

# Penobscot Bay Sail and Power Squadron

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons



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## Now Hear This!

June 2008

### Commander's Corner



If the rest of my watch is as exciting as the first two months, I'm in for a wild ride. The busiest part was, of course, the District Conference which our squadron hosted. Thank goodness P/C Rob Crone had everything organized and well in hand when I took command. Rob carried the project to completion and did an outstanding job. Our part, to arrange for meeting rooms, hotel rooms, printing of information packages, agendas, food service, a hospitality suite and so much more, was really a team effort that started almost a year ago. The bottom line is that everything went as planned and we received accolades from other squadrons who wish to copy what we did. We have been asked by the District Bridge to create a handbook on how to organize a conference. I guess that says it all. I must mention all the other squadron members who made this event a success. XO Kathy Mastbeth designed, produced and printed a conference booklet of information, reports, ads and even a welcome

letter from yours truly. The cover design for this document featured all the burgees of the D 19 squadrons as well as the D 19 burgee. Kathy also created squadron photo calendars which were given to the attendees of the Saturday night banquet.

Other team members include D 19 secretary Judy Crone and P/C Larry Sherwood. Howard and Elaine Towle led the effort on our innovation of an information table to help attendees and their spouses with all kinds of things throughout the day, Jay Johnson, Tom and Shirley Brace and Jeff Barnes helped staff this effort. Vim Fredrick provided an outstanding lecture on engine maintenance in the one time slot open to our squadron. Thanks also to past and present officers, members, and those who solicited (and bought) ads to help defray expenses.

WOW!!! What a time for boating education. With four Boating Course classes completed coupled with Piloting and Engine Maintenance classes completed, the past SEO Kathy Mastbeth / new SEO Dave Field combination has been busy. We hope to enroll many of the more than eighty Boating Course graduates to swell our ranks. Thanks Kathy and Dave.

Summer rendezvous are in the planning stages. I know there will be another canoe and kayak event because it will be at our house. Please come by land or sea, a good time is always had by all.

The raffle winners have been drawn and prizes distributed. The winner of the VHF/DSC radio is Rob Crone. The second prize \$50 gift certificate went to Dave Field and the third prize hand held VHF radio went to Loring Kydd. Congratulations to the winners and thank you Wayne Hamilton and Kathy Mastbeth for donating the prizes.

Your squadron bridge is calling. There are a number of positions which need to be filled. Most important, we need an assistant secretary and an assistant treasurer. You are not required to attend bridge meetings for any of the open positions. All we ask is a willingness to help by occasionally giving a small amount of time.

Reminder: It is time to renew your membership in USPS. At a time when money is tight, think of your dues as a ticket to safe boating for you and for all boaters.

Till Next Time, Remember: **Boating is fun, we'll show you how.**

John

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## Pipe Them Aboard

The following are new members to our Squadron:

**Noreen and Gad Liebmann  
The Rogers Family:**

**Elizabeth, James Jr., James III, Jeffrey and Rebecca.**

Noreen and Gad Liebmann have come to us through Rob Crone's Searsport Class and the Rogers family have come to us through Dave Field's Bangor class.

When you do meet one of these new members please give them a royal welcome, share some of your boating fun with them and have them tell you about what they expect from the Squadron. You might find you all have the same goals and experiences. The Squadron welcomes each of our new members aboard.

P/C Rob Crone JN, Membership Chair

## Congratulations, Captain Rob!

On Monday, June 2, our own P/C Rob Crone JN went to Boston MA to sit for the Coast Guard 100 Ton Masters License exam. The great news is that he passed the test (we all knew he would!)

Rob has been attending classes at Maine Maritime Academy for the past three years and this was the culminating activity of his efforts, certainly an accomplishment to be very proud of!

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## Upcoming Squadron Events

Please mark these important Squadron events on your calendars!

The following is a list of events and the contact person.

