

Channel Chatter

December, 2001 — January, 2002

Volume 2001, 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



Sunset at Beaver Island Light, in northern Lake Michigan.

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Bridge Officers 2000-2001

Cdr. Tom Cawcutt Sr., S.....Commander
H-879-2293 C-348-9422
Lt/C Charles Grubb, P.....Executive Officer
H-525-4344 C-349-7778
Lt/C Sue Farrell, AP.....Administrative Officer
H-729-8871
Lt/C Steve Farrell, AP.....Educational Officer
H-729-8871
P/Lt/C Steve Balliet, AP.....Asst. Educational Officer
C-218-391-7991
Lt/C Muffy Kalenowski, S.....Secretary
H-726-0151
1/Lt Valerie Ouellette, AP.....Asst. Secretary
H-727-6079
Lt/C Clifford Linder, S.....Treasurer
H-525-5927 C-590-5917
1/Lt Jeffrey Stuermer.....Asst. Treasurer
H-727-3954
P/C Gina L. Beste-Wuorinen, P.....Immediate
Past Commander
H-879-1897 C-390-4634

Executive Committee:

1/Lt Jim Swanson, S.....H-320-532-4311
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
Jan Nelson, S.....Editor

Publication Staff

W-728-7118 Email: Jan@cw-duluth.com
Chris Beste.....Newsletter Proof Reader
P/C David C. Carlson, N.....Photographer

Schedule of Upcoming Events

2001

December 6 Executive Board Meeting at Champs
December 14 Christmas Party at Best Western
Edgewater
Dec 31- Jan 6 USPS National Meeting in
Orlando, Florida

2002

January 3 Executive Board Meeting at Champs
January 17 General Meeting
January 25-27 D/10 Winter Council
February 7 Executive Board Meeting at Champs
February 13-17 Duluth Boat Show
February 21 Annual Meeting at Pickwick



Honors at District 10 Meeting

Commander Tom Cawcutt accepted honors for the Duluth Power Squadron at the District 10 meeting at Oshkosh, Wisconsin on Saturday, October 20th.

The first was a "Membership Growth Award" given to those squadrons that achieved new membership growth of at least 3%—and we had 5.8%!!

The second award was in appreciation for Tom singing/playing "God Bless America" at the opening of Saturday's meeting.

Commander's Report



Greetings!!

I hope this finds all of you well and in good spirits. As you read this, think about when it was written. It's Halloween day, 45 degrees outside, and the morning fog has finally cleared off. Looks like it's going to be a nice

day. Maybe that will take the winter chill out of the air that's now upon the Northland.

I attended the Fall Conference in October in Oshkosh. Duluth had a very impressive number of representatives present. There were eight of us that attended. That's the most I've seen attend a Conference. Thanks for the interest and the efforts by those that attended. Duluth received a "Membership Growth Award" for having a 5.8% member retention rate. There were only 6 out of 13 Squadrons in our District that received anything. Some were higher, some were lower. To the Duluth Power Squadron, I say **"ThankYou"**!

Things are pretty much winding down now as far as Squadron activities. Educational classes are well underway as well as more classes are on the horizon. Please be thinking about taking a turn in the Boat Show booth this year. It's a good way to meet people and talk about all the things the Squadron does.

Change of Watch will be here before you know it. Next year's bridge appears to be filling out nicely as the offices are filled. If

you're interested in becoming more involved in the Squadron, let someone on the bridge know. Or come to a board meeting sometime. They're held the first Thursday of every month at 19:00 hrs. Call for place or details.

There's probably a lot more I could ramble on about, but I'll spare you the details. Hope you all have a wonderful winter. Think sun, summer and sand. It's right around the corner.

—Cdr Tom Cawcutt Sr., S

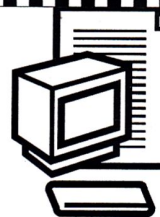


Would you enjoy keeping our Roster up to date?

If so, we need you!!

It's important to have a good working knowledge of computers, use of Microsoft Word, internet and email. If interested, please contact Sue Farrell at 729-8871 or by email.

Farrellsss@aol.com.



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1501 London Road Duluth, MN 55812

Executive Officers's Report



A fall greeting from your Executive Office. Things have been very quiet around here for the past three months with nothing to report. After September 11th, my desire to boat as well as many other things

has faded. Let us all pray for this war to be over and the world to be free from terror. By now most of us have our beloved boats all ready for winter and now we can just sit back and wait for spring (181 days).

