

The Ship's Mail

The Ship's Mail is a bimonthly publication of the San Diego Sail & Power Squadron, Inc.

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July/Aug 2007



Cdr Ted Bowler, checking the course with the Skipper.

A Shakedown Voyage

by Lt/C Mary Ann Renzi, AP

Would you like to experience sailing/motoring in a scenic wilderness? There are snow-covered peaks, numerous islands, friendly people and secluded anchorages. In late April, I spent a week with P/C Katie Law and Cdr Ted Bowler taking my brand new boat, an Island Packet 32, from Seattle to Victoria, BC, and then to Anacortes, WA. We started in Lake Union, a fresh-water lake, and went through the Ballard locks into Puget Sound. The lock tenders gave good instructions and made an anxiety-provoking passage rather simple.

On day two, we gassed [dieseled?] up and set off early. Commander Bowler, who is always interested in a challenge, decided we should go through a narrow waterway with a strong current. The Port Townsend Canal is about 75 feet wide and has open water on either side.

Prior to reaching the canal, we were going 6 knots. In the canal, we were going 8.8 knots. After transiting

the canal, we saw in the distance a quaint town with a cruise ship and a ferry at the main dock. We spent a peaceful night and made several trips to the neighborhood West Marine.

Victoria, BC, Canada, was our next port. It required rounding Point Wilson and crossing the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The winds were on our nose so we spent the day motoring and breathing diesel fumes. Some of us deal with fumes better than others. I would rather sail!!

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Education Department Report

by Lt/C Mike Fontaine, AP, SEO

Out of a total of ten (10) students enrolled in the Boat Smart course, six (6) took and passed the exam. Please welcome them when you meet them at our next event.

Ken Glaze's **SEAMANSHIP CLASS** finished up June 5 with 26 students taking the class. It was a great turnout of new members furthering their boating education.

The new **JR. NAVIGATION** class started June 12 with 11 students, taught by Mike Sampsel SN and Steven Bakalis, SN. This totally redone class emphasizes the use of GPS along with the sextant for offshore navigation.

The next **BOATING CLASS**, taught by the Carlins, began June 20. This introductory class is aimed at new and experienced boaters as well as future boaters who want to learn safe boat-handling, rules of the road and how boats work.

PILOTING class begins on July 10 taught by Dave Baer SN. This is the first class that focuses on techniques for piloting a boat in inland and coastal conditions.

INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT class, taught by Karen Glaze, begins on July 11 and runs through August 22. Learn how to hold students' attention and get your ID certificate.

You'll have a second chance to take **OPERATIONS TRAINING** ("Opportunities Training"), a one-day seminar, on Saturday, August 4th. If you missed this in April, Katie Law, SN, will be repeating it. Call her for details.

Have You Been Slighted by San Diego Sail & Power Squadron?

Have you not been sworn in as a member of the San Diego Sail and Power Squadron? Have you not received your Official Membership Certificate? Your membership Pin? Official membership decal? Membership name tag? Your bimonthly copy of *The Ship's Mail*? Senior Membership Award? Life Membership Award? Invitation to join the Sail Fleet? Invitation to participate in the Predicted Log Races? Invitation to just "ride along" in the Sail Fleet, or Predicted Log Races? Invitation to the General Membership Meetings with important speakers? Are you not receiving regular e-mails of squadron activities, or some other benefit of membership?

**WE ARE TRULY SORRY!
AND WE AIM TO RECTIFY THIS SITUATION.**

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The Ship's Mail

The Ship's Mail is published bimonthly for the members of the San Diego Sail & Power Squadron, Inc. The purposes of the squadron are to promote safe boating and provide civic service in an atmosphere of fellowship.

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The deadline for the Sept-Oct 2007 issue of *The Ship's Mail* is **15 Aug 2007**. All articles are gratefully considered. *The Ship's Mail* is available in color on the squadron website: www.sdsp.org.

Commander's Message

by Cdr Ted Bowler, AP

Were You on National Television?

