Duluth Sail and Power Squadron

Channel Chatter



Volume 2013 Issue I

Spring 2013

DSPS Change of Watch





2013 Change of Watch. Incoming Commander Lance Olson presents Pat Joyal with his Past Commander flag.

Squadrons®. **Boating is Fun...** We'll Show You How!

Photos in this issue were taken by P/C Editor Dave Stokes P/C Bob Ouellette and members

times per year for the members of the Duluth Sail & Power Squadron, a unit of United States Power

The Channel Chatter is published four

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Commander's Report

The 2012 watch year is coming to a close, and as I look back it seems like it was a busy year with many fun activities and good friends.

Our first event after the Change of Watch is the Winter Dock Party, but deep snow and then warm weather put a damper on it last March. Since access to the dock was difficult, we gathered at the Sand Point Yacht Club. It wasn't quite the same, but we made the best of it with good food and drink and discussion about when we'll get to launch and which projects have highest priority.

Our next event was the Fitting Out Party. It is always timely because it happens in the spring when we are all in fitting-out mode and starting to think hard about getting the boats in the water, if they are not in already. This is a great event because it brings everyone together after the winter. It is also one of our biggest fundraisers, so we owe a big thanks to everyone who volunteers their time, donates items for the raffles or auction, and bids on the gear of sometimes questionable value. I want to also give a special thanks to Tom Linderholm for preparing the excellent food at this event.

In May, we have our Dock Cleanup Day. This is not as much a fun event as a work event to prepare the dock for the coming season, but it is another great opportunity to socialize with other members in a less formal atmosphere, and I hope to see many of you there in a couple of months and then throughout the summer. The dock is one of our best resources, so I hope you all take advantage of it.

Over the years, the Captain's Platter has grown from an idea for a fishing contest to arguably one of the best contests on Lake Superior. Fishing is a segment of boating that is growing in our squadron, both through new members who are passionate about this sport and existing members who are taking up the sport. The Captain's Platter has been a great event for promoting the squadron, and I believe we all owe Todd Carlson a big round of thanks for spearheading this initiative.

You have all probably read in my previous articles about our association with Mentor Duluth. This is one of our community outreach initiatives to teach children in the community about boating safety and safety around the water in general. Those who have been involved in the events we have sponsored understand the value of this work in the eyes and in the laughter of the kids we have taken out on the water. Hopefully, it will also save some lives.



Lt/C Lance R. Olson, P, DSPS Commander for watch year 2013-2014.

Another outreach activity is our association with the Duluth Yacht Club and its annual East/West Regatta with the Barker's Island Yacht Club. For the past few years the Duluth Yacht Club has used the squadron dock as its headquarters when it has sponsored this race. It has been a great opportunity for the members of both of these organizations to become familiar with the squadron and our facilities. There are a number of people who are members of both the squadron and one or the other of these sailboat racing clubs, and I hope to see this trend of shared interests and facilities continue.

Finally, our big fall event is the Corn Roast. It is a humble name for what is, for many, the favorite event of the year. As always, we had great food, great music and I believe a great time was had by all. A lot of work goes into this event behind the scenes with the meal preparation, setup, planning, etc., and I appreciate all the effort that went into it this year and in all those past. A special treat this year was a visit by the Coast Guard and the DNR in response to our invitation. They had the opportunity to interact with us and learn more about our organization, and we got to tour their boat. Hopefully, this relationship will also continue.

The new watch year is now upon us and I hope to see you all out on the water very soon.

Lt/C Lance R. Olson, P
DSPS Commander and former Administration Officer

Educational Officer's Report

Spring is just around the corner. Right? The new boating catalogs are arriving, the local boat shows are in full swing, and the spring maintenance lists have been seen around the house. We are all excited about a new year of boating fun. The Education Department offered a weather class last fall and a lot of DSPS members missed a great opportunity to learn from the best, Dave Anderson. There were six DSPS members in the class and also six members of the Coast Guard Reserve. I took the class, and the knowledge I gained will make me a safer sailor. Steve Farrell is just finishing up the first ABC class of 2013. Les Watters will be teaching a second ABC class starting on April 13.

