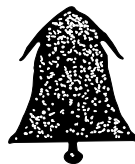


THE BELL



DECEMBER 2009



Santa Clara Power Squadron
Safe Boating through Education & Service

DISTRICT 25

SAFER BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION



Santa Clara Power Squadron

BRIDGE

Commander

Jim Sadler, P
(408) 274-9676

Executive Officer

Jim Buckley, P
(408) 225-0184

Educational Officer

Dave Norris, JN
(408) 356-1949

Administrative Officer

Tim Ellenberger, P
(408) 998-5521

Secretary

Lu Abel, SN
(408) 448-9250

Treasurer

DeWayn Meek, AP
(408) 225-6097

WHAT'S INSIDE

Calendar of Events
Sudoku
Commander's Message
Executive Officer
Administrative Officer
Ship's Store / Update
Treasurer
SEO
Squadron Holiday Party
Proposed Bridge Positions 2010
Puzzle Solution
Safety Article – Know Your Life Jacket
From the Editor

DIRECTORS

Alfred Hughes Don Hardy, SN
Stephen Fisher, P Peter Gise, JN

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Boating Activities

Boating Class	Lt. Stephen Fisher, P	(408) 723-0619
Co-op Charting	P/C Dennis Parker, AP	(650) 326-1474
Membership	Lt. Stanley Tice, JN	(408) 269-8659
Member Involvement	P/Stf/C Carol Munce	(408) 867-0579
Public Relations	John Cassidy, AP	(916) 983-4160
Meetings & Programs	Vacant – Still looking for that right person	
Supply Officer	Carolyn Fisher	(408) 723-0619
Newsletter Editors	P/C Lindy Zink, AP & Nancy Zink	(408) 866-2660
Vessel Safety	Lt. Stephen Fisher, P	(408) 723-0619
Computer Systems/Web	P/C Dennis Parker, AP	(650) 326-1474

***The Bell*, published monthly, is the official publication of the Santa Clara Power Squadron, a unit of United States Power Squadrons®. Deadline for articles and input is the third Wednesday of the month.**

Calendar

DECEMBER, 2009

- 2 District Holiday Party
- 11 Hanukkah (Begins at sundown)
- 12 Squadron Holiday Party
- 16 Executive Committee Meeting
- 25 Christmas



JANUARY, 2010

- 1 New Year's Day
- 13 Wednesday Night Dinner
- 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 20 Executive Committee Meeting

SUDOKU

Level - Medium

		3		2	6			
	6	1	7	8			4	
		8	1					9
		7			8			
5			9		7			1
			5			7		
6					1	2		
	9			7	4	8	1	
			6	9		4		

Last month's puzzle answer on page 13

Commander's Message



Job number one is to offer my very best wishes to you and your beautiful families at this very festive time of year. Many of us use this time of year to reflect on our blessings and I am truly happy that I joined the SCPS and have been able to meet, work with and socialize with a very fine group of like-minded boaters.

About mid-November news came to us that a row boat arrived under the Golden Gate from Japan. Some Brits made landfall in the Bay 190 days after leaving from a marina in Japan.

Named "Bojangles" this specially designed rowboat did the 5100 mile crossing and became the first human-powered trip without a support boat across the Pacific in modern history.

This reminded me of a rowing experience many decades prior. My grandfather had a cabin on Coeur d'Alene Lake in northern Idaho. One of the most astonishing moments of my rather young life was that he put a 1.5 hp gasoline engine on the transom of a rowboat and allowed my brother and me to take the boat on the lake by ourselves. Of course we were not going to get very far with an engine that took about a cup full of gas mixed with oil, but we were delighted to go back and forth in front of the neighboring docks showing all of their owners just what kind of hot stuff we really were. (I had a very sheltered childhood when it came to machinery. If I was allowed to use a pitchfork, that was high tech.)

