

The SouthWind

**Stf/C Donald Stark, JN, editor
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Eighty Four, PA 15330-2547**



**The Most Common view of
P/C Dick Toler, AP**

December 2005

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The SouthWind

Publication of the South Hills Power Squadron
A Division of the United States Power Squadrons®



Coming Events

- **Evening at Little Lake Theater 2 December**
Donaldson's Crossroads
- **SHPS Christmas Party 17 December 2005 Bello Bistro**
Enoteca 1200 - 1500
(Reservations due by 8 December)
- **USPS Annual Meeting 4— 8 January 2006**
The Rosen Centre, Orlando, Florida
- **Pittsburgh Boat Show 27 -29 January & 3—5**
February 2006 D. L. Lawrence Convention Center
- **Tri District Conference (D/7, D/11 & D/29)**
31 March—2 April 2006



*Happy Holidays
from the
South Hills
Power Squadron*



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



The SouthWind thanks all contributors for their articles, photographs, and ideas throughout 2005!

Keep up the great work in the New Year!



Season's Greetings
from the SouthWind Editors

The deadline for the next SouthWind is 26 December.



Sailboat for Sale 19 foot Flying Scot

With jib and main in great shape.
Includes trailer, 2.5 hp motor, anchor,
anchor line, cover, fenders, life jackets
and much, much more.

\$4000.00

Contact P/C Dick Toler, AP
at (412) 279-1229

FLYING SCOT.

Irene Leslie, wife of the late P/D/C Lynn Leslie, AP, has made the very generous offer to donate Lynn's uniform to any interested South Hills Power Squadron member. She has the dress uniform, hat, one short sleeve shirt, one long sleeve shirt, and white trousers. Lynn was about 5 foot 7 inches tall and weighed about 158 pounds.

If you are interested, please call Irene at
(412) 276-5032.



SUPPORTERS OF THE SOUTHWIND 2005

Warren and Liz Bell
Julie and Dave Bonta
Jackie and Selden Campen
Bob and Lu Colteryahn
Vira and Lew Doughton
Dan Marino
Hank and Mary Lou Marzina
Malcolm McDonald
Dorothy Meloy

Dory and Tom Merritt
Chris and Jack Orie
Blake and Linda Parker
Audrey Rice
Emily and Art Schock
Lester and Priscilla Shields
Don and Marjie Stark
Jim Stark
Dick and Nancy Toler

Please show your support by making a contribution in any amount.

**Administrative Department
Lt/C Christine Orie, S**

Happy Holidays!!

I just wanted to remind all of you that the South Hills Squadron Christmas Party is 17 December 2005 from 1200 to 1500 at Bello Bistro Enoteca. Please send your reservations to Bill and Sheila Macko by 8 December. Include in your check the price of the meal(s), each soft drink for \$1.50 plus 20% gratuity and 7% tax. Don't forget your mistletoe.



**Education Department
Lt/C James A. Stark, AP**

The Boating Class for the Boy Scouts will start on 14 February 2006. The Boating Class for the Public will begin two days later on 16 February at Mt Lebanon High School. This will represent a major effort for our squadron. Everyone's help is needed! We want to give this our very best effort.

The test for Module 1 of the Weather Course will be on Tuesday 6 December. This class has been lots of fun with rousing discussions about the various aspects of the weather. Everyone had a great time. We will poll members to see when we will start with the second part. In the meantime, have a wonderful holiday.

Here are some old folk sayings for weather prediction:

If the sun set in grey, the next will be a rainy day.

If the sun goes pale to bed, Twill rain tomorrow it is said.

If red the sun begins his race, be sure the rain will fall apace.

Evening grey and morning red
Make the shepherd hand his head.
Evening red and morning grey
Two sure signs of one fine day.

Mackerel sky and mares' tails
Make tall ships carry low sails.

Fifty Year Award



Vice Commander Creighton Maynard, SN presents Executive Officer, Lt/C Dorothy Meloy, AP a 50 year plaque for the late P/C William Tarr, N at the recent D/7 Conference in Richfield, Ohio. Fifty years represents a long lifetime of service to our organization. Bill was a Founding Member of Brilliant Power Squadron and served as its second commander in 1959. Bill was a member of the Tri State Power Squadron before transferring to South Hills Power Squadron last year. Sadly, Bill passed away last Spring.



