

Channel Chatter

Official Publication of the Duluth Sail and Power Squadron

Volume 2009 Issue 1

February 2009

DSPS Educational Courses—There's Something for Everyone!

Public Safe Boating

30 People are currently enrolled





Gary Battuello and Bob Hansen , above, and Steve Farrell, at left, and Tina Farrell (not pictured) are leading this season's Public Safe Boating classes.

New Seminars Available in April

Eight new seminars round out the USPS University's list of 12 total seminars available to sharpen boating skills for you, your crew and your dock mates.

Using VHF & VHF/DSC Marine Radio Onboard Weather Forecasting Paddle Smart

Knots, Bends and Hitches

Using GPS Boat Handling under Power Anchoring

Trailering Your Boat

How to Use a Chart Sail Trim and Rig Tuning Marine RADAR Hurricanes.

Seminars are available to the public as well as members. These two hour courses may be a viable course alternative if your schedule is too busy for an 8 week course. Materials include handy on board guides or books. And there is no test. . Watch our web site www.duluthpowersquadron.com and this publication for details for the April seminars Duluth Sail and Power Squadron will offer in the Duluth area. Go to the National web site at www.usps.org for a more complete description of each seminar.

For Class information on

<u>Seamanship</u>

turn to page 4

For Class information on

Weather

turn to page 8

The *United States Power Squadron* is America's #1 Boating Organization. If you would like information about becoming a member, please contact P/C Charlie Grubb @525-4344 or Lt/C Valerie Ouellette @727-6079. **Boating is fun, we'll show you how!**

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We're on the Web www.duluthpowersquadron.com

Commander's Report

As we start a new calendar year, the Duluth Squadron is completing its 70th year of service to our local Duluth-Superior boating community that includes boaters on Lake Superior, nearby inland lakes, and waterways. As we embark on a new Watch Year, I want to thank everyone for supporting our squadron over the past year and hope that we can continue to benefit from your support and involvement. We are looking forward to another great year and have started planning programs and classes. Please remember the saying "the more the merrier" and attend some of our events.

Over the past few months, our nation and local community has encountered some major socioeconomic changes, that have impacted many families and volunteer organizations, which in turn, depend on its members. Whereas our local squadron has gone through changes, spanning several decades, it is increasingly apparent that we find ourselves at a critical time in our squadron history. We are facing the not-to-uncommon challenge of not having enough volunteers to effectively carry out our mission and programs. Currently, we are conducting squadron business with an incomplete slate of officers and committee chairs. Without having an adequate number of people to carry out squadron functions, it is an all-to-common experience that we have watched members overextend themselves, sacrificing time and family, in order to pull off an event or lead a committee. In some cases, this has lead to volunteer burnout with members stepping down from their administrative or officer positions. It is the consensus of our leadership team, that we cannot continue down this path and that we need to make some changes in order to ensure a future with growth and sustainability.

The good news is that we are taking some proactive steps to overcome an alarming trend of decreased member involvement. In particular, we are forming the "Squadron Development Focus Group" to address this and other major issues affecting our squadron. Our goal is to openly discuss and evaluate our squadron – goals, operation, and manpower – so that we can develop an action plan towards improvements. Currently the Focus Group is comprised of several executive committee members, but we realize that we need more input and ideas to build a diverse team, a cross section of our

members. By nature, this is a grass roots committee. We anticipate that it will not be a standing committee. That is you won't have to make a long-term commitment to belong – but we believe that the efforts of this committee will produce long-lasting, far reach-



Cdr Mary Brisky AP

ing benefits for the Duluth Squadron. Some points to discuss include the goals and mission of USPS – Membership, Education, and Civic contributions. Most importantly, we will explore ideas on how to increase member engagement and teamwork.

This is <u>your</u> squadron, <u>your</u> safe boating organization. What are <u>your</u> expectations and needs? What kind of culture and climate would <u>you</u> like it to be? Please join us to discuss your needs, expectations and provide constructive criticism, if need be. Get involved to help our squadron be meaningful and fun for everyone. Please contact any of our executive committee members or myself for Focus Group meeting details.

Respectfully submitted,

Cdr Mary Brisky, AP

BOAT SAFELY...

THINK EDUCATION...

REACH OUT...

