



THE BELL



JANUARY 2008



Santa Clara Power Squadron
Safe Boating through Education & Service

DISTRICT 25

SAFER BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION



Santa Clara Power Squadron

BRIDGE

Commander

Karrie Allen, P
(650) 207-9440

Executive Officer

Lindy Zink, AP
(408) 866-2660

Educational Officer

Don Hardy, SN
(408) 356-7037

Administrative Officer

Tim Ellenberger, P
(408) 998-5521

Secretary

Jim Sadler
(408) 274-9676

Treasurer

DeWayn Meek, AP
(408) 225-6097

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Boating Activities	Lt/C Tim Ellenberger, P	(408) 998-5521
Boating Class	P/C DeWayn Meek, AP	(408) 225-6097
Co-op Charting	P/C Dennis Parker, AP	(650) 326-1474
Membership	Lt. Stanley Tice, JN	(408) 269-8659
Member Involvement	Lt/C Tim Ellenberger, P	(408) 998-5521
Public Relations	Cmdr Karrie Allen, P	(650) 207-9440
Meetings & Programs	Lt/C Tim Ellenberger, P	(408) 998-5521
Supply Officer	P/Stf/C Carol Munce, JN	(408) 867-0579
Newsletter Editors	P/C Lindy Zink, AP & Nancy Zink	(408) 866-2660
Vessel Safety	Lt Jim Hooper, AP	(408) 996-1656
Computer Systems/Web	P/C Dennis Parker, AP	(650) 326-1474

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DIRECTORS

Lu Abel, SN	Dave Norris, JN
Jim Buckley, P	Stanley Tice, JN
Gordon Elliott, AP	Nancy Zink
Carol Munce, JN	

***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

JANUARY, 2008

- 1 New Year's Day
- 16 Executive Committee Meeting
- 21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day



FEBRUARY, 2008

- 2 Change of Watch
- 14 Valentines Day
- 20 Executive Committee Meeting

SUDOKU

Level – Hard

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

Last month's puzzle answer on page 14

Commander's Message



The tradition of freedom of the high seas has its roots in an era when there were too few people to seriously violate the oceans -- but in hindsight that era ended some 150 years ago...

James Carlton

Our holiday season is now past and it time for each of us to reflect on the past year. If you accomplished all your goals set this time last year, you did a great job. If you where like me and only achieved 80% then you did a good job.

In addition to looking back, we need to look a forward and I hope you will include Santa Clara Power Squadron your goal setting. We have much to do and so few willing to step up and do the required work. We are an educational organization and National has given us new tools and opportunities to achieve. Are you ready for the new as well as the old? Our Boating Safety Program which includes Vessel Safety Checks, **now includes a push into one of the fastest growing part of boating --"Kayaking"** Perhaps we could consider offering a FREE Kayak Safety Symposium; where we talk about:

1. Reading a chart
2. The use of Global Positioning Systems
3. Navigational rules of the road
4. Safety equipment they carry at all times

Other new seminars have been released and Lu Able could use some help (instructors, helpers, etc.) as he kicks these programs off at various locations in the south bay.

Dave Norris and team have done an outstanding job with the nominations committee and he is still in need of a Secretary for the Squadron. If you are not quite sure, why not go to the New Officer Training in Marin, (Sat Jan 12 at Marin Power Squadron) and check out what does it mean to be an officer and a secretary.

I want to thank you for allowing the opportunity for me to serve each and every member of our squadron as your commander for the last two years. Our Change of Watch will be Feb 2, 2007 at the Omega Restaurant in Milpitas. Please let Tim our Admin know that you will be attending.

Wishing You "*Fair Winds and Calm Seas.*"

Karrie Allen
KF6TCF@yahoo.com
650-207-9440



Executive Officer



SAFETY TIP

Never tow your boat trailer before you check to be sure:

- Coupler, hitch and hitch ball are of the same size
- Coupler and safety chains are safely secured to hitch of tow vehicle
- All fasteners are properly tightened
- Boat is securely tied down to trailer (winch line is not a tie down)
- Wheel lug nuts are properly tightened
- Wheel bearings are properly adjusted and maintained
- Load is within maximum load carrying capacity
- Tires are properly inflated
- All trailer lighting is working properly
- Trailer brakes are properly adjusted and working (if trailer is so equipped)

Another year over and now it's time to look forward to the start of a new one. For me, this new year brings several changes and adjustments to my personal life as well as my professional life. I look forward to the changes and challenges that I know lay ahead. I also look forward to the changes in our squadron. These changes will include a new Bridge, newer squadron members participating on committees and I hope a growth of membership.

