



Feb. 2005
Volume 3, Issue 2

The Southwind

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

Coming Events

- **SHPS Annual Meeting** 9 February 2005 Roxy Cafe
- **Spring Boating Course** 1 February 2005
Mt Lebanon High School
- **Seamanship Class** 15 February 2005
Mt Lebanon High School
- **SHPS Change of Watch** Sunday, 20 March 2005
Royal Place 1100
- **D/7 Spring Conference** 1–3 April 2005,
Greentree Holiday Inn
- **National Safe Boating Week** 21– 27 May 2005



South Hills Power Squadron Annual Meeting and Election

Come to the Roxy Café at South Hills Village

9 February 2005

Dinner 1800

Meeting and Program 1930

Program: Using Cruising Spinnakers

SHPS Bridge

Commander

Thomas O. Merritt, JN
412-466-6319

Executive Officer

Dorothy B. Meloy, AP
412-653-3848

Educational Officer

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724-225-7605

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Secretary

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



Thanks to the many contributions from the members of South Hills Power Squadron, The SouthWind has been awarded the USPS Distinction in Journalism Award for 2004. Congratulations everyone!

Keep those photographs, articles and ideas coming. The SouthWind is here to serve all the members of SHPS.

Deadline for the next SouthWind is 16 February.



Ahoy! All members of SHPS!

Please forward a picture (electronic or hard copy) of your boat to Lt Michael Hollis (michael@mhollis.com). They will be used for a Review of the Fleet Slide Show to be presented at the Change of Watch.



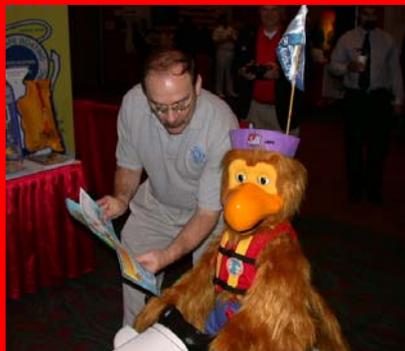
Scenes from the January 2005 Membership Meeting



At January's meeting we were joined by Jeff Peters from the USCG. The Presentation was on the challenges presented by the need for Homeland Security and the operation of America's Waterway Watch.



Scenes from the 2005 USPS® Annual Meeting and Expo



It was a boaters' extravaganza. Some of the booths included Boater's World, The National Safe Boating Council, The American Radio Relay League, and West Marine.



A highlight of the meeting was a demonstration of SOSpenders automatic inflatable life jackets. Ten volunteers jumped into the pool and within 5 seconds all were floating high and dry. It was very effective.

The Commander Says



I must say we started the year 2005 with a great meeting at Roxy's on 12 January.

We had the honor of having the District Commander Bob Brandenstein and his wife Jane and the Ten Mile Squadron Commander Bob Hackett in attendance. Also, we were provided with a presentation by Lt Jeff Peters of the USCG on America's Waterway Watch, and our place in the grand plan to keep our country safe from terrorists. There were handouts that provided us with telephone numbers to call in case we were to see anything that seemed suspicious. Very interesting! We will be handing out brochures at all of our upcoming events. If anybody needs some for an event elsewhere, don't hesitate to see me for posters and handout materials.

Bob Brandenstein brought us up to date on the status of Tri State Sail and Power Squadron and presented transfer forms for the transfer of 9 people into our South Hills Squadron. Bill Dreyer has already transferred into our squadron. Phyllis Kuntz and Gregg Whittenberger are our latest new members. Progress is certainly going our way as far as membership is concerned.

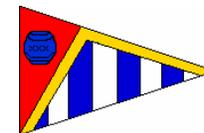
Keep in mind our upcoming activities, the Boating Class, the Seamanship Course, the Gander Mountain presentations SmartStart for Paddlers and GPS, the Change of Watch and the Spring Conference hosted by Ten Mile Squadron (this is their 50th Anniversary).

We have a full plate at this time, so don't be bashful, get involved and enjoy the camaraderie with your fellow squadron members.

All you sailors should make sure you get to the next meeting at Roxy's. Selden Campen has an interesting program concerning spinnaker sails. Remember it will be on Wednesday, 9 February.

See You at Roxy's,

Cdr. Tom Merritt, JN



**SOUTH HILLS POWER SQUADRON
MEETING MINUTES
12 JANUARY 2005**

The meeting was called to order at 1940. Cdr Merritt led the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a quorum present. Twenty-seven people were in attendance.

Lt. Jeff Peters from the United States Coast Guard presented the program for the evening. Homeland Security was the topic of the presentation. It was very interesting information and generated many questions from the members.