Our Administrative Officer (AO) Mike Collins, AP, produced a terrific evening at the May General Membership Meeting (GMM) held at Southwestern Yacht Club. It was a little different from the "dinner meetings" we had in the past. Southwestern Yacht Club decided it cannot serve two dinner events on the same evening. Therefore, Mike planned an after dinner "**Dessert Meeting**" and program. It turned out well. We had over 40 members in attendance.

Our typical "no host" attitude adjustment time began at 6:30 PM (1830). We enjoyed a glass of soda, or adult beverage while discussing boating and squadron activities with our fellow squadron members. A short business meeting lasted from 7 PM (1900) to 7:30 PM (1930). We discussed and heard reports regarding:

1. Number of students enrolled in classes
2. Reviewed of our upcoming classes
3. Report of our vessel examination program (VSC)
4. USPS University
5. New members
6. Starting a new USPS squadron in Chula Vista
7. Summer Boat Show

We adjourned for sweets before our evening program. Everyone enjoyed the **Double Chocolate Cake**, moist **Carrot Cake**, and the rich **Cheesecake**. Soft drinks, tea and coffee were served and we renewed our boating discussions that started at the cocktail hour. We had a difficult time getting everyone to their seats for the beginning of the show.

Ed Mraz, SN, introduced our program: "**The 2nd USPS National Safe Boating Test**". Ed's activity at the national level of USPS helped develop this show that has been shown on television throughout the country. It was partially filmed here in San Diego two years ago. A few participants (or actors) were actually San Diego Sail and Power Squadron members.

In addition to seeing local scenery and SDSPS members in action, there were boating questions designed to test your boating knowledge. I purchased prizes for any member who could answer all the questions correctly. I wondered ... "How many Lexuses could be parked in the Southwestern Yacht Club's parking lot on a Friday night?" I supposed all

Power Squadron members would get 100% as we are all interested in safe boating.

The 45-minute video was terrific! However, there were a number of questions posed by the audience. Did Steven Bakalis, SN really smash into the US Coast Guard Cutter? Did the close up shot of Don Litzenberg, AP ("Zoomie") produce a major Hollywood contract? Did his crew get a contract too? Why was Dave Baer, SN sitting in the director's chair? Was that really mud on the deck of Dave Weimer's boat? A number of the viewers shouted out they saw Tom Fota, P, Marie Baer, P and Eugene King, P in the film. I was not sure if I saw them, or not. Did you see them on the video?

Who answered all the video's test questions correctly? Half the audience? One quarter of the audience? **CONGRATULATIONS**-Mel Mones, SN. Mel was the only one to answer all the questions right. Ask him if he is driving a new Lexus.

You need to come to the General Membership Meetings to see if you were on T.V. You need to come to the meetings to answer all the boating questions. You need to come to the GMM to win a prize. You need to come to the General Membership Meetings to know all the things happening in **YOUR** squadron.

Consider attending our next General Membership Meeting (GMM). Mike Collins has a fine program planned:

8 July 2007 Sunday –Picnic/Life raft demonstration
US Coast Guard Station San Diego, Breezy Point

**BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY
BRING YOUR FRIENDS**

It should be a wonderful time.

Watch our website www.sdps.org for all the details of the squadron's activities

I hope to see you all there! **DON'T MISS OUT**

.....*Commander Ted*

Maiden Voyage

..... Continued from p.1

There was a dock in front of the Empress Hotel with the Parliament buildings to your right. We got in after hours and took an available spot on the dock and paid the next day. When coming into the harbor, we saw several seaplanes landing and taking off. The customs dock is to the left of the airplane docks and is not well marked.

We arrived the night before their longest marathon. There was music and cheering when we were awakened. We got up and joined the festivities. On the quay, there were a number of artisans and a party atmosphere.

Finally, on day four, we had beautiful weather. The sky was clear and the winds accommodating. We sailed for 20 miles before throwing out the hook in a picturesque bay on Lopez Island. We were surrounded by pine forests, granite cliffs and wildlife. [No, not Katie and Ted; although we did have cocktails with dinner, they didn't dance the night away.] We did have some concern about the "Feds" chasing us, so we took down the Canadian Ensign. No one noticed, not even the bald eagles.