GET INVOLVED

Education Officer's Report

Winter in Duluth...wind chills to close schools, brilliant sun and moon rises, ice cover on our beloved Lake...it must be Education season for the Duluth Sail and Power Squadron. USPS has been actively upgrading old and adding new courses and seminars to the safe boating curriculum. Seamanship, Weather and many seminars will be offered in March and April. Gather up your family and crew, tell your dock partners and consider enrolling in one or more of the courses offered. By the end of the class, it will be time to uncover the boat.



Lt/C Kay Bakke, AP

Have you taken *Seamanship* yet?

Now is your opportunity! *Seamanship* covers a more in depth study of valuable boat handling knowledge learned in the *Squadron Boating Course*. Expanded topics include handling at sea, anchoring and mooring, emergencies at sea, enhanced marlinspike skills and a valuable, pre-season, expanded study of "Rules of the Road." A section on First Aid, offered by the American Red Cross, will assist skippers and crew if an emergency should arise. Materials include a valuable on board reference, the *One Minute Guide to Nautical Rules of the Road*.

Attend this spring course to review the Rules of the Road and psych up for the upcoming boating season. Course concludes with a proctored exam.

Tuesdays, March 10 to April 21, 6 – 8:30 p.m.
Central Community Education, \$50 for materials.

Register today by contacting Kay Bakke at kbak@cpinternet.com

Your Help is Needed

To help your Squadron maintain our records, please send the following information to Dave Carlson, 4805 Tioga St., Duluth, MN 55804-1659 or dcc@chartermi.net

Name	Address	
Phone	Work Phone	
Cell #	Email	
Birth Date	Spouse's name	
Boat Name	Sail or Power	
Home Port		

Executive Officer's Report

For those folks that are sitting in a recliner under a warm blanket browsing through the brand new Channel Chatter, I commend you. For those that are sitting in on a lawn chair reading this in a place closer to the equator than balmy Duluth MN, I envy you. The winter of 2009 is here. After a week of January sub-zero weather, I think we are all enjoying seeing the temperature climb up into teens. If you are into snow sports, this is your year!

With the cold winter still activating our goose bumps, some of us are thinking summer. The planning for the Captain's Platter fishing contest has begun and soon we will be starting the planning for the Fitting Out Party. Those of you that are interested in chipping in your thoughts and help, welcome aboard!

In a few short months we will all be thinking about curing our cabin fever. Some folks plan a weekend in Minneapolis for the boat show in January, others hold out for the motor home show in February. Whatever the

case may be, it's nice to get out and think summertime. Boat and motor home shows are great for getting your gears going and your dreams jump-started for summertime activities.

I hope you all are staying warm and enjoying your winter. See you on the ice.

Lt/C Todd Carlson S

Todd Carlson

Executive Officer

Grant Acknowledgment

The Duluth Sail and Power Squadron has recently received a \$500.00 grant from the Pierce Family Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation.

The donor and advisor to the fund who recommended the grant is Bobby Purdy, son of Duluth Squadron member Eric Purdy.

Both Eric and Bobby were graduates of our Boating Course that was offered this past spring.

We would like to extend our appreciation to the Purdy family for their support of the Duluth Sail and Power Squadron.

Administrative Officer's Report

Happy 2009 Mates! With fuel prices down for the moment and water levels on the rise, we have a great year ahead.

I believe, looking back on 2008, that our group hit many firsts and milestones. However, as in any organization, it always seems like only a few volunteers do the heavy lifting which leads to tension and burn-out. Unfortunately, history repeats itself, and we are, in a few isolated cases, seeing leaders who have reached their limit. As a result, some would have us believe that this Squadron's glass is half-empty. I beg to differ—I am certain that our group's glass is very much half full!

I also find it important, in these tough times, to be the eternal optimist and realize in order to build a better future; we must not let the troubles of today overcome us. That being said, I am encouraging our membership to get more involved. If we all take on a small task, it makes the whole mission easier. Remember one of our key missions is "safe boating through education," and our education department needs a lot of people to deliver the goods that this organization prides itself on. So please, don't wait to be called upon, ask your bridge members where you can lend a hand, even it it's just making a few phone calls. As I have watched from the sidelines growing up in this Squadron, I have always known that it takes a great deal of commitment from a great number of members to make an organization like this run. I've said it before and I'll say it again, hats off to all the people who have led us in the past and all those who will answer the call in the future.

Speaking of taking the call, I would like to thank all those who donated to our Salvation Army drive this holiday season. We made a difference in a lot of lives here in our community. Take

a look at the letter of thanks we re-And received. mind yourself that we have a lot to be proud of. There's always room for improvement, but we can hold our heads high knowing that our mission is sound and community is a better place because of our efforts and commitment.



