

MARCH 2023

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

AHOY THERE.....AHOY THERE!!!

It will soon be time for our March meeting which will be held Sunday afternoon March 19th at 1400 in the big room at the Fisherman's Grotto in sunny Charleston. Don't forget to "spring ahead" on March 12th to start Daylight Saving Time! Al Swanson and I will be attending the District 32 Spring Conference held March 4th in Portland if the weather cooperates. We always enjoy greeting our old friends in the other squadrons, District 16 and meeting the national representative. It's reassuring to hear that many of them have the same concerns and share our passion for "safe boating through education".

Please join us Sunday March 19th at 1400 and bring a friend and we'll try to cover all the highlights of the D32 meeting. We will also be covering details for our upcoming change of watch dinner which is scheduled for April (actual date to be determined) so it would be nice to see as many folks at the meeting as possible. Looking forward to seeing many of you there!

Remember we're a team.....that's Together Everyone Accomplishes More!!!


 Al Swanson, CB



Coos Bay has been awarded the "Distinctive Communicator Award" for the 2022 website and 2022 "the Whistler"



MEETINGS & EVENTS



AMERICA'S BEATING CLUB



District 32 Spring Conference Agenda

4 March - D-32 Spring Conference
Oxford Suites 9 AM - 8 PM
Daylight Saving Time 2023 begins
0200 Sunday, March 12

Squadron / Board meeting 1400 (2PM)
Sunday March 19
at Fisherman's Grotto, Charleston.

Coos County's "Safe Boat" returned to service

On February 9, Sgt. Matt Smith from the Coos County Sheriff's Office (Marine Division) retrieved the fully repaired, "Safe Boat," from the repair facility in Bremerton, Washington. The Sheriff's Office purchased the "Safe Boat" several years ago. It



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has served in marine events, and general marine patrol and several water rescues. Unfortunately the vessel was in storage for over a year with damage that was too costly to fix within the standard budget of the Sheriff's Office.

Sgt. Matt Smith asked the Coos County Board of Commissioners to use the federal funding allotted to Coos County to renew this marine asset to the Sheriff's Office fleet. The Board of Commissioners agreed that this was an acceptable use of federal funding and voted to have this vessel repaired and restored to duty.

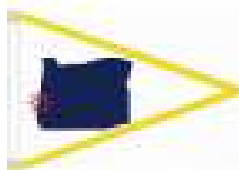
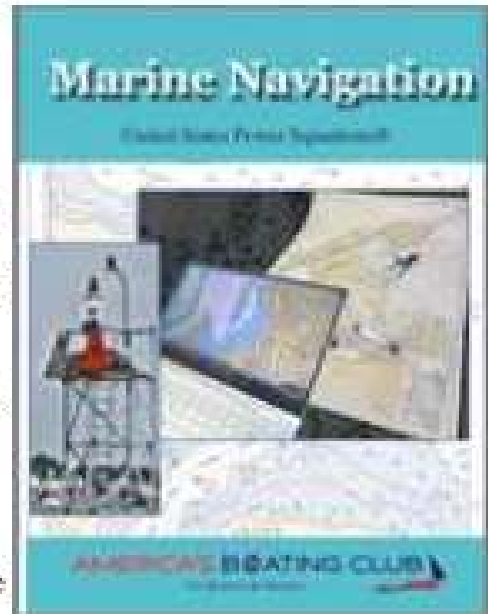
The "Safe Boat", now fully functional, is ready to assist in keeping the waterways of Coos County safe for all. The Sheriff's Office thanks the Coos County Board of Commissioners for understanding the importance of restoring the "Safe Boat", not only for the community but also for the staff of the Sheriff's Office to carry out their day-to-day marine operations.

Marine Navigation

Marine Navigation is the first course in the sequence of USPS courses on navigation, covering the basics of coastal and inland navigation. This course focuses on navigation as it is done on recreational boats today and embraces GPS as a primary navigation tool while covering enough of traditional techniques so the student will be able to find his/her way even if their GPS fails. The course includes many in-class exercises, developing the student's skills through hands-on practice and learning. Nine classes of two hours each normally are scheduled for presentation of this course. In addition the students have seven days to complete the open book exam. Topics covered 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 bearings and dead reckoning
- The "Seaman's Eye" – simple skills for checking that one is on course.

Coos Bay Power Squadron (America's Boating Club) is planning to put on The Marine Navigation Course (Piloting). Marine Navigation (formally Piloting) is the first of the navigational classes focusing on techniques for piloting a boat in coastal and inland conditions. The cost for the course will be \$150.00 for Members / \$200 for Non-Members. A deposit for that amount, will have to be paid No Later Than 1 March, 2023. The tentative start date will be the 22nd of March. The course will meet once a week for about 10 weeks ending the week of the 24th of May. Please contact Allen Swanson @ 541-888-6178 if interested.



Setting Our Course for '23 - '24

District 32 Conference

Saturday, March 4, 2023 Oxford Suites

12226 Jantzen Dr Portland, Or 97217 (Hayden Island)

Welcome back to our first in-person conference in two years! It's been a bumpy ride as we have learned to navigate new areas while experiencing challenges that have impacted our ability to grow memberships, expand education and build community through membership meetings and social gatherings.

Now, do we stay the course or set a new heading? Let's celebrate our successes, examine our resources, and have an open conversation about our challenges. National has revised by-laws that offer different approaches to operating a squadron. Let's take a look, have a conversation, and determine what may work for us! Please join us at the newly remodeled and upgraded Oxford Suites on Hayden Island, Saturday, March 4th. Special room rates available if you plan to spend the night. (See below)

0830—Registration / Coffee/ Pastries & Fruit 0900—1600 Conference

Featured Speakers:

- MariAnn McKenzie, Boating Safety Education Coordinator, OR State Marine Board
- Sgt. Steve Dangler, Multnomah County River Patrol
- Allen Lakin, Chair USPS Committee on Rules

Our Keynote Speaker: Doug Brusa, Director of Development, Marine Programs, OSU Foundation

1630—Hosted Happy Hour

1800—Dinner

D-32 Change of Watch—Special Presentations—And Some Fun!

Lunch - Sandwich & Salad Bar - \$26.00 Dinner—Italian Buffet - \$30.00

To RSVP your attendance at the conference and for the meals, please email our DAO Ron Bergmann at r.bergmann81@gmail.com or Charlene Donnelly at Cdahlen@comcast.net **no later than Friday, February 25**. If you have a guest or spouse joining you for dinner, please let us know when you make your reservation for the day. If they won't be participating in the conference, we can make some great recommendations for activities.

For overnight accommodations: Reservations can be made by calling the hotel directly at [5031283-3030](tel:5031283-3030) or their toll free number (800)548-7848 and mentioning **United States Power Squadron** in order to obtain the rate of \$105+ tax per night. Reservations can also be made online by following this link - Group Code = G1403 <https://www.oxfordsuitesportland.com>. *Your stay comes with a complimentary full hot breakfast buffet.*



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 541-404-6307
 541-756-4408
 541-756-4408

MEETINGS
 Squadron / Executive Board Meetings THIRD SUNDAY each month. Board Meetings may be called by Cdr or Board. Meetings are at 1400 (2:00 PM) at FISHERMAN'S GROTTO Covid-19 restrictions followed if required

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NOTICE

AFTER 1 APRIL edition all distribution of the WHISTLER will be by Coos Bay website or email.

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