



United States Power Squadrons

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

* * *

City Island Sail and Power Squadron Newsletter



Celebrating our 35th Watch *Join Us!*

The Commander's Corner



I'm sorry, the rumors are true. Troy Sill is back as commander. First, I would like to offer my deepest condolences at the bad news, both to the City Island Sail and Power Squadron and to you personally! The moment I was sworn in by D/C Pfaff (something that reminded those present of the lighter moments of the Book of Revelations),

everyone knew there was a whole new meaning to the phrase "scraping the bottom of the barrel".

Luckily for the squadron, my manifest deficiencies are offset by the excellence of others. I have the high privilege to be surrounded by immensely talented and dedicated officers. The experience and generosity of spirit they bring to my bridge are indispensable and I am completely in their debt.

I would like to draw your attention to our newest bridge officer, Lt/C Cathi Swett. Her intelligence, competence and eagerness to help are a Godsend. Welcome aboard, Cathi! We also are happy to welcome First Lieutenants Carmen Santiago and Michael Croce, both great additions to the crew.

The summer season is fast approaching and we have some fantastic events on the horizon. First, on June 25th, we have our squadron's signature water event - our yearly Blessing of the Fleet. Next, be sure to mark your calendars for the Rueben Meadows Raft Up on July 15th and our yearly "Away Mission" to Oyster Bay from August 5th - 6th. On August 25th, we top off the summer with the Commander's Luau (BEACH PARTY AND BBQ) at Alex and Noelva's beautiful home on the water.

We have blue water and warm winds ahead. It's going to be a great watch. Join Us!

Contents

Pg. 2	Chapman Award Nominee
Pg. 2	PYC Reciprocal
Pg. 3	Connect with Us
Pg. 3	Nautical Terms
Pg. 4	New Officers Receive Flags
Pg. 4	Founders' Day
Pgs. 5-6	Change of Watch Pictures
Pg. 7-8	New Sails, Old Engine
Pg. 8	Shopping Tip
Pg. 9	SEO's Corner
Pg. 9	Piloting Class
Pg. 9	Historical Notes
Pg. 10	Mark Your Calendars

Barbara Halecki, Editor



Our 2017 Chapman Award Nominee

P/C Edward Shimansky, SN



Congratulations to P/C Ed Shimansky, SN, our CISPS 2017 nominee for the Charles F. Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Ed is a longtime instructor with CISPS and has taught many advanced courses and public boating classes. He recently taught Piloting and will be the instructor for the upcoming Advanced Piloting course.

Ed is also the winner of the Peggy F. Morton Memorial Award for Teaching Excellence. This award, created under the 28th Watch, pays tribute to Stf/C Peggy F. Morton who passed away suddenly in July of 2010. Peggy was one of five winners of the 2008 USPS National Chapman Award for Teaching Excellence. In honor of her achievement, CISPS grants this squadron award each year to the instructor who becomes our nominee for the national award.

Reciprocal Offer from Peekskill Yacht Club

Thanks to Tim Halecki for delivering a reciprocal offer from the Peekskill Yacht Club, which welcomes CISPS members to its club house and marina during the 2017 season.

The club contact number is (914) 737-9515.

Connect with Us

- www.cityislandpowersquadron.org
 - Find us on Facebook: City Island Sail & Power Squadron
 - For information on upcoming events, contact Troy Sill at: troydsill@gmail.com
 - For information on the America's Boating Course, contact Richard Welch at: cityislandabc@gmail.com
- For information on other class offerings, contact Richard Welch at: cityislandabc@gmail.com

Have a story or an announcement you would like to submit? Please send it to Barbara Halecki at: halecki@juno.com

Nautical Terms

Sea Dog - Defined as a sailor, especially an old or experienced one. Also refers to a pirate, harbor seal, or luminous appearance near the horizon, such as a meteor, regarded by mariners as an omen of bad weather.

Groggy - Means dazed or intoxicated, the way one might feel after drinking grog (a mixture of rum and water). Grog refers to a British admiral who ordered his sailors' rum to be diluted. The admiral in question wore a program cloak.

Bumpkin - a beam or spar projecting outward from the hull of a vessel. Outside of a nautical context, it refers to an awkward rustic or yokel. The Dutch word *boomken* (which means little tree) may bridge the gap between the two meanings since it appears to have referred to a short, stumpy man.

