



# MERIDIAN



**USPS.**

<http://www.diablosquadron.org>

**District 25**

Est. 1958

A Publication of Diablo Sail and Power Squadron

August 2011 Issue 54

## Commander's Report:



By the time you are reading this, we will have had our *Paddle Smart* Class and Paddle Out, including a lunch hosted by your Commander. I am personally looking forward to the class and the paddle out. And, who can pass up a free lunch?

In August we will **NOT** have a bridge meeting on the first Thursday of the month. We will have a general meeting on August 13<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting we will be voting on our budget, so please try and make the meeting. Our extraordinary Admin Officer has a wonderful guest speaker lined up.

On to a very important story. When I started taking sailing lessons (2003) as an incentive for signing up for the lessons I was given a Mustang Inflatable life jacket. I wear it religiously whenever I am on the boat. Fortunately I have never fallen overboard, so I have never tested the life jack-

et, nor have I ever replaced the bobbin in the life jacket that dissolves in the water to trigger the CO2 cartridge to inflate the jacket. Inflatable life jackets are very easy to wear and work in. Remember the best PDF is the one you wear, and I do wear mine. The Admiral wears one as well and we carry two extra on the boat along with lots of other non inflatable types.

Previously I have manually inflated my life jacket to check to make sure it would hold air, which it certainly did. In over eight years that I have owned the PFD I have never replaced the bobbin, a huge mistake. According to the instructions the bobbin should be replaced annually.

Not having the experience of wearing or testing the vest's automatic inflation, I decided to bring it home and try it in the community pool. I let the life guard at the pool know what I was doing and put the vest on and jumped into the deep end. After a few seconds I was expecting to the vest to inflate, but nothing happened, not good! I pulled the manual inflation lever and still nothing. I then got a little sick to my stomach, what if I were in the bay, with high winds and rough water. You might have a new Commander.

*[Continued on page 2]*



| Table of Contents |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Executive Report  | 3  |
| Education Report  | 4  |
| Admin Report      | 5  |
| August Cruise     | 6  |
| Classified Ads    | 8  |
| Sponsors          | 9  |
| Upcoming Events   | 10 |

**Editor: Bob Burget**

**See ads on page 8**



**Our next Membership Meeting is at 1730, August 13, at the Solano Yacht Club..  
There will be a dinner, a program, and an important vote.**

*[Commander's report, cont.]*

I surfaced and got out of the pool. I was not sure what had gone wrong except that the CO2 cartridge was not screwed in all the way. When I screwed it in it automatically inflated. During this whole episode I began to think that I never wanted to wear an inflatable life jacket again.

I rearmed my life jacket and set a date in my calendar to jump into the pool with my vest on next year. The other thing that I will now do is look at the inflator tube before I put the vest on and make sure I always see the green indicator, which I have not done previously.

The week after, I brought the Admiral's vest home and repeated the experiment. Her vest worked properly and restored my faith in inflatables. Please always wear a life jacket and if you do use an inflatable change the bobbins and test it once a year. Before putting on an inflatable check the inflator indicator, is it green? Should I be a little paranoid that the Admiral wanted to know if I paid the life insurance bill?



## Lt John Matthews, JN - Life Member

Members who donate their time and energy to promote safe boating receive few rewards. The United States Power Squadrons recognizes significant efforts put in by members by awarding merit marks. No more than one merit mark can be earned in any one year.

A member who earns twenty five merit marks is given special recognition by being awarded a Life Membership. Life Members are exempt from annual dues. At last count, the Diablo Sail and Power Squadron had nineteen Life Members. These people have given nearly five hundred years of service to the United States Power Squadrons and the boating public.



This month we congratulate **Lt John Matthews, JN\***, on achieving Life Membership status. John has done much for the Squadron to earn this award. Most recently, he has been the instructor for our **Weather** course. This is a very useful course that can be challenging, but John makes it very interesting and the students always enjoy it. Thank you, Lt John Matthews.

# Executive Report

## Lt/C Hal Morris, P

### GREETINGS FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S DESK



In my past articles, I have informed you about the different positions that are under the Executive department. They were Boat Show chair, Co Op Charting chair and Vessel Safety Check chair.

At this time I want to inform you about another type of position known as Liaison Officer. The liaison officer attends meetings of other organizations that are important to us and reports all valuable information back to us.

