

COMMANDER'S COLUMN

HO...HO...HOOO!

Ahoy there! Ahoy there!

Special thanks to those members who put forth the extra effort this year as part of the Coos Bay Power Squadron team.

It seems like it's getting dark super early now so that's a clue it's time for our annual

Thanksgiving/Christmas dinner and optional gift exchange. Please consider joining us this Sunday December fifth at 1400 for this festive feast at the Fisherman's Grotto in Charleston and please bring a friend. The gift exchange is optional but very entertaining for all. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift not to exceed \$10 to put under the tree. We'll go over all the rules for "exchanging gifts" (sounds better than "stealing") right after dinner.

We'll have a short business meeting and bring everyone up to date with our efforts to vacate our building by mid-December.

Enjoy the holidays and drive carefully....it's the most dangerous thing we do! See you soon!



Chris M. Cooper
 Co-Commander



On Parade

FALL & WINTER MEETINGS & EVENTS



**THANKSGIVING /
 CHRISTMAS PARTY
 DECEMBER 4, 1400 (2PM)
 @ Fisherman's Grotto
 Thanksgiving Dinner,
 ~\$20.00 per person.
 Gift Exchange with \$10 limit.**

LEASE HAS ENDED - CLOSE - OUT, EVERYTHING MUST GO SALE. DECEMBER 10, 9:00AM TIL GONE. A final event for the Squadron in our 51 year-old building.

District 12 ZOOM meeting for all Squadron CEOs December 14th, 9:00am. A 90 minute Planning session for America's Boating Coaches for 2023.

A Habbly Solution is Best Okay, so you've left a bunch of perfectly good, chrome-plated hex-end wrenches at the bottom of an onboard toolbox, some salt water has gotten in somewhere, and now your darn tools are crusted over with rust. Then by one, you pull 'em out, studiously examine the browser, even blackish discolorations and ask yourself, "Should I just dispose of these babies? They're still usable, yeah, but they look horrible. Most guys would be embarrassed to own up to 'em in private, let alone in public.



Disposal? Embarrassment? As luck would have it, there's a third alternative, and a very positive one at that. Coca Cola—yep, the beverage that first bubbled up in a pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1886 and is now familiar to just about everybody in the world—will remove rust from almost any chrome-plated tool, as long as you give the crust, ferrous brown liquid enough time to work. Container short-stuffed? End-the-end your wrenches and keep on working.

Here's what you do. Get yourself a stout, appropriately sized plastic container and immerse all of your rusted wrenches (or other rusted chrome-plated tools you have on hand) in a bath of Diet Coke. Go with the diet product here because sugar has no restorative effect and tends to add extra stickiness to a project that can sometimes get a bit messy. Make sure the Coke covers all areas of rust or at least half (you can end-the-end later on) and then place the container in a location where it will be out of the way and where moderate temperatures prevail.

Now twiddle your thumbs. Most likely, the restoration of your wrenches to their original appearance will take a few days at least, and perhaps several. When convenient, pull a wrench or two from the bath and do a quick scan. If all the rust is gone, fine—spray the tool with WD-40, wipe it off with a rag and store it, dry. If rust remains, pop the wrench back into the bath and keep twiddling.

There's no question that Coke works on rusted chrome like gangbusters but other carbonated Cola products with phosphoric acid will do the trick as well, although with not quite as much panache. And incidentally, if you have any Coke left over, use it to wash down a fire potato chips. Nice little combo, Coke and chips.

BY CAPT. BILL PIKE —Capt. Bill Pike is deputy editor of Power & Motor yacht magazines.

END OF AN ERA

The ERA of the Coos Bay Power Squadron building began in 1968 when members of the Squadron voted to use funds raised by the Annual Boat Show to build a headquarters and classroom building. After months of planning and negotiation a plan was approved and a lease signed.

The lease for a lot at the SW corner of the Charleston Boat Basin was for 25 years with a 25 year renewal option. There was a minimal yearly charge and at the end of the lease the building would be owned by the Port.



In March 1969 construction was completed and the contractor turned the building over to the Squadron and was paid. Interior finishing and Galley cabinets was done by members with much of the material and furnishings being donated by firms around the county. Moore Mill in Bandon donated the cedar bolts for the member, hand split, cedar shakes for the roof. The gas furnace and cook stove were donated by the NB propane co. When the building was ready for occupancy there was a dedication, (christening) and flag raising ceremony. The Coos Bay Bridge Officers attended in full class A uniform.