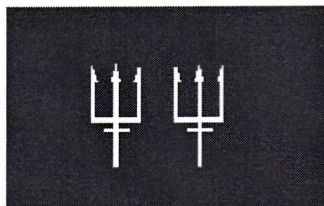
Our Squadron has located and verified a large number of geodetic survey markers, which we will submit. There are still some members who have had markers assigned to them and not turned in reports. Now is the ideal time to look for these markers with the vegetation lying down. For the good of your Squadron, please complete your assignments.

Our adopt-a-chart program is not complete yet but will be soon. This, of course, will give us more points enabling our Squadron and Commander Tom to obtain STAR SQUADRON status.

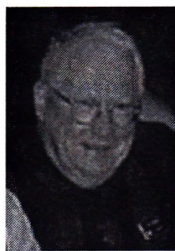
Mary & I hope to see all of you at our upcoming Christmas Party. Sue's Christmas party committee has been working hard to make this one even better than last year. Mark your calendar for December 14th.

Stay warm.

Lt/C Charles Grubb, P



Safety Officers's Report



Let the snow fly! The boating season is over but memories of the fun times on the water will help warm the cold and dark winter days ahead. What better time to brush up on education, than to take a Squadron course or review. One never learns it all. I always learn something when I'm underway--even if it is "DON'T YOU EVER DO THAT AGAIN!"

Am I talking about education or safety? Both. Over the years boating accident statistics show that human error is one of the chief causes of injury or fatality. Often alcohol related and not wearing life jackets, the tragedy could have been prevented by simple pre underway education and safety planning. So often the bare statistics show that the Skipper had never taken a boating course. And don't forget the crew. Now is the time to have your crew take advanced courses too.

Think safety and simultaneously, education.

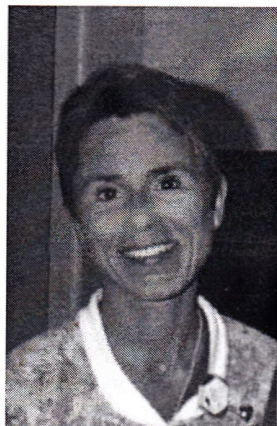
by Lt. James E. Munger, N
Safety Officer & Vessel Safety Check Chair



Lake Effect! Can you see the flags in the above picture? The flag on the right shows the wind blowing from the east. The flags on the left (just above the pine trees) show the wind blowing from the west. A perfect example of how that big lake can affect our weather. This photo was taken from Minnesota Point, by the lift bridge looking toward the Army Corp of Engineers building.

Photo taken by 1/LT Val Ouellette, AP on April 29, 2001.

Administrative Officer's Report



ties.

The Duluth Power Squadron Christmas Party is being held Friday evening, December 14th at the Best western Edgewater. A wonderful meal and great entertainment have been planned. Look for more information in this issue of the Channel Chatter. A flier will also be sent out shortly. Pre-registration is strongly suggested so don't delay sending it in.

Last weekend a number of Duluth Squadron traveled to Oshkosh, WI for the D10 Fall Conference. I attended an Administrative Department workshop in which the focus dwelt on membership retention and membership involvement. It goes without saying that our squadron thrives because of the involvement of our members. To everyone who has helped with a class or activity this year, Thank You. Now, the year isn't over yet. Watch for our mailings. Go to a squadron meeting. Take a class. Come to our parties. And, if you haven't done so yet, consider renewing your membership.

I'm also pleased to inform you that Duluth took first place in the 3rd Biannual "Survivor Contest" at the D10 Fall Conference. Six contestants from Duluth matched survivor

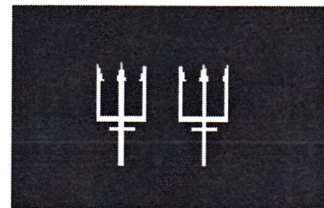
skills and wit to beat all other squadrons in our district!

The D10 Rendezvous will be held July 26-28th, 2002 in Manitowoc, WI. Watch for more information as is becomes available. It sound like it's going to be a great event.

And lastly, plan to join us for our annual Fitting Our Party, April 27th, 2002. It will be held at the VFW in West Duluth. It's never too early to start thinking about businesses you might want to contact for donations.

See you at the Christmas Party,

Lt/C Sue Farrell, AP



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Duluth Power Squadron Class Schedules

Would you like to sign up? Terrific!!! Even though some of the classes have started, many still have room for a few more people. All classes held at Central School. For more information, contact: Lt/C Steve Farrell, AP, Educational Officer, at 729-8871.

