

Duluth Sail and Power Squadron

Channel Chatter



United States Power Squadrons

Back on the Water

Volume 2016 Issue 1

Spring 2016



This issue of the *Channel Chatter* celebrates the start of boating season, covering spring Squadron events like the Fitting Out Party, Dock Cleanup Day and Memorial Day.

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Contributors: Reed Byers, Dave

Carlson, Tom Linderholm, Len Robinson,

Dave Stokes, Jason Yecoshenko

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Bridge Officers 2016-2017



Commander	Cdr Len Robinson, S	H 218-879-3769, B 715-392-1122 lrobinson@nwoutlet.com
Executive Officer	Lt/C Tom Linderholm	C 218-349-2728 tlinderholm1@hotmail.com
Educational Officer	Lt/C Chad Lowney	H 218-341-9142 clowney@epcduluth.com
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Jason Yecoshenko	C 218-349-5718 jyecoshenko@yahoo.com
Secretary	Lt/C Reed Byers	H 651-788-0972 reedbyers@charter.net
Treasurer	P/C Dave Carlson, SN	H 218-525-1438, C 218-393-6222 DCC@chartermi.net
Immediate Past Commander	P/C Lance Olson, P	H 715-398-0140, C 218-340-3598 lance_r_olson@hotmail.com

Executive Committee Members at Large

I/Lt Bob Hecht

I/Lt Guy Partch

I/Lt Krister Mattson

I/Lt Duane Flynn, AP

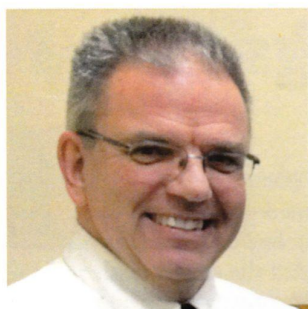
www.DuluthSailAndPowerSquadron.com

Webmaster	P/C Bob Ouellette, AP	H 218-727-6079, C 218-348-6656 westernharbor@juno.com
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Channel Chatter Staff

Editor/Photo Editor	P/C David Stokes, S	H 218-879-4409, C 218-310-3972 dave@stokesmediahouse.tv
Advertising	P/C Dave Carlson, SN	H 218-525-1438 dcc@chartermi.net
Story Submissions	Lake Superior Magazine	H 218-722-5002 dsps@lakesuperior.com





Commander's Report

by Cdr. Leonard Robinson, S

As I sit here looking at all the fog, I'm wondering when summer might arrive. We seem to have had about three days of

nice weather so far this spring and those were pretty nice. With all the nice weather, I know many of you have your boats in or are close to putting them in. We need to enjoy our short season to the fullest.

Make sure you get your Vessel Safety Check from one of our many examiners. This is a great time to find out if all of your safety gear is in order. Being an examiner over many years, one of the main items that expire is our flares. Seems like they usually don't expire at the end of the season but midway through the season, so having a checkup on those is a nice reminder to get new ones.

This spring we did some repairs to our dock facility to make it safe for the season. Thank you to Paul Lind for heading up our dock maintenance and organizing many a work crew for several years. The dock is our biggest asset so we need to keep it in great shape for our members to use. We have revised our dock rules and those will be sent out to each member. Please take a look at them as we have those rules for the safety of all in mind.

As I look upon the year so far, your bridge has been busy. Several of us attended the D/10 Spring Conference and district Change of Watch, and have had several bridge meetings. Since the last publication, we have had several events, too. Our Christmas Party with the 242 Yacht Club, new member reception, our own Change of Watch and the Fitting Out Party, all of which were great and well attended. One of the several awards that were presented to us at the D/10 Spring Conference was a certificate for Membership. Duluth was presented a certificate from National for being third in the nation in new member growth for large squadrons. This is quite the accomplishment. We have many new members already this year. If you happen to meet them, please welcome them into the squadron and answer any questions that they may have. Some of the other awards presented were the Star Squadron Award for being an active squadron, and the website received an award (thanks Bob Ouellette for maintaining that).

