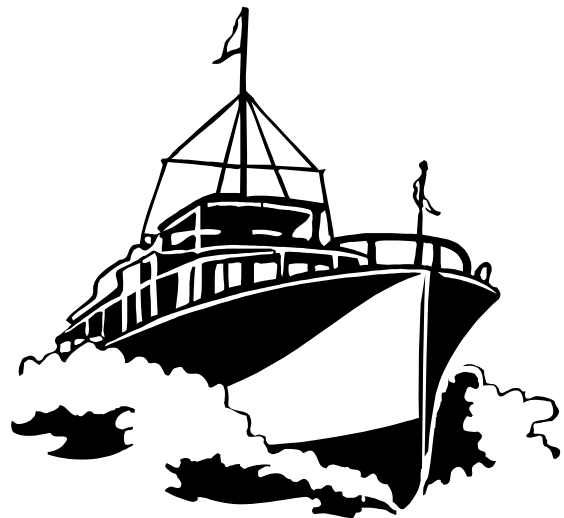
D/Lt. John Gill, AP

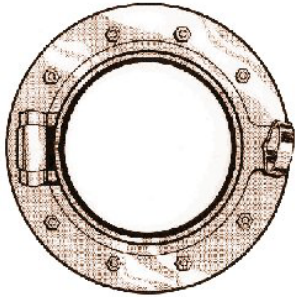
Education Department

CONGRATULATIONS !!

Good work. Everyone passed the Advanced Sail Course! Now I will feel safer on the water knowing you all have a better grasp of what your are doing. Seriously, have a great summer, take your boat out when the weather is a little worse than you otherwise might (that's the best way to learn how it feels before you must handle that situation) and be safe.

Lt. Ken Vail, AP





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WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP YOUR SQUADRON?



PENNSWAY IN MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Pennsway participated in the Roslyn Memorial day parade. The parade was a little damp but we had fun all the same. The Memorial Day parade was a tribute to those men and women who make this country free.

The Fourth of July parade is coming up and we are looking for those who would like to walk along in the parade. We are looking for those who trailer their boats to hook-up and join the fun. Power Boats, PWC's, and Sail Boats are Welcome. Please call P/C Edward E. White, S at 215-572-1112 to join the fun. The July 4th parade will be in Oreland, PA.

P/C Edward E. White, S

PENNSWAY NEEDS PEOPLE LIKE YOU !

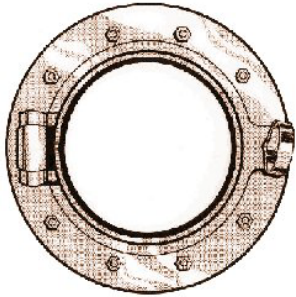


CONGRATULATIONS STEPHIE

The Pennsway May General Meeting was enjoyed by all who attended. We had a short business meeting where Stephanie Ward was presented an award for her work as the District Marketing officer. Commander Harp presented the award on behalf of P/D/C Bill Seldon, AP Stephanie will be taking up another post in District 5 and we are sure that she will attain great success in the new job.

P/C Barry Jones, JN

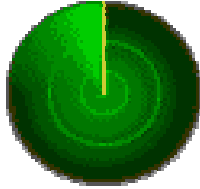




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WHAT'S ON THE RADAR FOR PENNSWAY' EVENTS:



14 June 2003 P/C Ed White will be organizing a mini Rendezvous at Lake Galena. Although it will be an informal program Ed will certainly create a fun day we'll all want to attend.

Boat rentals, picnic tables, grills, fishing, bike trails and nature walks are available. Bring the family out for a fun day. If you're interested in helping with this event please call Ed White at 215-572-1112

4 July 2003

Pennsway in the Oreland, PA July 4th Parade. Come out and join the fun. Please call Ed White at 215-572-1112

19 July 2003 The month of July will be a busy one. P/C Barry Jones will have an informal Rendezvous at Still Pond on the Chesapeake Bay on Saturday July 19th starting 1600 (4 PM). Barry and Marilyn will have hors d'oeuvres and beverages. If you plan to come please call Barry at 215-822-1109 or e-mail him at spinnakersam@juno.com. If enough people are interested we could have a "community dinner" at our raft-out.

17-19 July 2003 The District 5 Summer Cruise will start July 17th or 19th depending on where you start. Details are available in the D/5 newsletter.

25 - 27 July 2003 The following weekend, July 25th to 27th, will be the District 5 Rendezvous in Baltimore. This Summer Rendezvous has a tradition of conducting a

Navigation Contest on Saturday. If you're not familiar with this type of contest please read the Commander's message, which explains this type of event.