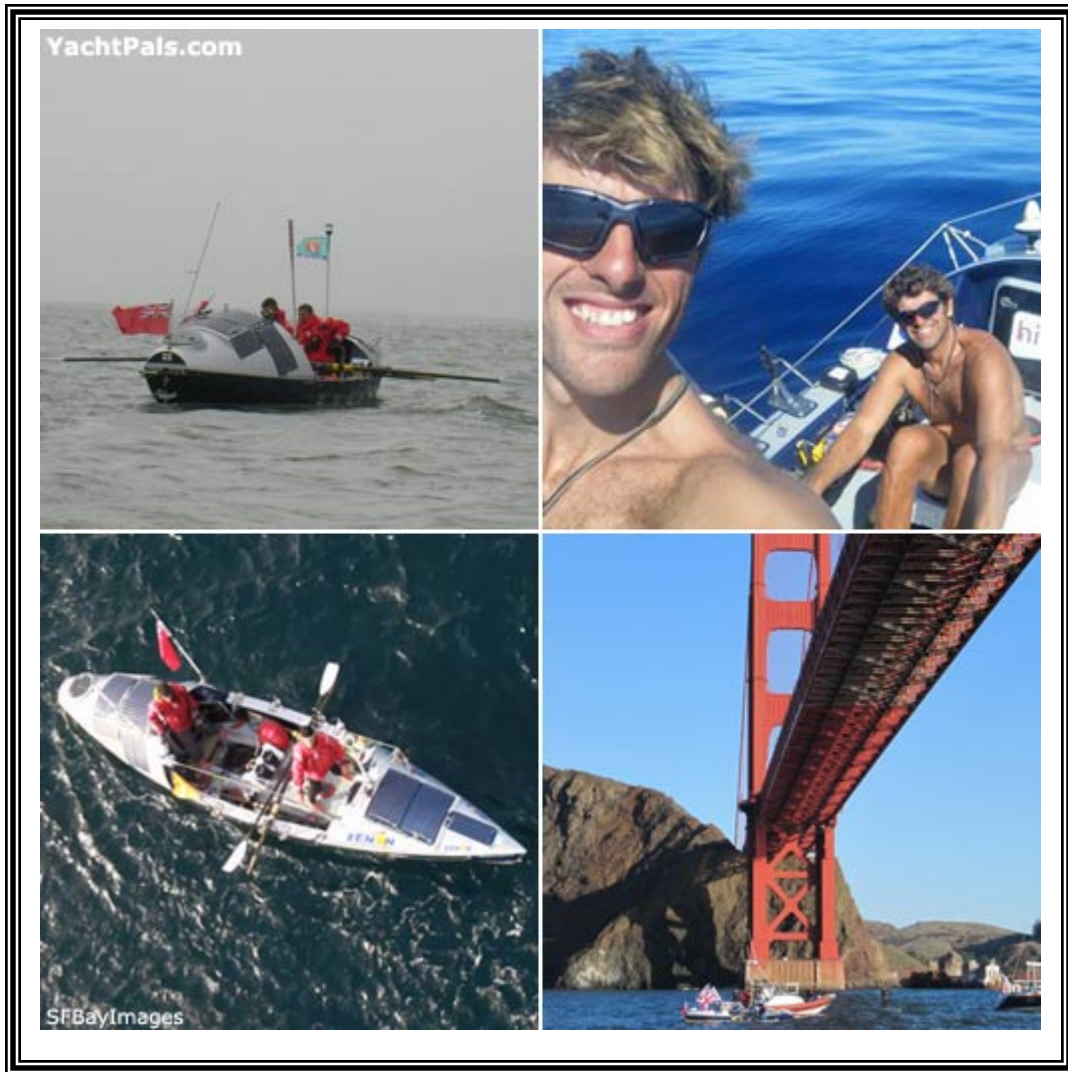
One windy Sunday morning my brother and I decided this would be a fine day to go out in the boat before anyone stirred in the one room cabin where four adults and five other children were sawing logs so loud the nearby forests quivered. So down two stories we go to the dock and climb into the gassed up row boat ready for our great excursion. We could have turned right, into the wind, but not knowing any better we hung a left, with the wind. Of course with the wind at our backs and the little putt-putt engine firing on all cylinder, we were way down the lake in no time. In fact a bay opened up to us and the wind was chopping the water into a froth with about 3 ft white caps. I decided it was time to head back so we turned the little engine that could into the wind and probably started making 0 knots over ground, or worse, but we didn't care because we were too naïve to know any better and were having a gay ole time.

