The waterspout

The waterspout is published ten (10) times a year, September through June, by Grand Rapids Sail and Power Squadron, 1620 Olson St, NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. It is published for Squadron members by the staff of the Squadron Secretary. The articles, advertisements and opinions expressed therein do not necessarily reflect USPS or GRSPS policy, unless so designated. Articles may be reprinted without permission, if credit is given to the author, GRSPS and the waterspout.

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The editor reserves the right to revise, change, or reject any materials submitted to the waterspout, consistent with standards of accuracy, fairness, good taste, and available space, subject to the approval of the Squadron Commander.

To advertise in the waterspout, contact: editor@grsps.org
The View From The Bridge

Our boating education season has Marine, under the direction of SEO Randy Jones and class instructors P/C Al Veen and P/C Jim Molenaar.

The America’s Boating Course (ABC) is the basic safe boating course we offer, along with additional instruction covering Michigan Boating Rules to comply with the requirements for issuance of the DNR safe boating certificate. The course schedule is four Monday nights which began April 19 and will complete May 10 with the final class night. The last night includes a review, exam, grading, awarding certificates, and a time to meet with students and enjoy some pizza together. Final night is always a good time to visit with students and demonstrate your Marlinspike skills. Please join us. This is a great opportunity for you to help put a face on our squadron for the students and encourage them to join the squadron and continue their boating education.

The April monthly meeting at Uccello’s in Grandville was well-attended and featured Aubri Spenski, Invasive Species Outreach Coordinator for CISMA. (You had to be there to learn what CISMA is.) This was a very interesting and informative meeting and much appreciated by all who attended. Invasive species affects us all, but especially boaters. We also have much responsibility to contain the spread of these very real threats to the enjoyment our chosen pastime. Aubri’s enthusiasm for her work was very evident and really added much to the presentation. If you are not attending the monthly meetings, you are missing out on some great programs, plus some great times with fellow boaters and members.

The next meeting will be at Vitale’s on Leonard Street NE and will feature all of us.!! We will share our plans for our summer boating activities and swap some tales. Come on out and enjoy the great food and fun!! Be a part of it! More information in the pages that follow. Make reservations now. It’s always a great time to get together!

Vessel Safety Check is underway and certified Vessel Examiners will be available to inspect your boat and make sure it meets the requirements to receive a window decal for the season. Don’t wait. Contact me now before it gets too busy. And if you would like to arrange a VSC Day at your marina, let me know and we will see what we can work out.

The D9 Spring Conference was held April 8-10 at the Doubletree Detroit-Dearborn. New district officers were elected and awards were presented for the previous year. We helped Detroit celebrate 100 years of safe boating education! It was a lot of fun and the seminars were exceptionally good. I hope to include more information, either in this issue of the WATERSPOUT or the next.

As always, call me or email me for any information you might need about the squadron or coming events and certainly let me know if you would like a Vessel Safety Check. We’re here to help you get involved. Let’s do this together!

Warm wishes, Dave
commander@grsps.org
616-443-1379
GRSPS and District 9 Events

May
May 12 — General Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
May 15 — Waterspout deadline for June
May 26 — Executive Committee Meeting, 1620 Olson NE, Grand Rapids, 7 p.m.

July
July 29 - August 7 — Coast Guard Festival, Grand Haven

August
August 19-20 — U.S.P.S. D-9 Lobster Bake, North Port
Ahoy All,

All District 9 members are invited to come to Grand Haven and participate in the **2016 Coast Guard Festival 29 July-7 August 2016**. The Festival hosts a myriad of activities for the entire family: ship tours, downtown carnival, arts and craft fair, car show and much more.

**On 5 August 2016, District 9 will host a picnic at the Great Lakes Marina located at 1920 Lakeshore Dr. in Muskegon.** D9 will supply the hot dogs and hamburgers. Please bring a dish to pass and your own beverages. The Grand Parade is the next day.

We need your help to decorate the float and march in the parade. Saturday night is the fireworks and dancing lights display.

There is so much to see and do, please mark your calendars and plan to come to Grand Haven.

The festival's web site is [www.coastguardfest.org](http://www.coastguardfest.org)

For more information, contact D/Lt/C Janet Klumpp, AP.
GET TO KNOW YOUR BOAT’S COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

We all know that the most important article of safety gear is your life preserver. Wearing it will greatly increase your chances of survival in an emergency. But right next to that in importance are your marine communications systems.

These devices will enable you to call for help as well as to send out your exact location to would-be helpers and rescuers. Today, we boaters are fortunate to have high power marine radios equipped with built-in DSC features that, while sending a distress call, automatically signal your location. Are you aware of the registration requirements for your DSC and EPIRB? Do you know the protocol for calling for help? Are you also aware of the fines that can be levied for misuse or language deemed profane?