In August the Tall Ships Festival will be here and we again are participating. This festival is the largest maritime event that

we have here in Duluth. Please look for more details on the festival and our involvement.

As always, we are looking for members to help us out in running the squadron. This could be joining the bridge, helping at events, helping maintain our dock facility or many other areas that we need help. Please consider your talents and talk to a bridge member to see where we need help.

This publication has been put together for several years by P/C Dave Stokes. I guess we can say Dave would like to retire from this position, so we are actively looking for a new editor. If you have any interest in helping publish this great newsletter, please contact Dave or myself. A special "Thank You" to Dave for all your work on making this a great newsletter.

Look for more information on our annual Corn Roast that happens on Labor Day weekend. It's always a great fun time.

In closing, I look forward to seeing everyone either on the water or at the dock.

Thank you.

New Members 2015/2016

Here is a list of our new members that have joined us late last year up till now. Please take time to welcome them into the squadron. All our members are important, whether you are a new or a Life Member.

New Members

Jeffrey Birman
Joseph Butler
Ronald & Mary Carlson
Chris Clay
David & Tammy Curran
Elmer Engman & Diane Martinek
Will Hartman & Tiffany Berens
Brian & Kelly Iverson
Chip Jacobs
Rick Lennartson
Dan & Kim Linder

Bruce, Jane, Katie, Calvin Mars
Krister Mattson
Justin & Stacy Medlin
Michael Medlin
Michael Nordeen
Paul Olson & Joseph Olson/Myles Knox
Samantha & Mackenzie Olson
Guy & Shannon Partch
Suzanne Lind Reijo
Chris & Lydia Schreiber
Gerard Stanke
Christopher & Melissa Wipson
Michael & Jennifer West

New Life Members

Larry Anderson
William Carlson
Robert Hecht
P/C David A. Mattson
Cdr Len Robinson

Commander's Ramblings

by Cdr. Leonard Robinson, S

As I try to share experiences of traveling around the western end of Lake Superior aboard my uncle's boat, the *Arrowhead*, it's easy to think of the many miles that we put on each summer. This installment does not have the content or experiences of navigating our great lake, but some humor.

Lisa and I always took a summer vacation with my aunt and uncle, somewhere on the lake aboard the boat. Well, we did not want to quit doing that when we had kids. So, when Paige, our first child, was born, we began to wonder if we would take a boating vacation that year. Paige was born in April, and we always planned a trip for the last week of July and the first week of August. If you do the math, that would put us on the lake with a 3 1/2-month-old. I was not sure if my aunt and uncle were ready for that, but I asked anyways. Fred just mentioned that we should wait to see how the baby was doing in early summer and then decide. July came and it was decided that a trip with Paige would be a go.

As we prepared for the trip, many more items needed to be packed than before. All of us aboard didn't like clutter so we found every nook and cranny that we could to stash baby items. Lisa and I decided that we should only go on the boat for about five days for that year. Our destination was the Apostle Islands and we knew that if things got "rough," we could call for a ride back to town early. We did manage to find places for all the extra stuff.

The weather was absolutely beautiful that year, no storms (day or night), calm waters and great company. We made the best of everything, and Paige was the perfect baby. The water was very nice, too, so swimming was on the agenda most days. We did stay mainly on the most popular docks that year, just in case we had any issues with the baby.

Of course with babies comes a lot of "debris," as my uncle put it. Of course, that was empty formula containers, diapers and wipes, dirty ones. So how does one deal with that out in the islands for five days? Well, we had a bright idea of putting the garbage in two bags, sealed and put down in the back bilge. Needless to say, even in two bags, after three days of hot weather, running the engines and generator, we developed a nice

smell that seemed to take over the boat. More bags and then putting them on the flybridge seemed to help, but still the raging sun did its duty too. Luckily one of the group was headed into Bayfield, so we offloaded the smelly trash and had a refreshing rest of the time. We had to improvise on a few things, one of them being bath time. Paige loved her baths in the small tub on the salon table and slept through every night.