Guests included D/C Robert Brandenstein and Jane. Ten Mile Cdr Robert Hackett was also present. D/C Brandenstein announced that there would be a Leadership Development program at the D/7 Spring Conference. He also confirmed that Tri-State Sail and Power Squadron members would be received by SHPS.

P/C Blake Parker swore in our new member, Gregg Whittenberger. SHPS members welcomed Gregg into the squadron.

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Cdr Merritt requested donations for the 2005 SouthWind. The minutes from the December meeting were approved. Merritt discussed the Christmas Party and the presentation of the plaque to Irene Leslie. P/C Leslie's sextant was donated to our squadron by Irene at the party.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

P/C Dorothy Meloy reported for P/C Ken Campbell that SHPS has been given credit for 66 VSC Examinations by National. He believes that there are a few more and will investigate the matter. A Bass Tournament will take place in Pittsburgh this summer. Campbell would like SHPS to do the VSC Exams for the boats in the tournament. Lt Dave Bonta has disseminated the publicity for the classes. P/C Richard Toler asked for volunteers to work the Pittsburgh Boat Show. Our days will be 21 January from 1700-2200 and 29 January from 1000 - 2200.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Lt/C James Stark reported that the SmartStart for Paddlers seminar will be held at the West Mifflin Gander Mountain store on 22 January 2005 at 1000. Another GPS Seminar will be scheduled at Gander Mountain in March. The Boating Class will commence on 1 February at 1900 in Room 395 of Mt. Lebanon High School. A Seamanship class will also begin there this spring (15 February 2005).

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

Lt Selden Campen has scheduled a video on sailing for the February program. It is 17 minutes long.

**REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE
SOUTH HILLS POWER SQUADRON
2005-2006 OFFICERS**

First, we'd like to acknowledge the current officers who have done a magnificent job. We thank them. We are fortunate to have another group of excellent members who have graciously agreed to serve if elected. The term of office except as noted is one year.

Commander	Selden W. Campen, P
Executive Officer	Dorothy B. Meloy, AP
Education Officer	James A. Stark, AP
Administrative Officer	Christine T. Ori, S
Secretary	Vira Doughton
Treasurer	Warren R. Bell, AP
Assistant Education Officer	Arthur C. Schock, JN
Assistant Secretary	Marjorie G. Stark, S
Assistant Treasurer	Lewis L. Doughton
Executive Committee	Thomas O. Merritt, JN

Members of the Nominating Committee:

One year	Chairman	Thomas O. Merritt, JN
Two year		Geraldine Marzarella
Three year		

Members of the Rules Committee:

One year	Chairman	Robert M. Colteryahn, AP
Two year		
Three year		Robert A. Cheswick, AP

Members of the Auditing Committee:

One Year	Chairman	Donald R. Stark, JN
Two year		T. Blake Parker, AP
Three year		Julie C. Bonta, AP

Respectfully submitted,

P/C Richard N. Toler, AP, Chairman
P/C Dorothy B. Meloy, AP
Cdr Thomas O. Merritt, JN

For Sale:

Nine-inch Phillips 12 Volt DC TV with Remote.
Good for use on boat. Asking \$50.
Contact Irene Leslie at 412-276-5032.



Education Department

Lt/C James A. Stark, AP

The SmartStart for Paddlers class was ready, but unfortunately the morning of 22 January brought seven inches of fresh snow and dangerous conditions. No students came to Gander Mountain in West Mifflin for the class. The store is anxious for us to return and try again in better weather.



1st Lt Selden Campen, AP, Cdr Tom Merritt, JN and Lt/C Marjie Stark, S, stood ready to help at the Smart Start for Paddlers

SHPS is planning to join with Pittsburgh Power Squadron in a joint class in Navigation beginning in September.

Remember that the Boating Class begins on 1 February at Mt. Lebanon High School. This is a new course that uses Map-Tech for electronic navigation and because of that now costs \$40.

Seamanship begins on 15 February at Mt. Lebanon High School. We

have many new members who are anxious to take this class.

As always, we need instructors and helpers for both of these classes. Remember how others in the squadron have helped you. It is important that all get involved. Working and learning together is the glue that holds our organization together. Please call me at 724-225-7605 if you can help in any way.

SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT

Lt/C Marjie Stark was not present. P/C Dorothy Meloy graciously served as Secretary for the meeting. Marjie would like to express her thanks to Dorothy for her assistance in recording the events of the evening. Thanks also to those who made generous donations to the SouthWind.

TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT

Lt/C Warren Bell reported that our current balance is \$1959.61. The checks, which had been received for the Christmas Party were *allegedly* eaten by Liz Bell's dog. Events will be reconstructed, and members will be notified to send replacement checks.

OLD BUSINESS

The Nomination Committee has developed a slate of new officers for 2005. They will be presented for election at the Annual Meeting in February.

NEW BUSINESS

The Change of Watch will be on 20 March 2005 at the Royal Place at 1100.

Our next meeting will be on 9 February at the Roxy Café at South Hills Village. This will be our Annual Meeting, as specified in the Squadron Bylaws.

Linda Parker won the 50/50 raffle. Mitchell Parker, Warren Bell, and Dave Bonta won books, which had been donated by Selden Campen.

The meeting adjourned at 2100.

Respectfully submitted,

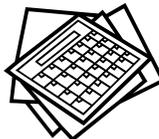


Lt/C Marjorie G. Stark, S
Secretary

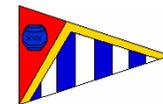
Mark Your Calendar: South Hills Power Squadron Change of Watch

20 March 2005 at 1100

Royal Place, 2660 Library Road
Pittsburgh, PA



SUPPORTERS OF THE SOUTHWIND 2005



Malcolm McDonald
Chris and Jack Orié
Blake and Linda Parker

Emily and Art Schock
Don and Marjie Stark
Dick and Nancy Toler

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

Dreaming of Warmer Days to Come by P/C Blake Parker, AP

In the last publication of the SouthWind, there was an error in my article. The ever-vigilant P/C Thomas McFate, AP picked up on the error and gave me a call. It was good to hear from Tom, and I'm sure he was happy to get away from the chore of removing slush from his driveway. Here is the error, and I stand corrected: What you need in sleeping/berth areas of a boat is a **carbon monoxide detector**, not a **carbon dioxide detector**. Thanks, Tom, and I can't wait to come up and see that new Century of yours. It sounds like a beaut.

I'm sure by now we've all been touched in some form by the events in the Indian Ocean, the rain swollen Ohio River, and other places. One thing I hadn't seen on the television was something that was reported to me by a friend who has family in Madras, India. It seems that prior to the monster wave hitting the seashore in India, people had traveled to the beach to see an unusual ocean occurrence. The ocean had receded an estimated 400 meters out, well below its normal low tide level. It exposed shallow areas, rocks, wrecks and other things that people had never seen. As one might imagine, this caused quite a stir in the city and brought people out to an already busy beach. Fortunately traffic was jammed, and a lot of the people couldn't make the trip to the beach before the tsunami hit the seashore. The physics of the tsunami had drawn the water from the beach while the giant killer wave was making landfall.

Let's get back to things more pleasant. This year District 7 will be holding a conference in Pittsburgh with our neighboring squadron, Ten Mile Power Squadron, hosting. This is a great event, a weekend of seminars, meetings and programs designed to aid the squadron and its members in providing up-to-date educational programs and give suggestions for civic services. The objective of USPS is to promote safe boating and to provide fellowship to both the USPS membership and to the general public. For those not wanting to sit through meetings, maybe a little socializing is in order. Friday night is reserved for members to meet in squadron hospitality rooms and usually includes a central meeting area. For a couple of dollars you will be treated to some of the best munchies this side of the Mississippi. Unfortunately, I can't recommend which squadron

has the best munchies. You'll have to come out and see for yourself. Oh, yeah, forget the diet, you can work "it" off later. You'll also get to be with some of the nicest, sometimes craziest, and always fun-loving people you have ever had the opportunity to meet. Saturday Night's festivities include a formal dinner and awards meeting, with a representative of the National Commander, or even the commander himself, present. Seminars, meetings, dinners, parties whatever turns you on, this weekend has it. But the best part, it's in Pittsburgh—Greentree to be precise. Come on out and join us for an evening, a day or all weekend. Take time out of your busy schedule to meet some fine folks, who, like you, enjoy boating and the fellowship it brings.

We've kept our boat in the water in the Inner Harbor this winter, and since the weather has been warmer than usual, we've spent every other weekend on the boat. Are we spoiled? Oh, heck yeah, but what fun we've had this winter, boy, we just need an on-board fire-place and then.....

Well, back to day dreaming about this coming boating season.

Glad tidings and best wishes to all of the SHPS members.

P/C T. Blake Parker AP



Some people just can't wait for the boating season to begin!



This is the new VE swallowtail flag for VSC Examiners to fly aboard their boat. The VSC Committee is asking for our help to let others know the meaning of this flag and the strengths of the VSC program. Available from the Ship's Store