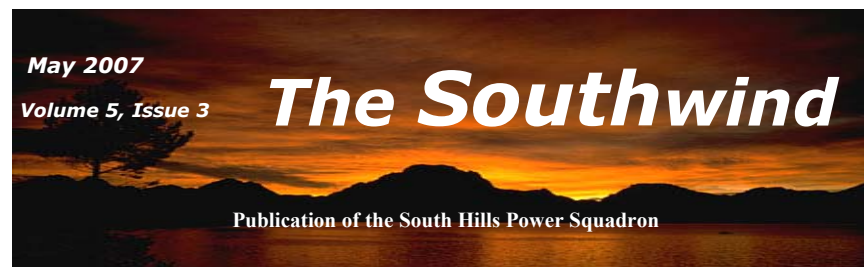




Hopefully, after all the April showers, we'll have
May flowers and some nice boating weather!



Coming Events

- SHPS Monthly Meeting 9 May 2007
- National Safe Boating Week 9 – 25 May 2005
- Boating Course - One day 19 May 2007
Beach Club Marina in New Eagle
- SHPS Picnic Meeting 13 June 2007 South Park
- Sail Day 14 July 2007 Lake Arthur – Moraine

SHPS Dinner Meeting
at *THE ROXY CAFÉ*
South Hills Village
9 May 2007
1800 - Dinner
1930 - Meeting



**Welcome to
Boating Season**

*Warm weather
is finally here!*



SHPS Bridge

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**South Hills Power Squadron
is on the Web at
www.SH-PS.org**



****Please have info for next SouthWind by 16 May****

SUPPORTERS OF THE SOUTHWIND 2007

Bob and Jane Brandenstein

Robert Colteryahn

Lew and Vi Doughton

Dan Marino

Malcolm McDonald

Dorothy Meloy

Tom and Dory Merritt

Jim Stark

Don and Marjie Stark

Richard and Nancy Toler

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank You

In 2006

- There were more fatalities in any year since 1990 (27 fatalities), the second worst year since 1983 (25 fatalities).
- In accidents in which PFD use was a factor, only two victims were wearing a life jacket.
- Seventeen of the victims *may* still be with us today if they had worn a PFD at the time of the mishap that resulted in their death.
- Eight of the 25 victims were onboard unpowered boats. Seventeen were onboard powerboats.
- Thirteen fatalities occurred on rivers, seven on lakes, three on Lake Erie, and two on ponds.
- Nine of the victims died when their boats capsized, six fell overboard, and one was in a boat that swamped.
- Seven died in collisions, and 2 when their boat went over a dam.
- Hypothermia or sudden immersion into cold water was a possible factor in seven fatalities.
- Alcohol was a possible contributing factor in 14, one of the worst years ever in Pennsylvania.
- Twenty-three of the 25 victims were male; eight of the victims were anglers; 8 were paddling a canoe or kayak or rowing a boat.
- Fourteen of the 25 victims were known to be able to swim.
- Two of the victims were less than 18 years old; six were over 50.
- The average age of the victims in 2006 and 2005 was 38 years.
- Three of the boat operators involved in the fatal accidents had taken a boating course.
- The month of June accounted for seven fatalities; July had six; May followed with three. February, April, August, and September each had two. November had one, and there were no fatalities in January, March, October, and December.
- Fifteen of the fatal accidents happened in the afternoon, four in the morning. Five happened after dark.
- Fatalities occurred on six different weekdays. Saturday had the most with nine. Friday and Sunday followed with five each; three happened on Monday; Thursday had two. Only one occurred on a Tuesday with none on Wednesdays.

The Commission is committed to improving boating safety. Please use the information in this report to teach people how to boat





Of the 66 reported accidents, 17 were collisions, 10 of which were collisions between vessels

The types of reported accidents were as follows:

Falls overboard 17	Hit by propeller 3
Capsizing 16	Skier mishap 3
Collision with vessel 10	Other 2
Collision with fixed object 6	Fall within boat 2
Swamping/flooding 4	Fire/explosion 2
Hit by propeller 3	Collision w/ floating object 1

Personal watercraft (PWC) were involved in eight accidents in 2006, seven fewer than in 2005. Seven of the accidents involving PWCs were collisions, accounting for 41 percent of the total number of collisions for all boats. Eleven injuries were reported in accidents involving PWC. For the second year in a row, PWC operators or passengers were fatally injured (see recap #9). This was a double fatality involving a collision with another boat.

