

## Channel Chatter

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**April**, 2006

## Official Publication of the Duluth Power Squadron

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## Special Points of Interest:

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- Strategic Planning Meeting
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- Meet a new Squadron member ~ page 10.

## Change of Watch

The 2006 Change of Watch was held at Northland Country Club on February 18

Photos by John Bray





P/C G. Strand congratulates Commander M. George

The new Bridge is sworn in by D/Lt/C R. Steirna SN



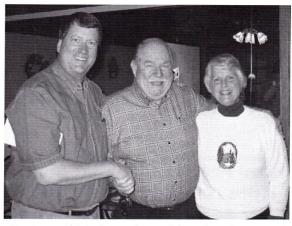
T. and M. Osvold receive flag from P/C Strand



Anna George sings the National Anthem as T. Osvold G. Strand, L. George, and M. George salute.

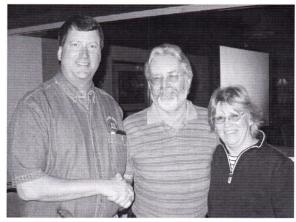
### Bridge Officers 2006—2007

Cdr. Murray George, P......Commander H-728-1567 <murraywgeorge@smithbarney.com> Lt/C James Robinson, N.....Executive Officer H-525-3158 <jdrobinson218@yahoo.com> Lt/C Joe Hesch, S.....Education Officer H-525-2857 <jhesch@aol.com> 1/Lt Kay Bakke, AP.....Asst. Education Officer H-726-1300 <kbak@cpinternet.com> Lt/C Glen Pratt, S......Administrative Officer H-624-8819 om> 1/Lt Laura Welch, S......Asst. Administrative Officer H-395-3015 <LWelch@NBofC.com> Lt/C James Swanson, P.....Secretary H- 320-532-4311.. H-879-4409 Lt/C Valerie Ouellette, AP.....Treasurer H-727-6079 <westernharbor@iuno.com> 1/Lt Julie Strand, S......Asst. Treasurer H-724-2293 P/C Grady Strand, P.....Immediate Past Commander H-724-2293 **Executive Committee Members at Large** 1/Lt Richard Nelson, S...... 525-4522 1/Lt Raymone Kral, P...... 727-5725 1/Lt Bob Bruce, P ...... 724-2678 1/Lt Bob Hansen ...... 391-3901 **Publication Staff** 



Duane and Marlene Flynn (above) and Ken and Mary Jane Olson are congratulated by Commander Grady Strand as they receive the "Power of One" pin at the Feb. 16 Annual Meeting.

Photos by Dave Carlson



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Mary Osvold.....proof reader

1/Lt Karen Bray, Editor......722-0663...kobray@charter.net

P/D/Lt/C Dave Carlson, SN.....Advertising....525-1438

1/Lt Steve Balliette, AP.....web master....391-7991

www.duluthpowersquadron.com

<dcc@chartermi.net>

## Commander's Report

All of a sudden it seems like a whirlwind. I think I know how Dorothy in the Wizard of OZ felt. The Annual Meeting is history (marlinspike seaman Dave Carlson in charge, Cdr Grady at the helm, and P/C Len officiating); the Change of Watch is finished, really appreciate that); and was very successful with 62 souls attending, who had a very nice dinner and event. John Bray did a bang up job of presenting the Charlie Grubb, I mean the Sacred Calabash; Our newest Past Commander, Grady Strand received what I thought was a well deserved, and resounding standing ovation, and P/C Flag. Anna George sang with a flourish.

The flurry of the first day and week as your new Commander, with a lot of emails, and phone calls is drawing to an end as I write this, so we are leaving with the Ouellette's, Osvold's, and Mattson's on what I believe to be a well earned vacation......But as soon as we're back there is the Cdr, Exec, and Admin lunch, Piloting Class, Exec Meeting, Strategic Planning prep meeting, Fitting out Meeting, General Meeting, clean out the storage building; think about the D10 Spring Conference, Fishing Contest, Dock cleanup day, VSC days, and Corn Roast......(hold any thoughts for the Christmas Party).