The final day we had no wind and the sea was flat. We thought we were lake sailing, not in the San Juans. Again, we were in among islands and not in open water. We left Admiralty Inlet and the Strait of Juan de Fuca behind and were repeatedly awestruck by the vistas--those shrouded mountains and snow-covered peaks. This day ended in Anacortes, WA. We cleared customs at Cap Sante Marina. The customs office is next to the marina and there is no sign anywhere on the docks--no "Official Customs Dock."

Thanks to all of my teachers in the SDSPS, the trip went well. We had no problem finding our way, dealing with the ...tide, doing checks on the engine, etc. We wished we had Bill Bridge with us to predict the weather but the weather gods were with us and it only rained at night. We had two sunny days and only one with strong winds (27-35 kts.).

You may ask why we made this trip in late April. The state of Washington makes you take newly purchased boats out of the state within 45 days or pay sales tax, which is higher than California.

Ted and Katie, thank you, thank you! I couldn't have done it without you.



P/C Law enjoys the sunshine with snow-capped mountain peaks in the background (top right).

Nautical Terminology,

by Ye Olde Salt

One of the occasional definitions or derivations of a nautical term by an SDSPS member known only as "Ye Olde Salt."

This issue's phrase is "... slush fund ..."

Slush, a watery mixture of fats made by scraping empty meat storage barrels, was often collected and sold ashore by the ship's cook, who would pocket the profit. This money eventually became known as a slush fund. In today's parlance, a slush fund is an auxiliary monetary account or a reserve fund.

"A ship in port is safe. But that's not what ships were built for."

-- Grace Murray Hopper (1906-1992)
Rear Admiral, US Navy,
& Computer Scientist

District Summer Rendezvous

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday

August 3, 4, and 5, 2007

Mariner's Cove – Mission Bay

San Diego

by D/Lt Marie Baer, Boating Activities Chairman



Last year's rendezvous was at La Playa Cove.

The location was selected and agreed upon during the Spring Conference, by those that regularly attend this event. Reservations are not required, but there is a 72 hour maximum stay.

Please fly your Squadron Burgee, officer's flags, and ENSIGN so that others will be able to locate you at anchor. First boat arriving on Friday will hold down the spot. Once you turn into the basin, veer off to your right (starboard, or North where you will see the roller coaster) for a spot. This will allow easy access from land for those coming by dinghy. Plan to drop either a bow or stern anchor. If you come late, and cannot find room with the raftup, just drop hook where you can and dinghy over. Please do the same should you not intend to stay all three days. Encourage non-Squadron friends with boats to join as well.

For those without boats, there are hotels in the immediate area, if you would prefer to find one where you won't need to drive to the bay. There is usually plenty of parking on Mariner's Point for the day only. Be sure to let someone know in advance of your intention to join the festivities, to ensure transportation out to the raft. You will be able to launch your own dinghy from there as well if you want to do that.

Plan to provision your boat for the entire weekend, including items to share. Friday night, we will have a group Attitude Adjustment and Appetizers gathering. Saturday afternoon, we will do the same (just to ensure our attitudes are adjusted). Plan to serve substantial items, and it'll be considered dinner as well. It may be necessary to wander from boat to boat vs. all gathering on one boat if the crowd is large, so just set it out and expect to see it magically disappear. The decision of what time to break up the raft on Sunday will be determined on Saturday evening.

Please e-mail me at SDRaceAndRaft@aol.com to get on the Reservation and Contact list. As we get closer to the date, you will be notified of each boat attending. Please send me your name, your crew's names, your boat name, the length of your boat, power or sail, dinghy or not, which Squadron you represent, and the ETA. Monitor Channel 16 when *on the water*.

Cap'n Wise* says...

"Let's remember that when a ship misses the harbor, it is seldom the fault of the harbor."

[*Cap'n Wise is a member of the San Diego Sail & Power Squadron, whose years of experience (boating and otherwise) qualify him as a genuine source of wisdom. His sayings will be featured occasionally in future issues of *The Ship's Mail*.]