Lt./C David Stokes and Tanner

The 2009 season's

planning is already underway so make that call and choose a committee to help out with. In closing I'd like to single out one person who has already done just that. Out of the blue this week I received a call from Pat Joyal to let me know he's ready to roll up his sleeves this year. He went so far as to volunteer to take charge of one of our Corn Roast meals which sounds like it's going to be off the charts. He is also going to help with the Captain's Platter fishing contest as well as lend a hand with Fitting Out. Now that's outstanding, thanks Pat! So join Pat and the glass will definitely be half full; it's going to be a great year!

Smooth sailing in 2009! Admin Dave





Dave Stokes (left) delivers a cartload of toys to the Salvation Army with the help of a S. A. volunteer. Funds to buy the toys were raised at the silent auction during the DSPS Christmas Party in November (above).



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January 8, 2009

Duluth Power Squadron 55 Helberg Rd Esko, MN 55733

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to write you today, to say thank you for your thoughtful donation of groceries, clothing and Christmas gifts for children. My heart was overjoyed to hear that you along with many others in the community have chosen to give to others this past Christmas. Our world needs more people like you, who think of making a difference in the lives of others.

This year we distributed thousands of gifts and traditional Christmas meals to over 1,700 to Greater Duluth Areas residents. Totaling 5,688 individuals which 3,183 were children.

Man R Cheton

I want to extend the appreciation of those we served this Christmas. There were many smiles and tears of joy on our Christmas 2008 distribution days because of you.

Sincerely,

Envoy Alan Carlson Northern Minnesota Range Coordinator

AC;jh

Please retain this letter for tax purposes
Internal Revenue Service regulations require us to state that The Salvation Army did not provide any goods or services to you in consideration of you contribution.

Back By Popular Demand

The 10 week USPS **Weather** course has been revised and updated. It focuses on how weather systems form, behave, move, and interact with one another. The course also reflects the availability of all sorts of weather reports and forecasts on the internet. The course provides guidance for anticipating weather conditions through onboard and onshore observation. **Weather** provides invaluable information for safely boating on Lake Superior. See a more detailed description on the national web site at www.usps.org

DSPS is happy to announce Duluth meteorologist Dave Anderson will teach the course this spring.

Wednesdays, beginning February 25 – April 29,

Central Community Ed, \$60 for materials

Register today at kbak@cpinternet.com

Experienced Boaters

If you are an experienced boater, have taken advanced grades at least through **Advanced Piloting**, you may be interested in the new certification offered by the United States Power Squadron. For more information, check the national web site at USPS University under Education on www.usps.org.

A short presentation at the February 19 Annual Meeting will give an overview of this new and exciting program for experienced boaters.



Nautical terms date back centuries....

English is a flexible language and a myriad of the words we use today are derived from the expressions of our early sailors. The language of the sea also had a great impact on shore words.

The term "head" as used in a sea-flavored manner originally referred to the figurehead on the bow of a sailing ship. Sailing ships usually had a carved figure, usually of a woman, on the forward part of the ship. When an early sailor had to use the primitive lavatory he said he was going forward to visit the figurehead or head, where the facilities were located.

Fathom is from an old English word faedm meaning to embrace. It is the distance across outstretched arms. The depth of the ocean used to be measured in fathoms, about six feet. Consequently the expression to fathom means to investigate its depths.

In the 19th century, English captains had to buy the crew's uniforms, which they liked to show off. It seems that the captain of the HMS Blazer

> had his crew attired in snappy blue jackets. The crew became to be known as

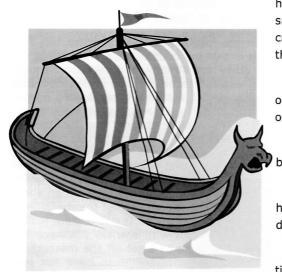
the blazers, that is how the garment got its name.

Salary comes from the Latin word, sal, meaning salt. Salt was once a precious item and often times Roman sailors were paid a part of their wages in salt.

Skyscraper was the name given to the highest sail on a ship long before we began to call tall buildings skyscrapers.

Figurehead was the carved figure on the bow of a ship. The carving had eyes painted on it to symbolize where the ship was going. In today's usage it means a leader with no real power.

To be safer and more knowledgeable, call your squadron's education department for information on the many courses available.



