

ON THE HORIZON

DUNDALK SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

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February 2007



SeaVester at the Baltimore Boat Show



ON THE HORIZON

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Dear Members of the Dundalk Sail and Power Squadron:

I thank all of you who placed an order at our meeting at the Boulevard Diner on 17 January 2007. You quickly accepted the change and enjoyed the choice of the entire menu. Thank you for your patience in working with the food form. Also, I appreciate the kind assistance of P/C Walter Neese SN and my husband. Was this form a new kind of Sudoku? The results were interesting.

As always,

Kathy Karpers

DUNDALK AIDS FIREBOAT

Last October a 911 telephone call was placed from Hand Brothers Marina in Glen Burnie stating that a person aboard a 48-foot vessel at the facility needed medical assistance. The fire department sent an ambulance and fire truck, but due to the height of the vessel and the way she was docked, the emergency crew was unable to remove the person from the boat. A 25-foot fireboat with twin outboards was called in to assist the medics. Upon arrival that crew was able to off-load the stricken person by litter onto the roof of their fireboat. They then tried to move him to the bulkhead but discovered that this caused their outboards to hit bottom. The captain of the fireboat killed the motors and raised them out of the water. The crew threw a line to shore and pulled the boat over to the bulkhead where they off-loaded the litter.

The fireboat then was allowed to float out into deeper water where the crew lowered the engines and tried to start them. Due to all of the electronic aboard, the batteries had quickly depleted their charge and couldn't start the engines.

This is where Dundalk Sail & Power Squadron came to save the day in the person of P/C Ken Finck aboard Gray Ghost II. P/C Finck noted that the two outboards were on battery

switches which were both set to power both engines. Ken was aware that with this setting, as one battery failed, it was taking the other one down with it. Ken advised the firefighters to turn off all of their equipment and set the the first battery selector switch to one engine only and the second battery switch to the other engine. P/C Finck then connected a set of jumper cables to his batter and hand the other end to the fireboat crew and told them to connect it to one battery only. This allowed one engine to start. Ken then told the operator to place the selector switch for the other motor in the "both" position and try the other motor. The second motor fired up fine.

P/C Finck says the incident points out just how important it is for everyone to take the Power Squadron's Engine Maintenance and Electronics courses. "Understanding why you don't operate twin engines with the battery selector switches in the both position is important," said Ken. "I felt very lucky to be there and to offer my skills when they were really needed."

As for the stricken boater? Ken reports they are now fine and back to living on their vessel.

Cover Photo by P/C Ken Finck

BRIDGE 2006-2007 STAFF

COMMANDER
Cdr Bernard S. Karpers, N

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Lt/C John Hall, AP

EDUCATIONAL OFFICER
P/C Walter K. Neese, SN

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Lt/C Tracey C. Stuenes, P

SECRETARY
Lt/C Stuart Newborn

TREASURER
Richard D. Bussey, P

EDITING
P/C Rick Boardman, AP

GRAPHICS
Lt Brande Neese, S

Kindly submit articles to Rick by the 1st of every month via mail, email or fax. Thank you.

Dundalk Wows Boat Show

According to all sources, Dundalk SPS' participation in the Baltimore Boat Show was a grand success. As usual, many members of our squadron manned the booth, shared with two other local squadrons, pitching courses, vessel safety checks and membership. Not as usual was the presence of District 5's famed robotic recruiter, SeaVester, which was orchestrated by Dundalk. Dundalk members also operated the mechanical avian jet skier, which is capable of conversing with people, as well as whizzing around in every direction.

Cdr Bernie Karpers, N demonstrated considerable perseverance in arranging for the big bird's appearance. After initially being told that SeaVester was unavailable, Cdr Karpers kept after the powers that be until the android was finally freed up. No boat show visitor who came to the big final Saturday of the show was able to enter without being confronted by SeaVester asking them about boating courses, PFD use and fishing. Almost everybody stopped to chat with him and

they couldn't help but smile. Of course, kids of all ages were especially amazed and delighted.

