

# Channel Chatter

December, 2000 — January, 2001

Volume 2000, Issue 6

Official Publication of the Duluth Power Squadron  
A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons Sail and Power Boating  
Duluth, Minnesota—District 10



Where was this picture taken? See page 8 for answer.

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## Bridge Officers 2000-2001

**Cdr Gina L. Beste-Wuorinen, P**.....Commander  
H-879-1897 C-390-4634  
**Lt/C Tom Cawcutt Sr., S**.....Executive Officer  
H-879-2293 C-348-9422  
**Lt/C Steve Balliet, AP**.....Educational Officer  
C-218-391-7991  
**1/Lt Steve Farrell, AP**.....Ass't Ed. Officer  
H-729-8871  
**Lt/C Charles Grubb, P**.....Administrative Officer  
H-525-4344 C-349-7778  
**Lt/C Sue Farrell, AP**.....Secretary  
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**1/Lt Muffy Kalenowski, S**.....Ass't. Secretary  
H-726-0151  
**Lt/C Clifford Linder, S**.....Treasurer  
H-525-5927 C-590-5917  
**P/C Arne D. Wuorinen, JN**.....Ass't Treasurer  
H-879-1897 C-390-4634  
**P/C Robert H. Ouellette, AP**...Immediate Past Cdr  
H-727-6079 C-348-6656

### Executive Committee:

**1/Lt John Kalenowski, P**.....H-726-0151  
**1/Lt Larry Evanson, S**.....H-728-3034  
**1/Lt James Robinson, Jr., N**.....H-525-3158  
**1/Lt Tracy Nelson, S**.....H-394-5554  
**1/Lt Robert Hecht, Sr., P**.....H-879-9106

### Publication Staff:

**Jan Nelson, S**.....Editor  
Email: Jan@cw-duluth.com  
**David C. Carlson, N**.....Photographer

## Schedule of Upcoming Events

December 4	Executive Board Meeting—Champs
December 15	Christmas Party at Edgewater
January 8	Executive Board Meeting—Champs
January 8	Newsletter Deadline
January 17-21	USPS National Meeting—Orlando
January 26-27	D/10 Winter Council—Stevens Point
January 15	General Meeting
February 1	Executive Board Meeting—Champs
February 12	Annual Meeting—Pickwick





# MARINE GENERAL SPORTS

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## Christmas Party

Date Change!!!!

The Duluth Power Squadron's annual Christmas Party will be held on **Friday, December 15th** at the Edgewater Hotel.



A flyer will be sent very soon with the details. **Dinner will be great and just wait until you see what we're getting for dessert!!! Cheesecakes, tortes, chocolate dipped berries, mini tarts, amaretto mouse cups!!!** Please be aware the published date in the roster is incorrect. Mark your calendars.

## More Date Changes

Attention all members. Please notice the following date changes for the next three months on the Executive Board and General meetings. This is to accomodate for a large portion of the Bridge taking the Weather Course.

December 4, 2000 - Executive Board Meeting - Champs  
January 8, 2001 - Executive Board Meeting - Champs  
February 1, 2001 - Executive Board Meeting - Champs

January 15th - General Meeting  
February 12th - Annual Meeting - Pickwick



## Commander's Report

The other day, I was asked by a new member – "what does the rank in front of our names stand for and what does the letter following mean?" In the early days of summer we host a new members cruise but for those who join after or are unable to attend, we rely heavily on our membership to fill in some of the gaps.

Ranks before our names - a commander is Cdr. The position all commanders enjoy getting is P/C for past commander. If you are at the District level (representing squadrons in Minnesota, Wisconsin and part of Michigan) you could have been a P/D/C - past district commander such as Harvey Hengel.

The Executive Officer - some may refer them to the XO or L/C - Lieutenant Commander all depending on conversation. The administrative officer - AO is also a Lieutenant Commander, Squadron Educational Officer is an SEO, Treasurer and Secretary are also Lieutenant Commanders. Assistant or other Board Members are Lt/C and chairs of committees are 1/Lt - first Lieutenants. Now when you see a D in front of the initial - members are serving at a District level and when volunteering at a National Level R may designate the position.