It was a trip that brought us great joy and many memories. We enjoyed a couple more years of trips on Lake Superior before we chose to start our camping adventures. Unfortunately, when Megan was born four years later, my uncle and aunt quit going on vacations but still used the boat on this end of the lake and she was able to experience those.



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Administrative Officer's Report

by Lt/C Jason Yecoshenko

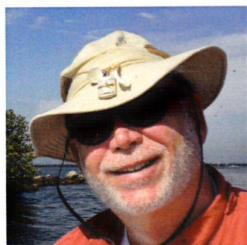
Greetings everyone, I would like to introduce myself as the Administration Officer for the Duluth Sail and Power Squadron this year. My name is Jason, aka "The Pirate." I have probably met many of you in the past at various functions at and away from the dock. Those of you I have not met yet, I hope our paths cross in the future, preferably while enjoying the great Gitchi Gummi.

I have been in Northern Minnesota for the past 30 years, migrating down the shore from Grand Marais to Duluth 22 years ago. My love for the water began there. From Grandma and Grandpa's cabin on Devil Track Lake to my aunts and uncles' boats on Lake Superior. I am married to my awesome wife, Lori, and we have three children: Fayth (19), who works for Essentia Health System and is a member of the Minnesota National Guard; Kristianna (15), who will be a sophomore at East High School; and finally my first mate Brock (13), who will be in eighth grade at Ordean East. Oops, almost forgot Cinder, our English Lab, who loves to give hugs and will lick you to death! Over the years I have graduated from the homemade raft my

brother, cousin and I built to our current boat: a F30 Trojan named the *Ms. Ladybug* that was "new" to us last season. In between there has been the standard Minnesota 16' Lund fishing boat, a SS235 Slickcraft, and prior to the Trojan we had a 268 Sea Ray Sundancer. All of these boats have made the trek to the Apostle Islands, minus the Lund, and we are looking forward to another island adventure this summer.

I would like to thank everyone on the board for their guidance up to this point. Thanks to Tom Linderholm for coordinating the Fitting Out Party and the Pat Joyal family for cooking the food. It was a great success with everyone able to get together after the winter and catch up on all their travels. Also, a big thank you to all who helped out for Dock Cleanup Day. It went quickly this year due to all the little things we do when utilizing it during the year. When you see Paul Lind, Dockmaster, make sure to thank him for the coordination of the event. The place looks great.

Finally, I hope everyone's vessels are off the hard, tied up at your dock and ready to be enjoyed. See you soon and don't forget to tell everyone about the Squadron. Safe boating and may the winds be ever in your favor.



Secretary's Report

by Lt/C Reed Byers

It is on us again. The time of year we scrub, lube, wax and maybe swear a little at the things we need to fix from our usual long winters. Susan and I splashed *ShipsZin* in late May. As is customary, we went to the boat for happy hour on that special day. We had our first G&T's of the year and FROZE OUR TAILS OFF! That wind that has blown for weeks kept us in the canvas, but we were able to log the event in the ship's log, listen to a CD and have a good time anyway.

That sounds an awful lot like complaining. It is not. We talked about where we want to go this year, where we can get a lighter plugin DC fan for the helm, what maintenance/repairs we will do, should we buy a roll-up dinghy, and where we can store a case of diet tonic on board. We spotted different boats in the outer harbor and agreed we look forward to meeting the new people that come with them. We looked at the docks that have been built. We wondered if we would continue to have more trout dinners that each preceding summer.