Our liaison officer to the PICYA is past staff commander Leonard Komor. The PICYA is a very important organization (Pacific Inter Coast Yacht Association) it is comprised of over 250 yacht clubs in northern California and discuss matters of boating and safety. They meet on the first Monday of each month at different yacht clubs from Sacramento to Monterey. The meetings usually last two hours with dinner provided by the host yacht club and paid for by each attendee. These dinners cost 20 dollars.

Leonard faithfully attends each one of these meetings at great expense to himself (which is not reimbursed) and reports back to the bridge any and all information that is of concern to Diablo Sail and Power squadron.

Without Leonard's valuable time and effort we would miss out on an enormous amount of important happenings in our boating community.



P/C/C Les Johnson, SN. Mary Lou Johnson, and P/Stf/C Leonard Komor, JN

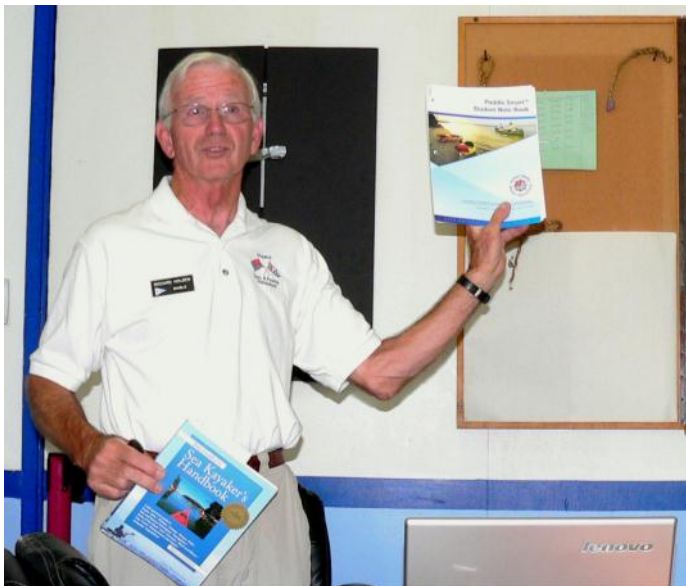


Hal Morris, haltoyone@frontier.net

# Education Report

No doubt we have all heard of the USPS University Seminar Series. These seminars are targeted to specific topics and needs with a two-hour format, and valuable take-away guides. Each seminar provides credits toward the *Boat Operator Certification* program, and credit toward elective courses.

On July 21, the **Paddle Smart** Seminar was held in Martinez, California, home of the Sea Scouts ship *Albatross*. The seminar was presented by **P/C Rich Holden, AP\***. Rich and his wife **Mary Holden, S**, are active kayakers, and they brought several kayaks and other equipment for the students to examine.



The seminar was well attended, with a mixture of USPS members and some non-members. The course materials were extensive and provide a good way for students to pursue knowledge that did not fit into the two hour format.. Some of the students are pictured below.



The following Saturday, Many of the Seminar students met with Rich and Mary at Jack London Square in Oakland, California. There, those who did not bring their own kayaks were able to rent one, and we gathered for some Smart Paddling on the water.



The weather was nearly ideal, with blue skies and a very light breeze. We set off at a nice pace and practiced our strokes on the way to Coast Guard Island. The tandem kayakers were fast.



After the paddling, we adjourned to **Cdr Guy Schwartz's** beautiful sailboat, *Seamoor* for a well deserved rest and a tasty lunch. See [picasaweb.google.com/rburret99/DSPSPaddleSmart2011](http://picasaweb.google.com/rburret99/DSPSPaddleSmart2011)



## Administrative Report Lt/C Marta Van Loan, P

Ahoy DSPS Members.

Where has the summer gone? It's already August and time for our annual August Cruise. This year we cruise-in to the Solano Yacht Club in Suisun City. Activities planned for the weekend include a presentation by the Marin Sailing School Program for the Blind. Don't miss out on this exciting presentation. See the write up below. Our August general membership meeting will follow the Marin Sailing School Program for the Blind presentation.

Also in this newsletter is the registration/sign up form for the weekend. **Deadline to register and be counted for dinner is August 5<sup>th</sup>!!!** So, what's for dinner?

Tender sliced smoked beef, Larry's Specialty Pork Spare Ribs, fresh green salad, corn on the cob, creamy potato salad, dinner rolls and butter, Texas style BBQ sauce (hot & mild) and homemade peach cobbler for dessert – **yummy, yummy, yummy!!** Chicken will also be available for those that don't eat beef or pork.

