



March 2005

Volume 3, Issue 3

The Southwind

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

Coming Events

- **International Boating and Water Safety Summit**
13–16 March Newport Beach, CA
- **SHPS Change of Watch** Sunday, 20 March 2005
Royal Place at 1130
- **D/7 Spring Conference** 1–3 April 2005
Greentree Holiday Inn
- **April SHPS Membership Meeting** 13 April 2005
- **National Safe Boating Week** 21– 27 May 2005
- **USPS Spring Governing Board** 1–5 June 2005
Charlotte, NC

South Hills Power Squadron

Due to the Change of Watch



**No March
Monthly Meeting**

**Please Join Us at the
Change of Watch**

SHPS Bridge

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www.SH-PS.org



Thanks to P/C Dick Toler, AP, P/R/C Mac McDonald, JN, and P/C T. Blake Parker, AP for contributing photographs for publications for this issue of the SouthWind.

Great Job! Just keep those articles and photographs coming!

Deadline for the next SouthWind is 22 March.

Ahoy! All members of SHPS!



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



The Pittsburgh Boat Show was held this year in the newly completed David L. Lawrence Convention Center on two weekends in January.

South Hills Power Squadron manned the booth on 21 and 29 January. Don and Marjie Stark supplied equipment for the booth, including two table coverings designed specifically for the United States Power Squadrons. Don acquired these at the Annual Meeting in Orlando.

We had a terrific crew of seventeen members from SHPS who explained to the public what the Power Squadron is all about. Each watch informed the show's visitors about our classes and where they can be taken. We also distributed pamphlets on various aspects of boating—with an emphasis on safety on the water.

Standing watches were members from our Commander to brand-new shipmates in our squadron. I want to thank everyone who helped make this event the success it was. The following members stood watches at the show:

Jacqueline Campen, P
Selden Campen, AP
Lewis Doughton
Vira Doughton
Sally Jack, AP
William Jack, AP
Shelia Macko, P
William Macko, P
Thomas Merritt, JN

Malcolm McDonald, JN
Daniel Marino
Christine Orie, S
Jack Orie
Blake Parker, AP
Linda Parker, P
James Stark, AP
Richard Toler, AP



This durable 6 foot table cover was displayed at the USPS annual meeting. It can be customized for our squadron. Half the \$330 cost can be covered by Cooperative Advertising funds. Other excellent promotional materials are available as well.

THE 2005 PITTSBURGH BOAT SHOW
P/C Richard Toler, AP



Above: Jim Stark of the South Hills Power Squadron makes contact with a prospective member of the boating class. Top: Lew Doughton, Dan Marino, Jim Stark, Mac McDonald, Dick Toler. At the Left: Jacqueline and future commander Selden Campen

The Commander Says Thanks



Hello to All Members Of SHPS,

As Commander for the last two years, I must say it was my pleasure working and serving you in this capacity. The support and camaraderie shown toward the Bridge and myself is deeply felt and greatly appreciated.

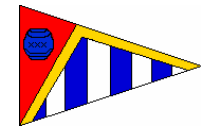
As for the Bridge, (Who hung in there with me and served a second term) I can't thank them enough for all their hard work, dedication and support. With the help of all these people and the entire Squadron, we have managed to have a very successful two years.

And, of course, thanks to Commander-elect Selden Campen and his new bridge for stepping up to take over the executive duties of the Squadron. I wish them the very best in their endeavors, to keep the Squadron whole and strong. South Hills Power Squadron is a "Great" group of people who deserve the best.

There will not be a Regular meeting this March, due to the Change of Watch falling in the same month.

Again, I say thanks and hope to see you at the Change of Watch.

Soon to be Past Commander,
Tom Merritt, JN



COME TO THE RIVER

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING TEN MILE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

THE USPS DISTRICT SEVEN SPRING 2005 CONFERENCE

1, 2, & 3 APRIL 2005

HOLIDAY INN GREENTREE, PITTSBURGH, PA

**SOUTH HILLS POWER SQUADRON
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
9 FEBRUARY 2005**

The meeting was called to order at 1925. Cdr Tom Merritt led the Pledge of Allegiance. The secretary reported that a quorum was present. Twenty-four people were in attendance. The minutes of the January meeting were approved.