As time passed my grandfather's boat could be seen on the horizon and he threw us a line and we started making way and I realized at that moment that if he had not shown up, we would never have make it back to safety. Parents and grandparents were spitting mad. They were so angry that they didn't even have to percolate their coffee, just put the dry grounds on their tongues and the coffee brewed right in their mouths. I am sure we had

our lifejackets on because I would have remembered. The entire Sunday dinner would have been cooked without ever going onto the stove or into the oven if we had not.

So congratulations to Mick Dawson and Chris Martin. I just hope their rowboat experience was exciting as mine.

All my best,
Jim



Mick Dawson and Chris Martin
Photos are courtesy of YachtPals.com

Executive Officer



Jim Buckley – Executive Officer

Volunteerism

A simple word that means so much to those that are on the receiving end, and yes to those on the giving end as well.

Here we are in the month of December and if you are like me, you are wondering where the year went and what accomplishments do I have to show. Well from my perspective, one of the biggest accomplishments we all have is surviving another year. You see, this last year has been one full of economical mystery and despair, war and hardship, people losing jobs and homes and in some cases, people flat out giving up. This isn't meant to say that the year has been totally bad or negative. There have been many pleasant things that have happened throughout the year. There have been some businesses that have been successful, the stock market is back above 10,000 and unemployment seems to be coming down. Now who knows how long those trends will keep going but we must be positive.

Here in our squadron we saw some changes as well. We saw groups attending different types of events, thanks to Tim our Admin Guy. We saw the word getting out about our squadron thanks to John Cassidy our public relations guy and we even are seeing some new members joining our squadron. So you see, all is not lost this last year.

Now the hard part. As we continue to move forward we must complete the stage that has been set. We must get the new members involved in our activities and with our Bridge and or committees. We must continue to receive input from you, our members, as to activities you would like to see us do. And lastly, we must look at ways to continue to grow, not only in members but also in education and events. So I call upon you, yes you. You who joined this organization for one reason or another, but in any case did join. With that membership comes a responsibility. A responsibility to be active in some manner with the group. You see, to be a volunteer or a member does not mean merely joining, it also means helping. That help can be with a committee, teaching a class or just showing up at events. That way you are not one of those people that sits on the sidelines and complains about what is going on yet offers no input to making things better.

So when the time comes and the phone rings or read about a need in the newsletter, pick up the phone and volunteer. Volunteer to help with anything you can. Even the least little amount of help can make a difference and that is the most important thing in life.

Lindy Zink

From the Admin



NEXT OUTING

What: Squadron Holiday Party
When: Saturday, 12 December 1800 hrs
Where: Fish Market Restaurant
1700 Blossom Hill Rd San Jose

Hoping that your Thanksgiving feast was a great one! Sandy and I spent time with the family and enjoyed a very tasty holiday. And thinking of holidays, as boating activities slow a bit, our Squadron's social calendar begins to ramp up! **HAPPY HOLIDAYS...**

On our immediate horizon, we will be enjoying a wonderful party at the Fish Market on Blossom Hill Road. The date for **Squadron Holiday Banquet** is Saturday, December 12th and the time is 6:00 PM for drinks and 7:00 PM for dinner. It is a fun time to dress-up, socialize with your Squadron friends and raise a toast to the best of the past year and the great opportunities of the next one. Look for my emailed reminders that request you to join us for this fun evening.

As with prior years, we will be holding a round robin "white elephant" gift exchange. You are invited to bring one wrapped gift per guest to place under our tree at the restaurant. Please do not place your name on the gift as we select numbers and take our choice of any gift we fancy. Should you find a good one, remember that a gift can be "stolen" twice by anyone who has chosen a gift before you. On the third "steal" the gift is considered to have found a final home. I am hoping that you will participate as we have had lots of fun with this over the years. And remember, the gift you bring can be something you have around the house or, should you wish, something you purchase for 10 dollars or less. I am looking forward to seeing you all at the party.