The Education Team of Bill Hart, Betty Dysart and Rich Holden are working to put together the next America's Boating Course for September and October. Hopefully we'll have a full class.

The Marin Sailing School Program for the Blind provides blind or visually impaired persons the opportunity to learn the fundamental skills of sailing and the basic principles of seamanship. Our students learn to sail through the use of creative and adaptive methods in a hands-on, mainstream teaching envi-

ronment. The objective is the same as for sighted sailors: to harness the wind and to experience all the challenges and rewards of sailing.



Successful sailors must become comfortable aboard ship, get well acquainted with all the equipment, fully understand how and why to trim the sails, and for some, learn to command the helm. With just a little guidance each of these skills can be developed successfully without vision. Through this, students build self-assurance to meet day-to-day challenges and enhanced confidence to try new things.

If you want to see some actual film footage of the group, check out this link  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXleskr-4Nw>

Safe Boating, Marta



## August

August 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup>

**Diablo Sail and Power Squadron  
Cruise to**

**Solano Yacht Club**



**Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>**

The cruise officially begins on Saturday.

1830. **Dinner on Your Own.** A number of restaurants can be reached by an easy walk around the harbor basin to Main Street or you can take the River Otter Water Taxi across the Harbor basin.

**Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>**

900. **Breakfast on Your Own.** Bab's Diner across the basin has great homemade corned beef hash with eggs that will take you back to your childhood. Fair warning Bab's get a large breakfast crowd on the weekend. You may have to wait. Seating is first come, first served.

1200. **All cruisers should be tied up at the Solano Yacht Club (stern in).**

1300. **Afternoon activities commence on the lawn: Croquet, bocce, TP toss (you might even win a roll or two of marine toilet paper for use on your next cruise).**

1730. **Social Hour begins.**

1830. **Dinner begins in the Solano Yacht Club Hall.** Dinner will be followed by presentation by the Marin Sail Program for the Blind (see info in newsletter) followed by general membership meeting.

1930 **Marin Sail School Program for Blind Sailors Presentation; followed by general membership meeting.**

**Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>**

900. **Potluck breakfast on the dock. Bring your best dish to share with the group.**

**10-12 Berths Available. So Sign Up Early ....DEADLINE is AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup>**

-----cut along this line and mail to-----

Marta Van Loan, 930 W. Arlington Street, Martinez, CA 94553 or [vanloanm@att.net](mailto:vanloanm@att.net)

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_ LOA \_\_\_\_\_ Width \_\_\_\_\_

Arrive on Friday (ETA) \_\_\_\_\_ Arrive Saturday (ETA) \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner \$20/person: chicken \_\_\_\_\_ smoked beef \_\_\_\_\_ BBQ pork ribs \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost \_\_\_\_\_

I will help with set up \_\_\_\_\_ I will help with clean up \_\_\_\_\_ I will help with games \_\_\_\_\_



## The SYC Clubhouse and Guest Docking Area

Located on the east side of the Suisun City Marina, the Solano Yacht Club was founded in 1954 and celebrated it's 55th anniversary this year. The club has an active cruising fleet and welcomes the cruising members of other clubs. Full facilities are available at the club and there is fuel and a pump out station nearby. The Suisun City waterfront is close by and offers a variety of food experiences, entertainment, and seasonal events for boaters and the public in general.

703 Civic Center Blvd., Suisun City, CA 94585; Phone: 707 429 0284

[www.solanoyachtclub.org](http://www.solanoyachtclub.org)

Local Restaurants  
 La Cabana  
 Main Street Bistro and Grill  
 Pad Thai  
 Cast Iron Bar and Grill  
 Athenian Greek Restaurant

## FRIDAY NIGHT ON THE WATERFRONT in Suisun City



**August 12 2011**

### **Incendio**

Their name, (“fire” in Spanish and Italian) reflects Incendio’s energy and passion. The band creates a polyrhythmic fusion through Afro-Cuban and Latin music of flamenco, cumbias, tango and mambo.