Piloting

Every Wednesday night at 6:30 PM, starting on November 14th and continuing for 8 weeks.

Marine Electronics

Every Tuesday night at 6:30 PM, starting on November 13th and continuing for 8 weeks.

Advanced Piloting

Every Wednesday night at 6:30 PM, starting immediately after Piloting... for 9 weeks.

Weather

Every Thursday night at 6:30 PM, starting on February 7th and continuing for 12 weeks.

Safe Boating Class #1

Every Wednesday night at 6 PM, starting on January 9th and continuing for 8 weeks.

Safe Boating Class #2

Tentatively scheduled to begin March 7th.

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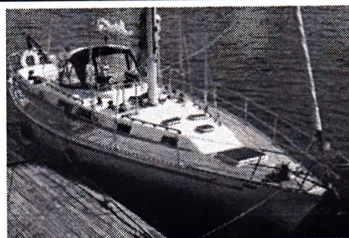
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43' Cheoy Lee - 1989, Pedrick, 3 stateroom, 44 HP\$139,000

42' Regal - 1997, 340 HP Merc., Fabulous matched set of Ratheon electronics\$159,900

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38' Bayliner - 1986, T/175 diesels, one of the most popular 38' boats ever built\$90,000

37' Tiara - 1997, Open model, T/450 HP Cummins, full electronics, perfect condition\$320,000

33' Windy Express - 1995, Norwegian built to handle the North Sea, 45 MPH, great electronics, must see\$99,000

32' Regal - 1990, T/330 HP Merc Gen. AC & heat, new canvas, trailer available\$60,000

30' SeaRay - 1993, Sundancer, T/260 HP Merc with only 265 hrs., PERFECT condition\$56,900

30' SeaRay - 1985 Sundancer, T/260 HP, air conditioning and heat, low hours\$33,200

29' Cruisers - 1981 Villa Vee 288, Convertible, full current electronics, ready to fish\$35,000

27' SeaRay - 1995, single 454 engine, low hrs\$33,900

27' SeaRay - 1988, T/205 HP, 10' beam, new radar, C-map, radio, & depth finder\$29,900

27' SeaRay - 1988, T/185 HP, 10" beam, white w/blue trim ..\$25,900

23' Regal - 1992, single engine, w/tandem axle trailer\$18,000



DULUTH POWER SQUADRON CHRISTMAS PARTY

BEST WESTERN EDGEWATER CONFERENCE CENTER
LAKE SUPERIOR ROOM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2001

Social Hour – 5:45 pm

Dinner – 7:00 pm

A SPECTACULAR MEAL CONSISTING OF:

Roast Baron of Beef, Apricot Chicken Breasts, New England Sausage and Cranberry Stuffing, Smashed Baby Red Potatoes, Broccoli Spears w/ Hollandaise, Glazed Baby Carrots, Caesar Salad, Fresh Fruit Salad, Grilled Portabella Mushrooms, and.....a Gourmet Dessert Bar

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\$20.00 Per Person

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----- DETACH -----

NOTE: RSVP WITH PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 10, 2001
WE MUST GUARANTEE AT LEAST 50 RESERVATIONS, SO MAIL YOURS TODAY TO:

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2167 SPRINGVALE RD
DULUTH, MN 55811
218-722-8172

NAME _____ # OF PEOPLE _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____



5th USPS® Youth Poster Contest 2001-2002

The Fifth USPS® Youth Poster Contest Theme is "Get On Board For Boating Safety". The contest starts fall 2001.

Who Can Enter? Children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews of USPS members are eligible. Participants must be from 6 to 14 years old. There will be three (3) age divisions: 6 - 8, 9 - 11, and 12 - 14.

Contest Rules

- The entry must be vertical, not horizontal, in orientation.
- The entry must be on 15-by-20 or 14-by-22-inch poster paper. Participants may sketch the design lightly with pencil, but the end result must be a color poster.
- There is no limit to the type of media used, except professional illustrations, photos or copyrighted material may not be used, and computer generated art may not be submitted.
- Do not fold the poster.
- The poster will be judged for the idea presented more than artistic ability.
- The contest entry form must be completed and pasted on back of the poster
- One entry per person, please.



All entries become the property of United States Power Squadrons, which reserves the right to display or otherwise use the submission and modify any poster for future reproduction.