Is it all going too fast? You bet. Am I having fun? You Bet.

The new Bridge has been sworn in; there are some more flags to be presented; several new members have to be presented, hopefully at the General Meeting, March 23rd, and we move on.

Lt/C James Robinson, N, Executive Officer, was presented with his pin for distinguished, continuous, and meritorious 25 years of membership in the Squadron. Mr. Warren Williams has also earned this distinction and will be presented with his 25 year pin.

We were saddened by the loss that Jack and Ginny Soetebier experienced with the death of their son, Kurt. We wish them well. But moving forward in his true tradition, Jack said that he was already in the planning stages for his renowned and wonderful Fitting out Party dinner, topped with carrot cake.

By the time you read this your Squadron may be proud to announce 7 or 8 new advanced course completions and shiny new Pilots, including Dave Davis, Ron Berkeland, Barb Larson, Sue Seme, Mick Seme, Skip Hofstrand, Duane Flynn, Steve Rantala, and yours truly (it was a lot different than when I did email. This train is not to be missed. it 35 years ago).

My new Flag, Terry Osvold is giving me much sage advice, and input (as are others, and I Karen Bray, and the Channel Chatter is up and running; Raymone Kral and the membership lists, and new member info is up to date, Carol Hesch is labeling



Commander **Murray George** 

and mailing as fast we can get her stuff; the Budget Committee came up with a great and balanced budget (Val is really tight with the money); Val Ouellette is spending night and day so we have a current Roster done by Fitting Out, and did a bang up job of completing the Star Squadron filing requirements; P/C Dave Carlson is working on the logistics with D10, Nat'l, etc, to get our new gold rimmed Burgee authorized, and selling ads for the Roster, and Channel Chatter as fast as he can (call him), and honorably filling his photography job; Glen Pratt has new signage for the Dock, and working hard on new, colorful, and innovative public education class advertising; "Teach" ie. Kay Bakke is on the cusp of having our new Educational laptop, and is strategizing on the New Strategic Planning Program; Jim Swanson was the first D10 Squadron Secretary to have the new Bridge and Department Roster complete, and submitted for D10; P/C Len and Exec, Jim Robinson are in the throes of getting our numerous bylaw changes approved, adopted, signed, sealed, and delivered; Karen, Mary, Laura and Val are already baking for the Fitting Out Bake Sale; Laura Stuermer is almost complete with our new Ships Store; Tom Rossini and a couple other squadron folks are setting up a joint public education class in Pikes Bay during Safe Boating Week; Jim Munger is checking in for a successful VSC year; new members; Ron Berkeland, and Barb Larson (and I) are predicting a Predicted Log Race. We know where 60 D Street is. Who did I miss? Let me know. I'll put you in! And we still have 30 days before the boating season starts.

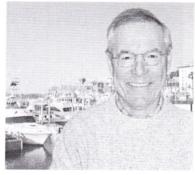
Are we on a roll or what? Do we have the makings for a 5 star Squadron? Anyone who wants to jump in for the ride, give me a call, holler, or

### Executive Officer's Report

I am very pleased to be your new executive officer. Because this is my first year as a bridge officer, I expect to spend lots of time learning the ropes. My specific responsibilities include coop charting which will be co-chaired by Dave Rutford and Bob Ouellette and vessel safety checks which will be chaired by Jim Munger. In addition, a new position called 'webmaster', to be chaired by Steve Balliette, will have the responsibility of updating and maintaining our website. Last, and of significant importance, is public relations. We are still looking for someone to chair this position. Interested?

