



Volume 54, Issue 7

October 2009

DECKWATCH

Official Newsletter of the Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron

A Unit of District 10, United States Power Squadrons (USPS) ~ America's Boating Club ~

USPS Mission is to promote recreational boating safety through education and civic activities while providing fellowship and fun for our members.

UPCOMING EVENTS



October

13th (Tue) - Executive Committee Meeting
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club
2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

20th (Tue)—Squadron Members' Meeting,
6 p.m., Alioto's, Mayfair Rd and Burleigh
Program TBD



November

6th – 8th—2009 District 10 Fall Conference
Airport – Hilton Mall of America hosted by the
Minnetonka Power Squadron

10th (Tue)—Executive Committee Meeting
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht Club
2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI.

17th (Tue)— Squadron Members' Meeting
6:00 p.m., location TBA



December

8th (Tue)— Executive Committee Meeting,
7 p.m., South Shore Yacht club
2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee, WI

15th(Tue)—Squadron Members' Holiday
Party, 6 p.m., Location TBD

**For more information on
these events, please contact
Ted Smyczek at 262-786-2599**

www.milwakeepowersquadron.org



WIN!

*Educate
yourself and
Learn boating
skills and win!*



Boating is fun...

We'll show you how!

United States Power Squadrons®
P.O. Box 30423
Raleigh, NC 27622
1-888-FOR-USPS
1-888-367-8777

Win Valuable Prizes!

Take and complete a USPS Course
between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010!

*United States Power Squadron members can take any one or
more of the following courses between July 1, 2009 and June 30,
2010 to be eligible for the following prizes:*

Seamanship:	WIN A HANDHELD VHF RADIO
Piloting:	WIN A HANDHELD GPS
Advanced Piloting:	WIN A SET OF NAVIGATIONAL SOFTWARE
JN:	WIN A CHARTPLOTTER
Weather:	WIN A BAROMETER
Marine Electrical Systems:	WIN A MULTIMETER
Engine Maintenance:	WIN A MULTIMETER

To enter the drawing, all you need to do is the following:

1. Take and complete the qualifying course or courses between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010
2. Successfully pass the examination before June 30, 2010
3. You will be automatically entered in the drawing

The Available Prizes:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. For Seamanship | (3) Handheld VHF Radios |
| 2. For Piloting | (3) Handheld GPS |
| 3. For Advanced Piloting | (3) Sets of Navigational Software |
| 4. For JN | (1) Chart Plotter |
| 5. For Weather | (3) Barometers |
| 6. For Marine Electrical Systems | (3) Multimeters |
| 7. For Engine Maintenance | (3) Multimeters |

*The winner's names will be drawn at the 2010 Governing Board held in
Seattle from August 30th through September 4th, 2010.*

SEAMANSHIP

Begins November 11th at
Svenberg Services - Call
Dan Noonan to register

Building on the basics taught
in the public boating
courses, **Seamanship** is the
recommended first course
for new members, both
power boaters and sailors.

Students learn practical
marlinspike, navigation
rules, hull design and
performance, responsibilities
of the skipper, boat care,
operating a boat under
normal and abnormal
conditions, what to do in
various emergencies and
weather conditions, nautical
customs and common
courtesy on the water.

This course provides the
needed introduction to the
USPS Educational Program
and a strong foundation for
members going on to other
Advanced Grades courses
and/or **Cruise Planning or
Sail**.

Prerequisites: None

ADVANCED PILOTING COURSE

The *Advanced Piloting* course is the second and final part of the inland and coastal navigation series among the USPS courses. For the prudent boater, this course is essential for boating on "big water", i.e. the Great Lakes, Lake Winnebago, Lake of the Woods, etc. The course material continues to build on the base developed in the *Piloting* course and includes the practical use of additional *electronic navigation systems* and other advanced techniques for finding position. The new AP course is such a change from the previous AP course that it will be worthwhile for those who have already taken AP to learn twenty-first century navigational techniques as they add to their "navigational tool box" with this new course.

Among the topics covered are:

- Finding position using bearings and angles
- Collision avoidance using GPS and radar
- What to do when electronics fail
- Tides, currents and wind and their effect on piloting
- Electronic navigation with GPS, chart plotters, radar, autopilots, etc

Application of course lectures are enhanced with practical, in class, exercises. You do not need to own a GPS or Loran-C unit to be able to successfully complete *Advanced Piloting*. The class will meet on Tuesday evenings best suited for the participants. The location is to be finalized. Call instructor Ted Smyczek, (262)786-2599 for more information or to sign up.

Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron Bridge Officers

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The Deck Watch is published monthly by the Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron, the Milwaukee, WI chapter of the United States Power Squadron, a non-profit corporation located in Raleigh, NC.

Redesign and Editorial Production by Heather McKinney under the direction of the Publications Committee. Items for publication are due the 20th of each month. Please submit items to deckwatch@milwaukeepowersquadron.org

The United States Power Squadron is America's number one boating organization. If you would like information about membership, please contact: Ted Smyczek at 262-786-2599 or tmsmyczek@netzero.net

Please send questions, comments, Roster contact information updates/changes, opinions, photos, news, articles, story ideas, etc. to: Deckwatch@milwaukeepowersquadron.org



USPS District 10 – 2009 Fall Conference Registration

Minnetonka Power Squadron

6th, 7th, 8th November 2009

Airport Hilton – Mall of America (952) 854-2100



Rank _____ Name _____ Grade _____
Rank _____ Name _____ Grade _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
Child: _____ Age _____ Child: _____ Age _____ Child: _____ Age _____

Event	Cost	Number	Total
Friday – That's Entertainment / Pasta Bar & Pizza Buffet (cash bar)	\$26		\$
Children's Meal – Friday night: includes Fruit Cup or Applesauce, Cookie and Milk Children's selection – indicate quantity of each children's dinner below: Chicken Tenders & Tator Tots Hot Dog and Mac & Cheese Spaghetti & Breadstick	\$15		\$
Saturday – Lunch / Picnic Lunch: includes sandwich, chips, brownie and beverage. Sandwich selection – indicate quantity of each sandwich below: Turkey/Swiss Roast Beef/Monterey Jack Chicken Salad Veggie Pita	\$24		\$
Saturday – Dinner: includes MN Wild Rice Soup & Champagne Cake w/Mango Raspberry Coulis Dinner selection – indicate quantity of each dinner below: Pork Tenderloin w/Maple Demi-Glaze, Garlic Chive Mashed Potatoes & Vegetables Chicken w/Marsala Wine Glaze & Mushrooms, Duchess Potatoes & Vegetables Vegetarian	\$42 \$42		\$
Children's Meal – Saturday night: includes Fruit Cup or Applesauce, Cookie and Milk Children's selection – indicate quantity of each children's dinner below: Chicken Tenders & Tator Tots Hot Dog and Mac & Cheese Spaghetti & Bread	\$15		\$
USPS Seminar – Boat Handling under Power	\$25		
TOTAL			\$

Saturday and Sunday breakfast on your own.

Make check payable to: Minnetonka Power Squadron
Reply by: 15 October 2009
Mail form & check to: Lt. Lois Palmer
545 77th St W, Eagan, MN 55121
lpalmer@argentasystems.com



For more information, go to:
www.usps-d10.org

Hotel Information

Airport Hilton – Mall of America (952) 854-2100 or (800) 445-8667
3800 American Blvd E, Bloomington, MN, United States 55425-1658

- Indoor swimming pool
- Mall of America – free shuttle

Ask for the Minnetonka Power Squadron rate of \$99. Mall of America package also available for a rate of \$129. www.hilton.com

Reservation Deadline: 6 October 2009

Attractions nearby:

- Nickelodeon Universe at Mall of America
- Waterpark of America
- Access to the Light Rail
- Underwater World
- Wilderness/Nature Park

Hilton Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport
Mall of America



UPDATE YOUR PERSONAL INFO ONLINE

Any member who has signed on to the USPS website using a PIN code can now update their personal information online.

Use the "How Do I" list at the top of the [USPS home page](#) to locate the "Update My Personal Data Online" facility.

In Next Months Issue: BOATING SAFETY

Winterizing Your Boat with Safety in Mind



REMINDER

Daylight Savings time ends on November 1st.

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour.

NEW CANADIAN BOATING LAWS

Canada will complete a ten year phase-in of mandatory boating education as of September 15, 2009. This requirement applies to both Canadian residents and non-residents. It applies to anyone wishing to operate a recreational boat (they call it a pleasure craft) that is fitted with a motor. For non-residents of Canada, there are two different rules depending on whether the person is bringing their own boat into Canada or using a Canadian-registered boat. If a person will be using a Canadian-registered boat, they must have proof of competency to legally operate it. If a person brings their own boat into Canada, they are exempt from the regulations for 45 days as long as they carry proof of residency with them. After 45 days, they must also carry proof of competency with them.