Grades behind our name - once you have completed the General Boating Course; classes such as Seamanship (S), Piloting (P), Advanced Piloting (AP), Junior Navigation (JN) and Navigation (N) are available to members. Successful completion of these courses allows the grade position after your name. When a member has N behind their name, it is because members have successfully taken all these classes and the elective classes the national program set for all squadrons to offer. It is the highest rank a member can obtain.

I tried to find an easy way to describe this in our Operations Training Manual (another class available to members) but didn't come up with something short and sweet - hopefully this helps.

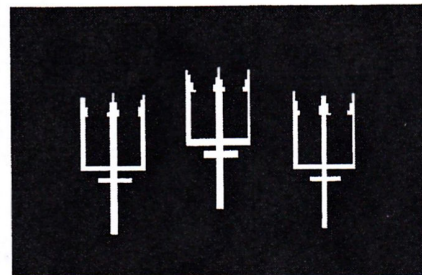
The District 10 Fall Conference was well attended by Duluth members and their spouses. Information gained at these events is valuable to the officers and begins networking for officers to contact one another at other squadron levels.

Hopefully everyone's boats have been pulled and winterized - we have been fortunate to have had a beautiful fall. Even though the deer hunters didn't get the fresh snow the night before hunting began - I did see signs of a good hunt when going past the Adolph Store last night.

The Christmas Party Committee has been meeting and plans will be announced at the November General Meeting. If you would like to help out - contact Val Ouellette, Tracy Nelson, Greg Brisky or Len Robinson. With that team - I'm sure it will be a fun event.

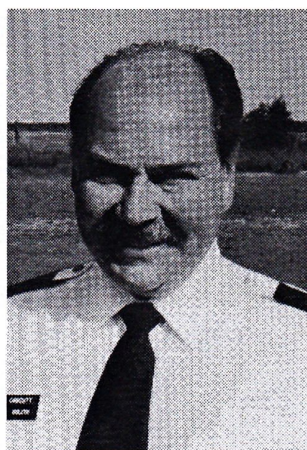
As this is the December/January issue, I would like to take the time to wish all of you a peaceful holiday season with your family and those near and dear to you. Having the freedom to observe our holidays, meet with family in an environment free from danger and be able to plan cruises and vacations for the future is one of the enjoyments we have about being an American. Possibly Brian being gone this year - defending our country for these rights, makes it come home to me more personally - but I do want to thank all of you for your help, support and friendship. My prayers are also there to families who have dear ones ill - please know you are in my thoughts. It has been a good year because of all of you. God Bless and Merry Christmas.

—Cdr Gina L. Beste-Wuorinen, P





## Executive Officer's Report



This Fall has hurried by so fast, it seems like Spring is already right around the corner. Sounds GREAT doesn't it? Oh well. My dad used to tell me - "Don't wish your life away. Time goes by fast enough as it is". I'm realizing more and more the older I get, how right my dad was.

This past October I attended the D/10 Conference held in Wausau Wisconsin. We had break out meetings for individual officers attending as well as a whole membership meeting for all to attend as a group. Lots of information was exchanged and I felt it was fairly well attended. Both Wisconsin and Minnesota boating accident frequency rates have dropped and thanks was given to USPS for their part in helping that happen.

The highlight, I felt, of the weekend was the Survivor's Competition that was held. There were, I believe, a total of eight teams. Each team consisted of four members. The teams competed in four areas: A two-man swimming relay, one-man putting on a PFD in the water, shooting hoops with a basketball while seated in a chair, a nautical trivia game and a brain-teaser. Well, let me be the one to tell ya!!!!!! You guessed it-----Len Robinson, Cliff Linder, Doug Kerr (the National USPS Representative), and myself made up the team called the "National Wind Blowers". We blew away the competition and took FIRST PLACE!!!!!!! Want some details? OK!!! Cliff and I did the relay in the pool. When Cliff and I finished, the judges were sorry they hadn't put up a "NO WAKE ZONE" sign. Ya, it was white water and rooster tails. Atta' boy Cliff!!! Cliff also showed everyone just how fast a

PFD can be put on - in the water!!! All four of us shot hoops. We didn't prove to be "Michael Jordan clones", but Len held his own with some-"Swish, nothing but net"!!! We all contributed to the answers for the nautical trivia quiz. We answered all of our questions right and even got some that our competitor's missed. The clincher was when Doug answered with ease the brainteaser question. Without even an ounce of hesitation, he correctly answered the question to the math puzzler. Here, you give it a whirl. If you figure it out, tell me the next time we're together. I'll also put the answer in the NEXT issue of Channel Chatter. Here's the problem: You have exactly \$100.00 to spend and you MUST spend it ALL. Kittens are .50 cents each, Puppies are \$3.00 each, and Sheep are \$10.00 each. You must buy exactly 100 animals and have some of each when you are done buying. How many of each do you have to buy to end up spending ALL your money and have exactly 100 animals? It's a thinker!!!!!! Have fun.

