

The SouthWind

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Eighty Four, PA 15330-2547



May 2006

Volume 4, Issue 5

The SouthWind

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

Coming Events

- **SHPS Meeting 10 May 2006** The Roxy Cafe
- **National Safe Boating Week 20–26 May 2006**
Check the website for information and graphics <http://www.safeboatingcouncil.org/>
- **SHPS Picnic Meeting 14 June 2006** Willow Grove South Park
- **SHPS on the Niagara, Pennsylvania's Tall Ship 25 June 2006** Erie, PA
- **USPS Governing Board Meeting 15–20 August 2006**
The Grand Hyatt Hotel, New York, NY

South Hills Power Squadron

Dinner Meeting

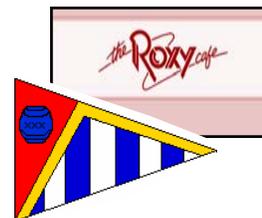
10 May 2006

The Roxy Cafe

South Hills Village Mall

Dinner 1800 Meeting 1930

Program: Visions of New York City and GB 2006
P/Stf/C Don Stark, JN



SHPS Bridge

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South Hills Power Squadron
is on the Web at
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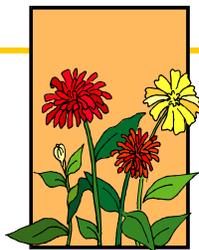


The SouthWind was chosen as this year's winner of the D/7 Outstanding Publications Award. Everyone in South Hills Power Squadron played an important role in this achievement. Many thanks and Congratulations SHPS.



C/C Ernie Marshburn, SN presents the D/7 Outstanding Publications Award to P/R/C Mac McDonald, JN, 1st Lt Marjie Stark, S, and P/Stf/C Don Stark, JN.

Best Wishes
for Good Health to:
Dory Merritt
P/C T. Blake Parker, AP



Treasurer's Department Lt/C Warren Bell, AP

The recent Tri-District Conference for Districts 7, 11, and 29 held on Saturday morning (0730) a treasurers' breakfast meeting. It is traditional that the squadron treasurers get together at these District Conferences. The purpose of these meetings is to help newly elected treasurers understand what is expected of them and to give the experienced ones a refresher course. I always come away from these breakfasts with a few nuggets, and this one was no different.

The first thing I learned was that it is very important to reserve your place at breakfast. Apparently, only five treasurers felt that this was important. Consequently, we were assigned to a tiny room with two tiny tables with ten place settings just in case there were a few walk-ins. THERE WERE! Twenty-five hungry treasurers showed up with no place to sit (this is why I always take my own chair with me) and no food to eat. But the hotel staff did an admirable job scrambling for chairs, tables and scrambled eggs. A food riot was avoided.

The second nugget was that we should be documenting expense reimbursements in more detail. This means that if a squadron member requests to be repaid \$10.00 for postage, he should give me an original receipt, if available, and a notation as to the purpose of the mailing—sending of bridge meeting minutes, for example. To this end, I will design a short form that members should fill out and submit along with their receipts. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Hi Don,

. . . I just got back from 2 weeks of cruising in Tonga. I can't help think all the skills I have acquired from the South Hills Power Squadron that have made me a better sailor.

Thanks to you and all members past and present who have made my life more enjoyable because of the knowledge and friendships I have acquired or gained from your club.

I am sending you a check for the SouthWind today.

Bon Vent,

Ted Taylor (Editor's Note: Ted is a former member of SHPS who now lives near Harrisburg)



19 foot Flying Scot Sailboat for Sale

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.

Education Department Lt/C James A. Stark, AP

The basic boating course has concluded, and 33 people have passed. Since it is critical that the scouts must understand all aspects of safe boating, we are offering a second review and a makeup test starting on 2 May at Pleasant Hills Community Presbyterian Church.