Squadron Contests

Preliminary judging will begin at the squadron level. Give your poster to any of bridge officers who will be attending the March 7, 2002 Executive Board Meeting. Posters must be judged at the squadron level prior to judging at the district level (spring conference or summer rendezvous). Posters should be submitted to the individual designated by the squadron commander. Squadron winners will be announced after judging is concluded. First-, second- and third-place winners in each age category at the squadron level can be entered at the district level.

District Contests At the district level, posters should be submitted to the individual designated by the district commander. District winners will be announced after judging is concluded. First-place winners in each age category can be entered into judging at the national level.

The National Contest National level submissions may be made through 12 September 2002 at the fall Governing Board Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa. The entries will be numbered with age indicated. Attendees may view the posters at a prominent display area. The grand prizewinner and two runners-up in each division will be presented with a monetary award and announced at the member's luncheon. After judging at the national level is completed, non-winning entries will be returned to the respective districts. All participants at the national level will receive certificates of appreciation signed by the Chief Commander.

Deadline for Entries

Squadron level - March 7, 2002 at Executive Board Meeting.

District level - District spring conference or summer rendezvous.

National level - 12 September 2002 at the USPS fall Governing Board Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa.

Mark the entry Attn: P/R/C Priscilla B. Clarke, AP.

> Note: Find Poster Contest Entry Form on page 9.

Want Ads from Members

Note: This is a free service for all members. Contact your newsletter editor if you'd like to place a want ad.

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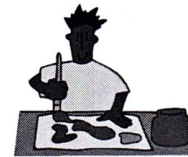
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Fifth USPS® Youth Poster Contest Entry Form - 2001-2002

Theme: Get On Board For Boating Safety

Instructions: Complete this form and paste on back of poster. Submit entry to any Duluth Bridge Officer before March 7, 2002 Executive Board Meeting. All entries become the property of USPS, which reserves the right to display or otherwise use submission.

Deadline for squadron-level entries: Prior to District deadline (Spring Conference or Summer Rendezvous).

Artist Name: _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone: A/C _____ No. _____

Squadron _____ District: _____

Squadron Member's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone: A/C _____ No. _____

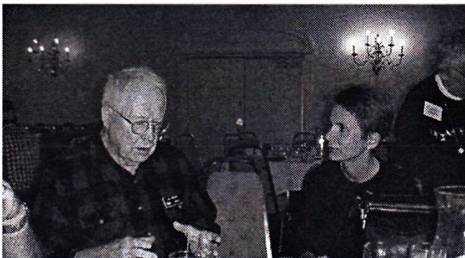
District 10 Meeting at Oshkosh, Wisconsin.



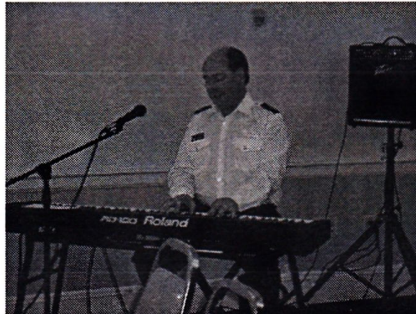
Those attending the October District 10 Convention from the Duluth Power Squadron are (front row) Steve Farrell, Jim Munger, Sue Farrell, Val Ouellette, Bill Heiland, and.... (back row) Tom Cawcutt, Jan & Tracy Nelson, and Bob Ouellette.



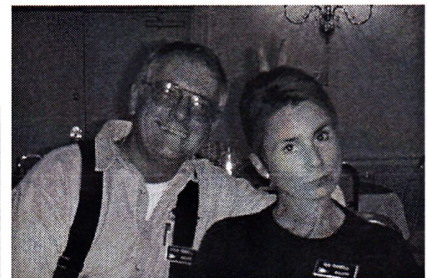
And representing Duluth Power Squadron leadership.....is Commander Thomas Cawcutt, Sr, S.



Jim Munger and Sue Farrell at Friday night fish fry.



Above: Tom Cawcutt playing & singing "God Bless America" at Saturday's meeting.



Steve and Sue Farrell having fun.

Below: Val Ouellette making a point.



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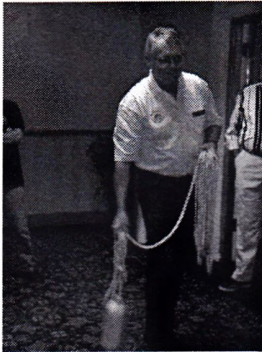
DIVISION OF LAKESHORE ICE INC.