Nineteen fatal recreational boating accidents resulted in 25 fatalities. This is 13 more fatalities than the number that was reported in 2005 and the worst year since 1990. Only four of the 25 victims were wearing personal flotation devices at the time of the mishap that resulted in their deaths. Two of those victims were killed in one accident by blunt force trauma, so PFD use was not a factor in that accident. Six of the victims had wearable PFDs onboard the boat but did not wear them, and in five fatalities there were no PFDs onboard. In three accidents involving six fatalities, the use of PFDs was not applicable, and in three accidents involving five fatalities insufficient PFDs were onboard. The 25 fatalities in 2006 were nearly double the average for the last 10 years (13.2). Chance is always a factor in the number of recreational boating fatalities, and

2006 was a terrible year. The attached "Recap of 2006 Pennsylvania Boating Fatalities" illustrates the importance of safe boating practices. It provides a summary of all fatal recreational boating accidents in the Commonwealth last year. The recap's last page details statistical information about 2006's fatal boating accidents. The following are some highlights from that statistical information.

Editor's Note

I wrote in the last issue that there wouldn't be many of these. I still hope to hold to that! I'd like to call attention to a couple important messages in this issue. With this month having Safe Boating Week, you'll see a bit mentioned about safety. We'd like to thank Tom Merritt for the information he gave at the last meeting about the boating statistics of last year. I've included some information from the PA Fish and Boating Commission web site regarding the statistics he spoke of.

We will also be starting the time of Vessel Safety Checks. You all know what Ken Campbell has done in this area. Let's give him our help with VSC's and with events such as the Blessing of the Fleet.

Lastly, we have a Boating Course scheduled for 19 May 2007 at the Beach Club Marina. Let's try to promote this and also try to find some people who we think will benefit by taking it. I'm sure Jim Stark will also need much help the day of the class. Please contact Jim and put it on your calendars to help out that day.

Lets all have a very enjoyable and safe boating season and help others to do the same.

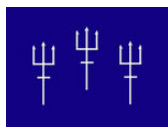
Lt/C Dan Marino, S

Boating Courses Make a Difference. Promote Education and Safety This Season



Looks Like Someone Could Have Used a Few Pointers On Safety Here!





The Commander's Report

Boating Season is finally here!! It looks and feels like November, yet I have to remind myself that it's really April. I hope by the time you get this, we'll get to see the sun and feel the temperature rise.

I am sure all of you are aware of the upcoming National Safe Boating Week that runs from May 19th through the 26th, 2007. It serves to kick off this year's drive for safety on the water. If you are looking for a way to become involved in the Pittsburgh area drive for safe boating, the Pittsburgh Safe Boating Council will conduct the 13th Annual Blessing of the Fleet on May 26th. There will be clergy there from various denominations who will bless all of the boats and their crew who are present. Included in the ceremony is a helicopter which will drop a wreath into the water to commemorate all who have lost their lives in Pittsburgh area waters. There is a free lunch for everyone provided on Captain George Boyle's boat, the coordinator of the Blessing of the Fleet. If you plan on attending, give him a call at 412-371-7682 to let him know you will be joining him.

As members of the United States Power Squadron, we should take every opportunity to encourage safe boating around us. Dan Martin, Boating Safety Education Manager of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, reports the total number of recreational boating accidents in Pennsylvania decreased last year. There were 77 vessels involved in accidents, 65 injuries requiring medical treatment and property damage to vessels totaled \$137,438. This amount is less than half of what was reported for 2005. However, in 2006 there were 25 fatalities as the result of 19 recreational boating accidents. This is an increase of 13 deaths over last year's total. 2006's death toll has been the worst since 1990.

Looking at these statistics, we must ask ourselves how many of these accidents could have been prevented. In accidents in which Personal Safety Devices were involved, out of 19 fatalities, only 2 victims were wearing life jackets. It is possible that 17 of those victims could be planning their boating season this year had they worn a PFD. It's that simple. Make your mission as a Squadron Member to ensure the well being of you, your crew and those boating around you by talking about safety in your marina. Put up a sign advertising Vessel Safety Checks and let people know about our Safe Boating Classes.

The following (text only) is an excerpt from an article from April in BoatTest.com which advocated taking a USPS boating course. It's nice that the Squadron was promoted there.

New Boaters Should Take US Power Squadron Courses 4/4/07

The *Squadron Boating Course* is a course for all boaters including skippers of a family cruiser, sailing enthusiasts, (PWC) operators, hunters or fishermen operating an outboard utility boat, and canoe and kayak paddlers.