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Cdr Merritt distributed information for the new roster. Members are to update and correct their records prior to publication of the 2005-2006 roster. P/C Marzina continues to experience some health problems.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

P/C Dorothy Meloy, AP, reported for P/C Ken Campbell that he will have decals and forms for 2005 VSC inspections available soon. Some members need to be requalified. We encourage other members to become qualified by taking the exam and performing five inspections under supervision of a VSC inspector. P/C Richard Toler reported that the Pittsburgh Boat Show was not as well attended as hoped because of poor weather conditions. Toler expressed his appreciation to those who had stood a watch at the USPS booth. P/C Meloy called our new members from Tri-State to welcome them to membership in our squadron. A sympathy card will be sent to Tim Haselhoff, whose father recently passed away. A donation will be made to our Education Fund in his memory.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

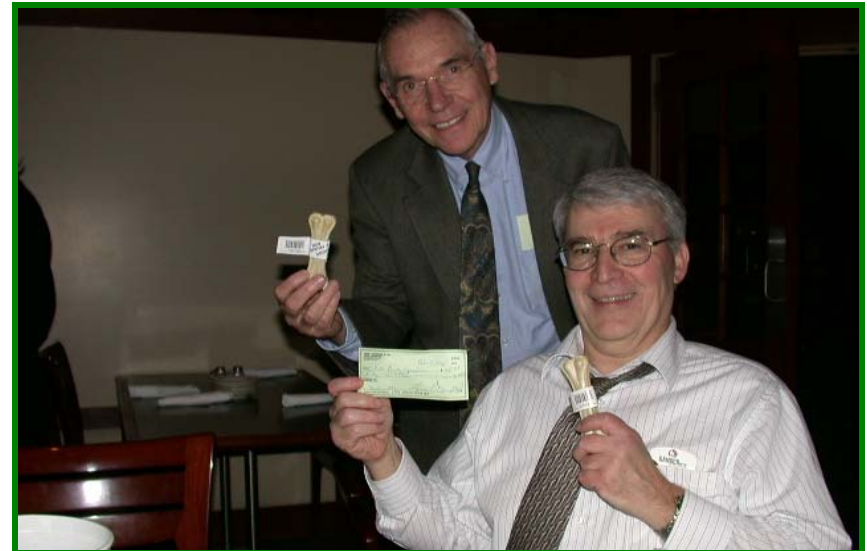
Lt/C James Stark, AP, reported that P/C Dorothy Meloy will chair the Seamanship class starting in February. The class will meet in Room 435 at Mt. Lebanon High School. There are currently 9 people enrolled in the Public Boating Class in Room 438. Three members are continuing in the JN Class under the supervision of P/Lt/C Art Schock.

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

Lt/C Chris Orie, S, has reserved the Hospitality Room for the D/7 Spring Conference in Greentree. The District 7 Boating Activities Chairman needs information about our summer activities.

SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT

Lt/C Marjorie Stark, S, announced that the SouthWind has received the Award of Excellence from USPS. A certificate was presented to the Commander. Lt/C Stark thanked all who had made donations to the SouthWind. Cdr Merritt has sent a welcome letter to all new members from Tri-State Sail and Power Squadron. Included in the packet were a set of Bylaws and a current roster. Dan Marino has offered to be the liaison to new members. Thanks to Lt Mike Hollis and his computer expertise, SHPS has gained national recognition for our website.

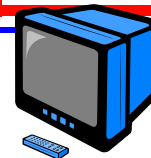


In hopes of not having to write a third check for the Squadron Christmas party, Lew Doughton offers a bribe for the dog and a check to replace the one that was eaten by Liz Bell's dog.

Plan to Be There!

**South Hills Power Squadron
Change of Watch**

**Sunday, 20 March 2005 at 1130
Royal Place, 2660 Library Road
Pittsburgh, PA**



**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 Boating Class began on 1 February at Mt. Lebanon High School and has nine students in the class.

Meanwhile, across the hall, Seamanship began on 15 February and has six enthusiastic members.

Thank you to P/C Dorothy Meloy, AP for chairing the Seamanship class. Thank you to all of the instructors and proctors for both classes. It is sign of the good health of our squadron to see all the enthusiasm that is being shared.

What next? Is there a class that you want to see the squadron offer? What about one of the supplemental courses? Our USPS boating courses are of the highest quality and are constantly improving. Please contact me at 724-225-7605 to let me know what class you think should be next. The education department is here to serve the needs of our members.



TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT

Lt/C Warren Bell, AP, stated that the checking account balance is currently \$2233.93. Our CD's total about \$3400. Natalie Cross and her family have donated \$100 in memory of P/Lt/C Tom Cross. The Executive Committee has decided to purchase an InFocus Projector for use in our classes and meetings. This purchase will be financed by donations and funds from our Treasury. A report will be given at the next meeting by the committee of Lt Mike Hollis, Stf/C Don Stark, and Lt Selden Campen. A donation will be made to our Education Fund in memory of Jack Sarty, Lt/C Jim Stark's father-in-law.

OLD BUSINESS

P/C Richard Toler read the list of nominations for next year's officers. The motion to elect these officers was approved. The Secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for their election.