### Fort Point Rendezvous June 20-22

June 21st will be our first Picnic and Rendezvous at Fort Point. This is a great location because you can come by boat or car. Fort Point Cove and Fort Point State Park are located at the mouth of the Penobscot River six nautical miles below Bucksport. If you trailer your boat you can launch at Verona Island (6nm), Stockton Springs (6nm) or Searsport (8nm). There is plenty of room and water to anchor in the cove and a dock for the dinghies. By car take Cape Jellison Road off Rt1 in Stockton Springs and follow the signs to Fort Point State Park. Find our sign at the path to the dock and follow our other signs to the picnic area. You can visit old Fort Pownall, the light house and the light house bell and horn. Come for the day or weekend. Some of us will arrive Friday afternoon and stay to Sunday morning. We will have Ch 9 on the radio. Fort Point dock is at L 44 28.55 N, Lo 68 48.78 W. Picnic will be at 1300 on the 21st. Bring whatever you want for the grill, something to drink and a little something for everyone to share. The rest will be provided. A flotilla will be forming on Saturday more details to follow. Rain date for picnic Sunday 22, June

**Contact Gary Winders 567-3328 for information.**

**June 28th 1000-1200** - The Blessing of the Boats or Fleet as it is often called is a blessing given at the beginning of the sailing year to keep all vessels and their crew safe and brought back home at the end of the season. **Contact Rob Crone 266-8346 for more info.**

### Saturday, July 26th. Bucksport Bay Festival.

Our second rendezvous is at Bucksport during the Bay Festival. Again, you can come by boat or car. There will be a cookout on Larry Sherwood's boat (SISU) at 1300 on Saturday. Same food arrangements as Fort Point.

Larry will be at the Port Harbor Marine docks from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning. If you can't make the cook out Saturday, stop by when you can. **If you want space at the Port Harbor docks, contact them as soon as possible at Port Harbor Marine in Brewer.**

This is a great weekend event with vendors all along the water front, bands, music, parades and much more.

Normally there are fireworks Saturday night, which we watch from Larry's boat.

Come and join us. We have a great time For more information contact Rob Crone 266-8346 or [rcrone@midmaine.com](mailto:rcrone@midmaine.com).

### **Canoe and Kayak Rendezvous**

Is scheduled for **Saturday, August 16, 2008** at the Mastbeth's home on the Bagaduce River in Sedgwick. The facilities are great and the view is wonderful! Restrooms, kitchen facilities, and picnic tables are available. Those who attended last year's rendezvous will agree we all had a great time. Picnic is at 1300. Come with or without a boat. Enjoy a picnic and fun with friends. (Bring whatever you want to put on the grill and something to share – everything else will be supplied)

For more information contact Kathy or John Mastbeth at 359-8015 or [kmastbeth@midmaine.com](mailto:kmastbeth@midmaine.com).

### **Holbrook Island Rendezvous**

The rendezvous is scheduled for **Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>** at Holbrook Island Sanctuary on Cape Rosier in Brooksville.

This park consists of over 1,200 acres on the mainland as well as Holbrook Island itself. This wonderful preserve was donated to the State of Maine (to the consternation of the Brooksville Selectmen) by Miss Anita Harris in 1977. Miss Harris requested that her house on the island be demolished and all the land remain undeveloped. Yet, there is a lovely old barn to be explored.

The only access to the island is by boat where a floating dock is available (no overnight tie-ups). Easy hiking trails through the woods lead to various shore-side views of Penobscot Bay (with due respect to the mosquitoes).

The bulk of the park is the mainland parcel which includes well marked trails to ponds, wetlands and excellent views of the bay. There is a small dock and float on the little south western peninsula near the Bateman Cemetery.

The picnic area has tables and grills under the trees near Indian Bar. This "sand" bar divides Smith Cove to the east from Holbrook Harbor to the west and provides nifty swimming for those brave souls who enjoy cold water!

If arriving by boat, please do not use the dock and float on the Smith Cove side as it is private as well as being close by an unmarked ledge.

Also, if staying the night the Holbrook Island Harbor may be a better choice as there is generally a southwest breeze to chase away unwanted pests.

Both harbors are delightful with good holding ground in sand as well as being rated three and four stars by the Taft's great book, "A Cruising Guide to the Maine Coast".