Plans for 2001 Change of Watch are progressing. In case you don't know the date, it is March 3rd, 2001, at the Holiday Inn Center in Duluth. Should I be elected as Commander, I'll be sending out more information to you as the date gets closer.

I hope all is well and I wish for everyone a wonderful Holiday Season and a Merry Christmas. Have a great "winter lay-up"!!!!

—Lt/C Tom Cawcutt, Sr. S  
Executive Officer



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## Administrative Officer's Report



Last weekend I had the pleasure of attending my first District Conference. What an experience. Not only did I have the opportunity to meet many interesting people but it gave me a chance to participate first hand in the workings of the USPS

on a district level. Membership was the hot topic at the Administrative Workshop. A number of ideas on how to get new and retain members were discussed and we will be implementing some of them.

Your Christmas party committee is presently in the throgs of planning this year's event. There will be a flyer out soon telling you about it. Keep an eye on your mailbox.

For those of us who stay in the northland for the winter, our boats are tucked away just waiting for ice out, (176 days). There is a way to make the winter go a little faster. Take a Power Squadron educational class. Your Education Dept. is hard at work putting together some very interesting classes for this winter. Check out Lt./C Steve Balliet's Educational Officer's report.

As the gales of November begin to blow, many of us reflect back to 1975, when Capt. Ernest McSorley and his crew of 29 aboard the Edmund Fitzgerald were lost to the depths of Lake Superior. No matter what we sail, mother nature has the upper hand. This is just another reason why we need to know and understand weather, our boats and what they and you can handle. That evening of November 10, 1975, Mary and I were getting ready for bed and listening to Little Joe on KDAL when he announced the Fitz was in trou-

ble. We stayed awake the rest of the night listening to the fate of that great ship and it's heroic crew. What were you doing?

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year. Stay close to the fire.

—Lt/C Charles Grubb, P




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## Underway with Education

by SEO Steve Balliette

Boating is an activity that challenges us in ways driving a car never will. It is that difference that makes boating attractive to us for the beauty, the calm, the excitement, the friendships, the challenges and the experience in a remarkably different environment so close to home. It is an environment that gives us the beauty of a sunrise over an island in the Apostles seen from a protected anchorage as well as the fear and uncertainty of the trip home through high winds and waves.

We need a high level of skill, knowledge and good sense to enjoy our boating with a minimum of threatening or damaging incidents. The Power Squadron courses were of very great benefit in helping my wife and I make a successful cruise of over 3500 miles this past summer. Cruising through lakes, rivers, canals and a small bit of ocean water we frequently called upon our piloting skill learned in Piloting and Advanced Piloting. We watched the sky, listened to NOAA weather radio and made decisions about when to proceed with knowledge gained from the weather course. We maintained our boat so that Silver Seas could be a safe home for us for four months. Cruise Planning helped us deal with the preparation for a long time away from home on Silver Seas.

Now a new season of classes is being offered by the Duluth Power Squadron to the public boating community and to the members of the Duluth Power Squadron. On November 30, a Thursday, our Weather class starts, taught by Dave Anderson, meteorologist from Channel 6 and by forecasters from the Duluth NOAA weather bureau. This class is presented for the first time in cooperation with the Duluth Coast Guard Auxilliary of which Dave is a member. Seating is limited to 30 in the Duluth Central High classroom so please contact me right away if you are interested in this excellent class.