NEW BUSINESS

P/C Toler displayed a new "Guide to the Three Rivers," which sells for \$20 plus shipping. Dick has the forms for ordering the guide. Lt/C Marjie Stark circulated the new USPS Cookbook, "By Land or By Sea." Several members expressed an interest in purchasing the cookbook. It retails for \$25.00 plus shipping. Marjie will order copies for the next meeting. Invitations will be mailed for the Change of Watch.

This evening's program was about cruising spinnakers. The video gave detailed instructions on using one of these spinnakers.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Dory Merritt.

The meeting adjourned at 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie H. Stark

SUPPORTERS OF THE SOUTHWIND 2005

Warren and Liz Bell
Vira and Lew Doughton
Malcolm McDonald
Chris and Jack Orié
Blake and Linda Parker

Audrey Rice
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!

Tugging It

by P/C T. Blake Parker, AP

I was down in Baltimore's Inner Harbor one recent weekend, Super Bowl Sunday to be exact. Warm temperatures and sunshine brought out the boating crowd. I couldn't believe that we were watching some hearty boaters, both power and sail, spending the day cruising the Inner Harbor.

One of our newest acquaintances, Bill, was out tooling around the harbor in his boat. Bill has a retired US Army, 72' Tug Boat that he uses as a "recreational vessel." Some vessel, this 1950 boat is. Bill has spent the past several years in a makeover of this tug from a working vessel requiring 4 crewmen to a recreational vessel he can handle pretty much alone. From the outside the tug is just that, a tug. But once inside, one is treated to some pretty fancy and thoughtful handiwork. The forward section of the boat used to be the crew's mess - from the "before" pictures we saw how that area got its name. The entire area was gutted and a salon was fabricated, a big screen LCD TV drops from the ceiling on demand from a remote. An entertainment center, a small bar with a wine cooler and a custom made arched couch are fit along the surrounding walls. All of the walls are covered in paneling and fabric. The carpeting is mauve, decorations include dried flower arrangements in bronze vases. The most awesome thing Bill has in the salon is the mermaid table.

Bill is a fancier of mermaid statuary, so he bought a bronze statue while on vacation to Southern Europe. The mermaid's back is arched, she is resting on her stomach with her head resting in her hands - she looks to be



gazing toward some far away place. Her tail curls around and ends just above the small of her back. Bill had the mermaid carefully cut so her upper arms, head and shoulders and her tail were set onto a custom designed piece of glass to create a table top. All assembled, the mermaid looks as if she is resting in shallow water. This entire piece is about 10 foot long and weighs close to one ton. It was brought into the salon in pieces through a 32" wide bulkhead door.

The galley of the tug is done in stainless steel appliances, has black Corian tops on the cabinetry, and has cherry cabinets. The galley is located in what was the "smokestack". The inside of the stack is done in brushed perforated stainless steel with halogen uplighting, and a mural is painted on the top of the story and a half high stack. The owner's stateroom is undergoing its remodeling, but I suspect it will be awesome.

One of the things Bill tells us is that the boat needs the fuel tanks to be at half full or else the lack of weight (ballast) makes the boat handle strangely. Could you imagine pulling up to the fuel dock's diesel pump and telling the attendant to top off the tanks, they are about half full. There are 4 - 4,000 gallon tanks on the tug, and an auxiliary 1,200 gallon tank (I've never asked what the auxiliary tank is for, maybe the heaters or generators). At half full, the main tanks would need 8,000 gallons of fuel. Holy mackerel! On my next trip to the fuel dock, I don't think I'm going to complain about having to pump 100 gallons of fuel into the boat.

Did you miss the February SHPS meeting? Mac MacDonald brought a video presentation on symmetrical spinnakers. As a power boater, I was in awe when the spinnaker was flown, and how simply graceful the jibe seemed to work. Of course as a power boater, I still don't know what the narrator was saying, I wonder if some school has sail boating terms as a second language! It's strange to hear some of the terms given to sail boat parts, they have been handed down for hundred of years. I am still wondering why the lines going to the sail are called sheets, I have no clue what a clew is for, and I wonder if anyone was penalized fifteen yards for a head block. I did also notice in the end of the video, the crew was holding hands as they were sailing. The last time I held hands with my wife on a boating excursion, I was keeping her from slapping me upside the head after I plowed the nose of the boat through a wave and doused her with saltwater.

Hope to see you at the Change of Watch or at the Spring Conference - 1,2,3 April 2005 at the Holiday In Greentree - hosted by Ten Mile Power Squadron.

Well now for me, it's either back to work or maybe a nap (I want to dream some more about that tug boat!).