An analysis of the test results indicates that Government regulations, emergency procedures, compass, charting and graphic standards, and plotting techniques were key weaknesses in the performance of the test takers. The review session was held on Tuesday 24 April and the second test will be on Tuesday 2 May.

I am planning a schedule of courses. I will be reviewing what courses people have not taken, and contacting them to see what they would like to take. If you are interested in any course, please contact me. Please see the course summary on the USPS website at <http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/> for the description of the courses. I would be interested to know when you would like to take courses.

Here is a complete list of the courses of the Education Department:

Advanced Grades

Seamanship
Piloting
Advanced Piloting
Junior Navigation
Navigation

Elective Courses

Engine Maintenance
Cruise Planning
Weather
Marine Electronics
Sail

Executive Department Lt/C Christine T. Orie, S

The next time you see Ken Campbell, who is the South Hills chairman of the Vessel Safety Check program, shake his hand and congratulate him! Ken won the Century Club Award for completing over 100 vessel safety checks himself over the last year. Also, he catapulted our squadron to third place in District 7 for the number of checks everyone completed. On top of all that, Ken received an award for spearheading the South Hills Power Squadron's effort. We all owe Ken a debt of gratitude for making the South Hills Power Squadron look so good in our Vessel Safety Check Department. Thank you, Ken, for a job very well done!



Administrative Department Lt/C Dan Marino, S

We're planning to do the "Calendar of Events" that will be sent to the membership via e-mail--monthly, most likely, or as we deem necessary. Hopefully, it will give people a little heads-up (and a reminder) as to what's going on in the squadron.

We will be calling members to be sure that we have their current e-mail address.

You can update your e-mail address via our web site (www.sh-ps.org). You can do this where you enter your name in the e-mail information for the SouthWind.

Through the efforts of Mac McDonald, we have scheduled a day cruise aboard the U.S. Brig *Niagara* on Sunday 25 June. The cost is \$50 per person. Only 30 spaces are available.

For those interested in Sail Day at Moraine, it was tentatively scheduled for Saturday 24 June. With the Niagara cruise being the same weekend, Sail Day will be rescheduled.



SUPPORTERS OF THE SOUTHWIND 2006

Warren & Liz Bell
Selden & Jacqueline
Campen
Bob & Lu Colteryahn
Vi & Lew Doughton
Dan Marino
Hank & Mary Lou Marzina

Dorothy Meloy
Tom & Dory Merritt
Audrey Rice
Art & Emily Schock
Jim Stark, SEO
Ted Taylor
Dick & Nancy Toler

*Join the effort by contributing in any amount that you can.
Thank You!*

The deadline for the next SouthWind is 17 May.

Commander's Corner

by Cdr Selden Campen, JN



I could start this article advising you of all the activities we have coming up, such as the Safe Boating Week, the June picnic, the sail on the Niagara at Erie, the upcoming Governing Board meeting in New York, and the D/7 Fall Conference in Akron where South Hills will represent the Duquesne Dukes under the conference theme of a Sock Hop. Or I could fill you in on the very successful class just completed with the Boy Scouts where 33 passed the Safe Boating Exam, and another 19 (hopefully) will be taking an extended help class and a repeat examination. But I won't.

Instead, our editor asked that I expand upon an idea I presented at the April meeting. Before I do so, I'd like to share that Morry Miller is offering his sailing library, which he asked be distributed among the membership at our May meeting. If you have interest in sailing literature, please join us on 12 May to share dinner, enjoy the entertainment, and leave with a "how to" book or sailing novel.

As most of you know, I presented at the April meeting a professionally prepared video and some personal slides of the trip Jackie and I took circumnavigating Antigua in February of this year. This vacation was among the best we had ever experienced, and I was enthusiastic about sharing our cruise week activities with the squadron. My idea is to make it possible for one of our squadron members and a guest to have a similar experience. I'll explain after I relate some of the adventures we had.