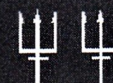
On January 3, the first of two Public Boating

classes will be offered. Talk to your boating friends who have not had Public Boating yet and see if you can interest them in this course. We would be pleased to have friends of members sign up. This will run for 7 weeks, testing on the February 14, 2001. Our second Public Boating will begin February 28 then run from March 1 to April 5. All classes run from about 6pm to 9pm. I need your help with these classes. The Public Boating classes are the most important educational activity that the Power Squadron does during the year, reaching about 80 of our neighbors with information that can save their lives and will certainly make their boating experiences more pleasurable. I need people to teach subjects to the class, (One hour, one night plus prep time). I need members in the class to visit with and encourage the new students. I need people to grade homework and assist on final exam night. I need members to bring in teaching aids like compasses, GPS, life jackets, anchors, charts, boat pictures.... The list is endless. I need members to advertise and otherwise recruit students for the class. Please call me and we can talk over how you can contribute. Remember, this activity saves lives.

Later I will be scheduling a Seamanship and Piloting course for those members who missed it last year. I need members to help with the organizing and teaching. Please do not underestimate your ability to teach. With a little preparation you can guide a class through one hour on a subject. We need you.

And let me know what courses you are all interested in taking. Anyone game for JN maybe? Call me at 391-7991 and we will work to put together the course you want.

—Lt/C Steve Balliette, AP



## Courses Available Through the U.S. Power Squadrons

Public Boating  
Seamanship  
Piloting  
Advanced Piloting  
Junior Navigation  
Navigation

Weather  
Cruise Planning  
Engine Maintenance  
Marine Electronics  
Sail  
Leadership Development  
Instructor Qualification



## Commander's Report on D/10 Fall Conference

This past weekend, I attended the District 10 Fall Conference. Several times I caught myself reflecting back on the progress Duluth has made since JANUARY and I can only think of how it was because so many pitched in and gave it their all. One award I was able to bring back was a 50-year membership plaque for Edmund Hargest. Ed lives out at Chub Lake with his wife Wilhelmina but currently is in Texas taking on the position of "Snow Bird". When we find out his arrival next spring - we'll arrange to ask Ed and Wilhelmina to join us at a general meeting to celebrate his accomplishment.

Changes we may see in the future? One is not for a year or two down the road but individuals joining the United States Power Squadron will be billed their membership on an annual basis from the time they join. Membership dues for members in current rosters will continue to be billed during the month of May. There are bugs in the system to iron out but our Treasurer Cliff Linder seems to think it will work out okay. As another Commander next to me stated - we are in favor of less paper work.

Another issue discussed was boating education trends. D/ Lt/C Bob Stierna, gave slides which displayed the changes in boating, a 56% increase in boat ownership over the last 20 years, ownership type, and deaths in types of boats used at the time of the accident. Bobs' slides indicate, as well as Kim Elverum from the Minnesota DNR, canoe and kayak deaths are increasing. Lt/C Steve Balliet asked me during our journey back - how we target that division of boaters. I do believe in our recruiting practices to get people to sign up for classes we don't segregate the type of audience we are targeting but the message is clear - we still have a way to get the message out. Anyone with suggestions, please contact Steve or me.

Kim Elverum, of the Minnesota DNR, stated in 2000, Minnesota has lost 19 individuals due to boating accidents. Our trend continues to go down over the last five years but out of the 19 deaths - only one was wearing a personal flotation device. Nine drownings were due to a capsized, 4

fell overboard, 2 died of carbon monoxide poisoning from a generator, 1 sailboard, 1 struck by lighting and two separate incidents happened when a ski pilon mounted within the boats towing skiers let loose striking the individual in the head. Types of boats involved - 7 fishing boats, 7 canoes, 2 runabouts, 2 cruisers and 1 ski board. PWC accidents dropped off 16.4%. To learn more about statistics the DNR has gained access to log on to [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us) - click on the portion especially for boating. Wisconsin's web site is: [www.dnr.state.wi.us](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us) - click on bureau of law enforcement - sub category hunting/fishing I believe. Wisconsin's deaths are also down but have noted 24 deaths in the state boundaries. One accident involved the stern of an older boat giving way causing 4 deaths and a young girl downing when going down a river on a rental inner tube. Both officials discussed the lack of PFDs in most incidents. Mandatory boating education was also discussed - both officials feel it is a few years down the road before Minnesota (3-5 years) and Wisconsin require it.

The Vessel Safety Check program was discussed - some bugs still need to be cleared up but for the most part it seems to be a successful program throughout the nation. Jim Munger is doing a good job reporting for Duluth. We still have one member, Dorothy Holmes, doing the VSCs due to her winter getaway. Way to go - Dorothy.