1st Place in Survivor Games Awarded to Duluth, at District 10.

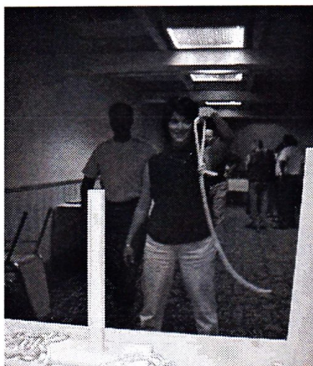
After the business meetings at District 10 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin....the games began. The Duluth Power Squadron team of 6 included Val and Bob Ouellette, Sue and Steve Farrell, and Jan and Tracy Nelson. The 3rd Bi-Annual Survivor Games consisted of 4 events. Event #1 was tossing a fender about 20-30 feet over a saw horse aiming for a certain spot. Event #2 was marlinspike including the bowline knot, attaching to cleat, and clove

hitch. Event #3 was a 6-man relay of putting on and off 3 different Personal Flo-tation Devices. Event #4 was a trivial pursuit relay with nautical questions.

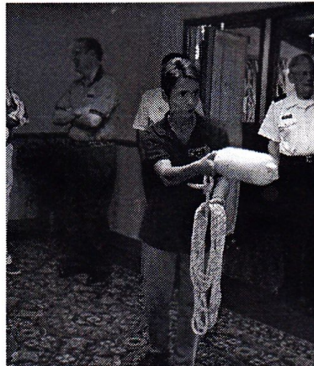
You'll be happy to know that your Duluth Team received 1st place!!!



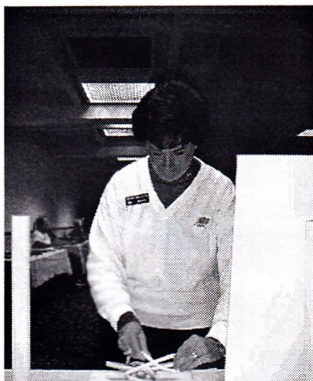
Steve Farrell tossing a fender.



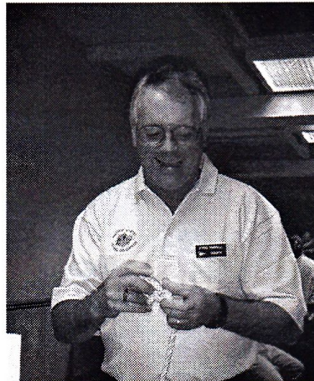
Jan Nelson tying a bowline knot in under 2 seconds.



Sue Farrell throwing a fender.



Val Ouellette tying line to cleat.



Steve Farrell tying a line.

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"FRESH MEATS & DELICATESSEN"

November General Meeting at CW Chips.



Our newest member in the Duluth Power Squadron is Ramone Kral, pictured with Commander Tom Cawcutt.



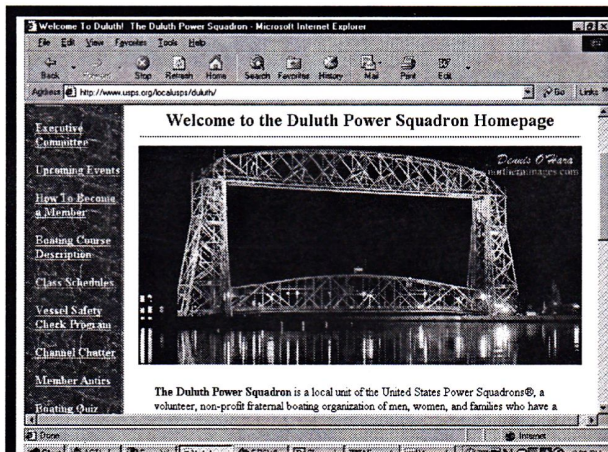
Enjoying the meeting are (left) Rosie and Rollie Nelson and (right) Dorothy and John Harrison. Bob Hecht pictured on far right at the registration table.



Len Robinson, Lauri Welch and Dave Solberg visiting at November's general meeting.



Gloria De Smedt showing Gene Rock how to test battery with hydrometer, what Gloria refers to as your cheapest & single most valuable tool when checking out a battery.



Have you visited our web page?

The Duluth Power Squadron has it's very own web page, which was presented to the membership at the November General meeting. It is located at:

<http://www.usps.org/localusps/duluth/>

and contains information such as phone numbers of the Executive Committee, a schedule of upcoming events, information on how to become a member, a boating safety quiz which is graded on the spot, local weather, and many photos of members that were taken at recent events.