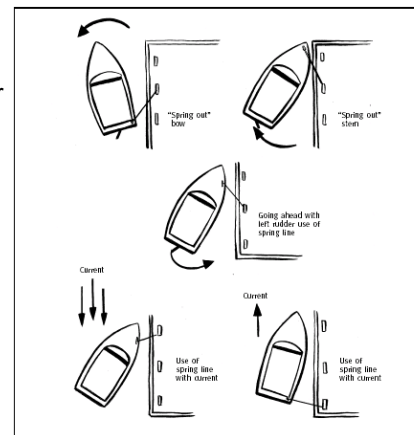
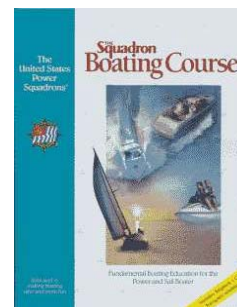


Figure 9.14: Basic spring lines maneuver and making use of a current

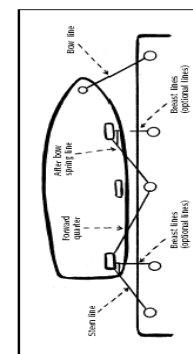
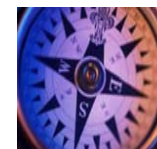
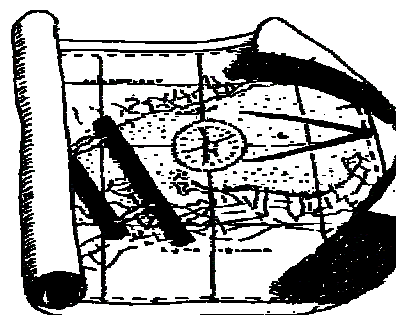


Figure 9.13: Mooring lines

From the PA Fish and Boating Web Site 2006 PENNSYLVANIA BOATING ACCIDENT ANALYSIS By Dan Martin, Boating Safety Education Manager

The total number of reported recreational boating accidents in Pennsylvania declined slightly in 2006. Boaters and officers reported only 66 recreational boating accidents of all types, a decrease of six accidents from 2005. The number of vessels involved in reported accidents totaled 77, an incredibly low total. Pennsylvania boaters reported 65 injuries requiring medical treatment, the same number as in 2005. Property damage to vessels totaled \$137,438, less than half of what was reported last year. Most accidents with property damage or minor injuries are not reported.



Education Department Report

Well the piloting class are charting their way through open waters, watching out for rocky waters, and navigating their way through the open book part of the course. The closed book portion will be following shortly.

Trivia Question: How many decimal places of accuracy do you need to keep for time and distance calculations? (The answer will appear in the next SouthWind.)

I still have not had any responses to the May 19, 2007 Boating course to be held at Beach Club Marina. Please advertise the course. If you are looking for merit marks, I would appreciate any assistance available for conducting the course. I will need someone to handle registration, helping with lunch and teaching.

The class will be held at

PLACE: BEACH CLUB MARINA - NEW EAGLE, PA

DATE: MAY 19, 2007

CLASS STARTS AT 8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

INCLUDES PICNIC LUNCH @ NOON

PRICE \$45.00

INCLUDES MATERIALS (BOOK, AND DEMONSTRATION COMPUTER SOFTWARE), AND LUNCH FOR 1 PERSON. ADDITIONAL LUNCHES ARE \$5.00 EACH (CHOICE OF HOTDOG, HAMBURGER, BOCA BURGER) POTATO SALAD, CHIPS, SOFT DRINKS)

MATERIALS MAY BE SHARED, BUT TEST MAY NOT BE SHARED.

TEST WILL BE CONDUCTED AT 4:45 PM.

MUST REGISTER BEFORE 8:00 AM MAY 19, 2007

(To minimize confusion please indicate your food choices when you register.)

CALL JIM STARK @ 724-225-7605. PLEASE LEAVE TELEPHONE NUMBER, (DAY & NIGHT). YOU WILL RECEIVE A CONFIRMING TELEPHONE CALL. ALTERNATE REGISTRATION VIA EMAIL AT jjstark84@verizon.net. YOU WILL RECEIVE A CONFIRMING EMAIL.

Lt/C James A. Stark, AP

Every little bit helps and we all need to be on the offensive to spread the knowledge of safety. When you think about it, the more you do to help others become safe on the water the more you add to your own safety.

Cdr Chris Orie, S



Executive Officer Report

As the new Ex-Officer on Cdr Orie's bridge, I had to go to the books to see what my duties were. I've been down this road many years ago, but it's a good idea to refresh the memory—and for new members to learn the table of organization. Ex-Officer is responsible for the following committees in the squadron:

Boat Show – under the Chair of P/C Richard Toler

Report : Dick did an excellent job of organizing and staffing under the most difficult of conditions (weather, parking, etc.).