Murray W. George Financial Consultant Vice President - Investments

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Captain's Log January 8th, 2009

Since writing stories about boating on Lake Superior is out for this time of year, I figured I would share another short story from a day of ice fishing on the Gitch. First let's discuss weather and ice conditions. When the weather gets cold and the water temperature drops below 32 degrees, water turns from a liquid to a solid. (Oops. Sorry Dad, I didn't mean to give away the secret family ice recipe.) When one wants to find

fresh fish after the boating season is done, he (me) has to travel across the newly frozen ice to the favorite fishing spot. Now, why is it that the fishing is always much better in the areas where the ice is very thin. This is an unknown phenomenon that every fisherman has an opinion on why this is.

My ice fishing buddies and I take the trip over to the Apostles for a "first ice" fishing day. This is where it gets complicated. I have never taken the trip with these boys to this spot on "skinny" ice. We are going to cross the channel on snowmobile, how bad can that be? Well, we know the ice is 5 inches thick on the land side and hopefully 5 inches thick over next to the island. I ask the question "So, how skinny is the ice in the middle?" Both of my buddies give the reply to me in stereo, "SKINNY." At this point I start to understand why I was told to pack light. We only carry what is needed for the day of fishing. Why we don't drag an "otter sled" behind the snowmobile. We don't have big fancy ice fishing rigs that have color TV sets and recliners. This explains why last night my buddy called me at the normal dinner hour and said "hey, what are you eating; maybe a salad would be a lighter I now fully understand why we want to be light. The ice we are crossing today is thin. Another similar word to "light" is Buoyancy. This is not a subject that will be covered in this issue; hopefully we can cover that in the summer time.

We load the snow machines and ease our way out onto the ice. It seems more comfortable following behind so I had to stop and check under the hood of my machine one last time as the boys start the way across the channel. Well, looks good! I started my crossing shortly after the brave started their crossing. It seems speed also makes me feel more comfortable. I think about the chance of loosing a glove or a hat as I make this one

mile crossing. I don't think a brief stop in the middle is in the cards for me today. I join my fearless leaders at the fishing spot. 5 inches of ice was just calmly waiting our arrival. After getting my wits back, it was time to fish. We caught close to 20 fish between the three of us. It was the best I have ever seen for early ice trout fishing. Usually I am given the one-liner "you should have been here

yesterday!" It was nice to be on the other side of the coin.

I have left out the location of this event for two reasons. The first is that my buddies would never take me fishing again; (they are already livid because I caught 13 of the 20.) And the second reason is that we nailed the fish that day and I would not be able to braq it up. We packed up our gear and started back to the landing. Half way across the channel that I conquered earlier today, I notice when I turn the handle bars, only one ski turns. This was strange. I really wasn't sure what was worse, the ski that would not turn as we are on the skinny portion of our crossing, or this incredible feeling in by stomach as I stare at the other shore line. I stayed on the throttle and eased the machine to the landing and then to the truck. It was a great feeling to pull into the parking lot with one ski sideways and bouncing all over the place as I get off the machine on solid ground. Lake Superior seems to have her own way with equipment, either boat or snowmobile.



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Harbor and Reputation Improvements Underway at Grand Marais Marina

By Donn Larson

When the glaciers designed Lake Superior, nature neglected the Minnesota shoreline while favoring Ontario, Wisconsin and Michigan. In the 150 miles between Duluth-Superior and the Canadian border there are few natural harbors, three industrial ports and four marinas ranging from excellent to marginal in capacity and service. This is daunting to some cruisers, who have tended to avoid this beautiful stretch of water.

One harbor that is well known for its deficiencies is Grand Marais, Minn., with a marina that is too small, lacking in services, and seen by most boaters as an appendix on the city's large trailer village.

Harbor and marina development at this strategically-located, advantaged, inviting, historic maritime community has been retarded as long as most of us can remember. Rather than trying to explain why, we're pleased to report fresh new interest in accommodating both local and cruising boaters.

A progressive citizens' majority recently elected a reform

mayor and council. The park board has some new faces and refreshing enthusiasm. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and U. S. Army Corps of Engineers are in a cooperative mood, and work has already started on some short-term improvements.

The Corps dredged 7,500 cubic yards in 2008, deepening most of the marina to 10 feet. Dock space is being reconfigured for 2009, adding transient slips. Seven 1,000-pound mooring anchors are in place, with two buoys reserved for visiting boats. Marina manager Dave Tersteeg has pledged his crew will closely monitor the VHF

Radio, receive hospitality training and welcome transient boaters with a can-do spirit.