Dundalk also put on a drawing for either a free GPS or free Basic Boating course. The drawing produced 50 new names to solicit. This is a 20 percent increase over last year, in spite of a lower boat show turnout by the public. The drawing winner was Kristin Natarajan of Baldwin, MD with second place going to John Tocco of Washington, DC.

When Dundalk manned the booth, videos from the Top Gun Cruises were projected and attracted a lot of interest. P/C Ken Finck, P says that there were so many people from the squadron who helped that he regrets that he can't list them all. However he expressed his deepest thanks to all who chipped in, one way or another. And Dundalk thanks P/C Finck for coordinating the whole event.



SeaVester holds court at the Boat Show

COMMANDER

CDR BERNARD S. KARPERS, N

It appears only yesterday when I assumed this office. One way to make time fly is to become commander. This has been a very enjoyable year for me and another successful one for Dundalk Sail And Power Squadron.

The year started with an enthusiastic presentation at the Spring Conference of District 5. How pleased we were to repeat as winners for the hospitality suite. Dare we win again? Yes! The year accelerated with the onset of the cruising season and the southbound cruise to the summer rendezvous. This provided Dundalk the opportunity to interact with other squadrons of District 5. Delaware River, Miles River, Kent Island, Patapsco River, Potomac River all had the opportunity to work with Dundalk. The cruise took us to some of our old haunts as a squadron, Great Oaks Landing, Knapps Narrows, Solomons, Crisfield (the very first stop of the top gun cruisers in 2003), and Cape Charles, Virginia. Heavy weather prevented the District 5 navigation contest from being held. We were favorites to repeat as a winner for the fourth time. We had three boats each with demonstrated performance of less than a minute error for that contest.

Like the fine tuned high performance engine that it is, Dundalk Sail And Power Squadron responded to each challenge. My experience was similar to that of when I first took *After Hours II* for a run on Middle River. This was the first time at the helm of a larger boat and with twin engines. We entered Middle River in the face of a northeast wind at 30 knots and the boat responded well. The power and response were there, and employed as needed for the test run. This was my experience as your commander. The members were there, they responded and the squadron moved ahead without concern to accomplish all missions presented. The Bridge and Executive Committee are responsible for the performance of our squadron each year. They planned, and the squadron executed those plans to the fullest. As a result we have a vibrant squadron progressing in our mission of public service. We taught the Basic Boating class to the public, presented the public GPS course and performed well in the Vessel Safety Check program. We are proud that one of our members is now chairman of the Maryland State Boat Advisory Committee after many years

of service on that committee. We have a dedicated membership, led by the respective departments heads.

We had a good year on the water. Our cruise season this year was very active. At least 5 boats participated in each event. Again this is the result of team effort in planning and fulfillment of those plans. We initiated a community outreach during the holiday time supporting our members in their ministry to those less well off. But perhaps best of all were the social events. They started with our general membership meetings and special functions such as the Change Of Watch, the crab feast and holiday party. Each time the membership was there. The enthusiasm, and interest did much to build the camaraderie within the squadron.

When I look back at the year just completed I see our membership at 109 with 42 of those members working enough hours to earn a merit mark. They were also active in recruiting 15 new members and encouraging five inactive members to reactivate their membership. A special recognition should be extended to the children of our members who participated in squadron and district events, again gaining recognition for DSPS in the District. All of this has made for a very enjoyable year for me and a very successful year for our squadron.

Now is the time for me to thank you. Thank you to each member who earned a merit mark. Thank you for each officer of the squadron, elected or appointed, for your effort. Thank you to the members for your support to the Bridge and the Executive Committee. And last of all, but foremost in my thoughts, is my dear and gracious wife Kathy. Thank you for allowing me and supporting me in this year as Commander of Dundalk Sail and Power Squadron.