Beyond my specific duties, I consider it my biggest responsibility to support the Commander in any way that will help him achieve Squadron goals. In both his final report as executive officer and his report in this Channel Chatter he has stated his vision of where changes will strengthen us as an organization going forward. As I write Have a safe and enjoyable 2006 boating season. this, changes in our by-laws to give the Commander needed discretion in the scheduling of meetings to increase participation in Squadron activities are working their way through appropriate channels. The last step in

this process will be a vote by the full membership of the Duluth Squadron. Your vote is important. Remember, we are an organization of boaters who are drawn together in the Power Squadron because



**Exec. Officer Jim Robinson** 

of our affinity for the activity, our desire to continue learning to enhance enjoyment and increase safety of the activity, and to associate with others so inclined. This is a big order - but the Squadron has been successfully meeting each of these objectives for over 75 years. It has been made possible by member participation. I encourage each of you to become more involved and to share your ideas and wishes with your Bridge.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Robinson

## Education Officer's Report

A new watch year has begun and the educational department is off and running as usual. Kay Bakke, the Assistant SEO, has recently completed instructing a piloting course with 8 people taking the exam. Meteorologist Dave Anderson has begun instructing a Weather class for us and for some Coast Guard Auxiliary students and Steve Farrell has begun another Public Safe Boating course. I can't thank these highly capable instructors enough for devoting their time and efforts toward completing the most important mission of the Power Squadron, education, happen.

Along that line, the certification of qualified instructors is very important to the continued success of our mission. To maintain high quality instruction in our classes, we must have certified instructors who have completed the Instructor Development course. Kay Bakke will soon be conducting that course and requests that anyone who would like to become a certified instructor contact her. There will be an announcement coming out soon with and challenging courses available though your USPS the particulars regarding the ID course.

We have not set the schedule for upcoming classes completely as yet. There will be a Boat Smart

#### Education Officer, Joe Hesch

class again this summer as well as at least two Public Safe Boating classes next fall and spring. We are also planning another Seamanship class for this fall. Beyond those courses, we are requesting that you contact us with your requests for additional advanced classes. We ran both Piloting and Advanced Piloting this past year. Is there interest in Cruise Planning, Navigation, Engine Maintenance, Marine Electronics, or Sailing? If we get enough requests, we can schedule these also. However, we need your input. Please let us know what you want and need to help make your boating experiences everything you would like them to be.

As we all get ready for the boating season to begin, let's remember all we have learned in our classes and share that knowledge with other boaters. Have fun on the water and continue to practice and exhibit your skills gained in our courses. Also, continue to enhance your knowledge by taking advantage of the very interesting membership. There's a great world out there accessible on and by the water – enjoy it thoroughly and safely.

#### Administrative Officer's Report

Good morning fellow mariners. It may not be morning when you are reading this, and fellow mariners is not entirely true. You see, I don't have a boat. There, I said it, I don't have a boat. But I do have a Harley, and I will talk about that more later.

My name is Glen Pratt. I've been a DSPS member for five years, and I have owned many boats over the years. My last boat was a 31 ft Carver Montego, which I sold two years ago. As many boaters probably feel, "this ain't so hard, it floats and runs, I can do it" well that was me for many years. Then I got the Big Boat, and proceeded to get caught on the Big Lake in a Big Storm. That made me feel like a Little, but Lucky Guy. I decided directly after that experience that while I loved being lucky, and as luck has it, it most likely will run out. I didn't want to depend on luck any more. My wife Sally, had recently heard about the Power Squadron, and that they did training. My lucky day once again. I looked in the phone book, looked in the papers, asked at the Marine stores. The answer I got was, yes there is a Power Squadron, but I'm not sure how to get a hold of them. As luck would have it, I went to the boat show that year, and yes, as luck would have it, The DSPS had a booth, and I signed up for the next safe boating class.

This story I'm quite sure, is similar to many, will be repeated by many, and many will be just as lucky as I was. But,,, as we all know, Luck has run out on some of our local fellow mariners. We've had recent water related deaths in our area. The Duluth Sail & Power Squadron, and its members, in my opinion need to take every boating accident PERSONALLY! Did we do everything in our power to get our message to all boaters, and to help train all boaters?

As your Administrative Officer, I will do everything I can during my stint on the Bridge to help make the DSPS more visible to the boating public. I sincerely hope that if we can become more visible and easier to find, we will accomplish what needs to be our focus. TRAIN more fellow boaters.

