



the Tar Talks

A publication of the Norwalk Sail & Power Squadron

Welcome to the fall/winter issue of Tar Talks! -Cmdr. Kai Horan, P

This is our first "digital" issue and we hope you like it. We have been modernizing the NSPS offering over the last couple of years and digital TarTalks is part of that effort. In addition, you may have noticed some other communication changes recently. It took a little while to figure out how we can best leverage the USPS Sail Angle network and we are now embracing it primarily for events management. Please keep an eye out for messages from NSPS via Sail Angle and RSVP for all events. Once you RSVP with a yes you will receive reminders for the event – how handy is that! Using Sail Angle to communicate and manage events will help us offer you more quality activities, education opportunities and fun. Anyone interested in a raft-up in 2012?



Speaking of activities, your NSPS Bridge and squadron members have been very active this year. Lots of great courses were held in 2011 and the education schedule for 2012 is already well in the works. We picked-up some new members this year and existing members got more involved too. We will have an amazing 16 merit mark recipients

at our upcoming Holiday Party! Great job!

I do hope you enjoy this chock-a-block full issue of digital Tar Talks – as always your feedback and ideas are welcome... NSPS is for boaters, by boaters. Have a great winter and I'll see you at the after-holiday Party.



The D/2 Council Meeting - Exec Mike Brown, SN

The D/2 Fall Council October 29 in Danbury was attended by Mike Brown and Karl Wagner. Our objectives were to represent NSPS and attend the Educational Breakout session, and to present a proposal to design and procure a new display for the D2 Norwalk Boat Show Display.

Our proposal for a Display was approved, with no questions. We will now form a committee and proceed with the project, starting this month and leading to a specific design to present at the Spring Council meeting in 2012.

Karl and I attended the Educational meeting and learned from George Hallenbeck all of the new and exciting courses, updates and additions to old courses. On the water additions to courses are concepts and more important refinements will be coming in the near future. Our Educational committee led by SEO Karl Wagner, will decide which new courses we will present in 2012.

The safe trip back home in the afternoon blizzard was also another noteworthy achievement.

Annual Post Holiday Brunch

Its that time of the year again. The holiday's are upon us and we'll all be celebrating with family and friends. For many of us it's the most hectic time of the year. When its all over why not wind down and get together with your friends at the Power and Sail Squadron for a great relaxing meal.

Come join us for the annual post holiday brunch at the Red Barn in Westport



on Sunday January 15, 2012 11:00am-1:00pm. You'll be treated to brunch, one drink, unlimited champagne, and the company of great friends all for \$30.00 pp or \$25.00 for merit mark recipients. Bring anyone you like, all are welcome.

RSVP Kai at kai@oceanvue.com

Engine Maintenance

—John Frank, P

Interested in doing your own winterization but not sure what to do? Consider taking the next NSPS Engine Maintenance course.

Norwalk Squadron offers an, open to all, engine maintenance course, each year, half finished as this is written, covering basic theory of engine operation for all kinds of engines used in member's boats. Course teaches Diagnosis, Maintenance and winterizing. Course manual



offers ten chapters that we try to cover in five or six weekly classes. We say graduates will not become engine mechanics, but will know how to do much of the simpler work themselves and will be much better able to

explain what needs to be fixed. When boat owners are paying by the hour for a mechanic's time to diagnose or repair, anything that saves time, saves money. Manual contains lots of illustrations and questions about particular engines are encouraged. Instructor does not know it all, but knows a bit, and knows where to find answers to questions when he doesn't. An effort is made to include a certain amount of show and tell involving real engine parts and visits to engines students show special interest in. Good maintenance of modern engines prevents breakdowns and particular attention is devoted to "preventive maintenance". When and how to replace oil, oil filter, impellers, water pumps, belts, fuel filters and engine batteries.

The 2011 Bridge



Commander
Kai Horan, P



Executive Officer
Mike Brown, SN



SEO
Karl Wagner



Admin Officer
Dave Tom, P



Secretary
Jon Ricci, P



Treasurer
Les White, P

Members-at-Large P/C Tony Mobilia, AP;
P/C Laura Shaw, AP; P/C Fred Zinsser, AP

Safety Corner

Bette Conner, AP, Safety Officer & VSC Chair.

Some fall/winter safety tips to keep you safe:

- If you're planning on leaving the dock, dress appropriately. The sun feels warm in the fall, but the water temperature is only in the high 50s. With just a little wind, it can feel downright cold if you're not dressed for the weather. And a cap and gloves is always a good idea as well.
- Just as there can be frost on your windshield these chilly mornings, so can there be frost on the dock and on the deck of your boat. Check conditions carefully before stepping on the dock.
- Now's a good time to check your parts inventory. Replenish it now. That'll be one less thing you'll have to do in the spring.
- Check your safety equipment, too. Toss any ripped life jackets, check the dates on your flares, and make lists of things to buy in the spring.

The 2011 Norwalk Boat Show

—Mike Brown, SN

"The D/2 Norwalk Boat show booth was a success, largely due to the efforts of our NSPS team lead by Karl Wagner, and most of the D2 Squadrons who sent members to man the booths for the long weekend. Leading the D2 team were George Hallenbeck, who provided an exciting fire extinguisher training demo, and Susan Ryan who provided a list of educational courses available from District Squadrons. Thanks to all the D2 members who contributed their time to make this a successful year."