Check it out! I think you'll enjoy it!!!

November General Meeting at CW Chips.

Battery Testing Tips

—By Gloria De Smedt of Interstate Batteries/Twin Ports and also a Duluth Power Squadron member.

1. A good visual check of the battery must first be made—take special care of any cracks, holes, leaks, post damage, bulging case, lack of electrolyte in any cell, exposed cells, heavy corrosion on posts, too much electrolyte, etc.
2. Check the battery's hydrometer reading and the voltage.
3. Most problem batteries are simply discharged batteries. This is a result of faulty equipment other than the battery. Never rule out a charger, hydrometer or a volt meter as being faulty. They do not last forever and do not stay calibrated for as long as we expect them to.
4. Inquire as to when the battery was last charged, for how long and at how many amps. It is extremely important to know this information. Unless the battery has been off the charger for several hours you may be reading artificially high voltage numbers indicating the surface charge only. Many people put too few amps into the battery and for too short a time for the battery to get fully charged.
5. A battery whose voltage reading and hydrometer readings are similar is most often good.
6. A battery whose voltage reading is low but whose hydrometer reading is high is most often junk.
7. A battery whose voltage reading is high but whose hydrometer reading is low is most often good. Your high voltage reading is probably due to surface charge.
8. Remember that your hydrometer is your cheapest and your single most valuable tool when checking out a battery.
9. Never assume that a battery is not taking a charge unless you have taken a voltage reading before putting the battery on the charger and another reading later a few minutes later while the battery is still hooked up to a good functioning charger while on the charge.
10. A frozen battery must be completely thawed before testing or charging.
11. All but the very best chargers have set minimum and maximum voltage requirements for the battery before the charger will kick in, usually about 3 amps for the minimum and 12:45-12:50 for the maximum (12:45 volts being about the 75% state of charge). This has important implications, especially for deep cycle batteries which require charging after each use to give maximum performance. Most often the directions do not give you this information.
12. There is often some very important discrepancies between what the owner thinks the outside of the charger claims, what the directions say and what the company's technicians say the charger will really do.
13. You cannot get a valid load test on a battery unless the hydrometer reads 1.265 (100%).
14. Large capacity batteries (MTP's, commercials and deep cycle) may take several days of slow charging to bring the hydrometer readings up to 100%. Don't be confused because the voltage reading is up—it is the hydrometer reading that is important!



Gloria De Smedt presented a very informative program on batteries, at the November General Meeting.

<u>chg state</u>	<u>hydrometer</u>	<u>voltage</u>
100%	1.265	12.65
75%	1.225	12:40
50%	1.190	12:20
25%	1.155	12:00
0%	1.120	11:70

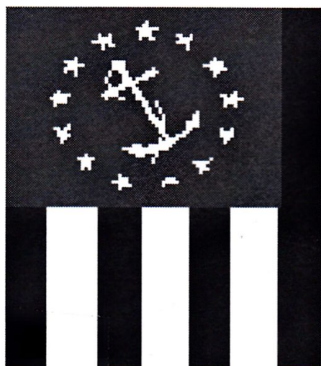
At 10:50v look for a bad cell. At lower voltages look for small amp draws. Two bad cells is rare.

No battery manufacturer's warranty covers discharged, overcharged, frozen or exploded batteries nor holes in cases and post damage. When adjustments are made under these circumstances, they are done strictly as a courtesy to you.

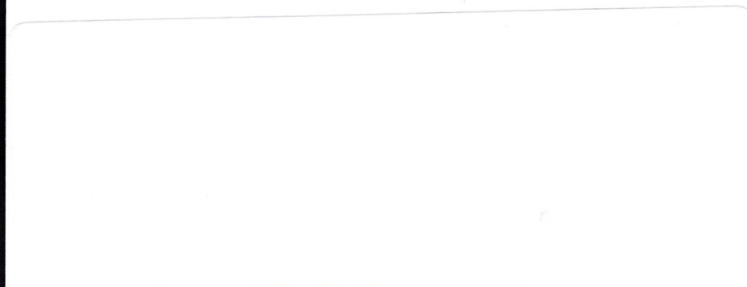
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Remember! If your address changes, your phone number changes or you get a new boat, be sure to contact Sue Farrell at 729-8871 so that changes are made on the mailing labels plus the next roster issue. **THANKS!**

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