Past Commander, Grady Strand and I joined the DSPS the same year. We are friends and have known each other for years. He has even sold me a lot of Insurance over the years. (that's why he likes me) Just kidding, but as the Nom Com was looking to fill the Bridge this year, I

#### Admin. Officer, Glen W. Pratt

told Grady, "if they can't find, I mean absolutely can't find an Admin, Officer, I may consider it". Well, so much for confidentiality, to this day, I think he went right to Charlie Grubb and said, "I found a sucker". We've all felt and seen the turmoil that has surrounded the Power Squadron, especially the Bridge, in recent years. We've seen Nom Com struggle to fill Bridge positions, such as last year. Now don't get me wrong, this organization has many great volunteers stepping up every day to help, but, what I don't understand is that we are part of a very respected and prestigious National organization, and shouldn't it be an Honor to even be asked to help lead our local Squadron. Anyway, I'm not a "sucker" and to me it is an honor that my peers have enough confidence in me to help lead the Duluth Sail and Power Squadron over the next three years.

A change in our Roster this year, we are selling ad space on the inside of the front and back cover. The cost will be \$125.00 for the front cover, and \$75.00 for the back cover. There will be six spots available on each cover. Many of us are business owners and could benefit from this exposure. If we can sell all of the spaces, it should come close to offsetting our expenses. My plea to you, if you think there could be any benefit for you to advertise here, please do so. Contact Val Ouellette by April 15<sup>th</sup> with your copy.

Also remember that we are selling ad space in the Channel Chatter, with the same goal in mind, to offset our expenses. Dave Carlson has volunteered to be our Ad sales guy. You can contact him or of course, our new Editor, Karen Bray. By the way, how about our new Channel Chatter, Doesn't it look great! Hats off to you Karen for a great job!

As I said earlier in this article, I have a Harley. I'm beginning to find out that there are a few more motorcycle riders, than just myself, that are members of DSPS. I am hoping to schedule a few day rides this summer, and will be looking for ideas, times etc. Anyone interested in this type of activity, please contact me.

I will try to be available, and open to all member's ideas and thoughts. My contact information is, E-mail – prattgw@duluthmn.com Cell phone – 218-522-0527 and my home phone is – 218-624-8819

Let's have a safe and enjoyable year!

### Safety Officer's Report

March 12, 2006

I'm very good at letting things go till the last minute but the incentive to write about boating safety is low on my list while there are great piles of snow outside my window and low clouds threaten to dump more snow.

Anyhow, the season is close and seed catalogs and boat equipment catalogs rival each other for reading material. If you have not seen the recent Boat US news letter, do get a copy from a fellow Squadron member. This issue has lots of safety oriented ideas to ponder.

National Safe Boating Week is coming in May. For the first time in a dozen years we have no special local event on the agenda but we do have big plans for a Safe Boating Season! More Vessel Safety Checks than ever this year is the goal. Of the 21 Examiners

## Safety Officer, Jim Munger

last year, only ten remain because the five exams per examiner was not reached. But this year lets re-qualify by doing two VSCs with a qualified examiner. A VSC is a great educational tool for everyone who participates--and its fun too--whether as an examiner or as a boat owner!

Plan are in place for a Vessel Safety Check Day at Barker's on June 10 and also June 17. More about this to follow. I would like to have a "New Examiner" class sometime from 22 May to June 3. Firm dates to be announced. Probably another joint class and refresher with the Auxiliary Vessel Examiners.

Accidents don't just happen, they are caused!

REMEMBER: BOAT SMART FROM THE START. WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET.

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Plan NOW to join us......

on April 22 for Duluth Sail and Power Squadron's 2006 Strategic Planning Meeting

Facilitator - Kay Bakke

· Come to share your input and ideas for the squadron's future.

- During the meeting, information and ideas are gathered from all members.
- The facilitator will guide participants to clarify, organize and prioritize goals and activities.
- The final result is a *Plan of Action* for the future, created to meet the boating education, safety, social and recreational needs of all members.