New Officers Receive Their Flags

Officers who were unable to attend the CoW received their flags at the April meeting.



Cdr Troy Sill presents flags to Assistant Education Office P/C James Duffy, AP; Assistant Secretary 1st Lt Michael Croce, P; and Assistant Treasurer 1st/Lt Carmen Santiago, S.

Founders' Day Celebration

This year's Founders' Day event was held at the Larchmont Yacht Club. Thanks to Vincent Bocchimuzzo for arranging it.



Our Change of Watch

Pictures Submitted by P/C Barbara Mandarano, SN

The squadron's 2017 Change of Watch was held at Juliano's on April 1st. A great time was had by all. Check out these beautiful pix of the event!



Our Change of Watch (Cont'd)



New Sails, Old Engine

Submitted by P/C Jeff Taylor, SN

My lovely Principia was launched about three weeks ago, and we've already been sailing several times. The first time I went aboard, the day after she was launched, I put five gallons of gasoline in the old Atomic Four's fuel tank, and the engine roared to life with the first touch of the ignition key. I let it run awhile, 'til it was thoroughly warmed up, and changed the oil. Then I bent on the sails and went sailing.

The jib was brand new a couple of years ago and the mainsail was made to order just last year. The old sails were totally beat, with big, fat, blown-out bellies - like obese geriatrics. They were at least ten years old, and possibly twice that; very long in the tooth for Dacron sails. In a light breeze, they were not so bad but if the wind picked up, they dragged the boat so far over on her ear she was in danger of rounding up; and she behaved like a pig going to windward. Sorry, Principia, it has to be said. You had to reef right down early, and then there wasn't enough sail to drive her - especially close hauled. Of course, I didn't know at the time that she was behaving badly because, being too cheap to replace her worn out sails, I had no idea how sweetly she could sail with nice, crisp, new ones.

When I got the new jib the year before last, the improvement was so great, even with the old mainsail, I could hardly believe she was the same boat. I didn't even have a plan to replace the main until that unfortunate incident at the very beginning of last season when we got caught out in one of those really intense thunderstorms. The storm only lasted fifteen or twenty minutes, but it was as violent as it was sudden. I had managed to roll up the new jib just before the first 45 kt gust hit, but the old mainsail was torn to shreds. Because I had the sailmaker build the new main for me at home, off the books, it took almost the whole season to get it delivered. When it finally came, in late September, I rushed out to give it a try. But I had used the boat so little all season, she was practically overwhelmed with barnacles and seaweed. She would hardly move at all in the moderate breeze, with full sail and lots of engine. When they hauled her out, her bottom was in disgraceful condition, and the propeller was so fouled with sea creatures it looked more like a soccer ball than a prop. No wonder she had shaken and shuddered so when I opened up the throttle, and still scarcely made enough way to get back to the mooring.

With only one sail on Principia, I had spent the season sailing OPBs (other people's boats), not out of disloyalty or anything, but just sort of chasing the most fun. Never moving from her mooring, she became prime real estate for all sorts of saltwater critters. Principia doesn't seem to be harboring any grudge though, if the first couple of outings this season are any indication. I guess she's more faithful than I am, the little sweetheart. And what a delight to promenade her, now that her bottom's clean as a whistle and she's sporting her brand-new suit of sails!

New Sails, Old Engine (cont'd)

The sails are good, solid, no nonsense Dacron, meant for cruising - not the high-tech Kevlar or mylar or whatever they use for expensive racing yachts these days. But they function beautifully and I'm very excited. We have those high-tech sails on Duet (my main OPB these days, owned and operated by Andy Lubimov) which we race around the buoys in the EBYRA and a few long-distance races. Andy lavishes money and love on his boat and she has a very eager and skilled crew, including our own Steve Kornspun, CISPS Boating Activities Chairman and widely feared regatta competitor. It's fun and challenging racing the big, expensive, complex racing boat, but I'm very glad the cost and headache belong to Andy and not me. And even Duet cannot compete for my affections with the lovely Principia.

