

United States Power Squadrons®

"Come for the Boating Education... Stay for the FriendsSM"

Stark County Power Squadron



Stark Soundings



Volume LXX Number 7

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DECEMBER 2015

2015 - 2016 BRIDGE

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FROM THE COMMANDER

Cdr James J. Kosmos, AP



As our own EO Kathy Russell mentioned in her last article, the D7 Fall Conference hosted by the Mansfield Power Squadron was a complete success. My thanks to the planners and executers. As a repeat concern, membership seems to be the number one priority. There has been a lot of brainstorming and creative ideas that will be tried in the coming months and years. At a squadron level, any ideas you may have will be welcome and supported by your Bridge Officers.

My Experience with the USPS/SCPS and the reasons that I joined

With a new boating interest, Cindy and I needed as much information and education about boating that we could obtain. While attending a boat show at the IX Center we visited the USPS booth. There we signed up for our ABC Class which included a membership to the SCPS. We attended a few of the meetings and to be completely frank (*Although my name is Jim*), it all seemed to be uneventful, yet the education was just what we wanted and needed.

After closer observation, I realized that these members were all givers. Givers of their time and resources of not only to the USPS/SCPS but also in the communities in which they were a part of. These are the types of people that I want to be

surrounded by. People who make a positive difference in the world.

So I started as an AO with the knowledge that this journey would be a 3 year commitment. Although I knew nothing about the operations, I had the team support of an experienced squadron of doers. I was really out of my comfort zone, but soon realized that I had the total support of members not only visible, but also behind the scenes. These were the ones that kept the squadron going. Although they may not be at every meeting or event, they were hard at work behind the curtain. Knowing that my personal life demanded most of my time, I was concerned that I would not be as much of an asset as I would like to be. What I soon learned was this was a team effort, and any contribution, no matter how small, would be appreciated and respected. Even if it meant just being a bridge officer or a member. Let me just thank all of these hard working individuals, past and present.

Now for some serious information. Our SCPS needs to fill the Bridge positions of EO and AO for the 2016-2017 year. Without these positions filled the SCPS could potentially dissolve. My appeal is to any member out there. Please consider a bridge position to keep our squadron alive. You will have a team behind you for total support. Give as much time as you can, but know that any contribution will be appreciated.


WHAT'S NEW IN EDUCATION SEO STF/C KENNETH T. LEQUE, SN


It makes sense to get involved in our boating education. That's the reason you joined the Squadron --- to learn more about boats and boating. Marine education is the very top USPS priority.

The best way to learn more about boating is to take USPS courses. Some courses are designed to be taken in a prescribed sequence, while others are elective and can be taken whenever offered. One of the best ways to keep your new boating education fresh and current is to teach what you have learned to others.

USPS courses build self-confidence and increase your ability to take care of yourself on the water. This results in a lot more fun in all aspects of boating. If you would like to teach or help teach a class please contact me.

If you have not heard, there will be a USPS 2016 CRUISE (following the Annual Meeting). It is a 7 day Western Caribbean trip. Dates are 21-28 February 2016. The ship goes roundtrip from Tampa on the recently renovated Holland America ms Veendam. Itinerary: Key West, Banana Coast, Honduras; Santo Tomas de Castilla, Guatemala; Costa Maya, Mexico. Several SCPS members are already signed up please join us. More information can be found on the USPS National web site in the Events Section.

The USPS 2016 Annual Meeting is Monday, 15 February, 2016 to Sunday, 21 February, 2016, and at a new location, the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando Florida. Hope to see you there before the cruise!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

U is for your membership

Safe boating environment through education

Providing assistance to others

Shared experiences are lasting

Many opportunities to learn and lead

Education for a safer boating public

Member connections across the country

Benefits to enhance your boating skills

Elective classes expand your boating horizons

Rendezvous with fellow boaters

Share experiences by taking someone boating

Happy memories

Involvement with community outreach benefits others and enriches your life

Pay back the squadron for help received

Send your articles and pictures to:

Cliff Long

1304 Washington Blvd

Louisville, OH 44641

clifflong@neo.rr.com

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The editor reserves the right to edit any articles submitted for size, clarity, spelling and grammar. The editor also reserves the right to omit any submitted article due to article content or to space limitations. Please submit articles either as a Word document or in the body of an E-mail.