June Sail Fleet Regatta

by Lt Don Litzenberg, AP
[who did not sail.]

I heard it was a beautiful day to race. The wind was fair, the sun was bright and the San Diego bay was calm. The race was an exercise in keeping track of which way to round G21, G1, and R20 numerous times totaling the 12 marks that made up the 10.35 NM course. Mike Collins and crew on Marilee lead the race through the last rounding. However, Marilee left the last mark, G1, to starboard rather than to port. Marilee was well on her way to the finish line when

Mike noticed Dave Baer and crew on Casamar rounding G1 to port. Mike realized his error and turned back to re-round G1. This gave Casamar the opportunity she needed and finished some two minutes ahead of Marilee. Those two minutes were not enough though to beat Marilee on handicap. Ron Bush and crew on Sicilian Sea trailed the small fleet and came in third overall and on handicap. The race results follow..

San Diego Sail Fleet Results for Junel 2007 Regatta

Boat		Sail	Dis- tance	Finish	Elapsed				Race	Cum	New
Name	Skipper	#	NM	Time	Time	Handi- cap	Delta	Posi- tion	Points	Points	Handi- cap
Marilee	Mike Collins	7473	10.35	14:43:00	2:43:00	829	0.00	1	0.75	9.25	824
Casamar	Dave Baer	57789	10.35	14:39:50	2:39:50	799	2.02	2	2	21	804
Sicilian Sea	Ron Bush	0	10.35	15.41.11	3.41.11	993	92.97	3	3	16.75	988
His Knot Hers	John Isaksen	5027	0.00	0:00:00	dns	815	dns	0	4	25	815
Jandon	Don Litzenberg	7266	0.00	0:00:00	dns	738	dns	0	4	21	738
Sand Dollar	Nancy Renzi	0	0.00	0:00:00	dns	942	dns	0	4	12.75	942

Zebra Mussel Protection

For all you trailer-boaters planning to take your boats to a National Park or National Recreation Area later this year, be informed that the US Department of Interior's National Park Service has announced enforcement of a prevention program against Zebra and Quagga mussels, which have been showing up in lakes west of the Mississippi and present a serious threat to the environment.

Zebra and quagga mussels can be spread by your boat, but they cannot live out of the water for long periods of time. Simply washing boats and equipment and allowing it to fully dry is an effective way to reduce the risk of spreading these aquatic hitchhikers.

Zebra mussels and other harmful plants and animals may be hiding under your trim tabs, in your engine, or even on your anchor chain! Zebra and quagga mussels are

microscopic in their earliest life stages, making them impossible to detect with a simple visual inspection. Zebra and quagga mussels have the potential to:

- Disrupt the food chain and fishing
- Foul facilities like docks and ramps
- Encrust boats and clog engines
- Litter beaches with sharp smelly shells

Before you may launch your boat at Lake Powell and other lakes under the auspices of the National Park Service, you will be required to comply with the zebra mussel prevention program. For most boaters, this will be a simple process and you will save time by filling out the "self-certification" form in advance. This form is to be found at: <http://www.nps.gov/glca/upload/self%20certification%20packet%20033007.pdf>. If you have any questions, check with a park ranger or call 928-608-6404.