The District is trying to develop a Best Practices Web Site for all squadrons within District 10 to be able to log into for guidance. Suggestions from Commanders were given and the program should be introduced at the Spring Conference held in Milwaukee.

One last note - a new activity began at this conference -- Survivor Challenges. Duluth should feel proud that Len Robinson, Cliff Linder and Tom Cawcutt along with national officer Dour Kerr took first place. Their heroic efforts brought back \$50.00 to put in our treasury.

Thanks guys.



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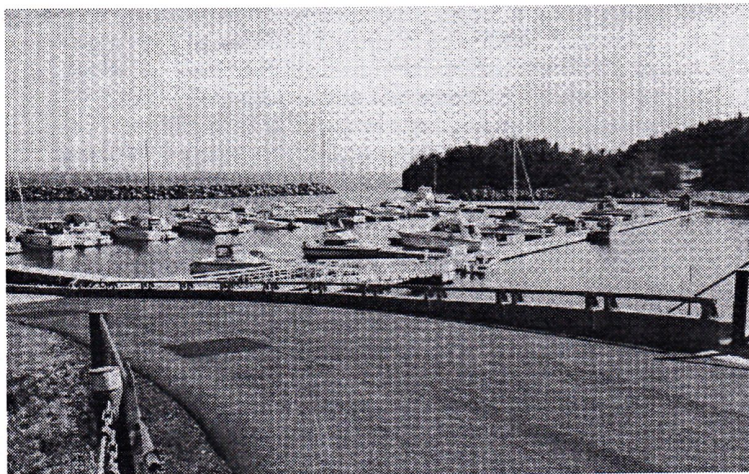
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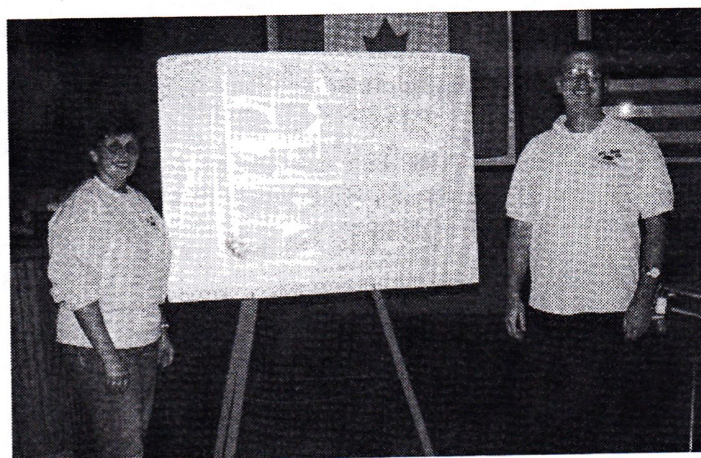
Photos Photos Photos Photos Photos Photos



Howard and Edith Boynton dressed appropriately for the Mexican theme of this years Corn Roast!



Our newest members, at the October general meeting at Champs, (left to right) Lee Davern, Ron Rilling, Laura & Jeff Stuermer, Dave Van House, & Jim Swanson.



Joanne and Steve Balliet's terrific presentation of summer trip.

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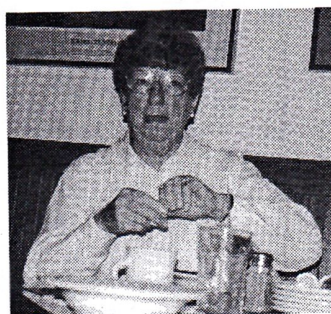
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Dorothy Harrison at Champs meeting.



Karen & Les Watters, modeling new Superior Adventure polo shirts.