**DEADLINE FOR THE
JANUARY 2016 ISSUE
IS 20 DECEMBER**

FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER Lt/C Kathy A Russell**AUDITING COMMITTEE****CHAIRMAN**

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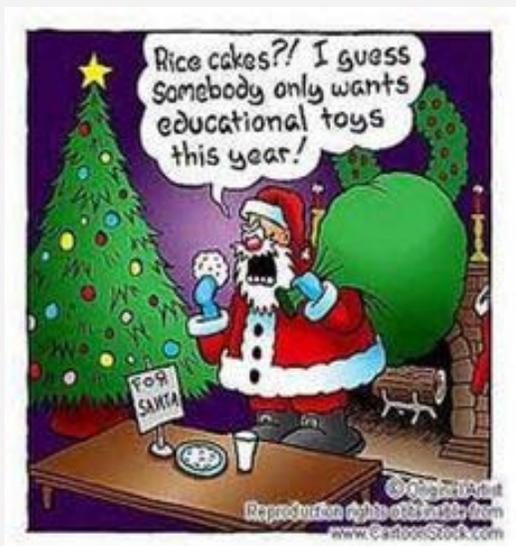


We have totally left the boating season. I have learned there are different boating lifestyles. There might be someone who owns a pontoon boat and enjoys the water, but doesn't yet consider himself a boater. Some people are just getting their feet wet with boating. Others, the boating season is their life. Long-time boaters have sold their boats, but find a way to hang with other boaters to stay in the lifestyle. Lastly, there are boaters like me, who have never owned a boat, will never be able to own a boat but finds "the man with a boat". Our squadron along with many others has the various types of boaters.

Many squadrons also have people that are members for various reasons, just like the different boating lifestyles. There are people who choose to be members for the insurance discount. Some enjoy being active, but prefer not to be a leader. Others just take advantage of the educational classes. Now and then, there is a new member who wants to jump in to everything. We need to remember they all give us something and the organization gives them something. I remember when I joined and I felt at a loss for a while. Eventually, I came out of the shell and stepped up to be an officer on the bridge. Those who are hesitant to be an officer because they feel inadequate, don't let that stop you. Everyone will help you through the unknown aspects. When preparing for meetings and events let's savor in the squadron having diverse members and boating lifestyles.

As usual, I want to speak on the conference in April. We are making progress and I am getting more excited for our squadron being in charge! Any one that has clever ideas for entertainment, interesting guest speakers for a Saturday meeting, (the topic does not have to be related to boating), or any miscellaneous suggestions, we welcome the ideas. I would like to see our conference have unique touches that separates us from the rest!

I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas!





Members and Guests are Invited to
**STARK COUNTY POWER SQUADRON'S
ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**



FRIDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2015

at *PRIMAVERA'S*

5382 Fulton Road NW, Canton

1800 Cash Bar

1900 Buffet Style Dinner

Baked Italian Herbbed Chicken, Baked Salmon, or Baked Pork Chops

Entrees include house salad, bread, vegetable, rice pilaf,

coffee or tea

\$27 per person, gratuity included

Contact Lt/C Cindy Kosmos, for reservations by Mon., November 30th, at 330-854-2036
or uspsck49@yahoo.com

Send checks made out to Stark County Power Squadron
to Treasurer Tom Hancock
426 Emerson Ave, NW
North Canton, Ohio 44720
or pay at the door.

*As a special SCPS tradition, we ask that you bring a small plate of your favorite
Christmas Cookies to share for dessert!*



For The Good Of The Order

Our squadron is at a critical junction of our existence. We are in desperate need for 2016-17 bridge officers. We need the Administrative and Executive Officer positions filled. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions without having to continue the climb to Commander.

Contact Joanne Hancock, Jim Hoffee or Cliff Long to volunteer.

Thank you for your consideration and support of SCPS.

SCPS Nominating Committee

In Honor of our 60th Anniversary as a Squadron, it's time to GIVE BACK!

After years of membership in SCPS, isn't it time to give back?

After learning and enhancing your boating skills through SCPS, isn't it time to give back?

After making lasting friendships with fellow SCPS boaters, isn't it time to give back?

After benefitting from the expertise and time of our instructors, isn't it time to give back?

Stark County Power Squadron needs YOU! Without your willingness to serve in a variety of ways, after 60 years, our squadron may cease to exist! It is important that we have a full Bridge for the coming year and beyond. If you haven't stepped forward in the past, now is the time to do so. Please give serious consideration to becoming a part of the SCPS Bridge. You will have the full support of active members who value what SCPS and USPS stand for...boating education, civic responsibility, and social activities. Now is the time to GIVE BACK! Contact the Nominating Committee or a current Bridge member today!

D/Lt/C Lynda Leque, SN

ALL HANDS ON DECK for the 2016 D7 SPRING CONFERENCE!