Please note that we appreciate your participation. We will welcome members to join committees and action groups to carry out the Plan, but we will not pressure you to lead or join committees.

Direct questions to Murray George at <u>murray.w.george@smithbarney.com</u> or Kay Bakke at <u>kbak@cpinternet.com</u>

Call Grady Strand (218-724-2293) by April 14 to reserve your place at this important event.

'What is the membership's vision for the Duluth Sail and Power Squadron?"

We look forward to your input on Saturday, April 22, 8:30-12:30 Barker's Island Marina Club House \* beverages and snacks provided\*



## Get Ready for Fitting Out



Our annual Dinner and Auction, "Fitting Out", is just around the corner. This year's co-chairs, Norm Livgard and Cliff Linder are planning an exciting event. Please call Norm at 390-6787 if you would like to volunteer.

The doors will open at 1630 to register, check out the auction items, and socialize. Appetizers will be available for a small fee and ice & mix will be provided. (BYOB).

Got Stuff? We are looking for donations of all kinds for the Silent and Live Auctions. Solicit your employer and business associates for donations, clean out your garage and attic, bring us that Christmas present you'll never use, we'll sell it. The Auction and Raffles will be really BIG this year with some special items you won't want to miss. You may need a trailer to bring one of these home!!! Look for details in a

future flyer.

Last year's Bake Sale was a success. Please bring your

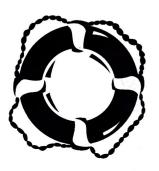
favorite baked item or other treats to raise \$\$\$\$ for the Squadron.

Jack Soetebier and his crew will be firing up the ovens and sharpening their knives to prepare a delicious dinner for you. Prime Rib, Walnut Gorgonzola Salad, and all the trimmings will be topped off with Jack's special carrot cake. Bring your friends and enjoy our biggest party of the year—Fitting Out!

Marshall School—1215 Rice Lake Rd.—April 29, 2006
Social—1630, Dinner—1830, Live Auction—1930
Tickets are \$14 in advance, \$18 at the door
\$14 at the door with an auction donation
Send your check to Val Ouellette,
702 S. Lake Ave., Duluth, 55802 by April 20

#### Schedule of Events

- April 22—Strategic Planning Session at Barker's Island Club Room 0830—1230—Bring your ideas for the future of the Squadron
- April 29—Fitting Out Dinner and Auction at Marshall School. Contact Norm Livgard or Cliff Linder to volunteer.



## April 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Tax Day
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Strategic Planning
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Fitting Out
30						

#### Schedule of Events

- May 4—Executive Bd. Meeting at Kegler's—1730
- May 10—12 Riverquest
- May 18—General Meeting
- May 20—Squadron Dock Clean up Day—contact Dave Solberg
- May 20—26—Safe Boating Week
- May 31—June 4 National Spring Governing Board

May 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Exec. Bd. Meeting	5	6
7	8	9	10 Riverquest	11 Riverquest	12 Riverquest	13
14	15	16	17	18 General Meeting	19	20 Dock Clean-up
21 Safe Boating - Week	22	23	24	25	26 <b>→</b>	27
28	29	30	31 Natl. Spring Gov. Board thru June 4			

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## New Member Profile ~ Kenneth and Mary Jane Olson

"Your anchor is your

emergency brake...don't

be afraid to use it."

Meet Ken and Mary Jane Olson of Superior, WI. This busy couple enjoys Motorcycling, Skydiving, Skiing, Kayaking, Hiking, Camping and more recently, Boating. Ken and Mary Jane both took the Power Squadron Safe Boating class in the fall of 2004 and became members later that year. You may have met them at the 2005 Fitting Out, where Ken assisted with the auction and Mary Jane helped with the bake for balmy breezes and soft water. Applications for

Their family consists of son Jesse, daughter-in-law Teri, children Erica and Michael, who live in Eau Claire, and daughter Amanda, who lives in Oconto Falls with her children Alisha and Cassandra. Amanda also has a son, Joshua, who recently joined the Navy.