Looking forward to fall, I'm hoping to add a piloting class and engine maintenance class. If there are instructors out there for either one of these classes, I would love to hear from you. There are a lot of members in the roster who need more class initials behind their name. Let's work hard as a squadron to support the Education Department and take classes. You may even want to take them as a refresher course. Do you need a gift for that hard-to-buy-for relative



or friend? Consider a DSPS gift certificate for one of our great classes. Winter is on its way out, and spring will soon be here.

Lt/C Mary Rantala, Educational Officer

Administrative Officer's Report

We all have our reasons for being part of the DSPS. While some of my reasons may be similar to most of yours, at the end of the day it's the family of our squadron that tips the scale. I often look through our roster to see how many folks out there I still have yet to meet. In 2013, I look forward to getting to know more of our squadron members who I have yet to have the pleasure of acquaintance.

My first year on the Executive Committee as a Member-at-Large opened my eyes to the myriad of opportunities and events that the Duluth Sail and Power Squadron offer. Throughout the year I was able to take part in fundraisers such as Fitting Out and Captain's Platter, weekend events like the Corn Roast and the Smitke Wedding, and those evenings of just plain-old hanging out at the dock, enjoying a fire and some long-winded tales. During these events I have met numerous entertaining individuals and plenty of what I hope to be friends for a lifetime.

As we enter the next boating season, think to yourself, what are the reasons that you are a part of the squadron? Make sure you get out and take advantage of it this year, whether it's educating others, attending the various events, helping out with them or simply sitting by the fire enjoying the stories of your fellow boaters. We look forward to seeing you!



Lt/C Tom Linderholm and daughter Brianna.

Tight Lines!

Lt/C Tom Linderholm Administrative Officer and former Member-at-Large

Executive Officer's Report

Hello, all. I hope your 2013 is going well! Not long now until we can think about waking up our boats - as of this writing ... 83 days! Not that I'm counting. Thank you to all who helped in the 2012 season with our events both away and at our beautiful dock facility. In overview of the last year, it has been a great one for our squadron with new member participation, and we want to keep it going, as it was good to see new faces from the Captain's Platter all the way to Corn Roast. I look forward to a great upcoming year, starting out with Change of Watch and then the Fitting Out Party ... and lots of good times at our dock and meetings as we welcome in a new watch.

I have been a member going on five years now and a Member-at-Large for the last three. I will be stepping up from a Memberat-Large position to the Executive Officer position to assist Incoming Commander Lance Olson for the 2013-14 watch year. We have lots of good ideas for fun times on the water, in the classroom and at our dock. As a part of my new office, vessel safety inspections fall to me to oversee. I became a vessel safety examiner last year under the instruction of Past Commander Dave DC Carlson and have learned just how important VSC's are, not just to have the sticker, but to work with boat owners to pass along what we have learned about safety! I will work closely with P C D C again this year to get as many V S C's done as possible. I encourage you to have anyone you may know with a boat, any kind of boat, to seek out a VSC for the upcoming year. I also encourage you to consider becoming a vessel safety examiner ... we can always use the help! We will be seeking a new V S C chair this year as P C D C has done this duty for

many years and wishes to pass the torch! In closing, for those of you who don't know me, my name is Jason Smitke, aka the windtalker. I am a father of three beautiful daughters, stepfather to two more beautiful girls ... yes, that is five daughters ... talk about a wild ride!!! Can you say big water?

I was recently re-married this past summer to my very patient wife, Leslie. We had our reception at the squadron dock facility on July Fourth. We own a 30-foot Trojan



power boat and love being on the water with our girls every chance we get!! I love to fish. The girls will tolerate it for a few hours ... then it's the beach or mutiny! I encourage you to tell two new friends this year about our squadron, our beautiful dock, our fun events and to encourage them to check us out and possibly join. Have a great summer season, and I hope to meet all of you soon.