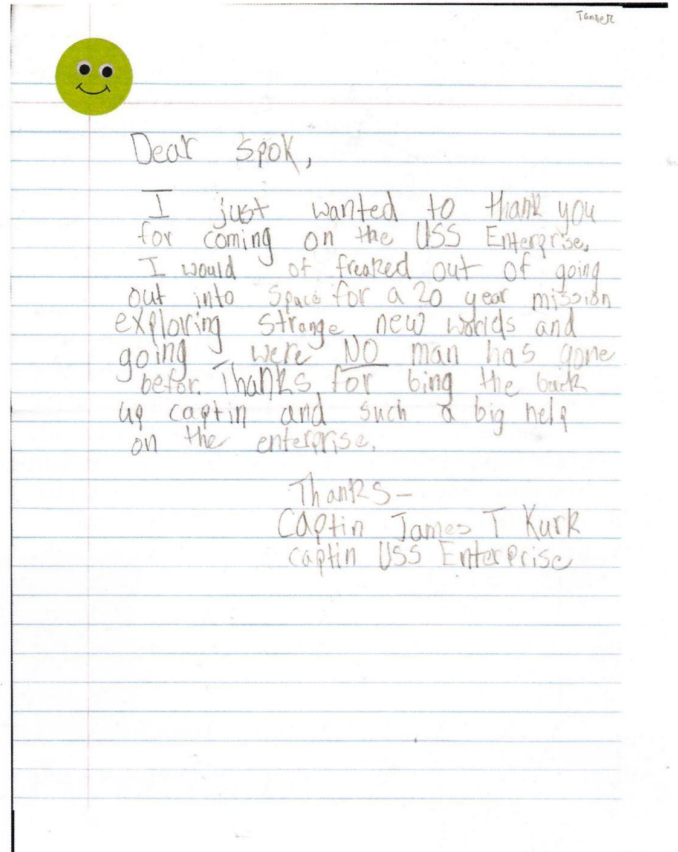
As we talked about the coming summer (assuming we actually have one), it was fun to think about where we will go but it became clear with whom we go is even more important. Taking a DSPS course and Central at Brisky's suggestion really has changed our lives. We hang out with many of you yahoos all year. We vacation with some of you. I look forward to seeing many of you at our meetings and events. We spend our time and money very differently than we planned when we moved here. We have been at it long enough now to have long-standing jokes and stories with many of you. We know there will be sunny days at the picnic table at Skinny's with Dave, Jeff, Todd and others, we will be poking the fire telling stories around the new patios both at Harbor Cove and the Squadron Dock, I will be singing in the shower after a sweaty project, and I will be eating some of the bacon Dave makes in the morning on the patio.

These are all very very good things (singing excluded). I thank you all for them and the many other adventures and good humor coming up in the next few months. The pop and beer is almost always cold and I hope the company is warm! Find us under the red light.

Little Mates



The Squadron's youngest members have great fun at events, too.



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- Alexander Passage to Beaverstone Bay, L/C 2244, 1987



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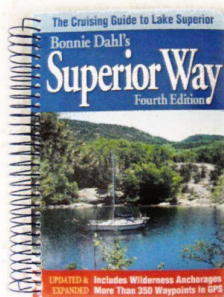
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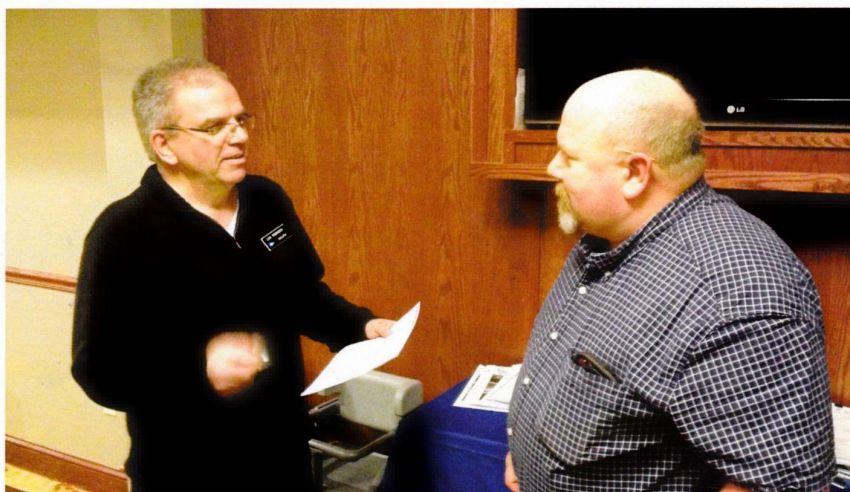
Squadron Christmas Party



January Meeting



January's general meeting and new member meet-and-greet introduced the squadron to Chris Clay (in the middle of the photo at right). Bob Ouelette (top right) received his 25-year membership, and Bob Hecht (above) received a Life membership.