SDSPS CALENDAR – July/Aug/Sept 2007

<u>Day/Date/Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Contact</u>
July			
Tues/03 1900	ExCom meeting	Commander's home	Ted Bowler
Wed/04 1200	Deadline for Picnic Reservations		Mike Collins
Sat/07 1200	Sail Fleet Race	San Diego Bay	Don Litzenberg
Sat/07 1200	San Luis Rey BBQ	Oceanside	Katie Law
Sun/08 1200	Annual Picnic/GMM	USCG Station [No Harbor Dr]	Mike Collins
Tues/10 1700	Piloting class begins [thru 25 Sept]	SWYC	Dave Baer
Wed/11 1700	Instructor Dev't begins [thru 22 Aug]	SWYC	Mike Fontaine
Sat/21	SDCA Cruiser Navigation contest	SWYC/MBYC	Dave Weimer
August			
Thur-Sun/02-05	Summer Boat Show [watch standers needed]	Sheraton Harbor Isl.	Shaun McArdle
Fri-Sun/03-05	D/28 Summer Rendezvous	Mariner's Cove, Mission Bay	Marie Baer
Sat/04 0900-1500	Operations Training seminar	To be announced	Katie Law
Tues/07 1900	ExCom meeting	Commander's home	Ted Bowler
Fri/10 1200	Cdr's Pot Luck dinner (All Welcome)	Commander's home	Ted Bowler
Sat/11 1200	Sail Fleet Race	San Diego Bay	Don Litzenberg
Sat/25	SDCA Cruiser Navigation contest	SWYC	Dave Weimer
September			
Tues-Sun/04-09	USPS Fall Gov. Bd meeting	Norfolk, VA	Ted Bowler
Sat/08 1200	Sail Fleet Race	San Diego Bay	Don Litzenberg
Tues/11 1200	ExCom meeting	Commander's home	Ted Bowler
Fri/14 1900	General Mbrs' Meeting	SWYC	Mike Collins
Sat/29	SDCA Cruiser Navigation contest	CCYC	Dave Weimer

BOAT SHOWS BRING IN THE STUDENTS

by P/C Shaun McArdle, AP, Boat Show Chairman

Given the size of our Boating Course classes in the past two years and the resultant increase in new members, a large measure of the credit goes to those who staff the squadron booth at boat shows and other events.

However, it's the same dedicated crew of watch standers. The squadron owes them much gratitude. But, come on everyone, we need more participation. New members are especially welcome to join in. These events are fun, and the more watch standers we have, the more time we have to enjoy the event.

The next big event is the San Diego Summer Boat Show held at the Hotel Sheraton Marina on Harbor Island 2-5 August 2007. We'll be posting a watch bill on the squadron website for sign ups next month. Join in! Sign up!

New Members from Boat Smart Class

Ed Mraz's spring Boat Smart class has been completed and nine of those who passed have joined the San Diego Sail and Power Squadron. Thanks to Ed, and more thanks to Membership Chairman, John Isaksen and his crew, who interviewed the successful test-takers and signed them up. **Welcome Aboard to: Andrea LaVorgna; Dale and Christine Matteson; Carol Parham** (wife of P/Lt/C Gordon Parham), **Eli Rhoten, Ray Rhoten;** and **Franthia and Richard Smith!** And **welcome back to Bill Frame**, husband of Andrea LaVorgna!

You and Your Whole Family (and Grandchildren) and Friends are Invited
To Spend an Afternoon at the U. S. Coast Guard Station
At San Diego Bay [No. Harbor Dr. across from Laurel St.]

**San Diego Sail & Power Squadron Picnic and BBQ
And General Membership Meeting**

Sunday, 8 July 2007 at 12:00 Noon

The cost is \$5.00 per person; children under age 12 are FREE.

Please bring your favorite picnic side dish or dessert to share
and your own refreshments (Chips, Food, Sodas, Beer, etc.)

**Chef and Grill Meister P/D/C Bill Bridge will be serving up freshly
barbequed hamburgers and hot dogs for all. We will provide plates and flatware.**

RSVP IS REQUIRED! If your name is not on the master list, you won't get in.

For security reasons your name and that of your possible guests must be submitted to the
Coast Guard in advance or you will not be allowed on base. Please e-mail Administrative
Officer Mike Collins at mikelovestosail@yahoo.com or call 619-440-4038 before Wednesday, 04
July 2007 for a reservation. Payment can be made at the picnic

RSVP by 12 noon on Wednesday, July 4th for Reservations:

Administrative Officer, Lt/C Michael Collins, AP at

mikelovestosail@yahoo.com or 619 440-4038

The Ship's Mail
P.O. Box 44 23
San Diego, CA 92164

First Class Mail

"OT"

Seminar

[USPS Organization]

Saturday, 4 Aug 07

[Details on P. 2]

**Come and learn how
your club operates.**