*South Hills Power Squadron
Christmas Party*

17 December 2005

from 1200 to 1500

Bello Bistro Enoteca

1600 Painter's Run Road, USC

Send your reservations and payment by 8 December to
Bill and Sheila Macko (412) 279-4571

Commander's Corner

by Cdr Selden Campen, JN



December is always a busy time for the South Hills Power Squadron. This year is no exception. The Commander's job has been made relatively easy by all the self-starters on the bridge and others who have made everything run so seamlessly. I'll recap some of these events in the recent past, present and near future. Given all the alternatives, you can be as involved as you choose to be in your local squadron.

South Hills had several representatives attend the District 7 conference in Richfield, Ohio where we shared a hospitality suite with the Pittsburgh Squadron. The conference was filled with sessions focused on building local squadrons and improving service efforts, like vessel safety checks, cooperative charting, and boating education.

Merit marks have been submitted and results are back. We have 34 approved – half of our membership. Our teamwork enables us to accomplish much even though we are a relatively small squadron.

Mike Hollis presented the South Hills Squadron Website at our November membership meeting. Please pay our site a visit, www.sh-ps.com. This award-winning site puts our best foot forward as we meet the inquiring public – can you believe over 1500 hits a week.

The ongoing Weather class is serving 13 squadron members – a recent record among our educational offerings. The exam for Weather 101 is scheduled for 12/6/05. Jim Stark is doing a masterful job in presenting this class.

Our secretary, Vi Doughton, and her husband Lou are planning a dinner at their home before the Christmas show at Little Lake Theater in Canonsburg. Our block of reserved tickets was promptly sold out, but the Doughtons acquired additional seating for all those who wished to attend. A special thanks to Vi and Lou for their third year at organizing this event.

Bill and Shelia Macko have made the arrangements for the Christmas party at Bello Bistro Enoteca for Saturday afternoon 17 December. The entire menu is available for selection. The Christmas party will serve as our December meeting. Unless you're out cruising on your boat, we expect to see you at Bello Bistro.

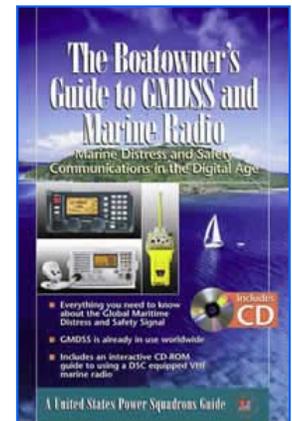
New Radio Requires New Skills

By Stf/C Donald Stark, JN

We recently purchased a new radio for *Marjie G* our 19 foot cat boat. I got an excellent deal at last year's USPS Expo through Boater's World on an ICOM 302. Like all new marine radios it has DSC and that red Distress button. We realized that we needed to research the set up and function of this new capability.

Where do you find information about Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS), Digital Select Calling (DSC), MMSI, Rescue 21 and how to use these new capabilities to make boating safer. How do you interface your radio with your GPS so that your emergency call will include position information about your vessel?

The USPS Electro-Mechanical Systems Committee has just published a new book, *The Boatowner's Guide to GMDSS and Marine Radio*. This book published by McGraw-Hill, includes a CD-ROM that shows you how to send emergency messages on a Class-D equipped VHF radio and how to use the new features of the latest radios. The guide is available through various marine supply stores and from USPS Headquarters at 1-888-FOR-USPS.



Are you tired of asking for radio checks? Are you ignored when you ask for one? Solve this problem by installing this tester from Shakespeare. It will measure your VHF radio's output in watts and the Standing Wave Ratio (SWR) tells you if radio and antenna are matched. You will know at a glance how your radio is performing.

The following message was recently received from a long time friend and former member of SHPS. He recent took a test to get an upgrade on his ham radio license. Since Ted now lives near Harrisburg, he receives the SouthWind via email and the Web Site.

I passed!

I took a couple of online tests that were more difficult than I thought but I did okay on my test for Tech. I took the General for the experience but didn't make the grade. I will take the General Test in January.

*73 (Best Wishes),
Ted Taylor KA3UVP*

We hope that Ted will be able to join us on the USPS Amateur Radio Net!

Scenes from the District 7 Conference
Photographs by P/C Dick Toler, AP and Stf/C Don Stark, JN



We come for the fellowship and the good food. At left, Dorothy Meloy, Mac McDonald, and Neil Cook share a table at meal time.



In the hospitality room. Rear Row: Neil Cook, Marjie Stark, Dick Toler, Bob Brandenstein, Front Row Dorothy Meloy, Jane Brandenstein, Nancy Toler, and Don Stark



There is always something new to learn. Cdr Ray Foss from Mid Ohio Valley Power Squadron shows a new computer program to Nancy Toler, Marjie Stark, and Don Stark.