**Concerts are at 6:30 PM at Harbor Plaza stage at Main & Solano Streets.**

# For Sale

Ships Store

Boating Apparel is in stock

Shirts, Hats, Sweatshirts

**DSPS Squadron Burgees with gold 50th anniversary border!**

Baseball Hats (\$15.) Blue and White

One Hat Barely Used in Red (\$5)

Sweatshirts (\$37.50) Blue, White, and Grey

Polo Shirts (\$35) Blue and White

Earrings (\$5),

Contact:

**Jerry or Colleen Prola**

Your supply Officers

**510-693-2241**

[jrpckp@comcast.net](mailto:jrpckp@comcast.net)

## OFFERED FOR SALE

*Quality Craftsmanship, classic styling and the time tested cruising capability of*

### THE GRAND BANKS 32 HULL #1



Built in Hong Kong, 1965, by Robert Newton and sons in the Grand Bank's Tradition, this gem of a boat was hailed Queen of the 1965 San Francisco Boat show.

Extensive Equipment and Spare Parts Inventory  
Including 8' Sea Worthy Inflatable Dinghy

Completely Refitted to Handle Modern Electronics

New 2011 Eletra San MSD

New Survey in February 2011

New Bottom Paint, Boot Top and Zincs

Berthed Undercover and Lovingly Maintained  
for twenty one years by single owner



GRAND BANKS

**INQUIRIES: [MRSMALLOY@AOL.COM](mailto:MRSMALLOY@AOL.COM)**

## FOR SALE

**MONTGOMERY 8' SAILING DINGHY**

**\$1,100.00**

Purchased **NEW** 1990

Always stored undercover

All Original Equipment + Spare Sail, Oars  
and Dinghy Anchor

Inquiries: [MRSMALLOY@AOL.COM](mailto:MRSMALLOY@AOL.COM)



## FOR SALE:

**Mercury 2 stroke 8hp outboard**

motor recently professionally tuned up at The Point Marina. Motor is about 7 years old. Only used as shuttle for mother vessel about 150 hrs.

**PRICE REDUCED!**

Asking 700.00 dollars

**Hal Morris [haltoyone@frontiernet.net](mailto:haltoyone@frontiernet.net)**



# Meridian Sponsors



**DELTA TECH  
SERVICE  
INC.**

*The Chemical Cleaning  
Company*

Phone: 707-745-2080  
Cell: 707-974-0643  
Fax: 707-745-6730  
E-mail:  
cjohnson@deltatechservice.com

**Curt Johnson**  
President

Corporate Offices:  
397 West Channel Rd  
Benicia, CA 94510

Offices In: El Segundo, CA  
Pasadena, TX  
Gonzales, LA



## **MOSS RUBBER AND EQUIPMENT CORP.**

Hydraulic Hoses Made to Order In Just Minutes

We stock a complete line of Marine Bellowsflex Hoses:

Fuel • Coolant • Exhaust • Bilge Pump

**Moss Rubber and Equipment Corp.**

**Quality, Reliability, and Service for Over 40 Years.**

So. San Francisco (650) 871-6566  
1349 San Mateo Ave

Benicia (707) 746-1600  
4315 Park Rd

[www.mossrubber.com](http://www.mossrubber.com)

# Support our Sponsors Businesses

**DIABLO SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON**

A UNIT OF  
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS  
138 Castro St., San Leandro, CA 94577



**UPCOMING EVENTS & DSPS OFFICERS**



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**DSPS CRUISE /MEETING    AUGUST 12—14**

**D25 SAO/DAO TRAINING    SEPTEMBER 10**

**NAT. GOV. BOARD        SEPTEMBER 12-17**

**D25 FALL CONFRENCE        OCTOBER 22**

**D25 HOLIDAY DINNER        DECEMBER 7**

**DSPS HOLIDAY PARTY        DECEMBER 10**

**OFFICERS 2011-2012**

Commander :        Cdr Guy Schwartz, SN  
Education Officer : Lt/C Bill Hart, AP\*  
    Assistant :        Lt William Long, P  
Executive Officer: Lt /C Harold Morris, P  
Admin Officer:     Lt/C Marta Van Loan , p  
Secretary:         P/C Richard Holden, AP\*  
Treasurer:         Lt/C Marie Guard  
    Assistant :        P/Lt/C Sherrill Zeserson, P  
Immediate P/C     P/C Ron Glenn, P  
Elected Board:    Lt Geoff Goselin, p  
                          Lt Herb Lederman, P  
                          Lt James Brunell, AP\*

*Please Refer to your current Roster*