The Grand Marais park board met in November to begin a visioning progress facilitated by Duluth Power Squadron member Bob Bruce of Carduus Consulting. Donna and I took advantage of the meeting's opportunity for public comment. We identified ourselves as members of the Power Squadron and Great Lakes Cruising Club, read a statement by Cruising Club Rear Commodore Duane Flynn, and told of our personal experiences as marina customers. In thanking us, park board vice-chair Todd Miller said our evidence was "informative, powerful, respectful and to the point."

A few more seasons may come and go before Grand Marais' marina finds its true potential, but the good news is that design and planning are underway with a promising vision and a cohesive welcoming crew to see it through.



Photo by Donn Larson

USPS DISTRICT 10 2009 SPRING CONFERENCE

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CENTRAL WISCONSIN BOATING CLUB

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	GROUPER SICILIAN	30.00	
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Central WI Sail & Power Squadron Group Reservation Deadline 27 February 2009





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Cabin Fever Dock Party

Saturday, March 14*

Bonfire Skiing Snowmobiling Snowshoeing Fun! Food

Check your email in March for details, or contact Todd @348-4733 or Dave @310-3972.

*dependent on weather conditions



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Duluth Sail and Power Squadron

Annual Membership Meeting and Election*

Thursday, 19 February 2009

Location: Pickwick - 508 E. Superior Street

Times:

5:30 Social

6:00 Dinner, Business Meeting & Election

7:00 Program - Northern Images Photography

Program Speaker:

Dennis O'Hara, a native Duluthian and local photographer will be will providing us with a slideshow presentation of the Duluth harbor and western Lake Superior. Inspired by his love for nature, Dennis founded Northern Images Photography and offers updated Duluth harbor images on his website "northernimages.com".

*This meeting includes our election of officers. Come and show your support to the members nominated for your Executive Committee and other key positions for the 2009-10 watch year.



Chicken Cheese Rolls

6 boneless, skinless chicken breats

8 ounces whipped cream cheese with chives

1 Tbsp. butter

6 slices bacon

Place chicken between pieces of waxed paper; pound to 1/2 inch thickness. Spread each with 3 tablespoons cream cheese and dot with 1/2 teaspoon butter. Fold ends over filling. Wrap 1 slice of bacon around each chicken roll. Place seam side down in shallow baking pan. Bake in a 400 degree oven until juices run clear, about 40 minutes. Broil for 5 minutes or until bacon is crisp.

Recipes for Your Valentine



Creamy Raspberry Dessert

24 graham crackers, crushed

16 oz. frozen raspberries

1/3 cup melted butter

20 marshmallows

1/4 cup brown sugar

1/3 cup milk

1 6 oz. raspberry jello

1 cup whipping cream, whipped

1 cup boiling water

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix graham cracker crumbs, butter, and brown sugar. Press into 9x13 pan. Bake for 10 minutes, set aside to cool.

Dissolve raspberry gelatin in the boiling water and add the frozen raspberries, stirring until melted. Chill until partially set, then spread on cooled graham cracker crust.

Meanwhile, melt the marshmallows with the milk. Cool, then fold in the whipped cream. Spread on top of raspberry mixture. Chill for 3 to 4 hours before serving.

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Vintage Channel Chatter—1970

A long-sought dream of having our own dock was realized with the signing this winter of a lease with the Cargill Company. A large elevator was demolished by Cargill, leaving an 800 foot dock of concrete which we were able to lease for Power Squadron use. It is conveniently located in a sheltered portion of the Duluth-Superior Harbor. Extensive remodeling and rehabilitation is planned for the Spring. We think this will be a great addition to all Power Squadron boating activities.

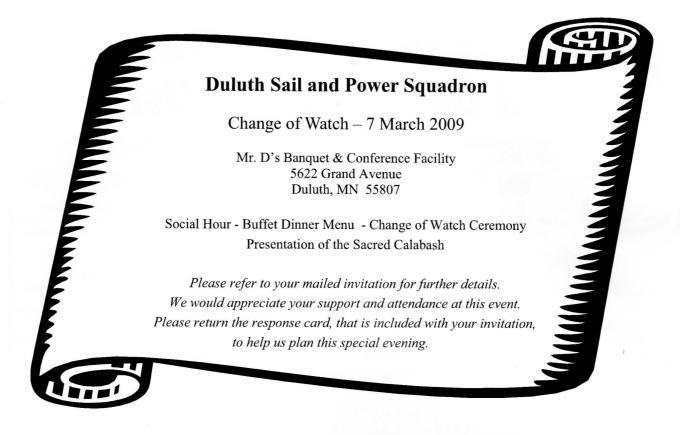
A new activity for the Power Squadron this year was a boat inspection campaign. A total of 23 of the Squadron boats were inspected, compasses were compensated, radio direction finders corrected, radios checked and all navigational instruments serviced and demonstrated by Squadron members so the boat owner would be very familiar with his navigational instruments.