Annual Meeting at VIP



The Duluth Sail & Power Squadron held its annual meeting and elections on February 18 at Vintage Italian Pizza in Superior. Two new members were sworn in: Krister Mattson and Paul Olson. To end the evening, Carol Christenson from the National Weather Service's Duluth office gave a presentation on local weather.



Springtime in the Twin Ports



Change of Watch

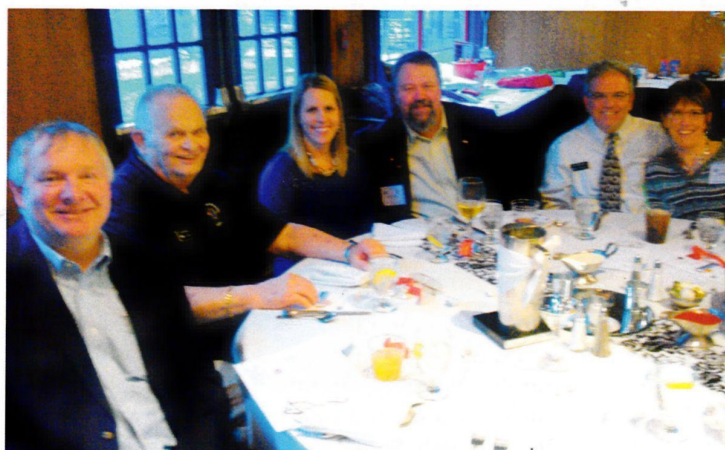


The annual Change of Watch was March 18 this year at the Buffalo House. The new bridge was introduced, and new members Mike West and Guy Partch were sworn in that evening.





District 10 Spring Conference



Members attended the spring conference, April 1-3 in Lake Elmo. Commander Len Robinson received his life membership.



Fitting Out Party



Squadron members celebrated the upcoming boating season during the Fitting Out Party, April 30 at the Belgian Club in Superior. The evening started with a social hour and silent auction, continued with dinner and a dessert auction, and concluded with the much-anticipated live auction.





by Lt/C Tom Linderholm

Well, we have another great event in the books! Thank you once again to all those who attended this year's annual Fitting Out Party at the Belgian Club in Superior! Once again we filled the place to capacity for our event and had a great mix of friends of the club both new and old. With another successful event in the books I want to remind everyone that it is never too early to put aside your boating-related items for this annual event. We always can use great items for the silent & live auctions.

This was a hugely successful event, one that continues to help foot the cost for all of the continual dock maintenance and improvements we enjoy at our squadron dock. I am looking forward to meeting all of our new members as they begin to truly get a chance to enjoy our hidden gem.

This year, once again, we had many volunteers who helped make this event possible, I would like to take a moment and publicly acknowledge those who give so much to our squadron year after year. Thanks to our friends at the 242 Yacht Club for joining us, thank you to the Joyal family for taking charge of the crowd-pleasing baked pasta meal served up that evening. Chad & Stacy Lowney for managing the auction, Paul Schneider and Dave Carlson for taking on the huge task of registration and reconciliation of all the monies collected that night. Our newly appointed Administration Officer Jason Yecoshenko for getting his feet wet, Commander Len, Val & Bob, my wingman Todd Carlson, Cole & Tanner for game assistance and all those who stuck around to clean up. Most importantly, thank you Shelly for tying up loose ends on games, chasing Chase around and last but not least all of the efforts you put in year after year in the decorations.