Co-op Charting – under the chair of P/C Robert Timmins

Report: Inactive because of revisions at national HQ.

Safety and Safety Checks – under the chair of P/C Ken Campbell

Report: Under his leadership, the SHPS won the District trophy for the most Vessel Safety Checks in the District. He was awarded a citation for being one of the top ten in the nation.

District Liaison – P/R/C Malcolm McDonald attend the D7 Conference reporting that there was no information of great importance now.

PA Legislature – Chaired by Lt Jack Orie

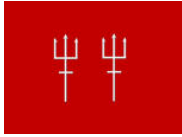
Public Relations – Chaired by Dave and Julie Bonta who will be promoting the spring boating class.

Radio Technology – Chair P/C Henry Marzina

Report: The code requirements have been dropped for the HAM Radio license.

If you are a new member in the Sqd., now is the time to start working on your first merit mark. If any of these committees appeals to you, please let me know. May the weather bring fair winds to your sails this summer.

P/Stf/C Robert M. Colteryahn, AP



Secretary's Report

SHPS MEETING MINUTES – 11 April 2007

Dinner and meeting were held at Roxy's in South Hills Village. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. A quorum was present with 18 members in attendance.

COMMANDER'S REPORT: Cdr Christine Orie, S

Some dates to keep in mind are: November 2-4, 2007 will be the Fall Conference, and the Blessing of the Fleet at the Point in Pittsburgh will be June 26. We all need to be thinking about SHPS hosting the Spring Conference in the spring of 2009. Many plans and details have to be worked out for this important event.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT: P/Stf/C Bob Colteryahn, AP

Dick Toler did an excellent job organizing SHPS part in the Boat Show. Ken Campbell excels in the vessel safety checks. Our District Liaison, Mac McDonald attends all the meetings he can. Hank Marzina reported that Morse Code is no longer required for the radio license.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT: Tom Merritt, JN

The Piloting class is underway with 6 participants. The open book test will be given next week. The Boating Safety Course will be given in one day, May 19, 2007, at the New Eagle Beach Club. The day will begin at 8:00 AM, a break for lunch, and finish with the exam at about 5:00 PM.

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT: Lt/C J Dan Marino, S

The next SHPS meeting will be the second Wednesday in May, the 9th. The Annual SHPS picnic will be in South Park on June 13th. The Sail Day will be July 14th.

SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT: Lt/C Vira Doughton

The e-mail for the Doughtons should be – doughton@comcast.net.

The SouthWind – Dan Marino

April edition will be on the internet. Information for the May edition must be in by Wednesday, April 18th. We are encouraged to send any articles, photos etc. for enclosure in the SouthWind.

Mike Hollis is updating the on line photo album. Please send him your photos.

Ensign: Don Stark

There will be an article about a special event on the radio station at the Arkansas Maritime Museum.

TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT: Lt/C Warren Bell, AP

We were short about \$200.00 for the Change of Watch, which is not unusual. Our

balance as of 4/11/07 is \$2,097.74

The program was a power point presentation about the District Conference by Tom Merritt and Don Stark. SHPS was given 6 awards – 3 of which Ken Campbell received. Dick Toler was honored for his 25 years of service to the Power Squadron and became a Life Member. He received a standing ovation from the audience.

Tom mentioned the probability of a Boat Operating Certification being available this year. By taking the Power Squadron courses you will be able to rent boats around the world. Further discussion as more information becomes available.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lt/C Vira M. Doughton



Administrative Officer Report

Our April meeting was an interesting one for those in attendance. We had a report and presentation from Don Stark and Tom Merritt about the awards and highlights from the D7 Conference in Cleveland. As you all know by now, the SHPS took home many awards at the Conference.

Our May meeting will be the last one at the Roxy until next fall. We don't have a program finalized yet, but I'm sure there will be much discussion about Safe Boating Week and VSC's, the upcoming boating class at the Beach Club Marina, and the June Picnic meeting at South Park. We also have a Sail Day planned for 14 July back at Lake Arthur – Moraine State Park. If you haven't made it to Sail Day for a while, come and have a good time with the Squadron.

We are also working on having an Erie Rendezvous again this year. I've talked with Bill Macko and a few others and we are tentatively looking at the beginning of August—possibly the weekend of 4 August 2007. Bill and the people planning this will need much help if we're going to get the Rendezvous together this year.

See you all at the Roxy on 9 May 2007 for another enjoyable meeting.

Lt/C Dan Marino, S