In the spring, our fitting out party raised over \$700 for Squadron educational activities. During the summer we had a treasure hunt and a successful predicted log race. The summer boating season ended with a well attended corn roast.

With a total of 175 members, the Duluth Power Squadron had an interesting and active year.

Commander Manley Goldfine, AP

Thanks to P/C Bob Stokes for saving and sharing his Channel Chatter Collection.





February Stargazer's Guide



Take a few minutes and look up.

- **9** The <u>Moon</u> will undergo a barely perceptible eclipse this evening as it slips through the faint outer portion of Earth's shadow, called the penumbra. Part of the eclipse will be visible across most of the United States, but you will need to look carefully to notice any darkening.
- **9-11** The Moon, the planet Saturn, and the star <u>Regulus</u> cluster together for three nights. Regulus is barely to the left of the Moon as they rise on the 9th. The Moon splits the gap between them the next night, and is closest to Saturn on the 11th.
- 14 Venus, the "evening star," is at its brightest tonight. It stands high in the west as night falls.
- **26/27** Venus and the Moon stage a beautiful encounter in the evening sky. Venus stands well above the Moon on the 26th, while they are side by side on the 27th.

February 2009

Schedule of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Events
Juli	11011	rue	vveu	i iiu	• • •	Jac	• Feb. 5—Executive Com-
1	2	3	4	5 Exec. Committee	6	7	 mittee meets at Kegler's Feb. 17—22 USPS Annual Meeting at Anaheim, CA.
8	9	10	Н	12	13	14 ************************************	See www.usps.org for more information and registration. • Feb. 19—DSPS Annual
15	16	USPS Annua Anaheim, CA		DSPS Annual Meeting	20	21	Meeting at the Pickwick Restaurant, Duluth. See page 14 for details.
22 22	23 resident's Da	24 Y	25 Weather Class	26	27	28	For the most up-to-the-minute information, see www.duluthpowersquadron.com

March 2009

Schedule of

Events	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 March 5—Executive Bd. Meeting March 7—Change of 	1	2	3	4 Weather Class	5 Exec. Committee	6	7 Change of Watch
Watch to be held at Mr. D's. See page 16 for de- tails	8	9	I 0 Seamanship Class	Weather Class	12	13	Winter Dock Party
 March 14—Dock Party. Check your email for details. 	15	16	17 ** Seam@ship Cla	18 Weather Class	19	20	21
 March 27, 28, 29—District 10 Spring Conference in Wausau, WI. See page 12 for details and regis- tration. 	22	23	24 Seamanship Class	25 Weather Class	26	27 D-10 Sprir	28 ng Conference
	29 D-10	30	Seamanship Class				

MEMBER'S MARKETPLACE

New Policy for Member's Marketplace Ads

USPS members may place one want ad free of charge. Continuation of the ad in subsequent issues may be $\,$ purchased for \$10 per issue, payable in advance. Checks should be made out to DSPS, and must be mailed by $\,$ 01/12/09 to be included in the February $\,$ issue.

Send your check to Karen Bray, 2024 Minnesota Ave., Duluth, MN 55802.



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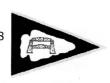


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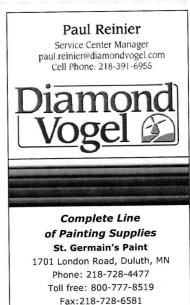


WORDFIND

Can you find the COLD words hidden in the box? They may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forwards or backwards.

ANTARCTIC, ARCTIC, ARCTIC, ARCTIC FOX, BLIZZARD, EREZING, FROSTY, FROZEN, ICE FLOE, ICEBREAKER, ICE FLOE, ICE FLED, ICE FLOE, ICE FLED, ICE FLOE, ICE FLEET, ICE FLOE, ICE FLEET, ICE FLEET,





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Winter scene at Elevator A, located at the base of Third Avenue East in Duluth, circa 1880. The man on the left would have been unfurling the stays'l (stay sail) and jib in preparation for getting underway, according to P/C and sailor, Bob Ouellette.

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