Lt/C Jason A. Smitke, aka Windtalker Executive Officer and former Member-at-Large

Treasurer's Note

Hello, Duluth Sail and Power Squadron Members.

It was just about a year ago that I introduced myself to you all as a newly elected Member-at-Large. It was a pleasure serving on your Bridge last year and being a part of the Fitting Out Party, Captain's Platter Fishing Contest and one of the Mentor Duluth boating safety days. I look forward to participating and volunteering at more squadron events this coming summer.

I also hope to meet more of you during this next watch year, as I serve as the Treasurer on your Bridge.

Happy sailing, and I hope to see you on the water ... and at the dock!

Paul Snider Treasurer





DSPS 2012 Summary of Events

Ahoy, Everyone.

I am happy to be able to write an article for the Channel Chatter once again. We are extremely fortunate that Paul and Cindy Hayden have graciously agreed to publish the Chatter for us moving forward. We offer a huge thanks to them for this!

This is my last article as Commander of our squadron. The annual elections were held at the end of February, and the new Bridge has been duly elected. It is always amazing to me how quickly the years continue to fly by - it seems like only a couple of months ago that we had the Change of Watch and I became Commander. My watch year has had its share of challenges and successes, and I want to thank all of you for the hard work, help and support it takes to keep this

organization on an even keel. Incoming Commander Lance Olson and his bridge will undoubtedly pilot our Squadron on the proper course as we continue to move forward. I am confident that Lance and his bridge will receive the highest level of support, of which we can all be proud.



Incoming Commander Lance Olson presents the Past Commander's flag to Pat Joyal.

It has been an honor to serve all of you as Commander for the 2012-2013 watch year, and I look forward to flying the P/C flag proudly this summer.

Respectfully, Pat Joyal









away!

Thoughts & Reflections on a Change of Watch

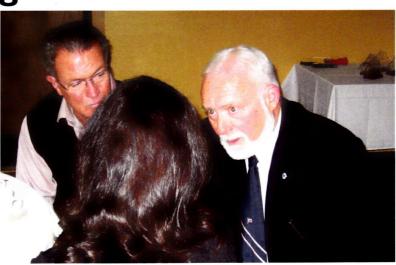
I had the honour and pleasure of being invited to your annual Change of Watch held on the evening of March 9, 2013, at the Barkers Island Inn in Superior, Wisconsin. I was looking outside my window at a pretty substantial snowstorm while packing for my overnight stay, knowing full well that I would have to navigate through inclement weather and stormy seas for about three and a half hours, at the very least, which is generally accepted as being the distance between Thunder Bay, Ontario, and Duluth, Minnesota. Having slipped my lines, I left for my destination pointing generally in a southerly direction and headed out into the storm. Clearing American Customs at 1131 hours I continued to set a course south, overtaking slower traffic and giving them all the necessary blasts of intention to pass to Port. Successfully arriving at my destination, I found persons with a similar interest in the "Captain's Lounge" engaging each other in repartee of a nautical nature, to which I gladly joined in. Amongst this illustrious group were to be found Cdr. Patrick Joyal and the soon-to-be Treasurer Paul Snider. A later arrival was Lt/C Jason Smitke. I was made to feel right at home as we hoisted our tots of rum while discussing the imminent arrival of the 2013 boating

The event commenced at 1800 hours in the Ontario-Michigan rooms at the Inn and was well attended despite the snowstorm that continued to rage outside. The formalities were concluded with respect and the toasts were offered up to the Queen and to the President. I was given the honour of toasting the President and was happy to comply.

season. Well, not really, as it is still probably two months

I was fortunate to have been seated between Paul Snider and Mary Rantala and so could converse to both on things financial and academic. I was very impressed by the way the evening was conducted and by the participation of so many individuals. Noting on the back of the Program I counted no less than 47 members who had been credited with Merit Marks. This is indeed a great achievement to have so many involved in your various activities, and you should be proud of this accomplishment.