The first boating safety class, called, Piloting, drew over 200 people. It exceeded the building occupancy limit, and table and chairs available. The class was split into two classes which ran for 13 weeks. Even though there was no charge for the public, the dropout rate was high.

After a few years due to a law suit against United States Power Squadrons in New Jersey it was ruled that we could not use our building for public classes. For the next several years public classes were held at Marshfield High School, Marshfield Jr. High School, North Bend Jr. High School and BLM in North Bend. When the lawsuit was settled, we were again able to use our facilities for public classes. Names of the courses have changed, to Boating, "Squadron Boating course", Boat Smart and now America's Boating Course.



In 1999 Oregon passed a Boater Education law requiring 8 hours of instruction, we tried a one day eight hour class. It was very tiring and results not the best, so we switched to four two hour classes twice a week, plus one hour review and the exam. Drop-out rates became very low and passing rates very high.

In addition to regular Squadron and Board meetings many other events were held in the building. Leading the list would be the Annual Change of Watch followed by Thanksgiving dinner, Christmas Party, (later combined as one event), Crab Feed, and the fund raiser Rummage Sale. Occasionally the building was rented for community events, such as birthday parties, family reunions, and weddings. One year it was used as the mess hall for OSMBI while their facility was constructed. A local theater group held a series of performances there one season and Head Start used the facilities for a couple of years. After two 25 year leases and three one year extensions, a siding replacement, reroofing twice, door, electrical and plumbing repair on December 22, 2022 the Era of the Coos Bay Power Squadron Building comes to the end.

GREAT SEA STORY

The passenger steamer SS Warrimoo was quietly knifing its way through the waters of the mid-Pacific on its way from Vancouver to Australia. The navigator had just finished working out a star fix and brought Captain John DS. Phillips, the result. The Warrimoo's position was LAT 0° 31' N and LONG 179 30' W. The date was 31 December 1899. "Know what this means?" First Mate Payton broke in, "We're only a few miles from the intersection of the Equator and the International Date Line". Captain Phillips was prankish enough to take full advantage of the opportunity for achieving the navigational freak of a lifetime.



He called his navigators to the bridge to check & double check the ship's position. He changed course slightly so as to bear directly on his mark. Then he adjusted the engine speed.

The calm weather & clear night worked in his favor. At mid-night the SS Warrimoo lay on the Equator at exactly the point where it crossed the International Date Line!

The consequences of this bizarre position were many:

The forward part (bow) of the ship was in the Southern Hemisphere & in the middle of summer.

The rear (stern) was in the Northern Hemisphere & in the middle of winter.

The date in the aft part of the ship was 31 December 1899.

In the bow (forward) part it was 1 January 1900.

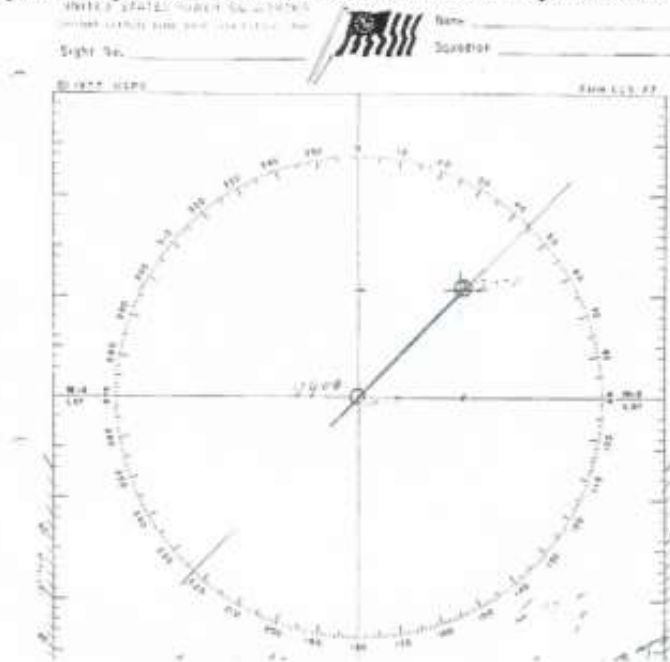
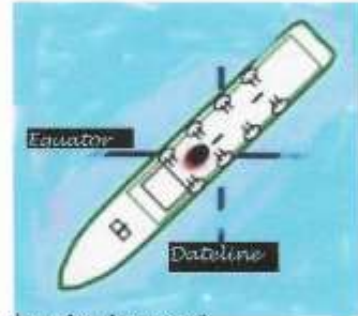
This ship was therefore not only in:

- Two different days,
- Two different months,
- Two different years,
- Two different seasons

But in two different centuries - all at the same time!