Well known and popular Squadron members Franz Alvarez, Amy Hawley and Chris DiStefano were all aboard for last Sunday's outing. The wind was out of the southeast and averaging 15 knots or so - ideal conditions for sailing Principia out of Barron's Marina. We flew northeast to Execution Light on a close reach, rounded the Lighthouse and flew back in the opposite direction even faster; then on to the Throggs Neck Bridge before turning back toward home. The salty camaraderie was the special variety that only a crew full of experienced sailors can share and I think the fast, blustery sailing action was exactly what we all craved. Everybody's sea stories and Chris' famous jokes had us all laughing and talking the whole time. Under her new sails, and minus the marine jungle growing below the waterline, Principia seemed airborne. Even close hauled, she flew right along, with just a modest reef in the roller jib - hardly heeling at all, standing up stiff and tall and speedy like I've never seen her before.

When we got back near the mooring, the engine wouldn't start. But with three good sailors aboard, catching the mooring under sail was a small thing. The crew went ashore happily while I stayed back to have a look at the iron monster below. It smelled of gasoline down there. After opening the foredeck hatch and letting the blower run a while, I fiddled with it and got it running again; seems the carburetor seeps sometimes, flooding the engine. Pumping the throttle a couple of times while turning the starter over did the trick. Maybe a sticky carburetor float valve. It doesn't leak or smell of gas with the main fuel tank petcock turned off, and the problem is only intermittent anyway. But of course, the smell of gasoline is always to be taken most seriously. Taking the carburetor off and inspecting it is a real pain in the tiny engine compartment, but it will have to come off the next time I'm on the boat.

Strangely, I'm not even annoyed. The boat just sails so sweetly. It looks like the start of another beautiful season!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

A Friendly Shopping Tip

When you patronize City Island Wine and Liquor, please mention that you are a City Island Power Squadron member and thank the owner, Gerald, for his generosity and support of our Squadron. Gerald 'subsidized' the prizes for the trivia game at our April meeting and he is happy to recommend the best adult beverages for squadron members imbibing on land or at sea!

SEO's Corner

New Pilots!

Five of our newest members (who took ABC last year and then joined the squadron) recently passed the Piloting course with flying colors. (One student's course remains in progress.) Congratulations to them and to their instructors, Ed and Jeff.

Courses

CISPS's America's Boating Course was given at the City Island Yacht Club earlier this month with 9 students who learned safe boating techniques. Everyone who passed the course received NYS and Personal Watercraft certifications.

This summer and fall, CISPS will present 4 advanced courses (missing dates TBA):

- Junior Navigation - open to any member who has passed AP and is interested in continuing their navigational education. Instructor: Jeff Taylor
- Marine Electrical Systems - open to all members. Course begins July 10th. Instructor: Gary Mandarano
- Cruise Planning - open to all members. Instructor: Franz Alvarez
- Advanced Piloting - open to any member who has passed Piloting. Instructor: Ed Shimansky

If interested in any of the above courses, please contact Richard Welch at nyteacher1@gmail.com or (386) 320-2488

Piloting Class



Piloting Class participants (from left to right): Michael Croce, Cathi Swett, Alissa Shimansky, Ed Shimansky (instructor), Ronald Wolf, Cheryll Chun-Burke and Scott Endlsey.

WWI Historical Notes

April 2, 2017 was the 100th anniversary of President Wilson asking for a declaration of war against Germany. The declaration was officially passed by Congress on April 6, 1917.

In 1914, at the beginning of hostilities in Europe, the US Army was 16th in the world in size - undertrained and with obsolete equipment. In contrast, the well-trained and well-equipped US Navy was 3rd largest in the world, behind only Britain and Germany. The US Navy played a key role in combating U-Boats and protecting convoys of supplies and troops to Europe, which kept the allied cause from faltering. SEO Richard Welch gave an informative and interesting presentation at our May meeting on US Naval actions during WW1.

Mark Your Calendars

- June 25th – Blessing of the Fleet – Fenton Marine on City Island
- June 29th – Fireworks at Orchard Beach, starting at 2120
- July 10th – Start of Marine Electrical Systems Class – will run for 8 to 9 weeks with classes held at the Mandarano home
- July 15th – Rueben Meadows Day Raft Up at Plandome
- July 28th to 30th – D/4 Rendezvous – Atlantic Highlands Municipal Marina. For info, see: <http://www.usps-d4.org>
- August 5th to 6th – Overnight “Away Mission” at Oyster Bay Marine Center
- August 26th – Beach Party and BBQ at Alex and Noelva’s home
- September 9th – Joe Steiner Cup – Annual Sail Boat Regatta

The next newsletter deadline is August 15.

City Island Sail and Power Squadron
P.O. Box 233
City Island, NY 10464

[Place Address Label Here]