Unlike the Lakehead Power and Sail Squadron, your unit is an entity which is both tied to recreational and social activities as well as Boating Education, whereas our



lan Robson, P/C and Treasurer of Lakehead Power and Sail Squadron, visits with former Educational Officer John O'Neil.

squadron is primarily devoted to providing boating courses and is not tied to the Thunder Bay Yacht Club, notwithstanding that the majority of members in the yacht club are also members of the LPSS. One of the initiatives that our Bridge has taken on in the last year was to honour a dear member [a founding member 1956], James Coslett, who passed on and will be remembered by some of you as not only an avid supporter of the USPS/CPS but also acted in the position of Commander and lastly Treasurer in the seven years that I was the Commander of our squadron. He was also known as quite a talented cartoonist and his topics were of course very nautical in nature. We initiated a bursary to be given to a high school student at the new Superior high school in Thunder Bay, the proviso of which is for that student to continue on to higher education, whether it be university or college. This then is our way of giving back to the community and also acknowledging the years and service put in by James Coslett.

Finally, let me say that wherever there are squadrons active in our two countries there are generally safer and more informed boaters plying the waters. This is something we should all strive for and is well worth the effort put forward to achieve it.

I conclude by saying that it was an honour to represent the Lakehead Power and Sail Squadron at your Change of Watch. I was made to feel comfortable as an old friend would be thought of, and I thank you for that. Rounding this out I had a most rewarding time of conversation with D/Lt/C Dale Perry and Vivian which terminated with us having breakfast the next morning together. It appeared that a great time was had by all in attendance – I know that I certainly did.

One final note, and that is that Thunder Bay Marina and Waterfront has been "reconfigured" and is more interesting to walk around. There is new artwork present and things for children to do, like a skateboard park and splashpad. There is also a new restaurant right at the marina/harbor. We still have the policy whereby if a boater goes out for more than a day he should advise marina services so as to assist a visitor coming in from, say, Duluth/Superior to find a berth. The downtown on the marina side of Thunder Bay has some new and worthwhile eateries to try out as well. So the word is...we're open for business!



Kindest Regards, and Safe Boating!

lan Robson, Past Commander and presently Treasurer Lakehead Power & Sail Squadron [Thunder Bay, Ontario]



Above: P/C John Harrison, Mary Grubb, P/C Charlie Grubb and Valerie Oullette at the Change of Watch. Middle right: D/Lt/C Dale Perry oversees the Change of Watch. Bottom right: Swearing in of Lt/C Secretary Shelly Micke.





On to the Good Life



Above: P/C Dave Stokes, with wife Kristi and son Tanner, help celebrate former Dockmaster Glenn Pratt's retirement from NAPA. Congrats, Glenn & Sally. Right: Captain Sherman Edwards celebrated his retirement after 32 years with the Madeline Island Ferry Line and many years sailing aboard other ships, including the William A. Irvin.





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And the Calabash Award Goes to ...

P/C Pat Joyal received the Sacred Calabash for inadvertently flying his DSPS burgee upside down, apparently indicating he was in distress.

In addition to that, he also left a bowl of fresh fish fillets in the Sand Point Yacht Club clubhouse microwave for more than a week.

Smiley Meehan braved the stench to remove the rotting catch. Where's a Nor'Easter when you need one?

Go online to view the video horror www.vimeo.com/62351626







Piloting Quiz - Dead Reckoning

Brush Up your skills and see if you can pass this short quiz, sent to us by Harvey and Candy Hengel. Give it a try, then you'll find the answers at the bottom of page 18.