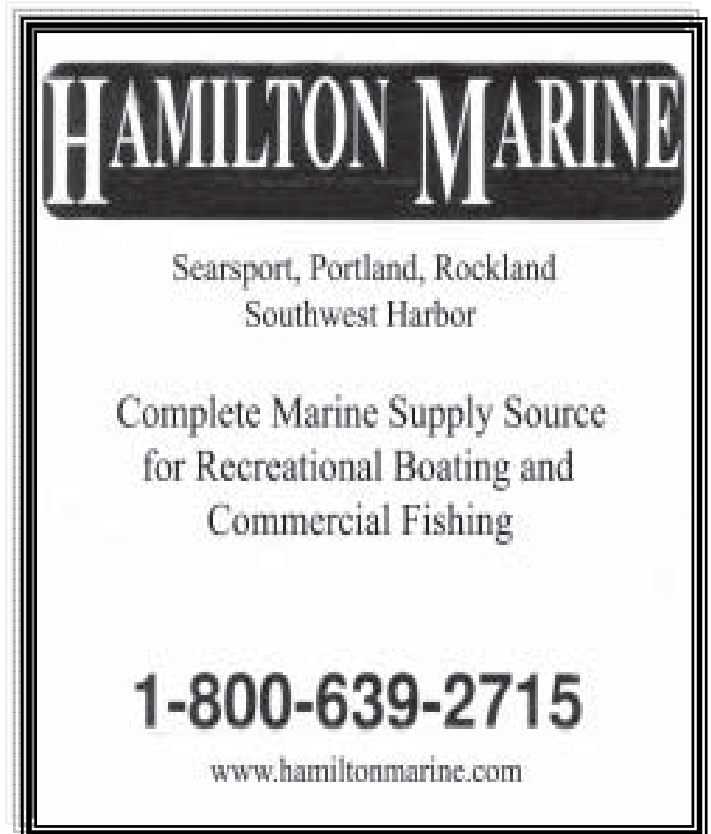
Holbrook Island Sanctuary is a real gem and not to be missed. We hope you and your Family come on September 13<sup>th</sup> and please bring your lunch to be grilled as well as something for all to enjoy. For more information contact Rob Crone 266-8346 or [rcrone@midmaine.com](mailto:rcrone@midmaine.com)

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**Executive Committee meets the second Wednesday of each month – ALL are welcome!! Contact Cdr John Mastbeth JN for the time and place. 359-8015 [jmastbeth@midmaine.com](mailto:jmastbeth@midmaine.com)**

**Check our website for updates: [www.pbsps.org](http://www.pbsps.org)**

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## Education Events

This has been a very successful spring semester for the Penobscot Bay Sail & Power Squadron's educational program.

Larry Sherwood's **Piloting** course, in Ellsworth, had five students and finished up in April.

The Bangor **Engine Maintenance** course concluded with the exam on Thursday, April 23. Instructor Vim Frederick has done an outstanding job of acquainting his 10 students with the complexities of caring for the engines, drive trains, and controls on which we depend to get from "A" to "B".

The **Squadron Boating Course** has been an outstanding success this spring. Dave Field's Bangor section, with 15 students, Rob Crone's Searsport group with 17 students, Kathy and John Mastbeth's Ellsworth course with 31 students! (They split it into two classes.), and Dave Field's Hampden course with 22 students have given us the largest total enrollment in years. Many thanks go to the instructors and to Kathy Mastbeth for class planning and setup, Tom Baughman for publicity, and Rich Crowe for organizing our participation in the Bangor Boat Show, which proved to be very successful in recruiting for the Boating Course. Final exams in these courses extended from May 6 to June 9. If only a fraction of the 85 students enrolled join the Squadron, it will be a great boost to our membership.

### **Safe Boating Week a Success with Two USPS University Seminars**

Two new USPS University Seminars were offered during National Safe Boating Week. (May 17 – 23) **Sail Trim and Rig Tuning** was presented by Jeff Sawyer on Monday May 19, at Ellsworth High School had 17 participants and **Boat Handling Under Power**, led by Larry Sherwood on Wednesday May 21 had 15 students. Both seminars were very well received. Many thanks go to Jeff and Larry for a job well done.