During this last year, I have served as the Executive Officer as well as the Editor of this newsletter. Both of these positions have provided me with great opportunity, enjoyable times and most importantly, a chance to give back. As the Executive Officer, I was able to provide suggestions, feedback and assistance to the Squadron. As the Editor, I was able to create some new ideas for the newsletter, pass along messages from other individuals and basically provide information to our members. While one never really knows how others think they have done in their job, I can only hope that I have accomplished what was expected of me and probably most importantly, made a difference. A difference to the United States Power Squadron, a difference to our Squadron, and a difference to our members.

I also want to thank all those individuals who have either assisted me in getting things accomplished or have volunteered in other areas to make a difference within our squadron. Most importantly, I want to publicly thank the most important person in my life, my wife. She has assisted me as the Assistant Editor, provided me with feedback and suggestions, and acted as my grounding rod when I needed to be grounded. Without her support and love, I never would be where I am. Lastly, thanks to all of you who said yes when asked to step forward and help next year. Because of you we will continue as a squadron and I am sure we will be successful.

Lindy Zink, AP

From the Admin



January, 2008

From the Guy Who Was the Admin

Yep, the holiday season is now in the rear view mirror. Let me add one more "Happy New Year" to the mix and wish your family and yourself the best of 2008's.

Thank you to all of the crew who attended the Holiday Banquet at the Fish Market on December 15th. As always, we enjoyed good company, good times and good food. It was nice to see so many members in attendance.

With the New Year you will soon be welcoming a new Administrative Officer on deck. The new candidates for the Bridge positions will be announced in this month's Bell. I have enjoyed serving on the Bridge and I am looking forward to being of assistance to the new Admin. Who knows, they may find another spot for me. It has been a good year overall and I believe that the upcoming year will be an even better one for us. There have been some changes at the National level to encourage new membership and I am very hopeful in that regard.

As for upcoming events, do place an "X" on your calendar for the Saturday, February 2nd Change of Watch Banquet. The banquet will again be held at the Omega Restaurant in Milpitas. The address is 90 South Park Victoria Drive. The time is 6:30 PM and Dress will again be casual, with a Hawaiian theme. Our dinner choices are as follows:

*Prime Rib
New York Steak
Grilled Halibut
Chicken Jerusalem
Greek Salad*

All meals, with the exception of the Greek Salad, come with a dinner salad, rolls and coffee. The cost for all selections is \$22.00 each.

Fun Things to Do

February 2nd Change of Watch Dinner and Meeting,
Omega Restaurant at 6:30 PM!

Happy Boating
Tim the Admin
t.ellenberger@sbcglobal.net

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.

Carol Munce, P/Stf/C
Squadron Ship's Store person
(408-867-0579) cbmunce@aol.com



Update

I would like to introduce everyone to a new game we are playing. This game is simple. It utilizes the Bell as the location of the game and it uses your imagination as the tool of the game. The purpose – somewhere within the Bell are a clues to a specific location. The first person that finds the clues and can identify the location that is being referred to wins. Pretty simple. To submit your answer, simply email me your guess. I will announce the winner in next months Bell. Have fun playing.

Hint – the clues are not necessarily within the written articles but should be obvious.

Don't forget to check out our web site. There is lots of good information on it.

www.usps.org/localusps/santaclara/index.htm

Last month we had a winner. Jim Hooper was the first to correctly determine the hidden location as Washington D.C. The clue to this was found in the form of a Longitude and Latitude location which was shown at the bottom of one of the featured articles. It should be noted that Dave Hinders also sent in the correct location but was eight minutes slower with his email. Sorry Dave. Try again this month. Good luck everyone.

From the Treasurer



TRIVIA TIDBIT Word Origin – Barbecue

This American contribution to international cuisine actually originated in the Caribbean, and the word comes to us via Spanish from its Indian roots. The original sense of *barbecue* is that of a raised, wooden (later metal) framework used for either sleeping upon or curing meats. The Indians of Guiana called it a *babracot* and the Haitians a *barbacòda*. The Spanish acquired the Haitian word and it came into English from the Spanish.

NAUTICAL TRIVIA

The Norwegian steam schooner FRAM, near the Antarctic Circle, Southern Ocean, January 1, 1911.

We said good-by to 1910 in all friendliness over a good glass of toddy in the evening, and wished each other all possible luck in 1911. At three in the morning of News Year Day the officer of the watch called me with the news that the first iceberg was in site, I had to go up and see it. Yes, there it lay, far to windward shining like a castle in the rays of the morning sun. It was big, that flat-topped berg of the typical Antarctic form. It will perhaps seem paradoxical when I say that we all greeted the first sight of ice with satisfaction and joy; an iceberg is usually the last thing to gladden the sailors hearts, but we were not looking at the risk just then. The meeting with the imposing colossus had another significance that had a stronger claim on our interests--the pack ice could not be far off.