- I. If a compass is properly mounted, the numbers on the compass card when read at the lubber's line will indicate the direction the boat is heading in reference to:
 - A. Magnetic North
 - B. The North Star
 - C. True North
 - D. The boat's center
- 2. The angular difference between the true geographic pole and the magnetic north pole is called:
 - A. Variation
 - B. Magnetization
 - C. Deviation
 - D. Line of force
- 3. Variation:
 - A. Is established by the Coast Guard
 - B. Can usually be ignored
 - C. Changes with geographic position
 - D. Does not show on a chart
- 4. Dead reckoning is the estimation of a boat's position by applying course and distance traveled from:
 - A. Any location on a DR track
 - B. A previously determined position
 - C. Any point on a depth curve
 - D. Any estimated position



Candy and Harvey Hengel celebrate Easter 2008 with Kristi and Tanner Stokes at their home in Florida.

- 5. A dead reckoning track is:
 - A. A course line that is absolutely correct in its accuracy
 - B. The actual course of a vessel plotted over the bottom
 - C. A measured course used to practice navigational skills
 - D. The intended course line of a vessel as plotted on a chart
- 6. A relatively accurate position of a vessel at a given time that is determined without reference to a former position is called a:

- A. Plot
- B. Bearing
- C. DR position
- D. Fix

Taking a Duluth Power Squadron course will provide you some of the essential knowledge needed to safely operate your boat.

P/D/C Harvey Hengel, SN P/C Candy Hengel, SN

Jim Marshall called it his Magic Carpet

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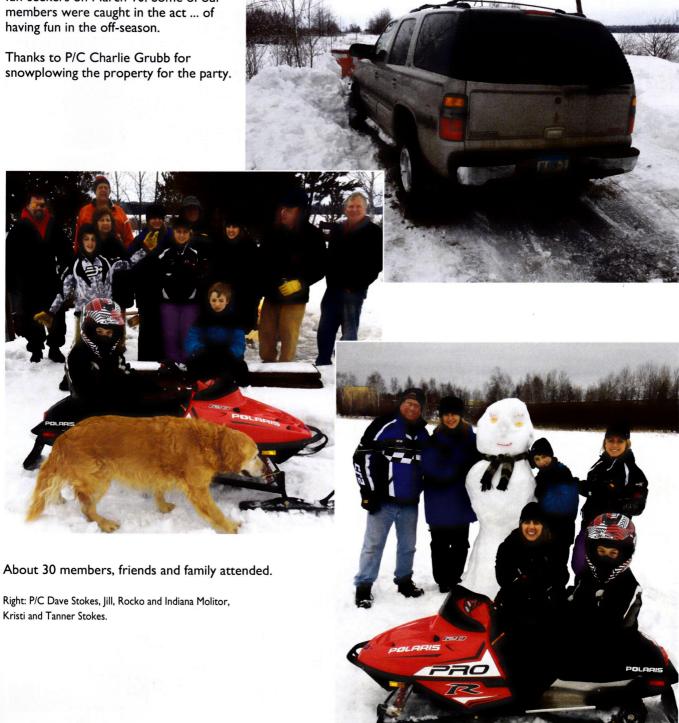
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Winter Dock Party

The Winter Dock Party drew a crowd of fun-seekers on March 10. Some of our members were caught in the act ... of



Fitting Out Party

The 2013 Fitting Out Party is coming up!

It will again take place at the Hermantown Shrine building on Saturday, April 27.

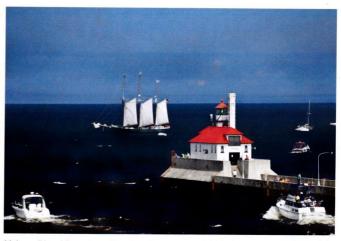
Join us for a delicious meal of slow-smoked prime rib, with grilled chicken and great salads and accompaniments priced at \$25 for each adult and \$10 for each child.

5 p.m. Social Hour 6 p.m. Dinner Service

Raffles, auctions and prizes will follow dinner service.

As always, we appreciate you bringing your unused boating items to donate for the silent auction. Due to the popularity of the event and our space limitations, please RSVP early so we can be sure to accommodate you.

To RSVP, email or call Tom Linderholm: tlinderholm1@hotmail.com, 218-349-2728.