What were the course and speed changes made by Captain Phillips? Can you determine what they were?

December 31, 1899 nautical twilight began at 1852. The navigator had an hour to take star sights and work out the fix for 2000 to report to Captain Phillips. Distance.....nm. Course..... T Speed.....kt.



Boaters, Did You Make Santa's Naughty or Nice List?

Little kids aren't the only ones who need a reminder or two at this point in the year to behave better. We all risk getting a lump of coal in our stockings, in fact, having let some bad behaviors become bad habits. It's especially important to straighten up and fly right (or, should we say, steer right) when you're out on the water.

Read through these behaviors to see whether you made Santa's naughty or nice list—and how to course correct if need be.

The Naughty List: Forgetting to perform routine maintenance. While it takes time and money to care for your boat, it's even more costly to neglect it. It's also dangerous, risking your safety and those of your passengers and fellow boaters. Check out our [Maintenance Guide](#) for reference.

Lingering at the fuel dock. Fuel docks have limited space, after all, so others may need to pull in to the space you're occupying. When you've fueled up, move on, save the socializing for the shore, and tie up elsewhere if you want to provision for your day out.

Speeding through a no-wake zone. Harbors have speed restrictions for good reasons. Sensitive shorelines can get damaged, for instance. Additionally, swimmers may be in the water, or you could swamp another boat. Be respectful, and slow down (see [Boating Regulatory Zones: What is a 'No Wake' Zone?](#))

Taking too long at the boat ramp. Everyone's anxious to make the most of their hours on the water. Therefore, reduce your time on the boat ramp by pulling your boat over to the side—say, to the beach or a dock—to load gear and everyone's gear. When your cruising day is done, pull your vehicle and trailer over to the side to unload or clean your boat.



Boat Ramp Etiquette 101: The Nice List Being clean and green. Since we all love the water, it's imperative that we protect it as well as the sun- and land life it supports. From seeking out environmentally friendly cleaning products for your boat to never tossing garbage overboard, little things add up to big differences.

To get started, read [Green Boating Tips: 10 Best Practices for Boaters](#).

Offering a hand. Grabbing someone's dock lines when they're returning to shore or departing for the day isn't just a nice gesture. It can be a world of help, especially if a dock master isn't around.

Taking a boater-education course. If you're new to boating, the best gift you can give yourself this season is a boater's-educ class. Many are free or low cost, too. Even if you've been boating since childhood, refresh your memory on the [Rules of the Water](#). You might just earn your

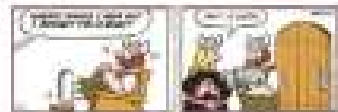
captain's license if you have enough hours on the water, setting a great example for others. Check out our [comprehensive list of Boating Education & Training opportunities](#).

Waving hello. Boaters are among the friendliest folks around. Waving hello is a time-honored tradition, done regardless of the make, model, size, or style of a boat. If someone waves at you from their boat or yacht, wave back. The same is true for your passengers. Better yet, initiate the wave.



"You need boating gear 200 times last year. It won't all just go take a few vacations off during the winter!"

Social Media for Squidheads
 Journal of Boating Club, Singapore Chapter



MERRY CHRISTMAS



HAPPY NEW YEAR

DISTRICT 32 HOLIDAY PARTY

It's Finally Time to Meet Face to face

SUNDAY, December 11 at 1600 (4:00 PM)

Ernesto's Restaurant

8544 SW Apple Way

Portland, OR

Dinner includes: Bruschetta, Focaccia bread, Caesar salad, Ravioli, Sautéed Vegetables, Meat Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo Fettucine, Tiramisu dessert

Dinner cost is \$25. Soft drinks, coffee and tea are included.

Alcohol can be purchased with cash or card

Raffle for Fred Meyer Gift Cards

Voluntary \$20 gift exchange with 3 steals 🎁

Pay Ahead of time using PayPal

One person: <https://paypal.com/2Kx5tC>

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RSVP no later than Wednesday, December 7 to:

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 541-756-4408

MEETINGS

Squadron / Board Meetings
 are scheduled for **THIRD**
 Saturday each month at 1300
 (1:00 PM) Fisherman's Grotto
 Charleston.
 Covid-19 protocol
 observed if required.

Editor

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