The voyage started at Jolly Harbor (get out your Antigua map). We traveled clockwise to Deep Bay, Great Bird Island, Green Island, St James Club, Falmouth Harbor, English Harbor and back to the starting point. We discovered the Trade Winds Cruise Club through an exchange for our time share. The trip was an "all inclusive vacation", i.e. for a one-time fee we had the benefit of meals, an open bar, and the services of a skipper and first mate.

The boat had five cabins - one for the skipper and first mate and four for the four couples who journeyed with us. Each cabin had a head and shower. *Justine* and *Restless*, our boat and the one that sailed with us, were 51' Privilege catamaran twins. Between the fore and aft cabins on the port side was the galley and on the starboard side was storage of all sorts. The yacht had a 26' beam providing stable sailing and party platform. We carried a kayak, snorkel gear, outdoor grill, an inflatable tender with 30 horsepower and beverages galore. We experienced 20 minutes of rain once during the week, but that enabled us to see a double ended rainbow.



Commander Selden Campen, JN received many awards on behalf of South Hills Power Squadron year. Congratulations SHPS



Photos from the Tri-District Conference

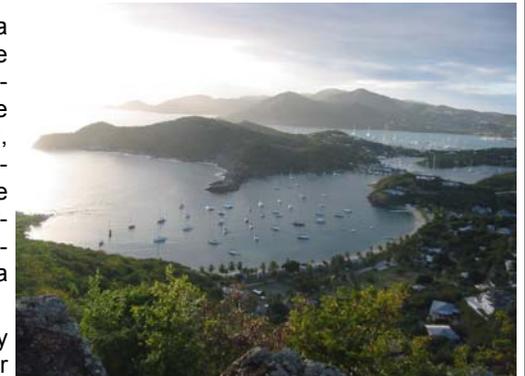


The normal routine was as follows. Being an early riser, I woke at 6 AM, a great time to read on the aft deck while feeling the gentle cool morning breeze. About 7 AM, I heard the first mate in the kitchen. As on a luxury liner, breakfast was a many course meal – bacon, sausage, eggs, pancakes, and fresh fruit. It was great. At 9:30 AM, we were ready to move out.



The morning sail lasted about two to four hours depending on the distance to the next anchorage. The water was crystal clear, and the sky was Caribbean blue. I tried my hand at fishing (but not catching). Those who wanted helped hoist the sails and took turns at the wheel. Usually we found anchorage in a small, often remote site by ourselves or a couple other boats. Each was more enjoyable than the next. After lunch, we participated in kayaking, snorkeling, swimming, or relaxing on the boat. It was at this period, and again after dinner that we learned of rum concoctions such as Island Moose and Pain-killers – so smooth they were.

Near 5 PM our skipper took us via the inflatable tender to shore where we climbed a hill to gain an unobstructed view of the near shore, the open sea to another distant island, the horizon, and an amazing sunset. Following civil twilight, we hiked back to the boat for conversation with new friends, scrumptious dinner, and the captain's sea stories.



The Antigua trip was highlighted by our visits to Falmouth Harbor (anchorage for *Tenacious*, a square rigged ship, and *Marabella V*, the largest sloop ever built – 240 ft.) and to English Harbor (location of Nelson's Dockyard and watched over by the English lookout at Shirley Heights). Shirley Heights must be one of the most beautiful spots in the Caribbean. For those who don't know, Admiral Nelson used Antigua as his base to prevent the rebellious Americans from trading with the Caribbean Island, and later defeated the combined French and Spanish Armada after chasing them twice across the Atlantic to their demise at Trafalgar.

If you were not at the April meeting, you can experience some of the above at www.tradewindscruiseclub.com. When you visit this site, click on "Watch the Video" for the eight minute film you missed. Also, I have provided my slides to our webmaster so visit www.sh-ps.org.