Journal of Ronald Amundsen

BOAT SHOW IS COMING

Boat show in Pleasanton at the Alameda County Fairgrounds -- volunteers needed for the district information booth.

Friday, January 11, 2008. 10:00 to 8:00. Let me know if you would like to participate.

We are solvent.

DeWayn Meek, Treasurer

From the SEO



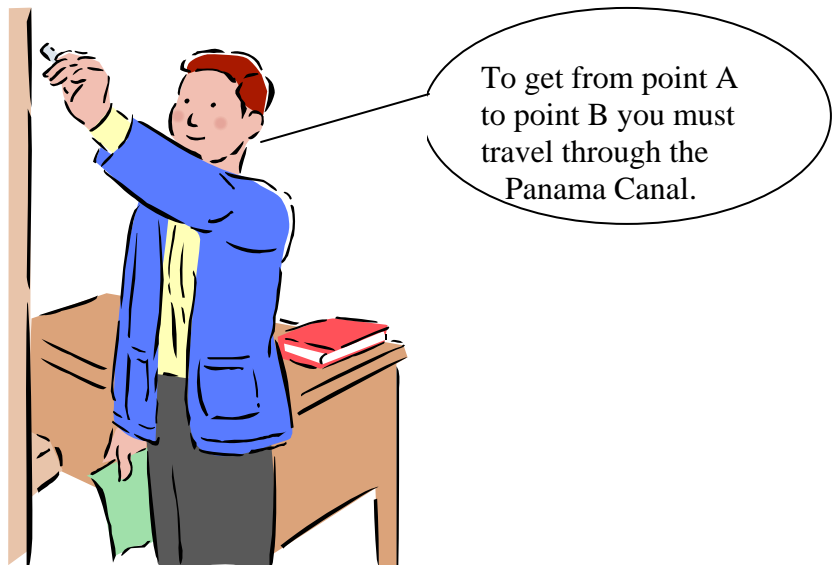
Hopefully, we have all survived the holidays safely and enjoyed the friendship of families and friends. Have you all made your New Year's resolutions to take a class this year or volunteer to teach part of a class? Now is the time to think about this while it is still a bit too cold to spend time out on the water, unless you are part of the Polar Bear Club.

We will be starting a Piloting class on March 6th. This is the class where you get to really learn about your GPS and how to use it effectively in navigating safely to your destination. The course emphasizes planning and checking your course, aids to navigation, plotting and labeling. If you are ready to continue your boating education call either Dave Norris, 408-356-1949, or myself.

My year as Squadron Education Officer is coming to a close. So at this time I'd like to take a moment to thank those who have helped me this year. Dave Norris, assistant SEO, has been there to support me attending all classes and sharing his boating knowledge. Lu Abel, who is always there when I need help or ask him to teach. DeWayn Meek, who has chaired the Boating Class and taught portions of it for several years. And a big thank you to all the instructors who taught the Engine Maintenance class and the Seamanship class this year. It is always a pleasure to sit in on these classes and experience the wealth of boating knowledge these people have and are more than willing to share with other members.

So, if you haven't already made a resolution to further your boating education, then make one now. I think you'll find the experience enjoyable and rewarding.

Don Hardy, SEO
Phone: 408-356-7037
e-mail: lwhardy@comcast.net



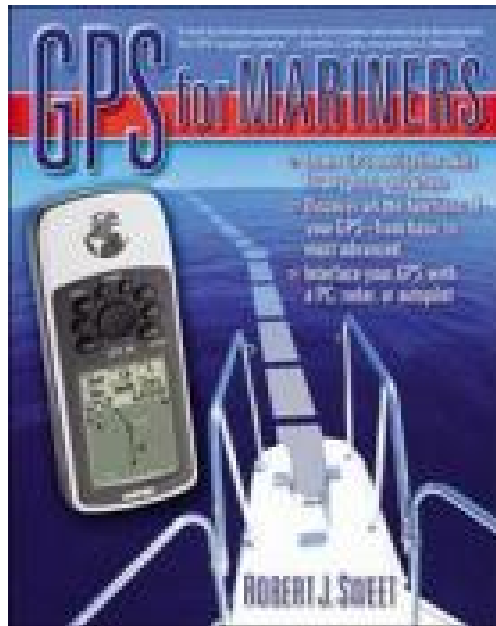
A Great Book for Sale

GPS for Mariners by Robert Sweet is the manual you wish had come with your GPS. It is the comprehensive guide for boaters who want the most from their GPS. This book will help you understand the many functions of the GPS to help you safely arrive at your destination.