Above: DEO George Hallenbeck.
Left: P/C Fred Zinsser tries his hand at putting out the fire



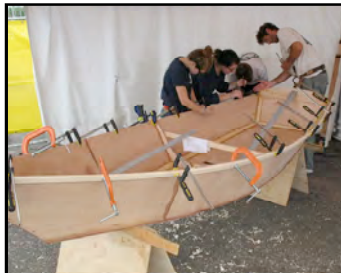
Ship 6 Builds a Boat

—Kai Horan

During the 2011 Norwalk Boat Show at Cove Marina, Sea Scout Ship 6 had the wonderful opportunity to build a row boat. During the course of the weekend, and under the watchful eye of Mr. Clint Chase from Clint Chase Boatbuilder, the teenage crew members learned aspects of carpentry, tools handling, wood cutting, drilling, expoying, dry fitting, boat building terminology and much more. They started with flat pieces and by the end of the weekend had a fully formed - and yes, water tight! - 12 foot Echo Bay Dory Skiff.

The crew has some finishing touches still to complete after which they will prep and paint the little boat. They are talking about matching the red and white color scheme of their primary training vessel 37ft Celebration II. The row boat, once finished will be used as part of the Ship 6 program for additional learning and training opportunities. A huge thank you to Cove Marina, Norwalk Boat Show and of course Clint Chase Boatbuilder (clintchaseboatbuilder.com).

Sea Scout Ship 6 is Norwalk Sail and Power Squadron's youth program and is part of the Venturing Division of the Boy Scouts of America. To learn more about Ship 6 go to www.norwalkship6.org



Welcome To New Members:

- Justin Bernadino
- Sebastian Bonilla
- Fallon Bottone
- Terence G. Dinnean
- Caroline A. Fernandez
- Melanie Gedney
- Judith A. Hunter
- Tucker Kilcoyne
- Rebecca Kohl
- Nate Kohl
- Marina Kydes
- Donna Kydes
- Melissa Lupo
- Leonard R. Marston
- Judy Marston
- Stephanie A. Mason
- Stephen W. Mettler Jr.
- Claire O'Halloran
- Rachel Pelazza
- Joey Pelazza
- Charles A. Platt
- Ed Sambuco
- Katherine Sullivan
- Jared Sullivan
- Guy Sullivan
- Amelia Sullivan

From the Squadron Education Officer -Karl Wagner

This year's education is a terrific line of courses designed to appeal to both the novice and experienced boater. As many of you have seen we kicked off the education season with Engine Maintenance and Seamanship starting in October. Engine Maintenance is once again taught by renowned marine mechanic John Frank. The course is just in time for boaters to learn the correct way to winterize their engines. Seamanship is first course after Basic Boating (America's Boating Course) and this session is taught by veteran boaters Jim Hamren and Karl Wagner.

The new year brings in several exciting courses - some of which are new for USPS and some haven't been on our schedule for a while. Starting January 7th, we have Marine Electrical Systems, a new course from USPS that covers your boat's electrical system including batteries, AC and DC Circuits, troubleshooting and repairs. This course is a must know for all boaters. Also starting January 7th, we have the USPS Cruise Planning class. In the coldest of winter, sharpen your skills and learn how to plan a pleasant summer cruise. Starting on March 3rd, we have the follow on course to Electrical Systems: Marine Communication Systems where you will learn about radio waves and transmitters, receivers and transceivers, antennas and transmission lines, FCC Rules and other communication services. Also starting in March, we will have Advanced Piloting to complete

your knowledge of inland and coastal navigation. Advanced Piloting builds on the base developed in Piloting and includes practical use of additional electronic navigation systems and other advanced techniques for finding position.

In today's fast changing world we are constantly required to learn things and teach others as well. For USPS members who want to sharpen their presentation and training skills, Instructor Development is just the course for you. Starting on February 18th, it is taught by life long educator, John Sutton. Members will learn how adult students learn, prepare training classes and how to use teaching aids. This course is required for anyone planning on teaching America's Boating Course.

Last but not least, we have America's Boating Course starting on April 28th to provide boating novices with the critical knowledge they need. This year's course will be a combination of 8/12 hour course. For those students who just want the 8 hour course, it will be covered in two four hour sessions on Saturday. Optionally, for students boating on L.I. Sound, we suggest they stick around for an additional four session to learn navigation skills and received the Connecticut Coastal Boater endorsement on their Safe Boater Certificate.

For more details on our boating classes, go to:
<http://www.NorwalkSailAndPowerSquadron.org>



The opinions expressed by contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Norwalk Sail & Power Squadron or USPS®. All members are invited and encouraged to submit items for publication. Email anmobilia@sbcglobal.net

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **After Holiday Party, Sunday**
January 15, 11:00am-1:00pm.

Courses

- Marine Electrical Systems -New Course -January 7
- Cruise Planning, Elective Course -January 7
- Marine Communication Systems -March 3
- Advanced Piloting -March 10
- Instructor Development February 18
- **America's Boating Course** -April 28

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