Next up is the **Wednesday Night Dinner**, which will change to the SECOND Wednesday, January 13th, so as to be too close to New Years. Where will we go, how about Harry's Hofbrau, 390 Saratoga Avenue in San Jose! Sure you know where it is, right across from West Marine! Please stop by this local favorite for a reasonably priced meal with very generous portions. We'll be found in the "bar," seated at one or two of the big round tables.

2010 is just around the corner and the new year will be celebrated with a new Bridge for the Squadron. Mark your chart for our **Change of Watch Banquet** on Saturday, February 6th. The location will be announced soon!

2009 Activity Calendar

12 December	Squadron Holiday Party
13 January	Wednesday Night Dinner
6 February	Change of Watch

Tim Ellenberger
T.Ellenberger@sbcglobal.net



Holiday time and time once again for our Squadron's Holiday Party. See you there.

Ship's Store

SQUADRON LOGO CLOTHING NOW AVAILABLE

The Embroidery Factory, which puts the squadron logo on the clothing we choose, has a new website. Members can view the website, without opening an account, and let the squadron Ship's Store place their orders with other orders. The squadron gets a 20% discount from the retail price.

THE EMBROIDERY FACTORY WEBSITE

www.embroideryfactory.com

Order that special someone a gift that that they can wear with pride, an embroidered shirt or hat or perhaps a nice warm jacket. All of these items are available in different sizes and colors. Don't keep waiting, order now.

Carrie Fisher
(408) 723-0619
Carrie4318@aol.com



Update

DISTRICT HOLIDAY PARTY

D/25 will hold its Christmas Party on Wednesday, 2 December, at the Oyster Point YC. This will be like last year's party -- a VERY short District Council meeting (officially needed) followed by a very nice dinner. Fillet Mignon or Salmon for \$23 all up (thanks to the Chapmans getting "member" prices). Reservations due to Judy Pennington by Thanksgiving. Curmudgeonly old me who hates district functions had fun at last year's!

Oh, they're also collecting Toys for Tots, so bring a toy.

From the Treasurer



USELESS KNOWLEDGE

A duck's quack doesn't echo.
No one knows why.

Now doesn't that just
"quack" you up.

To produce a mighty book, you must choose a mighty theme. No great and enduring volume can ever be written on the flea, though many there be who have tried.

Herman Melville

The sailor must have courage, no danger he must shun;
In every kind of weather his course he still must run;
Now mounted on the topmast, how dreadful 'tis below!
Then we ride, as the tide when the stormy winds do blow.
-from an old sea song

Scott: "We find people fond of being sailors."

Johnson: "I cannot account for that, any more than I can account for other strange perversions of imagination."

From Boswell's life of Johnson

We are solvent.

DeWayn Meek, Treasurer

From the SEO



WORD ORIGIN

Dinghy - 1810, from Hindi *dingi* "small boat," perhaps from Skt. *drona-m* "wooden trough," related to *dru-s* "wood, tree."

The **Engine Maintenance** elective course - - Four exams taken and four students passed this squadron Elective Course. Congratulations to Lt/C Jim Buckley, P; Jim Carbin, P; Tom Poffenburger and Cdr Jim Sadler, P. Commander Sadler already has credit for this course from our class back in April 2007. Three students that were unable to take the exam on 29 October will have another chance. SEO has reordered exams for these three and hope to be able to administer sometime before year end.

Our **America's Boating Course – 3rd Edition** ended with two students passing the course. A membership form was given to this father/son duo with no reply to date. **Reminder:** A new class is planned to start on January 26, 2010 at Wilcox HS in Santa Clara. Please contact Lt Steve Fisher, P for assistance as instructor or class aid prior to January end.

Advanced Grade courses Seamanship & Piloting - - Please consider attempting one or both of these courses in 2010. Squadron statistics: 57 members with 49% and 46% never have taken either Seamanship or Piloting respectively. Of our fifty-seven members, one is a "W" certificate and twelve are "F" (Family member) certificates representing 23% of our total membership. Now - - Who would like a S and/or P class?

Here's wishing all a Very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a stable new year in 2010.