## Seamanship Quiz

*Test your knowledge!*

- In an overtaking situation, you alter course to pass on the vessel's starboard side. Your signal should be:
  - Two prolonged blasts and one short blast.
  - Two prolonged and two short blasts
  - One short blast
  - Two short blasts
- You are under way and see a vessel displaying a square flag over a ball. What does this indicate?
  - A vessel aground
  - Vessel engaged in survey work
  - Minesweeper under way
  - Vessel in distress
- The prescribed lights for a sailboat at night under power are:
  - Masthead, stern and side lights
  - Side and stern lights
  - Masthead and stern lights
  - Masthead and side lights
- Which way do the winds move in a low pressure area in the northern hemisphere?
  - Clockwise
  - Counter-clockwise
  - To the north
  - To the south
- The length of a line that is required to be attached to a ring life buoy on an inspected vessel must be at least:
  - 30 feet
  - 60 feet
  - 90 feet
  - 120 feet
- If one of your passengers got a splinter in his eye while at sea, you should:
  - Remove gently with tweezers
  - Advise wearing safety goggles
  - Put a patch over the eye with the splinter
  - Put a bandage over both eyes

--Courtesy Sea School

Answers: 1.C, 2.D, 3.A, 4.B, 5.B, 6.D

### Help!

*We need help finding a location for our Fitting Out Party in April. Ideally, we would like a location where we can*

*—Make our own food.*

*—Can hold 100-150 people*

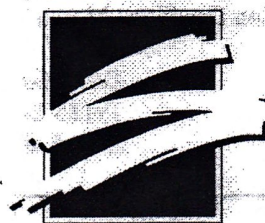
*—Plus extra room for displaying auction items*

*—Liquor is allowed (either served or we can bring in)*

*We're not able to have this at the prison this year, so are looking for a different location. If you have any ideas, please call:*

**Larry Evanson 728-3034**

## STEWART-TAYLOR PRINTING



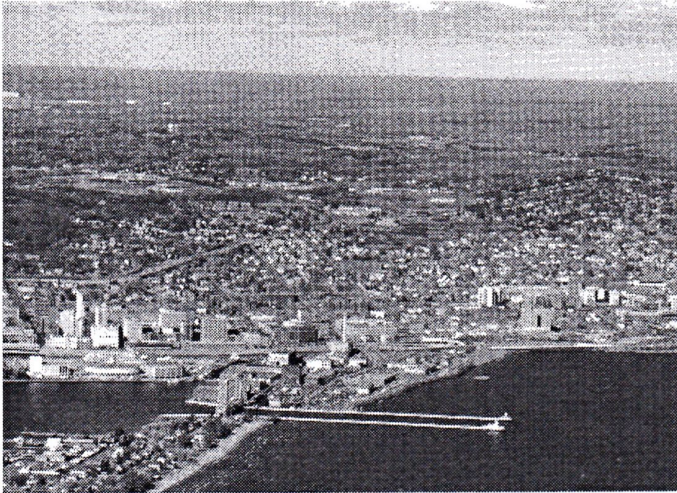
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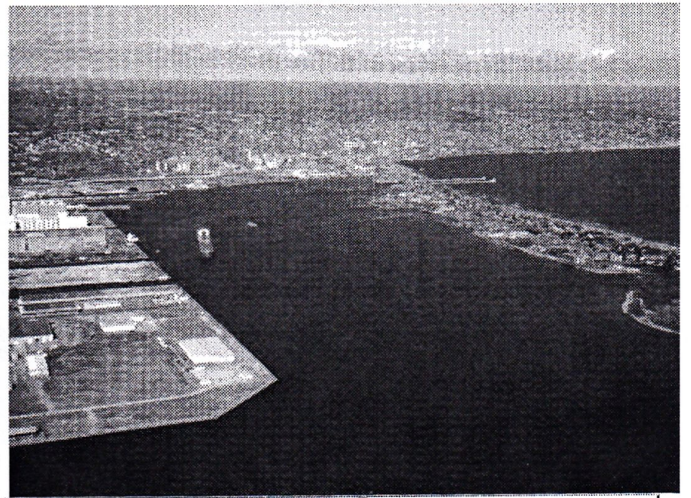
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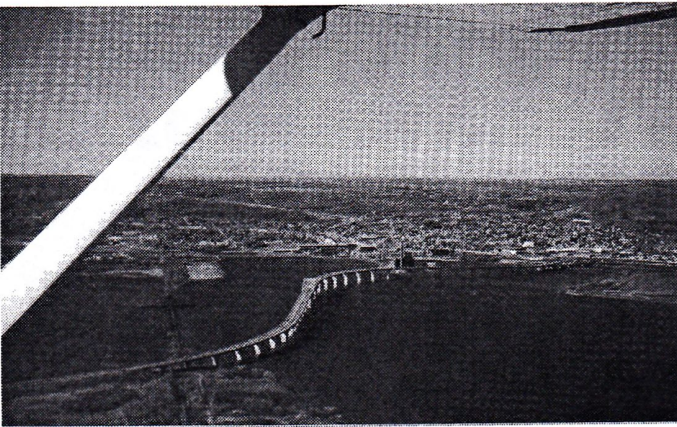
## Aerial Views of our Boating Playground