Stark County Power Squadron needs every member to help make the 2016 District 7 Spring Conference a success! We are the host squadron and plan to make this a memorable event for all! We need each of you to consider how you can help out. Here are a few of the ways...

Help make decorations and/or be available to set up during the Conference

Approach companies, restaurants, shops for donations to our non-profit organization*

Organize gift baskets for our Silent Auction and/or work the table

Man the registration table at the Conference

Organize packets of materials for registered guests

Be available with ideas, time, and support...come to our planning meetings!

Whatever you're willing to do, big or small...everyone's help is appreciated! Come help us as we continue to plan, following our December 3rd meeting! Your participation is valuable to SCPS.

D/Lt/C Lynda Leque, SN



**District 7 Spring Conference
Information Page
McKinley Grand Hotel
April 1st – 3rd, 2016**



The theme for conference is Television's Greatest Hits of the 60's to coincide with Stark County's 60th anniversary celebration.

The hotel room rate is \$89/night plus taxes. Please make room reservations directly with McKinley Grand Hotel: 877-454-5008. Mention that you are with the Power Squadron group to get our rate.

Parking is available in the parking garage across the street from the hotel. The parking garage fee is \$8.00/day with no in/out privileges. If you need in/out privileges, you can purchase a parking pass through the hotel; the fee is \$15.00/day.

Friday's icebreaker food includes: fresh vegetable and dip tray, chips and pretzels, pizza, coney dogs and fixings and root beer floats. A cash bar will also be available.

The hospitality rooms will be located on the hallway near the ballroom as in years past. Please make hospitality room reservations with Tom Hancock at thancock@neo.rr.com. The hospitality room rate is \$150/night.

Canton attractions include:
Canton Classic Car Museum
123 6th St SW

Motorcar Portfolio
McKinley Grand Hotel basement

Belden Village Shopping Mall
4230 Belden Village St NW

First Ladies National Historic Site
331 Market St S

Pro Football Hall of Fame
2121 George Halas Dr NW





McKinley Grand Hotel
320 Market Street S
Canton, Ohio 44702
877-454-5008

Registration for D7 Spring Conference, April 1 - 3, 2016

Important Dates:

Registration form and payment must be received by **March 20, 2016**.

Hotel reservation must be made by **March 18, 2016** to secure this rate.

Certificate Number	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Grade	Squadron

Address _____ City, State Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Is this your first conference? Yes No

Complete package discount price: \$95

	Price	Number	Cost
Ice Breaker	\$20	x	=
Lunch Selections:			
BLT SANDWICH macaroni salad, apple, bottled water	\$35	x	=
CHICKEN SALAD SANDWICH pasta salad, chips, apple, bottled water	\$35	x	=
TUNA SALAD SANDWICH pasta salad, chips, apple, bottled water	\$35	x	=
Dinner Selections:			
ORANGE ROUGHY	\$60	x	=
MEDITERREAN CHICKEN	\$60	x	=
HERB CRUSTED PORK LOIN	\$60	x	=
VEGETARIAN garlic mashed potatoes, honey glazed carrots, tossed salad w/ ranch or Italian dressing, cake	\$60	x	=

Coffee and tea will be served with both lunch and dinner.

A la carte total: \$ _____

Number of complete packages _____ **x \$95 = \$** _____

Total Amount Due: \$

Make your check payable to Stark County Power Squadron and mail with this form to Tom Hancock, 426 Emerson Ave., North Canton, OH 44720-2308.

Questions: contact thancock@neo.rr.com or 330-499-3660

Hotel reservations should be made directly with the McKinley Grand at 877-454-5008.

Room rate: \$89 + taxes + breakfast buffet for 2 per night



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1304 Washington Blvd.
Louisville, OH 44641-1554

We're on the Web

www.usps.org/localusps/stark



SCPS 2015-2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

3 December	Bd of Directors/General Membership Meeting North Canton Acme 1930 with Spring Conference Planning	6 February	Founder's Day Dinner TBA Speaker - Glenn Swope "Roger Upton"
4 December	Annual Holiday Party Primavera's 5382 Fulton Rd NW 1800 See Page 4	17-21 February	USPS Annual Meeting Orlando, FL
7 January	Board of Directors/General Membership Meeting North Canton Acme 1930 Chili Cook-off Program- "Cruise to Norway" by Ken & Lynda Leque	3 March	Bd of Directors/General Membership Meeting North Canton Acme 1930 with Spring Conference Planning
4 February	Board of Directors/General Membership Meeting / Annual Meeting 1930 Spring Conference Planning	1-3 April	D7 Spring Conference Canton McKinley Grand Hosted by Stark County