Halcyon IV and Purr-ecious Time head out to assist in escorting the tall ships into the harbor in 2011.

Tall Ships a-Comin'

Stand by for information concerning the DSPS involvement in the Tall Ships Duluth grand entrance. The festival, which drew nearly 250,000 people in 2010, runs July 25-29.

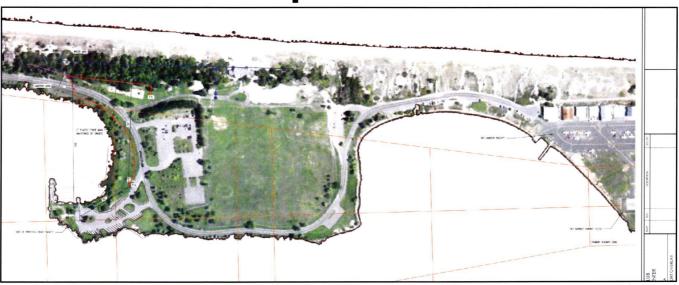








Watersports Center



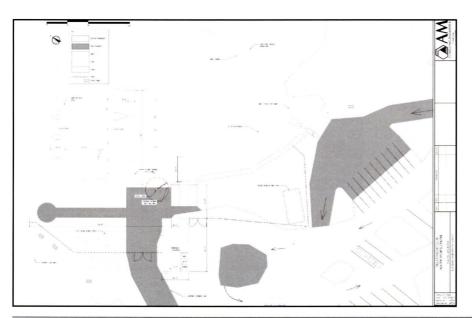
The Duluth Boat Club is planning to build and operate the Duluth Watersports Center on the bay side at the location of the present boat launch ramp, just short of the Park Point Beach House. The facility will be used by the Duluth-Superior Sailing Association (currently operating at the site), by the Boat Club's outrigger paddling program (Outrigger Canoes and Dragon Boat training), and by various community and university kayaking and canoeing programs.

A special thanks to Jim Sharrow and Craig Lincoln for presenting on this topic at the DSPS Annual Meeting at Clyde Iron.

The facility will include a 2,000square-foot building with bathrooms, a single point crane for lifting sailboats in and out of the water, floating docks and the launch ramp. A new launch ramp for use by the general community will be constructed. The harbor area will be dredged.

Estimated cost of the project is approximately \$750,000.

The city of Duluth is in the process of rezoning the park from R-I to P-I. After that is completed, a development agreement will be written and presented to Duluth City Council for approval. Formal fundraising for the project will commence after council approval of the project. The city administration is supportive of the project, and the Park Point Community Club is the first official donor to pledge financial support for the project. More to come!



Jim Sharrow Facilities Manager Duluth Seaway Port Authority W: 218-727-8525

C: 218-390-6975

Captain's Platter Fishing Contest

Mark your fishing calendar!

The Duluth Sail and Power Squadron's annual "Captain's Platter Fishing Contest" will be held on June 8, 2013. We will have the same format in this fishing contest as we have had in the past. Further

information will be available on our website and at Marine General. Mark the calendar, call Todd Carlson, or just show up at the Squadron Dock Friday before the big fishing day for more details.

This has turned into a full weekend

event even though the fishing contest is just on Saturday. Those with interest in helping, please contact Todd Carlson, 218-348-4733, todd@carlson-lakeshore.com. This event is a big part of our membership growth, and we can always use extra helping hands to keep it successful.



Counter-clockwise from left: Captain's Platter founder Tracy Nelson (left) and Captain's Platter chair P/C Todd Carlson; Todd's boat at last year's event; Nice catch!





Thanks to Karen & John Bray for many years of service for the Channel Chatter



Email Updates at District DSPS

The latest issue of the D10 newsletter, *The Communicator*, is available for download at http://www.usps-d10.org/d10newsletter/2013Spring.pdf

How to update your email address

Our hope would be that eventually the distribution of the newsletter will become 100 percent electronic. Currently, approximately 20 percent of our members do not have an email address in DB2000.