According to Kenneth J. Cirillo, vice president, C-Map/USA, it is “A must buy for both experienced and novice boaters who want to get the most from their GPS navigation systems.”

We have a number of these books in stock that we are offering at our cost of \$10.75 each. Retail cost is \$15.95. If you already have your own copy it would make a great gift for your boating friends.

To order, please contact Don Hardy at 408-356-7037 or e-mail at lwhardy@comcast.net.



**A MUST READ FOR
ALL BOATERS.**

Did You Know

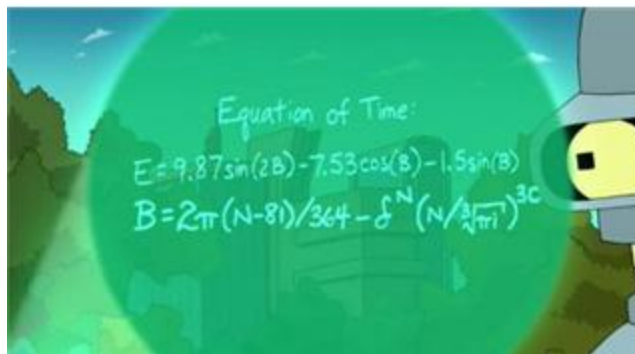
Equation of Time [Travel]?

Futurama was an Emmy Award-winning cartoon sitcom that ran in the early 2000s. It was created by Matt Groening, who is more familiar as the creator of *The Simpsons*. The series follows the adventures of a former New York City pizza delivery boy, Philip J. Fry, after he is accidentally cryogenically frozen at midnight, 1 Jan 2000 and is revived a thousand years in the future.

David X. Cohen, who co-created the series, has advanced science and math degrees from both Harvard and Berkeley and some of the writers for the series have equally advanced degrees, including one PhD in math. These writers took great delight in embedding some pretty advanced math and science jokes in the series: Fermat's Last Theorem, Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle, Ramanujan's "Taxicab Numbers," etc.

What's that got to do with boating?

The Sun is directly south at noontime, right? The sun passes directly over the Prime Meridian at noon GMT, right? Not true. As we learn in JN, the sun can cross up to 20 minutes earlier or later. This lead or lag is called The Equation of Time. And this advanced navigational concept shows up in a new direct-to-DVD *Futurama* movie *Bender's Big Score*. In this scene, Bender the Robot (that's him on the right) is presenting an equation for time travel. What it really is (mostly) is the formula for the Equation of Time in celestial navigation. In the first equation, E is the number of minutes the sun will cross the meridian before or after noon. The first half of the second equation is in fact the correct equation for calculating the B value used in the first equation (N is the day of the year counting from Jan 1st).



Equation of Time:

$$E = 9.87 \sin(2B) - 7.53 \cos(B) - 1.5 \sin(B)$$
$$B = 2\pi(N-81)/364 - \int^N (N/\sqrt{\pi})^{3C}$$

IT'S COMING

Education Requirement for Rec Boat Operators

WASHINGTON – During the 80th meeting of the National Boating Safety Advisory Council (NBSAC), Council members unanimously voted in favor of a resolution recommending that the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) continue to seek Statutory Authority to require that a boat operator, on waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, possess a certificate showing completion of an education course or its equivalent. The Council also recommended that the USCG assemble a task force to develop a draft of the minimum proposed mandatory education requirements that meet current educational standards. The objective of this task force is to resolve multiple interpretations, advance the process, and clarify their intent prior to legislative authorization.

Consistent with previous years, the Coast Guard's 48th annual report, *Boating Statistics 2006*, indicates that 70% of reported deaths occurred on recreational boats where the operator had not received any formal boating safety instruction. On average, approximately 70 people die in recreational boating accidents each year. It is the belief of boating safety experts that requiring recreational boaters to have boating safety instruction could save numerous lives each year.

The Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971 established the NBSAC. The law requires the Secretary of U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard by delegation, to consult with the Council in prescribing federal regulations, and other issues regarding other major boating safety matters.

The Council consists of 21 members (This includes representation of the United States Power Squadron) drawn equally from state officials responsible for boating safety program; representatives of the boat manufacturing industry; and representatives of national recreational boating organizations and the general public. The Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security appoints NBSAC members and the Director of Prevention Policy of the U.S. Coast Guard is the Council's sponsor.