This will be my last article to the squadron as the commander. Now it is on to the Baltimore Boat Show, the Founders Day party, the National Governing Board meeting in Jacksonville, Florida and the Change Of Watch. I hope to be with you at these upcoming events. Let us make them a success for Dundalk Sail and Power Squadron.

Member's Help Needed

The Dundalk Sail & Power Squadron has an opening for Historian for 2007. This is a great opportunity to contribute and also learn more about your squadron.

For more information contact: Lt/C Stuart J. Newborn, S 410-252-6900 secretary@uspsdundalk.org

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LT/C JOHN HALL, AP

Even though it's winter outside your Executive Officer and the Squadron have been very busy. On January 7th Mary and I hosted the cruise planning meeting at our house. My first big thank you is to my wife Mary for putting on such a great spread. I would also like to thank the more than twenty people we had in attendance. We have a really interesting and full cruise schedule planned for this year. In addition to our usual haunts the Squadron is going to several places we haven't been in years. The Top Gun Cruise is going to head to the Pirate Isle of Ocracoke. Too far you say? Well don't miss the Commanders Cruise to Philadelphia. We'll be staying within walking distance of the historic downtown area. On the way back we'll spend a couple of days in Georgetown on the scenic Sasafrass river. Our last cruise of the year will be to see the tall ships in Chestertown the first weekend in November.

After the cruise planning party the next event was the Baltimore Boat Show. The boat show was a huge success and learning experience for us. A special thanks goes to P/C Ken Finck who organized the event. Ken was there on several different days to make sure everything went smoothly. My son Brian was there on three separate days to setup the equipment and help operate SeaVester. Speaking of SeaVester it was only through the heroic efforts of Commander Bernie Karpers and Admin Officer Tracy Stuenes that Dundalk was able to have SeaVester on Saturday. For those of you who don't know about him - SeaVester is a radio controlled bird who talks about boating safety and the Power Squadron. No he doesn't fly around - he sits on his own jet ski. SeaVester was a huge hit with both the kids and the adults at the boat show. The little kids couldn't figure out if he was alive or not, while many of the adults couldn't figure out how it worked.

One person asked what software package it was running. Well SeaVester worked because of the whole Dundalk team working together. Tracy, Ken and Bernie helped SeaVester talk. Others helped introduced people to SeaVester. Tracy and Roy took on the task of transporting him to and from the boat show. All this effort helped direct people to our booth where still more volunteers were there to promote safe boating.

I believe this year the Squadron put in more volunteer hours at the boat show than in any year past. Next year we will have SeaVester for the entire show so plan on being a part of it.

The sad part is my time as Executive Officer is coming to a close. It has been an incredibly busy year and I would like to thank everyone in the Executive Department for all their hard work and friendship. My work load isn't going away anytime soon though. There is a rumor going around that I am going to be commander next year. Just in case we're all working hard on the Change of Watch dinner dance. National Commander Ernie Marshburn is coming to this event (yes it's a big deal!) so lets try our best to have an incredible turnout. Just two short weeks after that is the District 5 Spring Conference in Ocean City. This is a "can't miss" event with the highlight being the hospitality suites from all the squadrons on Friday night. Just like in the Navigation Contest Dundalk has a great history of winning this event (the past two years). Even though the rest of District 5 is gunning for us we're going to try for an unprecedented three-peat. With all that we're up against we can use all the help we can get. Even if you can't make it to Ocean City please let me know if you want to be a part of another winning team.



"It's okay, hon. SeaVester won't bite you!"

EDUCATION OFFICER

P/C WALTER K. NEESE, SN

Public Courses - Dundalk's public course schedule for 2007 has been distributed to boat stores and area publications, and is available on our website. The first class to be offered is scheduled for February 6 at Dundalk High School. We have listed the all the classes through June 30 at www.usps.org. New this year with the advent of the USPS University program, its seminars are listed at the national website: we have now listed our Using GPS classes with national visibility – hopefully that will improve enrollment. From our surveys last year, we understand most of our enrollment comes from the internet.