Back to my idea: I would like to sponsor a fund raiser for the South Hills Squadron and am proposing to provide, via raffle, one cabin-week on a similar cruise with the Trade Winds Cruise Club. TWCC has sailing bases at Tortola BVI, St. Martins,



Antigua, and the Grenadines. I propose we sell 80 raffle tickets at \$25 each, generating \$2000. The cost to the squadron would be \$1536 resulting in \$464 net to the Squadron. I would contact the Trade Winds Cruise Club with the winner to confirm their reservation at a destination and week of their choosing as may be available from the Club. The winner will be free to schedule their cabin-week anytime within two

years after the drawing. The winner should plan on two additional expenses – a \$625/person all inclusive fee (subject to change by TWCC) and airfare.

The drawing will be held at the membership meeting following the sale of the 80th ticket. If 80 tickets do not sell within a year, at the squadron's option, the funds will be returned or the drawing held. The administration of the raffle will



be done by either the squadron treasurer or myself, at no charge or expense to the squadron. The \$1536 per cabin-week is exactly my cost (purchased in quantity),

documentation of which I shall provide to the treasurer. If purchased outright, a cabin-week is offered by TWCC to non-members for \$4,250 (assuming double occupancy inclusive of the "all inclusive fee"). The squadron will decide to accept or reject this offer at the May meeting.

Good sailing. See you at the May meeting.



SOUTH HILLS POWER SQUADRON MEETING MINUTES

12 APRIL 2006

The meeting was called to order at 1925. There was a quorum present. Twenty-one people were in attendance. The minutes of the March meeting were approved.

COMMANDER'S REPORT – Cdr Selden Campen, JN

Several handouts were distributed: West Marine discount brochures, D/7 Directory, Officers Calendars, legal checklists and Officer Manuals.

Cdr Campen reported that D/Lt/C Mike Siwek will provide district led officer training on 3 May. Members are encouraged to hand in email address information to Mac McDonald. Tri-District Conference Awards:

Newsletter (Best of D/7) – Don and Marjie Stark and Mac McDonald

VSC (3rd place in D/7) - Ken Campbell

VSC Century Club (over 100 VSCs) - Ken Campbell

Website Excellence - Mike Hollis

USPS Education Fund –28th Year 100% Participation

An Apprentice Membership in USPS will be for those who are under 19 and have no related adult full member. The cost is \$20.00.

P/D/C Lynn Leslie's uniform is available. It includes a jacket and shirt items, a size 40 jacket, 35 inch waist trousers, and a size 7 ¼ hat.

Handouts for the Youth Poster Contest are now available.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT – Lt/C Chris Orie, S

We have paid our dues to the Pittsburgh Safe Boating Council. Safe Boating Week is 20-26 May. This is a good time for VEs to perform boat inspections.

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT – Lt/C Dan Marino, S

The Squadron June Picnic/Meeting will be at Willow Grove in South Park on 14 June. The Moraine Sail-In date will be changed because of the Erie Tall Ship *Niagara* Rendezvous on Sunday, 25 June. Mac McDonald will handle the arrangements for the educational cruise on the *Niagara*. The D/7 Fall Conference will be hosted by the Akron Power Squadron in Akron, Ohio, 3-5 November. The SHPS September meeting will be at the Beach Club Marina in New Eagle.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT – Lt/C Jim Stark, AP

There were 33 who passed the exam after the Boat Safety Class. A refresher class will be held on 25 April, and the retest will occur on 2 May.

SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT – Lt/C Vira Doughton

The SouthWind staff will be pleased to accept donations of any amount to help with the cost of publishing of our award-winning newsletter. The Roster committee circulated a form to make corrections for the new roster. It is important to let Mac McDonald know of any changes needed for your listing. *THE ENSIGN* correspondent, P/Lt/C Marjorie Stark, reported that she had submitted an article for the September edition about the 35th Anniversary of the SHPS.

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

The financial records up to 12 April were distributed. Annual dues are to be paid in May and June. Statements will be sent from USPS Headquarters.

The meeting adjourned at 2055.

The program that followed was the visual account of the Campens' Tradewinds Cruise to Antigua.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt/C Vira Doughton