Submitted by
John D Cassidy AP
(People seem to forget that along with Freedom comes Responsibility)

Holiday Party Photos



As people arrived and waited for dinner, conversation took place. Some funny, some serious, but in all cases, the conversation was between friends and that is always good.

As Carrie Fisher explained something, everyone at the table seemed to be listening intently. Wow, even her husband, Steve, was listening.



If you missed the White Elephant gift exchanged, you missed out on some great gifts. Everything from books on what to do before you die to a crystal decanter.

If you missed this event, don't worry. You can still sign up to attend the Change of Watch and join in on the fun. Hope to see you all there.

2008 Slate of Officers

<i>Commander</i>	<i>James Sadler, P</i>	<u><i>Directors</i></u>
<i>Executive Officer</i>	<i>Tim Ellenberger, P</i>	<i>Luther Abel, SN</i> <i>Stephen Fisher, P</i>
<i>Administrative Officer</i>	<i>James Buckley, P</i>	<i>Alfred Hughes</i> <i>Stanley Tice, JN</i>
<i>Educational Officer</i>	<i>David Norris, JN</i>	
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>DeWayn Meek, AP</i>	
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>James Sadler, P (temporary)</i>	
<i>Public Relations Committee</i>	<i>John Cassidy, AP</i>	
<i>Nominating Committee</i>	<i>Lindy Zink, AP</i>	
<i>Planning Committee</i>	<i>Luther Abel, SN</i>	
<i>Rules Committee</i>	<i>Gordon Elliott, AP</i>	

This proposed slate will be nominated for seating at the Change of Watch. We will also accept nominations from the floor for any of these positions. So mark you calendar for Saturday, 2 February 2008 and plan on attending the annual Change of Watch dinner for "your" squadron.

The dinner will again be held at the Omega Restaurant in Milpitas. The address is 90 South Park Victoria Drive. The time is 6:30 PM and Dress will again be casual, with a Hawaiian theme. Our dinner choices are as follows:

Prime Rib
New York Steak
Grilled Halibut
Chicken Jerusalem
Greek Salad

All meals, with the exception of the Greek Salad, come with a dinner salad, rolls and coffee. The cost for all selections is \$22.00 each.

RSVP to Tim Ellenberger at (408) 998-5521 or via email.

Puzzle Solution for October

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

Monthly Riddle

If you were running a race, and you passed the person in 2nd place, what place would you be in now?

Answer: 2nd place. You passed the guy in second place not first place.

Need to Know

The Executive Committee met at the Sheriff's Office at 55 W Younger in San Jose on 19 December at 1929 hours. Present at the meeting was DeWayn Meek, Lu Abel, Jim Sadler, Dave Norris, Tim Ellenberger, Don Hardy and Lindy Zink. Here are some bulleted points of the meeting.

- Quorum present
- Nominations Committee reported the position of Secretary is still unfilled.
- Dave Norris and Don Hardy will work on filling the educational positions.
- Four directors will be nominated
- Lindy Zink has volunteered to fill the position normally held by the outgoing commander, Nominating Committee, as Karrie Allen is working out of State.
- Lu Abel has volunteered for the Rules Committee and Don Hardy has volunteered for the Nominations Committee.
- DeWayn Meek has provided Lindy with the updated version of the budget and he will type up a new budget for the next meeting.
- In January we must pay sales tax. Lu Able submitted the 2006 audit report to the Bridge for approval and was carried unanimously.
- Tim Ellenberger confirmed the COW to be held on February 2 at the Omega Restaurant.
- 5 students are left in the Seamanship Class. Don Hardy will follow up with the Piloting Class on March 6.
- Don stated he had 12 "GPS for Mariners" books and will sell them at cost.
- Lu Abel said that Skip Wangbickler is the manager of the Palo Alto West Marine store and has offered room to hold seminars. This is a great opportunity.
- Lindy Zink reported that the rewards, certificates and plaques are in place for the COW.
- DeWayn Meek reminded members that the SCPS day for the Pleasanton Boat Show is January 11. Dave Norris Lu Abel, Don Hardy and DeWayn Meek have volunteered to man the booth.
- Don Hardy reported that Paul Shaimas is still in the hospital, O'Connor and can be reached at 947-2500, RM 4114A.

Submitted by: Jim Sadler

I certainly hope this brief summary of the Executive Committee meeting helps and that you find it informative.

Lindy Zink

Update:

As of 26 December, Paul has been released from the hospital and is at home resting.

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



Dreams are today's answers to tomorrow's questions.

Edgar Cayce