

General Membership Meeting Ursula Hash & DANBOATER Tuesday 9 June at 1900 Online

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AFTERDECK

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Callisto's Tips, Tricks, & Techniques

Thoughts & Musings:

{Contributed by Ken Peters}

Whenever we are down there is only one direction to go and that is upward! This eternal optimist feels that we are on our way. Last month I mentioned making Great Lemonade out of the lousy lemons provided and we did as concerns our online sessions for the BOD, the Membership Meeting, and the two Ad Hoc sessions that we conducted. Each session seems to have been easier to access and conduct. Please do not hesitate to join in and ask for help if required.

Editing the Afterdeck News is another story, however, it too will get better. I promise:

- As we get out & about, more stories with better pictures
- The return of items such as Squadron Boosters Listings
 - Jim DeArmond is writing a procedure for this
 - I have offered to help with a worksheet to capture all donations and the cumulative totals for analysis and recognition
 - We need a volunteer to step up to capture our past history
- Normally we take the month of July & August and do not publish Afterdeck News - I am going to ask the BOD for permission to provide a small edition for these month at least for the current less than normal period

As for other items of educational interest, SEO Art Dodd, SN is working with our District 8 to offer a course online for all squadrons. Hopefully we will find lots of willing students and a core of great lecturers. Go get 'em Art.

So we are underway, so let's keep up the steam. Hope to see us all together in September plus I am really looking to October's Custom Party as I love to play the part of my optimistic warrior hero {guess who?}

Afterdeck News is published monthly by the Palm Beach Sail & Power Squadron. Editor reserves the right to accept, reject, or revise submitted articles. Editor requests articles be submitted by the first Sunday evening following the General Meeting. The Afterdeck News and the Palm Beach Sail & Power Squadron are not responsible in any way for mishaps from the use of any product or services mentioned or advertised herein. *Roster and any other personal information is not to be reproduced or otherwise used for commercial purposes.* 1125 Old Dixie Hwy, Lake Park, FL 33403 Phone: 561-594-8220



From the Commander Cdr Cal Cearley, P

Hello members: I trust you are all well. Jeannette and I are ok and we are following all the safety procedures to avoid the Virus.

We have had some talk about having a dinner meeting at the Country Club on June 9th, however this was to optimistic since the Virus safe guards still require social distancing and face covering. We traditionally skip July and August since most of us are out of town on vacation in those months. So, the earliest for a dinner meeting would be in September provided we do not have another outbreak. We will keep you in-

formed as the weeks pass.

We are holding our meetings online via the "go to meet" program and we are getting a little better at it. Please join us on June 9 at 1900 (7pm) for the next general meeting. Squadron Education Officer, Lt/C Art Dodd, SN will send out the site for you to get on your computer.

Stay safe. Cdr. Cal Cearley. P



From the Rules Chair Stf/C Mary Dodd, SN

> Operations Training Elected Positions Continued Squadron Administrative Officer

Last Month's article was about the Squadron Educational Officer's responsibilities. This month I will be discussing the Administrative Officer's (AO) responsibility.

Our AO this year is Lt/C Pamela Piccone, S. The AO has the rank of Lieutenant Commander (Lt/C). The AO also has an elected Assistant Squadron Administrative Officer who this year is 1st Lt Arlene Widmayer, S and has the rank of 1st Lt.

The AO, and the entire Administrative Department, including all its committees, is concerned with all that is 'internal' to the squadron, such as meetings, membership and boating activities.

If the Cdr and the XO are absent the AO temporarily steps in.

The committees that the AO is an ex officio member are listed in the Roster and are the following: Boating Activities, Meetings, Dinner Arrangements, Membership, Member Involvement, Port Captains, Leadership Development, Public Contact, Telephone Committee, Sick Bay

Information for this article comes from the Operations Training Manual 2020 and the Operations Training in 3. Next month we will discuss the Secretary's Position. Answer to this month's question will appear in next month's Afterdeck.

This Month's Questions: How many merit marks does a member have to receive to become a Life Member?