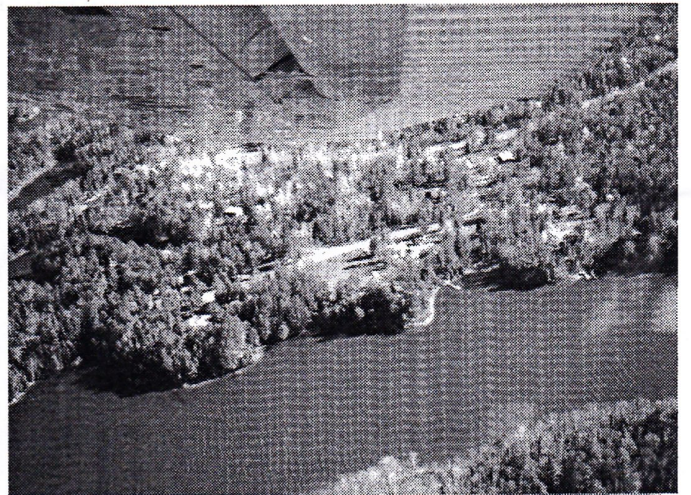
Duluth Entry



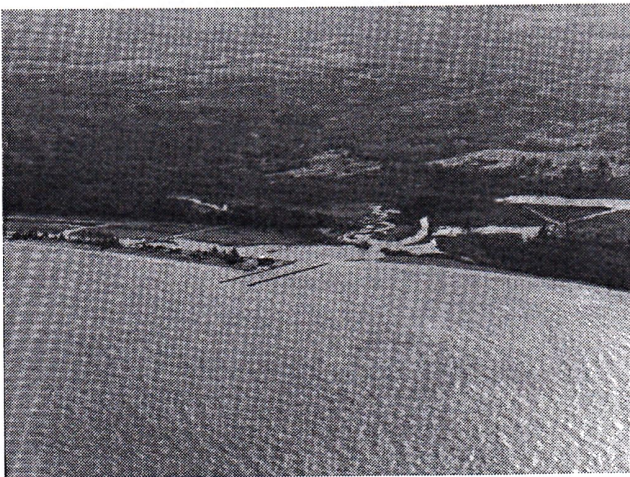
Superior Bay.



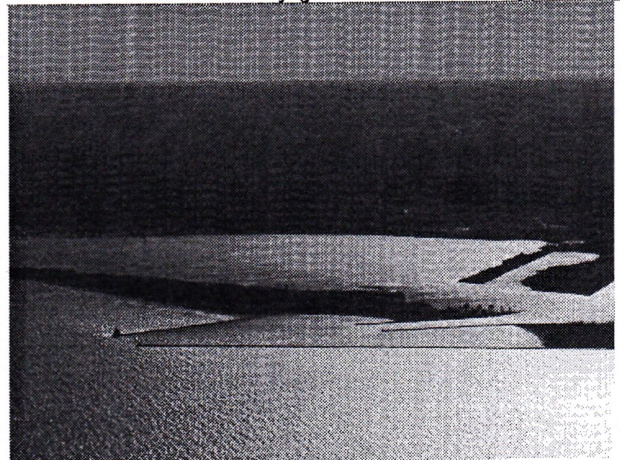
Grassy Point and Bong Bridges on St. Louis Bay



Kimball's Bay (just off St. Louis Bay)



Port Wing Marina



Superior Entry and Power Squadron Dock



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District 10 2001 Summer Rendezvous  
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Web Site: [www.seagullbay.com](http://www.seagullbay.com)

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more Information.

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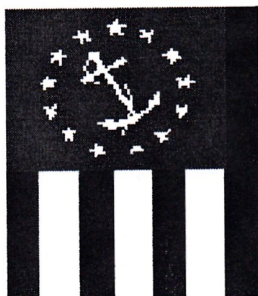


# Channel Chatter

Duluth Power Squadron  
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Date change!  
Christmas Party  
on December 15th.  
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