Member courses - The Seamanship class instructed by P/C Read Van Zile has launched as of January 30, 2007 at 7:30pm at St. John's Lutheran Church, and is to continue Tuesday evenings thereafter. New members are encouraged

to begin the Advanced Grades courses with Seamanship: if you were unable to attend the first class, but are willing to catch up, please contact me as soon as possible. The supply of texts is limited.

Lois Nehmer's Weather, Max Robinson's Marine Electronics, and Cdr Karpers' Navigation class are all ongoing from the fall.

As promised, I am accepting your requests for our less well-attended elective classes: Sail, Cruise Planning, and Instructor Development. Some interest has sparked up in an Instructor Development class, which might work out for March/April; but I'd like more participants. Let me know if you're interested!

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

LT/C TRACEY STUENES, P

The air is brisk in Baltimore. It's about time. The snow that has just dusted our stored boats was a welcomed site. It just reminds us that we live around the scenic Chesapeake Bay, and have four very beautiful seasons. Enjoy the winter months ahead with a continuing education course and start planning for a great cruising season.

If you have missed any of the membership meetings or our cruise planning party this past January, your 2007 calendar needs to be updated. We have a lot going on, and want you to be a part of it! Again I challenge you to get involved with the boating activities, and continued education. We have great fun together as a team. If there are any suggestions from members with regards to becoming more involved, please contact any member on the Bridge. We would like to see more of our members at all of our events!

This past year has been one of great accomplishments for Dundalk SPS. Each committee team member has given their all to promote our energetic squadron! Just take a look at our scrapbook. Mary Ellen Peters has done a fantastic job gathering photos, and clippings of articles that featured our events. We had fun last year, and we're looking forward to seeing what the New Year brings. Don't miss out on any of our planned events. And don't forget to bring your cameras. We want to see you in the next scrapbook of memories.

Did you know that we have over 20 new members? Thanks to our Education Department, recruitment is up from Basic Boating classes! Welcome to all of our new members. We hope to see you at our meetings, and out on the Bay this

summer. By the way, all of our members can check out the 2007 cruising schedule, it's on our web site and also in this issue of the *Horizon*.

Hey, did I see you at the Baltimore Boat Show? No? Well, guess who I did see? SeaVester! Can you believe it? D/Lt/C Brian Becker hand delivered SeaVester to us. How nice it was to have him visit! Commander Karpers and Cannonball, Lt/C John Hall, Mary and Brian, P/C Howard and P/C Connie Barry, P/C Rick Boardman, P/C Ken Finck, and I all had fun running him! Thank you guys for all of your time and effort. It was a long day. We opened the show at 10 AM, and didn't pack it up until 8 PM. All went well, except for one incident that could qualify someone for the Busted Shamrock. Seems one of the operators of SeaVester almost ran a ground, and took the right of way from a sail boater. SeaVester was a huge hit. Adults and children had interesting conversation about safe boating with our furry friend. Can't wait to have him come and visit again!

A special thank to Lt Kathy Karpers for motivating our squadron to become involved in a community outreach program. Kathy was instrumental in organizing the collection of hats and gloves for the homeless. Her kindness was infectious. Our squadron donated several sets of hats and gloves that were distributed at the Oasis Shelter in Baltimore City. Thank you again, to Kathy, and the members who participated in this outreach.

Hope to see you at our next membership meeting at the Boulevard Diner on Wednesday, February 21st, at 6:30 PM.

Cruising Season Mapped Out

If cruising is what you want, then Dundalk Sail and Power Squadron is the place to be. Twenty or so Dundalk members met at the Hall family residence in early January to plan out the whole year. The dates are determined first, before many other details of the cruises so that members can block all the dates off to prevent interference from shore-based events such as vacations, work, weddings, etc.