Last month's answer: How many merit marks does a member have to receive to become a Senior Member? 5 Merit Marks

From the Educational Officer

LT/C ARTHUR DODD, SN



First, a couple of important messages from USPS National.

Instructor Certification: In order to teach the public ABC class, each instructor must be certified. Initial certification is obtained by taking and passing the Instructor Development (ID) class. Certified Instructors are then required to participate in the Educational Department's approved recertification seminar at least every 4 years.

The Instructor Recertification Seminar is now available from USPS online. See the members' home page on the USPS.org website for more details. Note: while certification of instructors for the other USPS courses is not a requirement, it is highly recommended as the ID class and recertification seminar provide tools to help instructors teach.

- MMSI (Marine Mobile System Identity) numbers in the past have been available from USPS/ USPS. This has been suspended due to some difficulties with proposed revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding between the USPS and US Coast Guard. There may be a resolution in the future; however, until then, MMSI numbers must be obtained from BoatUS (free to BoatUS members, \$25 to non-members) or from the FCC. Note that the MMSI numbers obtained from BoatUS are only valid within the US boundaries; the number obtained from the FCC is valid internationally and comes with a radio station license.
- Coronavirus: due to the current situation regarding the Coronavirus, USPS National has essentially suspended classroom classes. Online classes and seminars remain available.

Pop Quiz: Each opening section of a bascule bridge (drawbridge) is marked by a navigation light at the center of the span. What color is the light?

Boat Handling: this is the course that replaces Seamanship. We were in the process of developing this course in anticipation of the June 15 debut when the Coronavirus problem started. The June 15 class has been cancelled. However, USPS announced on May 12 that the Boat Handling class is now available online. Go here: https://americasboatingclub.org/learn/online-boating-education/ and click on the illustration in the gray square. The course consists of 6 seminars, plus an exam:

- Rules of the Road: A Practical Approach
- Confidence in Docking and Undocking: Slow-Speed Maneuvering
- Boating with Confidence: Handling Your Boat Under Way
- Anchoring with Assurance: Don't Get Carried Away
- Emergencies on Board: Preparation for Handling Common Problems
- Knots and Line Handling: The Knots You Need to Know

The seminars can be taken individually for \$24.95 each; the Boat Handling course costs \$67.50.

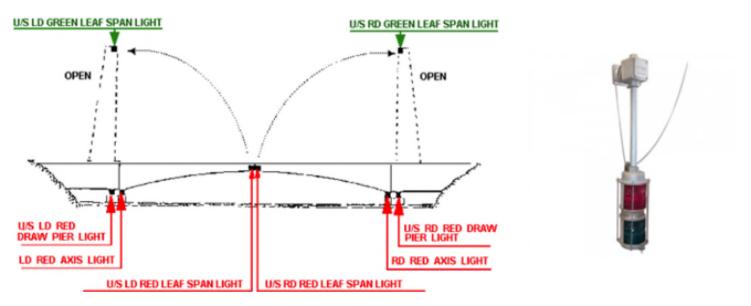
USPS National Educational Department is working on many things currently. In some cases, new or revised seminars were supposed to have been introduced this past spring, or in the near future; however, the Coronavirus has interrupted much of the work.

- Paddle Smart seminar is being revised to include requirements for stand-up paddleboards.
- Using VHF and VHF/DSC Marine Radio is being rewritten to incorporate current technology; the seminar name is likely to change.
- A new GPS seminar, based on How to use GPS is close to completion.
- The Marine Radar seminar will be replaced by a new seminar.

- Marine Electrical Systems has a replacement being developed.
- Marine Communications Systems also has a replacement being developed.

There are other changes coming down the road. Many of the courses will be online or blended (combination online and classroom).

Pop Quiz Answer: Each span of a bascule bridge has a navigation light on the end, such that when closed, there are two navigation lights side-by-side. When the bridge is closed, the light is red. When open, the light is green. Note that the light moves with the section that opens. Shown are a layout of lights for a bridge and a typical span light unit – the light can pivot so it stays vertical as the



MY Best, Funniest, Worst, Scariest, etc, BOATING EXPERIENCE!!