Nautical humor for December

HATCH: 1. A device similar in nature to a mousetrap, in that it will drop down on your head or hand without warning. 2. An opening for admitting water into the vessel. 3. Orrin. A United States Senator.

<http://www.waterspirits.com/humor.html>

Lt/C Dave Norris, JN
CaptDaveNorris@aol.com
or w6ctm@aol.com



US Power Squadron Holiday Dinner



Saturday, December 12th
6:00 PM Cocktails, 7:00 PM Dinner
1700 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose

To start, please enjoy a fresh tossed green salad
Tonight's Entrée' Menu features your choice of:

- Fresh Farm Raised Shetland Isles Salmon** - \$28*
- Fresh Pacific Mahi Mahi** - \$28*
- Fresh Boneless Herb or Teriyaki Chicken** - \$26*
- Fresh Center Cut Top Sirloin** - \$28*
- Fish & Chips with french fries and coleslaw** - \$26*

Please choose two of the following with the above entrees:
au gratin potatoes, parsley potatoes, French fries, fishwife rice, steamed
vegetables, coleslaw, cottage cheese, cucumber salad or cherry tomatoes

OR:

- Fresh Seafood Marinara with Pasta** - \$23*
- Pasta Primavera (veggies and pasta w/choice of sauce)** - \$18*

ALSO YOUR CHOICE OF COFFEE, TEA OR SODA

*prices include tax and gratuity

Please make checks payable to the Santa Clara Power Squadron

**OUR ROUND ROBIN GIFT EXCHANGE WILL FOLLOW...PLEASE
BRING ONE WRAPPED GIFT FOR EACH GUEST ATTENDING**

CALL TIM THE ADMIN, 391-2430, FOR YOUR RESERVATION

2010 Bridge Positions – Proposed

The following is an update of the proposed Bridge positions for our Squadron in 2010. The nominating committee has been hard at work in trying to fill these positions. As you will see, at this point we still have some vacancies. So if you are interested in helping out, volunteer for one of the vacant positions. It's easy. Simply pick up the phone or send an email to Lindy Zink. Phone – 408-866-2660 Email – LindyZink@hotmail.com

Let's make this upcoming year successful and have all the positions filled.

COMMANDER	LU ABEL, SN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER	VACANT
EDUCATIONAL OFFICER	DAVE NORRIS, JN
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	TIM ELLENBERGER, P
SECRETARY	VACANT
TREASURER	DEWAYN MEEK, AP

DIRECTORS	AL HUGHES
	STEVE FISHER, P
	DON HARDY, SN
	PETER GISE, JN

COMMITTEES:

BOATING ACTIVITY	VACANT
BOATING CLASS	STEVE FISHER, P
CO-OP CHARTING	DENNIS PARKER, AP
MEMBERSHIP	STAN TICE, JN
MEMBER INVOLVEMENT	VACANT
PUBLIC RELATIONS	VACANT
MEETING & PROGRAMS	VACANT
SUPPLY OFFICER	CAROL FISHER
NEWSLETTER EDITORS	LINDY ZINK, AP & NANCY ZINK
VESSEL SAFETY	STEVE FISHER, P
COMPUTER SYSTEMS/WEB	DENNIS PARKER, AP

Puzzle Solution for August

3	9	7	2	8	5	1	6	4
2	4	6	9	3	1	5	7	8
1	5	8	7	4	6	9	3	2
8	2	5	6	7	4	3	1	9
7	1	9	8	2	3	4	5	6
6	3	4	1	5	9	2	7	8
4	6	1	5	9	7	8	2	3
5	8	3	4	6	2	7	9	1
8	7	2	3	1	8	6	4	5

Monthly Riddle

Some ducks were walking down a path. There was a duck in front of two ducks, a duck behind two ducks, and a duck between two ducks. How many ducks were there in all?

Answer is located on Editor's page.

From The Editors



If you have a suggestion or something that you would like to see in The Bell or if you have an article, please send it to us via our e-mail. Lindyzink@hotmail.com



RIDDLE ANSWER

Three ducks, waddling single file.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Thou shalt not be a victim. Thou shalt not be a perpetrator. Above all, thou shalt not be a bystander.

Holocaust Museum