More information with reservation forms will be published in the Summer Mark 5 or contact:

P/C Read Van Zile, AP

P.O. Box 15367

Baltimore, MD 21220 or call

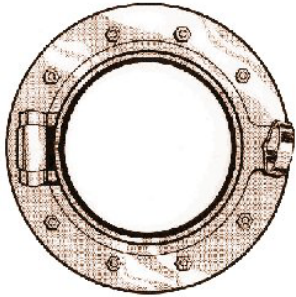
DAYtime 410-580-4292

Evening 410-335-4161

CO-OP CHARTING

Co-op Charting is one of the most important programs of the USPS, yet it remains one of the most widely ignored by our members. The entire Co-op Charting Program is described on the USPS web site in far greater detail than I can supply in these pages. I strongly urge all members to look up the web site and read up on the program.

All reporting is now done on the Internet; paper reports are no longer



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acceptable. This greatly simplifies reporting of chart changes. If you do not have a computer, contact the chairman or a friend with a computer to report for you.

NOAA wants to know of all needed chart changes from our members. We are the best source of information for these corrections. Listed below are the major items of information that NOAA is seeking.

1. Changes in aids to navigation on our waterways
2. New water and land features not shown on charts such as microwave towers, bridges, dredging or depth changes, fishing traps etc., any major changes on the water or surrounding land.
3. New facilities at marinas such as additional heads, additional piers, slips and moorings, pump out stations, repair facilities, new lifts etc; any aids to the boater.
4. Condition of benchmarks, their presence or absence.

All of the above can be reported directly on-line via the USPS web site with credit accruing to Pennsway. The boating season is on us and you will be seeing changes that should be reported. Please note the exact location and description of the changes and get them to NOAA.

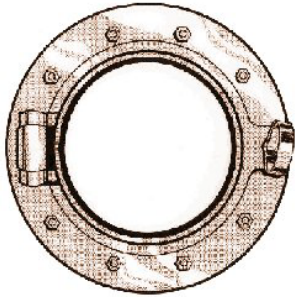
Call me if you need help.

P/C Arthur Hill, SN
Co-op Charting Chairman
215 612 9393

***Pennsway is featured in the National Ensign this month for Co-op Charting.**



Pennsway is on the move this year. We have new members signing up and our programs and events are stirring up a great deal of interest. Over the summer months there will be a great deal of activity. We are attaching an educational poster to each newsletter going out regular mail and email. We ask that every member do their part and hang one sign in a local marine store, super market or where ever you may think appropriate. Before hanging the signs please take a pair of scissors and cut the tabs those passers by will pull off and use to contact the squadron for public boating safety educational program. This is an important step in making the waterways safe and it also generates new candidates for membership. Please take the time to hang one sign. We also have mini rendezvous during the summer months and D5 is also having a rendezvous with a navigational contest. There is no reason to sit at home with so many things to do. Have a Safe and Fun Boating Season. Keep the ideas coming



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in. The P.I.E awards will be given to those who come up with ideas or put effort into making the squadron better. Remember Promotion, Involvement and Education. Get your piece of the P.I.E.

P/C Edward E. White, S

Pennsway Receives Donation

I received a letter in the mail with a check enclosed for \$100. This letter and donation come from a student from the Spring Bensalem Public Boating Class:

5/4/03

Mr. Edward White

I have just completed the basic boating course at Bensalem HS with Dave and Ralph. It was a wonderful experience. I would like to thank your group for making this possible. I am unable to join your membership, but I would like to donate to this worthy cause. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Greer

Thanks Lorraine for taking our course. We are very happy that you enjoyed our Boating Safety Course. We will make sure that your donation furthers the growth in our educational program.

I would like to thank Dave Ellison and Ralph Nietzel for a job well done. This is the kind of personal touch with our students that makes our educational program great. Thanks

P/C Edward E. White, S

Have a Safe and Fun Boating Season!

Now that the summer is almost here and we're looking for warm weather and clear skies,

the crew at The Portlight is also thinking about sailing and getting on the water for a few months during the summer. With that in mind The Portlight will not be published during July and August, but will be visiting you again in September to bring you all the news about Pennsway Power Squadron and what's happening with the squadron.

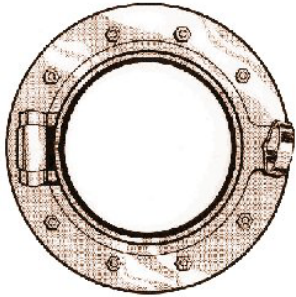
Until then have a happy, safe summer on the water or where ever you plan to be. Till September, see you on the water

The Portlight Staff, Barry & Ed.



THINGS YOU WON'T HEAR AT THE BOAT SHOW.

- "It's free."
- "This one here is known as the Yugo of boats."
- "Sure, hop on. Feel free to push all the buttons."
- "Don't sign anything now. Why don't you go home and discuss it with your wife?"
- "This little honey was named 'Boat of the Year' by the National Towing Association."
- "Sure it's ugly, but so was the Mayflower."



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PENNSWAY POWER SQUADRON, Inc.

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Pike Restaurant

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Springhouse, PA 19477**

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Home Style Cooking"**

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Brown Bagging of beer
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