Contributions by: Captain Katherine Redmond, AP

Number 1

Our five-year contractual agreement chartering our boat out of Tortola, in the BVI, with the Moorings was over, and it was decided that our power vessel would probably sell better in Puerto Rico than the BVI. We moved the boat to Puerto del Rey Marina, in Fajado, Puerto Rico and settled among the 1000 slips.

We wanted to find a boat dealer to sell our vessel, and thought we had a fool-proof method. We would walk along the docks and find the most popular name, rationalizing that the local people would list their vessels with the best dealer. After a few hours, we had our answer!!

We went to the Marina Office for some more details on the Dealer and asked the staff for same. Laughing through tears, they informed us that our dealers name, "En Venta", means "for sale"!!"

Number 2

Ron wanted to live aboard a boat for many years and now, that the children were all on their own, the opportunity arose. We decided on a two-year stint and began a year-long preparation period where we took every US Power Squadron Course available, arranged to rent out our home, have family overlook our businesses, and searched for the correct vessel.

{Continue Laughing Page 9}



21 May 2020

This is National Safe Boating Week and the lead in to Memorial Day Weekend!

The Board of Directors and Headquarters continue to work remotely on the behalf of squadrons and districts with the focus on our members and a watchful eye on our bottom line. We have some updates and new information for you as it pertains to conducting business:

A. With Regard to Squadron and/or District Meetings, Events, Activities, and more: The first Message from the Chief Commander dated March 17, 2020, included a succinct statement regarding COVID 19 implications to the way our squadrons and districts function. Specifically "...for squadrons and districts to conduct business by the best available means while preserving the safety and security of our members".

I would like to reiterate that the Board of Directors is in agreement that the best way for our organization to deal with the ongoing health situation: locally at the squadron and district levels. To review:

- First and foremost is preserving the health and well-being of our members (this includes those in the recreational boating public who seek our educational classes)
- All squadrons and districts are to adhere to the local, state, and national directives concerning social distancing and stay at home initiatives
- Tools are available and are continuing to be developed to assist with remote learning, virtual meetings, virtual classrooms, and virtual conferences.
- There is no expectation or obligation to the squadrons or districts to host face-to-face (F2F) classes, meetings, or activities. Nor is there an obligation or expectation for our volunteers to attend or conduct same. (There is no penalty for erring on the side of caution!)
- We are not issuing an edict from national on how to conduct squadron or district 'business" during COVID-19, we are here to support the squadrons and districts as they choose given the above guidelines and smart hygiene practices.

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B. Headquarters Business Hours Update

- Effective Monday, May 19, 2020, hours for headquarters staff who work in customer service, membership, education, shipping, and accounting have been reduced to 3.5 hours per day. We will re-evaluate at the end of June.
- We will continue shipping orders, responding to emails, phone calls, and accounting, membership, and education requests.

C. VSC/VSE Update

Until further notice, all Vessel Safety Checks remain in stand down. To review the policy
and a new virtual option please visit the Safety Committee home page on the website. Also,
do not forget that USPS/America's Boating Club works with the CGAUX on vsc; the
CGAUX is the administrator of the courtesy checks, not the USCG. To read further,
here is the link to the MOU:

https://www.usps.org/images/Exec/Gvt_Partner_Rel/MOU/Other/VSC_MOU.pdf D. MMSIUpdate

 Please be advised that an agreement has been reached to restart the issuance of MM.51 numbers; we are targeting **early June** to be 'live' once again. Watch for more information.

You are an outstanding group and | am proud to associate with all of you. Please keep up the good work, your sense of humor, and compassion to others as we continue this uncharted journey together.

wish you fair winds, calm seas, and good health.

Mary Paige Abbott Chief Commander

> "Perpetual Optimism is a Force Multiplier" General Colin Powell

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We spent three weeks with friends on their sailboat in the Abacos, and after sleeping in the V berth for 21 days, my husband felt that we should get our first power vessel to live aboard! And we did: a 46 ft, single-engine, under-powered, top-heavy boat, with a full bath and refrigerator, that would heel precariously if a dinghy passed us.