The Top Gun Cruisers, who invite all to join them, are headed back to Outer Banks of Virginia once again, but this time even further – all the way down to Ocracoke Island. The following month our new Commander, whomever that may be, wants to take us all up to Philadelphia and wind up at the Crab Feast in Rock Hall. From the Shakedown cruise in May to the Inner Harbor to the Frostbite Cruise at Kentmoor in October, we've got a ton of cruising planned. Here are the details as we know them:

May 18-20

National Safety Week Shakedown Cruise

This year we are combining the first cruise of the season with our annual premiere safety activity. We'll be at Inner Harbor East Marina offering vessel safety checks, and promoting Dundalk Sail and Power Squadron courses.

June 9-10

Raftout

Last year's raftouts were a big success. Hopefully we will be doing a couple this year and have a great time doing it again. It's a change of pace from marina hopping. Just put your anchor down and relax. This year we'll be headed to Fairlee Creek!

June 22-24

Practice Navigation Cruise at Maryland Yacht Club

Learn new navigation skills or sharpen old ones and have a lot of fun during this weekend "across the bay." Enter your own boat or volunteer to crew on someone else's. No prerequisite courses or knowledge.

Fourth of July

Fireworks

Last year a few brave members of the power squadron made the fireworks displays at Middle River, Rock Hall and then the Inner Harbor. How many can you make?

July 13-19

District 5 Southbound Cruise

Join the rest of District 5 on a leisurely southbound cruise to the rendezvous in Crisfield.

July 20-22

District 5 Rendezvous in Crisfield

Come and join other squadrons from District 5 at Somers Cove Marina in Crisfield, MD. Dundalk will be going for an unbelievable FOURTH consecutive team victory in the Navigation contest.

July 23-29

Top Gun Cruise

You've seen the video, You've heard how great it is. Let this be the year you join us. This year we're headed for Ocracoke Island in the Outer Banks of Virginia.

August 18-24

Commanders Cruise to Philadelphia

We're going to the city of Brotherly love. We'll be stopping on the C&D canal, then cruise up to Philadelphia for a few days. From there we'll head to the scenic Sasafrass River and Georgetown, MD. The final leg of the Commander's Cruise will be to the Crab Feast in Rock Hall

August 24-26

Crab Feast in Rock Hall

This is the Squadron's most popular annual event. Invite all the people you can stuff into your boat or car. Live Music, crabs, burgers, fresh corn, pool, conga lines.

September 14-16

Last Cruise of the Summer

We're headed to Whorton Creek for a fun weekend. Join us for a relaxing weekend before the cold weather sets in.

October 19-21

Frostbite Cruise to Kentmoor Marina

The frostbite cruise is always fun as the trees will be in full fall foliage and we should have clear crisp weather.



The Change of Watch Committee has a last reminder!

March 16th is rapidly approaching and we urge you to send your reservations in soon to avoid missing the registration deadline. This is the last notice in *On The Horizon* that you will receive prior to the deadline.

This year we have the special privilege of having the Chief Commander of United States Power Squadrons, C/C Ernest

C. Marshburn, SN as the officiating MC for the change of officers. He will be the first Chief Commander to attend a Dundalk Squadron Change of Watch in the 46 year history of our squadron. We hope you will be there to observe this special occasion. If you have any questions please call Rolf Stuenes at (410) 285-0047.

DUNDALK MEMBERS' MERIT MARKS FOR 2006

Barry, Connie
Barry, Howard
Blaker, Bobbie
Boardman, Rick
Broadbent, Street
Bruss, Dale
Bruss, Mark
Bussey, Richard
Butterbaugh, Dorsey.
Clark, Thomas H
Dahle, Jr. Elkins W.
Dulaney, Michael R.
Finck, Kenneth H. W.
Joanne D. Day
Hall, Brian

Hall, John L
Hall, Mary
Henderson, Dennis
Jones, Herbert L.
Jones, Fuzzy
Karpers, Kathleen
Letsch, Wm. L.
Mathis, Johnnie
McNelis, Micky
Neese, Brande
Neese, Walter K.
Nehmer, Lois M
Newborn, Stuart, J
Newborn, Diane
Norris, Wm. H.

