

Penobscot Bay Sail and Power Squadron

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons



www.usps.org www.pbsps.org

Now Hear This!

September 2009

Commander's Corner



Boating season is here at last. It took a long time to arrive because of the bad weather in July, but I got our boat launched in August and we have enjoyed being on the water again. As I write this, the summer weather has turned very "fall like" which means we all need to make the most of the days

before the winter layup. The best way to do that is to attend our Fort Point rendezvous on 12 September. (See Page 2) I would love to have a big turnout to show support for our squadron and USPS. You don't need dressy clothes and you don't even need a boat. Bring a folding chair and something to put on the grill. We will supply the charcoal and "fixins". Just come and enjoy yourself, talk about boats or whatever interests you and experience the beautiful view of the water from Fort Point. If there is only one event you can attend this year, make this that one.

For those who have not heard, Kathy and I have been lured by the promise of year round boating and will be wintering in Florida starting this year. We will finish our terms as squadron officers by telephone and computer with the possibility of "in person" whenever we are able. Actually, we are planning to attend the national USPS meetings in February because we are only two and a half hours away from Orlando.

This leads me to my plea for members to step forward and volunteer to fill positions on the bridge for next year. You may not have much time to devote to our squadron but, there are jobs that don't require much time or attendance at bridge meetings. If you can help in this respect, call me now and we can talk it over.

Till next time, Safe Boating to all!

John

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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 location.

359-8015 jmastbeth@gmail.com

Check our website for updates: www.pbsps.org

PBSPS 2008-2009 Bridge

Commander: Cdr John Mastbeth JN

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"Boating is fun...We'll show you how!"

Important Dates to Remember:

Saturday, September 12, 2009 –

PBSPS Fort Point Rendezvous

Tuesday, September 15, 2009 – ABC 3 class begins at Ellsworth HS

Thursday, October 8, 2009 – ABC 3 class begins at Hampden's Reeds Brook Middle School

November 13-14 - D19 Fall Conference

Bintliff's, Edgecomb ME, hosted by Wawenock

Last Chance of the Season

Fort Point Rendezvous

September 11, 12, 13 will be our last Rendezvous of the year. It will be held 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 boats may arrive Friday afternoon and stay to Sunday morning. We will be on 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 12th. Bring whatever you want for the grill, something to drink and a little something for everyone. The rest will be provided.

If you are coming by boat and could take passengers or crew please let me know. Flotillas will be departing from a number of locations. Boats can rendezvous at Sedgwick, Bucks Harbor & Castine. We are looking for boats coming down from Bangor & Belfast. RSVP if you want to receive notice otherwise just show up.

Contact Howard Towle for information and arrangements

heartfelt_45@juno.com (207) 848-9811

Another Reason to Volunteer – Great discounts on Fall Travel Hotel rates:

Besides the satisfaction gained from helping out your squadron, volunteering 8 hours of your time to PBSPS can get you at least 50 % off your room rate at selected Sage Hospitality hotels. The program, “Give a Day – Get a Night”, is sponsored by numerous hotels across the country. Participating hotels include certain Marriot, Hilton, Sheraton, Holiday Inn and others.

Give 8 hours of community service and Get a complimentary night stay or 50% discount on hotel rooms at all 53 Sage hotels across the country.

Offer ends December 20, 2009

The Details:

Complete 8 hours of volunteer service to a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization to qualify to receive 50% off the published room rate -- or maybe a complimentary night (limited availability).

Check out further details, including booking information at the Sage Hospitality website:

<http://www.sagehospitality.com/specials/giveadaygetanight.htm>

Wanted: Publicity Chairperson

Our Squadron is in desperate need of a new publicity chairperson to get our message out to local media. If you have expertise in this area, please consider volunteering a few hours of your time to help out.

Contact Cdr. John Mastbeth

jmastbeth@gmail.com

(207) 359-8015

Education Events

September 2009

The economy continued to influence Penobscot Bay Sail & Power Squadron events during the spring and early summer, as course enrollments lagged far behind the same period in 2008. Despite this, we did make significant educational accomplishments.

Dave Field and John and Kathy Mastbeth graduated eight basic boating class students at Port harbor Marine. Dave and John delivered a one-day version of the new ABC 3 boating course to 12 employees of the Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife in Bangor, all of whom passed the exam. John and Kathy finished up the ABC 3 course in Ellsworth with eight completing the exam successfully.

Seven students completed Dave Field's Marine Electrical Systems course at Eastern Maine Community College and passed the exam. Larry Sherwood guided two students successfully through Piloting and later taught the Marine Radar seminar to a small (3) but enthusiastic class.

Given the weak interest during the spring and continued uncertainty about local and national economic conditions, we plan to offer only two **ABC 3 boating classes** this fall, at Hampden's Reeds Brook Middle School (tentatively Thursday evenings from 7-9 PM from 8 October – 19 November, including an optional two-week extension) and Ellsworth High School from 15 September – 27 October. I will teach at Hampden with John and Kathy covering the Ellsworth class.

As always, it would be a great help for members to keep me informed of courses and seminars that they would like to see offered. It takes time to find instructors, locate places to offer instruction, and order course materials.

Please check the Squadron web site (www.pbsps.org) regularly to see what courses are being offered and be sure to let me and/or the instructor know as soon as possible if you have decided to enroll in a course. It takes time to obtain the course books and a course might be cancelled if enrollment is too low, so we need to know as far in advance as possible who is likely to take a course.

Respectfully submitted

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

There's Still time to have a VSC!

Has your boat had its VSC for 2009?

Have your Vessel Inspected for Safety's Sake!

For your free, confidential Vessel Safety Check please contact any of our certified vessel examiners:

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rtrone@gmail.com

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John Mastbeth

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Larry Sherwood

843-7951

N1QJU@aol.com

In Memoriam

Barbara Cardin passed away on May 8th. She and her husband Bob joined our squadron in February of 1969, had been active over the years, and they both talked about it - enthusiastically - as well as their love of boats and ships of all shapes and sizes.

Past Commander Russell Z. Johnston Jr., AP passed away in Phoenix, Arizona on May 30, 2009. Russ was the Commander of the Penobscot Bay Sail and Power Squadron in 1984 – 1985. Including his time with the Phoenix Sail and Power Squadron, Russell earned 30 merit marks.

Sorry, Charlie, The Trailer Goes in First!!!



Don't let this happen to you...

Take the USPS Trailering Seminar the next time it is offered by our squadron!

Learn the correct way to trailer a boat.

Sextant For Sale

FOR SALE- Tamaya Jupiter Sextant, good condition, 1978, brass arc, 4 x 40 scope, certificate, box, directions and accessories, cost \$1500.00 new, asking \$575.00, own the most popular full sized sextant still made.

Call Jeff Barnes at 945-9326.

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