**Fall Course Plans.** We will offer the Squadron Boating Course in the fall, as usual. Beyond this, we hope that many of the students who have completed the Squadron Boating Course this spring will choose to join the Squadron and continue with their boating education. So, we expect to offer two **Seamanship** course sections next fall. Tentative plans also include **Advanced Piloting** and **Junior Navigation** and elective courses **Weather** and **Sail**, as well as one or more seminars. Look for a definite course list with places, times, and

instructors in the August issue of *Now Hear This*, but I would be happy to hear from members at any time to learn of your interest in these or other courses. The more that I know about what you would like to learn, the better the Squadron will be able to serve your educational needs. **Also**, I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who would be able and willing to teach or to help teach any of the Squadron's advanced courses or seminars.

Respectfully submitted  
Lt/C David B. Field AP Squadron Education Officer  
meeser3@roadrunner.com, 862-3674



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\*\*\*\*

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The cost of each shirt is \$22.50 for sizes Small – X-large (\$3.00 more for men’s 2XL – 4XL and ladies’ 2XL). There is a small charge for shipping to your home. (Pick-up stations will be available if you want to save on shipping)

For more information or to place your order, please call or email John Mastbeth

Cdr John Mastbeth [JN](mailto:jmastbeth@midmaine.com)  
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### **New Lending Librarian**

Lori Sawyer is our new Squadron Librarian. Just a reminder: the lending library is open for business. There are three categories in the library: there are books for planning cruises; educational/instructional (boat building, etc.); and recreational (fiction and nonfiction). We also have some videos and charts. The list is on our web site [www.pbsps.org](http://www.pbsps.org). For more information or to arrange to borrow a book, call Lori Sawyer 989-2573.



## Reflections on the February USPS National Meeting in Dallas, Texas, and the Chapman Award Presentation

### COAST GUARD BOATING STATISTICS RELEASED

We are into another boating season and I would like to share the latest Boating Statistics 2006 with you.

These statistics were recently released by the USCG and indicated that boating deaths, injuries and property damage have increased for the second consecutive year.

Overall, two-thirds of all fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those who drowned, Ninety (90) percent of the victims were NOT wearing their life jacket. Eight out of every ten boaters who drowned were using boats less than 20 feet in length.

Operator inattention, carelessness/reckless operation, excessive speed, and no proper lookout are the primary contributing factors in all reported accidents.

Alcohol use is the leading contributing factor in fatal boating accidents: accounting for nearly twenty (20) percent of all reported fatalities.

There were 12,746,126 boats registered by the States and territories in 2006. This reflects a continued downward trend compared to the 12,942,414 boats registered in 2005. We have a declined number of boats being registered but yet an increase in accidents. We can do our best to help make a difference and help reduce boating incidents by making our best effort to get out there and talk to boaters and perform vessel safety checks as much as possible this year. If we can prevent one accident or save one life, it would make everyone's efforts worthwhile.

Arlan Martin, AP  
Vessel Safety Chairman

\*\*\*\*

As "First Timers" to a USPS National Meeting, John and I weren't quite sure what to expect since we knew very few people who would be in attendance. Those thoughts quickly left us when we arrived and became involved the activities being offered. Everyone was very warm and friendly and we felt most welcomed. We attended a First Timers Meeting which was really an orientation to the process and purpose of the event. The common thread emphasized repeatedly was that we all share mutual interests and goals: Safe Boating and the good of the Squadron.

We attended two brand new USPS University Seminars: **Paddlesmart** and **Trailing**. They were spectacular and we are looking forward to offering both to our members in the near future.

Of course, the highlight for us was the presentation of the Chapman Award at the Annual Meeting. I was thrilled, honored and humbled to be among the award winners for 2007. I sincerely thank USPS, the Chapman Award Selection Committee, and McGraw Hill Publishing Company. The sextant presented by USPS to our Squadron and the high-quality projector presented by McGraw Hill in honor of the award are both being put to very good use in our educational department.

My very special thank yous go to Jay Johnson for nominating me and for all his hard work in completing the application, to all the people from our squadron who wrote letters of recommendation for the award on my behalf, and to the District 19 selection committee for choosing me as the 2007 nominee.

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