As we move to electronic notices like these for more of our communication, it becomes critical that as many members as possible update their contact information with USPS and District 10.

There are two ways to update your personal information. The first is to go to the national website at http://usps.org/. Click on "Locate Things" and then click on "Information Center." Then, from the blue menu on the left side, go down to "Membership Information" and click on "By Name or Certificate." Follow the instructions.



Cruisers Primetime, Silver Girl and Halcyon headed for Rocky Island.

The second way is to contact your Squadron's DB2000 Chair and ask that your information be updated in DB2000.

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Note from the Editor

I'm writing on behalf of our membership to say thank you to Paul and Cindy Hayden and their staff at Lake Superior Magazine for keeping our Channel Chatter publication coming to your mailbox.

Throughout the years we've had many talented members take on the large task of producing our beloved newsletter; I'd like to also thank them at this time. These are the kind of tasks that go on behind the scenes and tend to be taken for granted. Many squadrons have stopped the print version of their publications and have moved everything online.

When Karen Bray decided to retire we knew we had big shoes to fill. She did an incredible job for us and dedicated countless hours to each publication. As it is with most areas in a volunteer organization, folks weren't knocking down the door to take over the role.

Your Bridge was starting to get very concerned about the future of the *Channel Chatter*. That's when Kristi and I decided to approach the Haydens. We're pleased to have them as members and so fortunate they agreed to share their special skills with us. It is funny how things come full circle as *Lake Superior Magazine* published the *Channel Chatter* many years ago under the leadership of the late Jim Marshall, a former squadron member.

I hope this kind of generosity and display of volunteerism encourages others to follow. Our squadron cannot survive without the membership lending its time and talents. If we all give a little, we gain a lot!

Our squadron has much to be proud of. This is yet



The Stokes crew at the Madeline Island Yacht Club.

another example of how fortunate we are here at the head of the Greatest Lake in the world.

Please join me in thanking the Haydens and their staff. If you're driving down Superior Street, stop in the LSM store and say thanks! They also have a great publication that's always willing to take on new subscribers.

I'd also encourage you to support our advertisers that so generously help to offset the costs of production.

Also, remember, this is your publication and your squadron. If you'd like to submit photos or articles, please do! I'm the current editor and liaison between the squadron and the magazine.

Feel free to submit material to my email: Dave@StokesMediaHouse.TV

Items need not be boating related; you can provide recipes or information about family trips, gardening, winter sports, anything of interest.

I wish you all a fantastic upcoming boating season and look forward to all of you contributing when and where you can. Smooth Sailing!

Past Commander / Channel Chatter Liaison David R. Stokes

(1) A. 2) A. 3) C. 4) B. 5) D. 6) D. 13



2012 Merit Marks List

Larry J. Anderson Kay Bakke Gina Beste-Wuorinen Richard D. Bibby Karen Bray Greg R. Brisky Reed G. Byers David C. Carlson Gerald A. Carlson Todd Michael Carlson William A. Carlson Tom Cawcutt Sr. Gloria Desmedt Larry Robert Evanson Steve Farrell Duane R. Flynn

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Julia K. Rossini Brian C. Schmidt Jason A. Smitke Paul D. Snider David A. Solberg Laura Solberg Chris L. Spokely David R. Stokes Kristi Kay Stokes Robert E. Stokes Lester V. Watters Jim Weckman Linda Weckman Arne D. Wuorinen Arlene Zapp Jeff Zapp

Special thanks to Len Robinson, Merit Mark Chair

Leonard A. Robinson

Daryle Rock takes the Corn Roast excitement to Florida. She donned a Corn Roast hat and enjoyed being "Queen" for a day during a Mardi Gras Parade.





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River Quest

May 13-16, 2013

Be prepared to volunteer your time at this very worthy community cause. Contact P/C Charlie Grubb for details: H 218-525-4344, C 218-349-2804, cngrubb1@aol.com