River Quest

by Lt/C Tom Linderholm

Being an organization devoted to safety and education, we have the opportunity to take part in a lot of cool stewardship programs. Once again the Duluth Sail & Power Squadron, along with 11 other entities, took part in a four-day, on-the-water education program with area 6th graders aboard the *Vista Star*.

River Quest is an opportunity for the DSPS to get in front of our area youth and teach the importance of wearing life jackets in a 10-minute demonstration. This year we made an impression on more than 1,400 students.

River Quest continues to be a great example of our efforts in community outreach. We gain great exposure from the local

media organizations, and it helps to solidify our place both in and on the water.

I'm always surprised by the number of individuals I come across that use the water in various ways without life jackets. I sincerely hope all of those individuals that we speak to take to heart the importance of life jackets, and in the end I am sure we have changed quite a few minds on the importance of this life-saving equipment.

Thank you everyone that helped to make this happen. If you want to find out more information on what we do, you can check out: www.seagrant.umn.edu/riverquest/

For more information on how you can get involved in May of 2017, please contact me at tlinderholm1@hotmail.com.

Dock Cleanup Day: Thanks, Volunteers!





Happy Birthday, Dockmaster Paul



Memorial Day at the Dock





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Captain's Platter 2016 is June 11



Captain's Platter Fishing Contest

Sponsored by the Duluth Sail and Power Squadron www.duluthsailandpowersquadron.com

Saturday, June 11, 2016 6 am to 4 pm

Where: Lake Superior and St. Louis River Basin

Contest Headquarters: Duluth Sail and Power Squadron Dock, Allouez Bay

Cost: \$20 per person, kids 15 and under are free

Awards and Door Prizes at 5:00 pm.

Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each of the following categories:

Walleye

Lake Trout

Brown Trout

King Salmon

Coho Salmon



New Category Added This Year:

Brown Trout

The Captain's Platter award goes to the boat captain with the greatest weight for each of the five categories. Only one fish from each category can qualify for this award. You do not need to catch one of each category to qualify for this award.

The Duluth Sail and Power Squadron is hosting its annual fishing contest Saturday, June 11, 2016 from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tournament headquarters is at the Power Squadron Dock in Allouez bay (44th Ave East and the St. Louis Bay). \$20 a person for adults and free for kids 15 and under. Awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in five divisions: Lake Trout, Walleye, Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, Brown trout. This is a Lake Superior and/or St. Louis River basin contest.

The Captain's Platter award is for the boat with the greatest combined weight of the largest of each species listed. You do not need all four species to be eligible; it is possible to win with only one fish.

We are awarding \$300 cash to the first person to weigh in an 8-pound fish. It must be of one of the classes listed and must weigh exactly 8 pounds.

The Duluth Sail and Power Squadron will be performing Vessel Safety Checks on a voluntary basis to those who wish to have their boats inspected. They will be checked for the needed equipment for Lake Superior and the St. Louis River basin. United States Power Squadron has teamed up with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary for this national program.

Tickets and rules are available at Marine General, The Bait Box, Fisherman's Corner, Northwest Outlet or at the Squadron Dock Friday night before the contest.

Contact Todd Carlson for more details, 218-348-4733, or go to our website.

Graber Taxidermy will donate a FREE MOUNTING for the biggest fish caught during the Captain's Platter or a \$100 certificate toward the mounting of your choice.

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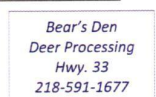
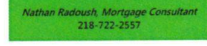
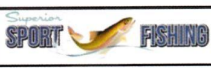
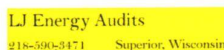
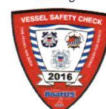
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Free Vessel Safety Checks will be available on Friday from 6—9 pm, and on Saturday from 2—5 pm. Anyone with a current Vessel Safety Check sticker will qualify for a drawing.