One time, while making our way down the ICW from Annapolis to Florida, we encountered an impending storm. The marina we had counted on for a slip had filled, and we were hurrying toward our Plan B, Southport Marina. The storm was nearly upon us and, as we approached the entry, every slip was filled with vessels waiting out the storm. There was only one empty slip, difficult to approach, especially with our limited experience with this power vessel. (Needless to say, we sold her as a houseboat and bought an amazing Tollycraft, with two engines, which was a dreamboat that we had for many years!)



103 Lake Shore Drive #F88 at LAKE PARK HARBOR MARINA LAKE PARK, FL 33403 Phone: 239-339-3944 www.FreedomBoatClub.com Email: DustinT@FreedomBoatClub.com

Fortunately, Ron had moved the dinghy engine to the stern of the vessel for easy access. This engine acted like a stern thruster, turning the lazy end sharply when required. I shouted to Ron that the vessel was still moving forward, even though in neutral. He shot back: "hit the cheapest boat!". As I approached my assigned slip, I could see the boat owner in the adjoining slip and friends, aligned with poles standing like Sentry, guarding their vulnerable side. There was a constant blaring on the VHF: "Woman at the Helm, Woman at the Helm". I aligned her for a stern-in, and threw her into reverse while Ron steered the stern perfectly into the slip with the dinghy engine.

{Continue Laughing Next Page}



June 2020

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The place broke out in applause and a fellow shouted out, "I want to buy that woman a drink!" Ron said she will have a beer and I will have a Chablis! I was rubbing my eyes, which were twitching like crazy!!

Editor's Note: The good news is that Capt. Kat will have returned home to Florida by the time we see this. She has been down but obviously sending me these two piece shows that see cannot be held down for long. She is chomping at the bit to get back to her Woman to Woman sessions of making sailor out of our ladies.

The 2020 Disaster Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday was passed by the Florida Legislature and signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis. This sales tax holiday begins Friday, May 29, 2020, and extends through Thursday, June 4, 2020.



During this sales tax holiday period, qualifying items related to disaster preparedness are exempt from sales tax. As with most "government deals" there are limits as to how much you can spend on any one item but the good folks at our advertisers will know those ropes and help you to the best savings for you.

A best deal might be a portable generator that is less than \$750. I did one last year and converted it to propane as an alternative fuel avoiding storage of volatile gasoline and gummed up carbs.

Does the Power Squadron's Educational Courses ever do anyone any real good in their lives? You'd better believe it does!

Just look at what it did for these former students and their old mentor. They are living a life of adventure and off to "sea" the world while I live vicariously their joys as I remember my own.



Please watch at least the first 3 1/2 minutes of their interview on How Not To Sail at <u>https://mc54.org/</u><u>Videos/UltimaHNTS.mp4</u> - where the U. S. Power Squadron gets the credit for their present life. This well spoken pair tell how the came out of the desert to now sail & work a lovely life.

To see where they are now -> <u>https://</u> <u>share.garmin.com/Oceanpassages</u> - click the View All Track button in the upper right of the screen and zoom out to see all of their voyages. It is my expectation the they will eventually cover the world's waters

with their tracks

To view a video of a typical voyage, try-><u>https://</u> <u>mc54.org/Videos/SailingReel01.mp4</u>. See the wildlife that hitched a ride aboard. Enjoy the view above as Drone pilot Vivian takes us aloft.

To reiterate the links:

- 1) MC54.org/videos/ultimaHNTS.mp4
- 2) share.garmin.com/Oceanpassages
- 3) MC54.org/videos/sailingreel01.mp4



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Palm Beach Sail & Power Squadron General Membership Meeting In your web browser type

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Special presentation by a special guest Ursula Hash from DAN Boater

She will tell us the DAN Boater story and then remain to answer our question on this valuable United States Power Squadrons membership benefit..