Have you ever wondered how that “magical” antenna works and how the signal it receives is converted into the voice of the sender? I know I have. The United States Power Squadrons® has a course on Marine Communications. In this class, boaters will learn radio theory, FCC Regulations, as well as systems capabilities, limitations, selection and repair.

You will learn that GMDSS stands for Global Marine Distress and Safety Systems and that EPIRBS are Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons. As a bonus, the discussion includes ham radio operation. While the instructors are not qualified to issue you the required FCC license (did you know that you needed one for your marine radio when you boat in foreign waters?), they will tell you why you need one and how you can obtain it.

This class is informative and helpful, but it is also fun. There is something fulfilling about increasing your knowledge while enhancing your safety out on the water. To find out more contact your local unit of the United States Power Squadrons® or the national web site at www.usps.org.

The members of the United States Power Squadrons® always remind us: “Come for the boating education...Stay for the fun!”

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Keep Fido safe on board
Treat your dog like any passenger

Before heading out with your canine companion, consider these simple tips for bringing dogs onto your boat and keeping them safe and happy.

- **Purchase a pet life jacket:** Even if your dog isn’t a natural swimmer, a life jacket will provide peace of mind for everyone. Pet life jackets are made of high-floatation neoprene or nylon, and they feature reflective trim, rescue handles and leash rings.

- **Get your dog acquainted with the boat before going out:** Before you take your dog out for the first time, let it check out the boat while it’s not underway. If the dog seems comfortable, you may want to start up the motor to get it accustomed to the sound of it.

- **Put together a pet first-aid kit:** Keep a first-aid kit on board in case your dog steps on a sharp shell or decides to take on a marine animal. In addition to basic supplies like gauze pads, antiseptic wipes, adhesive tape, scissors and tweezers, consider items such as hydrogen peroxide, extra towels, ear cleaning solution, styptic powder, a flashlight and needle-nose pliers.

- **Bring along fresh water:** Bring along a water dish and extra drinking water so your dog always has fresh water to drink. Even if you’re boating on freshwater, it’s never a good idea to let your pet drink from the lake.

- **Don’t forget the sunscreen:** Even pets need sun protection. Dogs with short hair or light skin are especially susceptible to sunburn. Ask your family veterinarian to recommend a pet-friendly sunscreen product. Be sure to reapply often.

- **Potty:** Whether you’re on land or in the middle of the lake, when a dog’s got to go, a dog’s going to go. An ideal situation would be to train your dog to go on puppy training pads in a certain spot on the boat, but be sure to take lots of pet waste bags along with you on your boating adventures. Paper towels and odor neutralizer are also good items to have on board. Take along some odor neutralizing trash bags, the kind you would use in your kitchen trash can, to dispose of everything until you’re near a proper trash receptacle.

Most importantly, make sure your dog has access to plenty of freshwater, wet towels and shade to prevent heat stroke or heat exhaustion. —Boatsetter

Vol. 10 No. 4 United States Power Squadron Compass
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GRSPS May General Meeting

May 12, 2016

Vitale’s Restaurant
834 Leonard Street NE

6:30 p.m. Social
7 p.m. Dinner

Slide show following dinner featuring Grand Rapids Sail and Power Squadron members and our boats!

May General Meeting
For our May dinner meeting, I am planning a more informal night. Send me pictures of your boat(s) and a brief comment on projects you worked on during the winter or are still working on, AND/OR what trips you are planning for this summer, OR anything else you would like to share.

If you get pictures and commentary to me before May 6, I will put together a slide show. We can then share our great escapes and projects with the group — Greg Heath, General Meetings and Program Chairman
gdheath1@yahoo.com

R.S.V.P. to Greg Heath by May 9, 2016
gdheath1@yahoo.com
616 570-9391
Attention Skippers and Navigators!

USPS District 9
EAST SIDE PREDICTED LOG CONTEST

Saturday, June 11, 2016
Grosse Pointe Farms Pier
Hosted by the Grosse Pointe Power Squadron

- Choose the speed you wish to cruise at
- Predict your running time beforehand on the predetermined course (approx. 9 miles)
  Skipper with the lowest % of error wins the traveling trophy

0800 Hrs: Skipper and Observer Meeting
0900 - 1100 Hrs: Course open for boats
1100: Awards

Timers and Observers Welcome

For more information please call:
P/C Dale Ellis  248-583-8600       fax: 248-583-8635

Entry Form
2016 Predicted Log Contest

Skipper’s Name:________________________________________________________
Address:_______________________________________________________________
Phone (home)__________________________(work)________________________
Name of Boat:___________________________Length:________________________
Make:__________________________________ Registration#__________________

Registration Fee (Participating Boats) $15.00 $______________
Saturday Awards Lunch@ $10.00 each           $______________
Total enclosed:                                              $______________

Please make check payable to: Grosse Pointe Power Squadron
Send completed entry form and check to: P/C Dale Ellis, 38155 Mallast St, Harrison Twp., MI  48045
District 9 U.S.P.S. Members — Special Invitation

Lobster Bake Weekend Event at G. Marsten Dame Marina, Village of Northport, Michigan

August 19—20, 2016

Friday evening—Brat dinner at the marina
Saturday Breakfast sponsored by Lansing Squadron at the marina
Saturday Dinner— Lobster/Steak/Chicken dinner sponsored by GTBSPS, marina, 5 p.m.