The Olsons store their 27 ft. Sea Ray "Git'n Bye" at home in their spacious garage. This has enabled them to enjoy their boat year-round, as Mary Jane tells us:

"When our grandson Joshua moved in with us and we had rap music in the house, all the lights on, phones ringing all night, we decided one night to run Sail and Power Squadron. away from home for New Year's Eve. We bought a

bottle of champagne, put it on ice, and made for the boat in the garage. No one knew we had escaped and we had a "secret oasis". We liked the idea so much, that we built a "dock" in the garage around the boat so we could have friends over to the oasis. When the winter winds are howling, and the water is hard, we can be found sitting out on the boat wishing

new crew members being accepted."

Ken and Mary Jane are very interested in learning about fishing on the Big Lake. They say that they joined the Squadron in order to learn more about boating safely and sharing that with the boating community. Please welcome Ken and Mary Jane to the Duluth



Ken and Mary Jane Olson

#### <u>Boats Anchored Right Stay Put</u>

If you're planning a fishing trip or an overnight stay aboard your boat, you may want to familiarize yourself with proper anchoring techniques. In real life, boats don't always stay put when anchored. People sometimes make classic anchoring errors mainly because they don't understand how an anchor works.

The anchor doesn't hold the boat by sheer weight. It digs into the bottom because of its design. Anchors must be pulled nearly horizontally to hold properly. A length of

chain should be attached to your anchor for adequate holding power. A complete anchor system consisting of anchor line, chain and shackles is called a rode.

There are basically three types of anchors used extensively today. They are the Danforth, plow and Bruce. The Danforth was developed during World War II to kedge landing craft off beaches and is the most commonly used anchor today. The Bruce and plow bury themselves and resist the changing swing of the boat. The material used for anchor line is twisted nylon because of its elasticity. Drop your anchor in the right spot so your boat doesn't swing into others when the line is let out. A good bet is to anchor well astern of another vessel. You will swing in unison with other vessels anchored this way. Don't drop the anchor while moving forward. After you drop your anchor, with the engine in reverse, pay out the anchor line so you have a 7 to 1 scope. If it is 10

feet from your bow cleat to the water's bottom, pay out 70 feet of line. Power back slowly to set the anchor.

When you are ready to leave the anchorage, have your mate use simple hand signals. As your mate points out the direction of the anchor, steer in that direction at idle speed. When the line is straight down. stop the boat and secure the line to the bow cleat. Idle forward to break the anchor loose. At this point, the anchor and line can easily be pulled aboard.

Avoid the classic errors, have the anchor ready to use and drop it gently. Let out the proper scope and let the boat's engine do the work. Remember, your anchor is your emergency brake and don't be afraid to use it.

P/C Candy Hengel, SN

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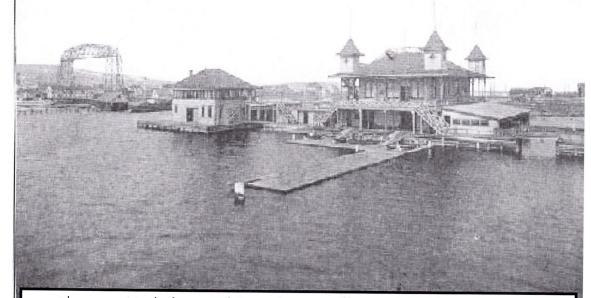
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## Boating Back in Time



The second Duluth Boat Club was located off Minnesota Ave. and Vine St., approximately the current location of Harbor Cove. The photo is circa 1910.

Photo courtesy of David J. Ouse of the Duluth Public Library Reference

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J. Strand, K. Bakke, and M.J. Olson enjoy the evening

M. Herman entertained before dinner



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complimentary
CD containing over
100 photos from
the Change of
Watch, contact
John Bray at
jebray@charter.net

## Change of Watch



C. Grubb receives the coveted Sacred Calabash Award from 2005 Calabash honoree, J. Bray

Social Hour at Northland Country Club