REMINDER: All boats must start and end their day on the St. Louis River basin. For more information, see contest rules. Todd Carlson at 218-348-4733

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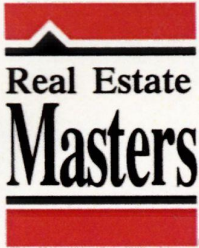
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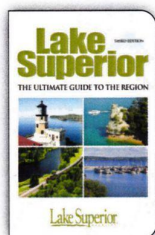
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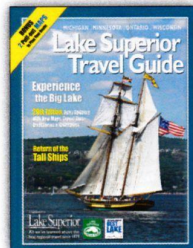
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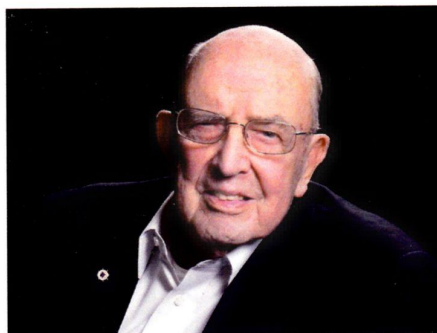
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In Memoriam: Richard Bibby

In 2015, we lost a beloved member of the maritime community.

Richard "Dick" Bibby had numerous awards and commendations for his support, dedication and love of the working waterfront. He sailed the Great Lakes prior to World War II and during the war for the U.S. Maritime Administration as a Merchant Marine sailing the high seas. He was awarded a prestigious medal for his bravery and service to the citizens of Russia during convoys to Murmansk.

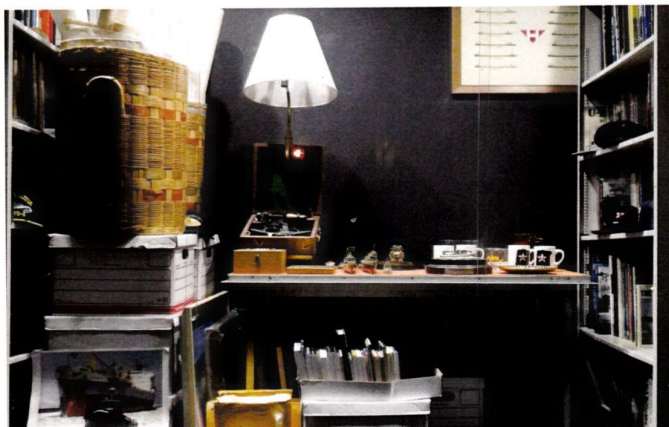
Dick had a long and successful 41-year career with Hanna Mining Company. He had served in many capacities for Hanna, including Fleet Personnel Manager, and retired in 1985 as a Vessel Agent. It was during this career that he transferred to Duluth, Minnesota, on August 28, 1956.

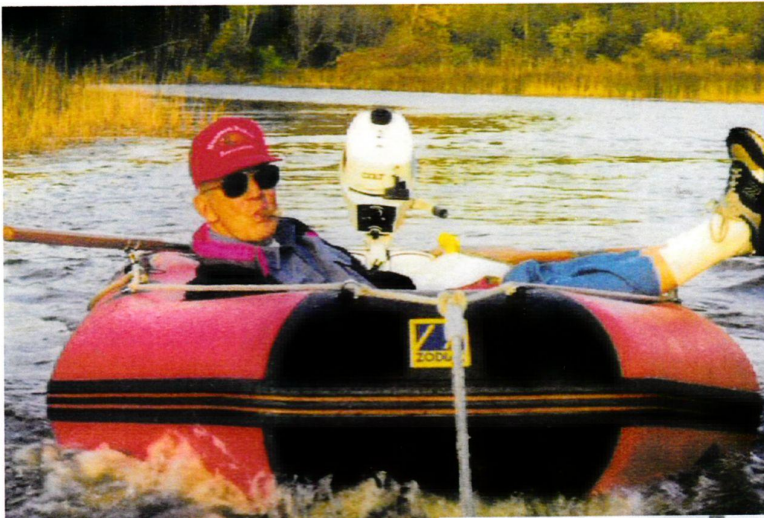
He was a charter member and was very active in several Marine Historical Societies including the Great Lakes, Detroit and Toronto. He was Historian of the Great Lakes Naval Association. He served on the Lake Superior Marine Museum Association and the International Shipmaster's Association, was Past Commander of the Duluth Chapter of the U.S. Power Squadron and served as secretary for over 10 years with

the Harbor Club. In 1978, Richard was honored by the Twin Ports' maritime community by being named the "Marine Man of the Year."