If you are arriving by boat, you can make a reservation at the G. Marsten Dame Marina. Please mention the USPS Lobster Bake Event.

If you are arriving by car and want to stay at an area hotel please make your reservations soon! Summertime in Traverse City is very popular!
A record number of members attended The Lobster Bake Event in 2015. Looking forward to breaking the attendance record in 2016!
This is a great event, please plan on coming north August 19-20.

A list of the best hotels in the Traverse City area is on page 17. Make your Lobster Bake weekend reservations now!

More details will be posted in the June 2016 Waterspout with sign-up information and details for the event.

Cdr. Janet Hartesvelt
Hotels in Traverse City for Lobster Bake Weekend Event

Apple Tree Inn and Suites, 704 Munson Avenue, 866-618-2757
Bay Shore Resort, 833 East Front Street, 231-935-4400
Best Western, 305 Munson Avenue, 231-946-8424
Cambria Suites, 255 Munson Avenue, 231-778-9000
Cherry Tree Inn and Suites, 2345 North US-31, 231-938-9251
Comfort Inn, 460 Munson Avenue, 231-77-8000
Country Inn and Suites, 420 Munson Avenue, 231-941-0208
Grand Beach Resort Hotel, 1683 North US-31, 231-938-4455
Grand Traverse Resort, 6300 North US-31, Acme, 800-748-0303
Hampton Inn, 1000 North US-31, 231-946-8900
Holiday Inn Express, 3536 Mount Hope Road, Williamsburg, 231-938-8077
Holiday Inn/West Bay Beach, 615 East Front Street, 231-947-3700
Leelanau Sands Casino, 2511 N.West Bay Shore Dr., Suttons Bay, 231-534-8100
North Shore Inn, 2305 North US-31, 231-938-2365
Park Place Hotel, 300 East State Street, 231-946-5000
Parkshore Resort, 1401 North US-31, 877-349-8898
Pinestead Reef Resort, 1265 North US-31, 231-947-4010
Pointes North Beachfront Hotel, 2211 North US-31, 231-938-9191
Red Lion Motor Lodge, 4290 S. West Bay Shore Dr., Suttons Bay, 231-271-6694
Sleep Inn and Suites, 5520 North US-31, 231-938-7000
Sunrise Landing Motel, 6530 N. West Bay Shore Dr., Northport, 231-386-5010
Travelodge of Traverse City, 704 Munson Avenue, 231-922-9111
Traverse Bay Inn, 2300 North US-31, 231-938-2646
Whaleback Inn, 1757 North Manitou Trail West (M-22), Leland, 231-256-9090

Event Date August 19-20, 2016
SAVE THE DATE

10 September 2016

Dearborn Sail & Power Squadron

Commander’s Ball

Enjoy an evening of casual dining, honoring “re-tread Fred” Commander Fred Hoitash, SN while experiencing the sights and history of the Motor City on the Detroit River

Diamond Jack River Cruise
GRSPS Birthdays

May Birthdays

John Stephenson May 2
Birgit Molenaar May 4
Jack Draper May 7
John Butzer May 26
John Colley May 27
Lynn Cronin May 29
Tari Holtslander May 29
Gary Terrell May 30
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2. Press “Total” and then select “Change to “Y” – SPC Account” (touch screen only).
3. Enter SPC and wait for register to re-price.
4. Purchases made using the card do not qualify for WorkLife Rewards®

Retain this card to save on future purchases

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The Commander’s Club

An Honor Roll of Special Members
Representing a minimum gift of $50 per year

David and Sallie Brinks
Doug Evans

If you would like to join the Commander’s Club, contact Kim Wilson at Secretary@grsps.org

Burgees for sale—$20

Contact: Jim Molenaar
Email: Jim.Molenaar@yahoo.com
Cell: 616-813-4464

To learn more about what the GRSPS Burgee means, flag etiquette, and how to fly it, please visit the History page on our website at: http://www.grsps.org/history.

Deadline for next issue is the 15th

Submit photos from events, stories of travels, questions or anything you would like to see in the newsletter next time.

Submit photo as .jpg files at highest resolution.

Send all information or questions to:

Birgit Molenaar
H: 616-340-4829
E-mail: editor@grsps.org