Proof of Competency: a Canadian-issued Pleasure Craft Operator Card, a boat rental safety checklist, or a card that meets the requirements of the person's state or country. So a Wisconsin Boating Safety Certificate does fulfill the proof of competency requirement.

Transport Canada's website outlines this information at:

http://www.tc.gc.ca/marinesafety/debs/obs/quick/quick_visitor.htm#a

This information comes from Cathy Burrow, office of Wisconsin's Boating Law Administrator.

P/D/C Ron Kraase

STAR GAZING

John Goetzman, P

This month the Lunar phases started with the Full Moon on the 4th. This Full Moon is called the "Hunters Moon". The Algonquian Tribe tracked and killed wild game by the moonlight. Stockpiling the meat for the coming winter. The last Waning Quarter is on the 11th, the New Moon on the 18th and the first Waxing Quarter on the 25th.



The planets Venus, Mercury and Saturn are early morning objects. All three will be low on the eastern horizon just before dawn on the 15th. Saturn and Venus will be very close to each other with Mercury about a fist width at arms length below these two planets. All three are fairly bright. Venus will be the brightest. This will be a neat sight, well worth getting up a bit earlier than usual.

Mars, the Red Planet, will be visible after midnight in the constellation Cancer, look low in the eastern sky. At month's end Mars will move in front of a hazy naked eye spot. One of our administrative officers' countryman back 400 years ago (Galileo Galilei, the foremost Italian astronomer, mathematician, and physicist of the 17th century) discovered thru his primitive 30 power telescope that it consisted of a cluster of stars. Because they resemble a cluster of bees, this open cluster is known as the beehive. On modern star charts it is designated M-44.

With high powered binoculars or a small 20 plus power telescope the four brightest moons of Jupiter can be seen orbiting the planet. You can also see the planet Venus go thru phases similar to our Moon's monthly phases. Galileo was the first to record his observations of Jupiter's Moons, our Moon's craters and the phases of Venus. After observing the phases of Venus he came to the conclusion Venus orbited the sun and not Earth.

He published a paper in 1632 that his discovery confirmed Polish astronomer Nicholas Copernicus' earlier findings that the Sun was the center of our solar system with the Earth and planets orbiting around it. This put him in a lot of trouble with Pope Urban VIII. Church dogma in those days placed the Earth as the center of the universe. Any other thinking was regarded as heresy.

Galileo was tried by the inquisition in 1633 and forced to renounce his belief that the Earth moved around the Sun. He was ordered to stop all astronomical studies. He died under house arrest in 1642.

The Taurid meteor shower will begin on the 20th and continue until late November. Only about 10 meteors an hour are expected. Look fairly high to the east to the constellation Taurus the Bull.

The more visible shower is the Orionids that peak on the 21st with an expected rate of 25 meteors an hour. Look fairly high in the sky towards the east to the constellation Orion the Hunter. He lives next door to Taurus. The radiant point for this shower is just north of the red star Betgeuse. Both the Taurid and Orionid showers usually start at about 10 pm. But the most "shooting stars" will be seen one to two hours before dawn.



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Official Publication of the
Milwaukee Sail and Power
Squadron
A Unit of District 10,
UNITED STATES POWER
SQUADRONS

Membership Director
Ted Smyczek
12600 W. Crawford Drive
New Berlin, WI 53151-5422

Please note: If your address, phone number, or email address changes or you get a new boat, be sure to contact Ted Smyczek at (262) 786-2599.

USPS ADOPTS SAILANGLE.COM AS COMMUNICATION PLATFORM

Do you twitter? Do you tweet? Have a Facebook page or are you LinkedIn? If you are a user of social networking these terms are familiar to you. For user of social networks and non users who want to venture into the world of social networking, USPS is making available to all its members SailAngle.com.

What is SailAngle.com?

Called "Facebook for boaters" by creator and USPS member Randy White, SailAngle.com lets members join groups, build friendships, plan itineraries and menus, share local information with other cruisers, keep in touch with friends, and more. It's a boating website built by boaters for boaters.

USPS hopes to have 100 percent member participation. Joining takes less than a minute. To get started, go to the [USPS home page](http://www.USPS.org), www.USPS.org, and click the "Access SailAngle.com" button. From there, you can enter or download your log-on information from USPS.

If you are a user of social networks or have always wanted to try, this is an excellent opportunity to join a social network by boaters for boaters. Venture into the world of social networking with **SailAngle.com**.

Kim Rutkowski
Executive Officer