Dick remained active and participated in many groups including the Maritime Waterfront Propeller Club, he was Past President of the Duluth-Superior Harbor Club, a beloved member of the Sand Point Yacht Club and, for over 35 years, enjoyed attending ROMEO's (Retired Old Men Eating Out) every Friday at noon.

This display is but a small glimpse into one of the finest personal maritime collections around, spanning his 93 years of life. It includes such precious items as the Tug *New York*, which he built from the keel up and sailed aboard as a kid, the sextant Dick used for navigating in the Merchant Marine, and some of his favorite publications and plaques honoring his milestones. Enjoy, and as Dick would say, "Keep her between the buoys!"





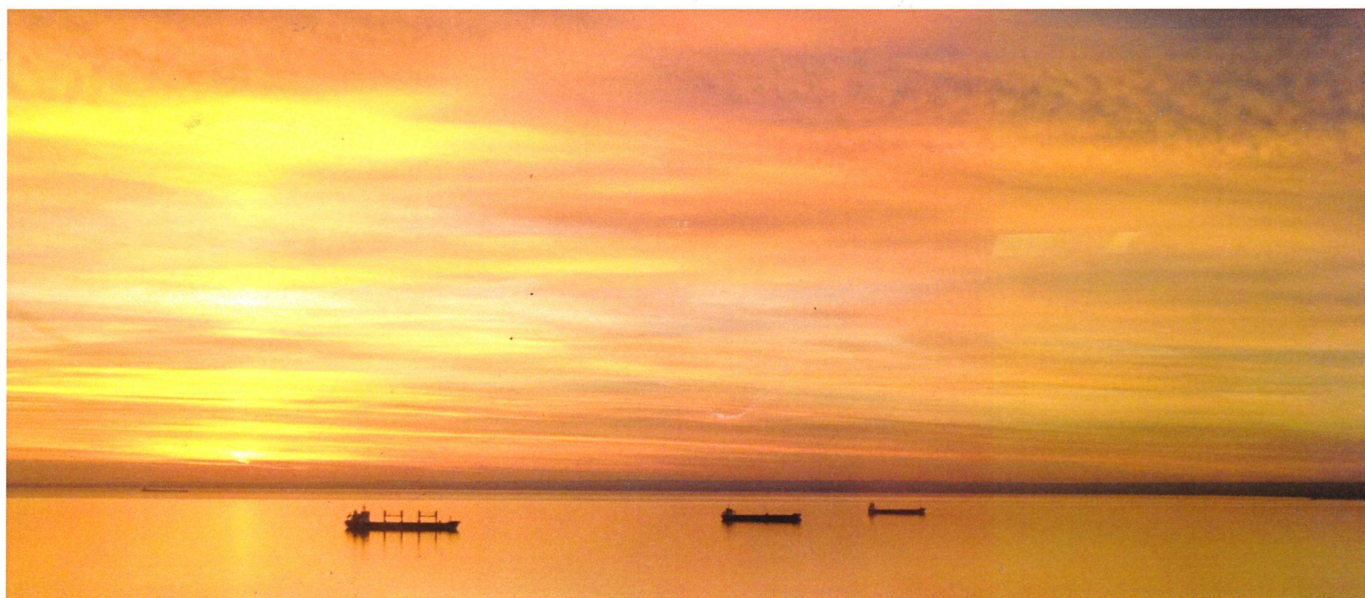
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