Dick Toler is making plans to promote USPS at the upcoming Pittsburgh Boat Show scheduled for the last weekend in January and the first weekend in February. Boating enthusiasts we meet at this event will have an opportunity immediately thereafter to participate in our public boating course.

Bob Timmins and Jim Stark are organizing two Boating courses that will be run in parallel. Starting Tuesday, 14 February, the course will be presented for the Boy Scouts. On the following Thursdays, starting 16 February, we will present the same class to the students we've backlogged from the fall, plus those we meet at the Boat Show. We will be busy this Spring.

With all this activity, I'm proud to be serving as your Commander. Most everything is coming up roses, but we need to take a minute from our busy schedules to pray for Blake Parker. As I write this, he is at Mercy Hospital facing surgery on 28 November. I do hope all goes well for Blake and that he has a speedy recovery. Blake's columns in the SouthWind relating his boating adventures on the Chesapeake have been very entertaining.

Happy Holidays and Safe Boating to you and your families.
 Cdr.Selden W. Campen

2006: PITTSBURGH BOAT SHOW
46th Anniversary

Check Us Out!
 January 27th thru 29th and
 February 3rd thru 5th
 David L. Lawrence Convention Center

Contact P/C Dick Toler, AP to assist with the USPS display booth and to help us promote our boating classes at the show.



Minutes of the SHPS Meeting 9 November 2005

There were 17 members in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 1920 by Cdr. Campen who then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commander: Selden Campen, JN

The 10 year grant for the Joe Marzarella Trophy will be renewed as long as there are empty plates on the trophy for engraving.

It was decided not to order a case of the Power Squadron Cookbooks "By Land or By Sea" as several members had them already.

The Joint District Conference (D/7, D/11, and D/29) will be held in Cleveland 31 March – 2 April 2006.

Executive: Lt/C Dorothy Meloy, AP

There were a total of 181 Vessel Safety Checks completed. Ken Campbell did 133 of them.

Education: Lt/C Jim Stark, AP

There are 13 people signed up for the Weather Class being held at Consol in Upper St. Clair on Tuesday evenings. The Boating Safety Course will be held for 8 weeks at Mt. Lebanon High School beginning 16 February 2006. The Boy Scout boating course will begin Tuesday, 14 February 2006. It is anticipated there will be 70 people involved. There have been requests for an Engine Maintenance Course. This would be for inboard engines only. We plan to have all information for classes on our website. Lt Mike Hollis will maintain the site. Publicity is being planned for the Boating Safety Course. It is suggested we have a GPS Course during the Boat Show. P/C Dick Toler, AP will look into this possibility.

Administrative Department: Lt/C Chris Orie, S

P/C Tom Merritt announced that the Christmas Party is planned by the Mackos for Saturday, 17 December 2005 at Bello Bistro Enoteca from 1200 to 1500. Your check is due to Bill Macko by 8 December. You are to choose from the menu, add 20% tip and 7% tax and \$1.50 for coffee or tea or soft drink. It was decided to hold the June 2006 squadron picnic in the usual pavilion at South Park.

Treasurer: Lt/C Warren Bell, AP

A computer will be purchased for squadron use. Martha Erbe, Gloria Cambell's mother, passed away. A contribution will be sent to

the Education Fund in her name. The squadron's financial balance as of 7 November 2005 is \$3,089.67.

The program for the evening was presented by Mike Hollis who explained and demonstrated our web site. He plans to add information to build on what we have now. There will be a listing of current officers, current events, a section for classes offered, and upcoming meetings. He can add links to obtain information. Our history is posted, and you can subscribe to the SouthWind. There is an archive of back issues. Our programs can be downloaded. There is a Contact Page with general information and a Home Page with pictures of squadron boats. (He would like to have more of these.) There are educational pictures and event pictures. General information of Power Squadrons and a Nautical Glossary are also available. Eventually there will be a roster of members and a page of local ports. If you have any information to post, send Mike an e-mail and he will include it on the web site. The URL is – www.SH-PS.org.

Mike has done an outstanding job of developing our web site – it is no wonder it has won awards and is held as an example for other squadrons.

The meeting adjourned at 2040.

The next meeting will be at the Christmas Party on 17 December.

Respectfully submitted,

Vira Doughton

Lt/ C Vira Doughton
Secretary



A Message from P/C T Blake Parker, AP

I truly appreciate all the South Hills Power Squadron members who visited, sent cards, and called on the phone during my recent stay at Mercy Hospital. I am so very grateful to those friends. I can't completely express how much I appreciate it. Everybody and Everything. You really have shown me the great depth of friendships that membership in USPS represents. You are the best. On behalf of Linda, Mitchell, Jason and Eva, we thank you.