Peters, Mary E.
Porak, Robert
Riley, Wm B.
Robinson, H. Max
Schiff, Ray
Schwing, Fred
Seidenman, Dave
Solesky, Tony
Stuenes, Rolf
Stuenes, Roy
Stuenes, Tracey
Tingstrom, Catherine M.
Tingstrom C. Earl
Van Zile, Read
Zuk, Al

THE NORFOLK GOVERNING BOARD APPROACHES

D/5 is hosting the next USPS National Governing Board meeting in September 2007. Publicity Chairman for the event, Micky McNelis, says that while arrangements are progressing smoothly, the assistance members is still needed. A number of committees are involved in planning the and each one needs people to help.

Micky notes that this will be the last Governing Board meeting on the east coast for several years, so she encourages Dundalk members to volunteer and see for yourself how informative and fun, these meetings can be. Get in touch with

either P/D/C Bill Selden, AP (bill@cpdean.com) or P/R/C Tom Dougherty, SN (tdougherty@simcare.net) to offer your assistance.

Each squadron has asked to donate a doorprize which reflects its particular region for the Shipmates' luncheon. Also needed are items, either created or purchased, for the raffle. Call Pat Smith at 410-822-3339. A table at spring conference will offer all the information you will need for Norfolk: shirts, reservation forms, a list of the tours being offered, etc.

Dundalk Sail and Power Squadron
Invites you to our
**Annual Change of Watch
Dinner and Dance**

Friday
16 March 2007

Sparrows Point Country Club
919 Wise Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland

Cash bar 6:00 pm Dinner 7:00 pm Dancing 'til 11:00 pm

Menu Choices: 1. Flounder Florentine
 2. Chicken Roma
 3. Roasted Prime Rib

Music by T.J's Dee Jay
Selections to please everyone.

Dress: Uniform A or suitable Civilian Attire (Coats required, no jeans please)

Reservations

Please list all members in your party and menu choices. Each table seats eight.

1. _____ # _____	5. _____ # _____
2. _____ # _____	6. _____ # _____
3. _____ # _____	7. _____ # _____
4. _____ # _____	8. _____ # _____

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Please make checks payable to Dundalk Sail & Power Squadron and mail early to:
P/Lt/C Rolf Stuenes
1916 Robinwood Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21222
410 285 0047

Deadline for Reservations: 10 March 2007

Note: The Wise Avenue bridge is closed for repairs.
Use North Point Boulevard to Wise Avenue to the entrance of
Sparrows Point Country Club

Stu & Di – the Adventures Continue, Aruba Style

We decided in December to put off winter a little longer and take off for our favorite Southern destination – Aruba. We couldn't take *DiVersion* since she was already in winter storage, so we departed by plane on December 13. Wouldn't Aruba be a great Top Gun Cruise, a test of those skills learned on the water and from our Power Squadron's educational courses? For those not familiar with Top Gun, it's the annual cruise made famous by those serious cruisers of the Dundalk Sail & Power Squadron.

After spending the first few days relaxing in Aruba, we went to the beach to enjoy another great day, with no idea of what was soon to happen. We checked out the layout of the beach, and then placed our lounge chairs in the perfect spot to view those incredible turquoise waters of the Caribbean. Di left, said she would be back in time to join me for Happy Hour. Happy Hour, don't you just love those two words, and it seems like there is always a Happy Hour somewhere on the island, maybe that's why Aruba is called "One Happy Island".

There I was looking out at the boats gliding over the water, letting my mind wander and longing to get out there on one, any one. What a life this could be, maybe I could even be the first Commander of the Aruba Power Squadron - but little did I know the adventure of my life was soon to start.

All of a sudden a loud scream pierced through the air. I jumped up and saw a woman running towards me from the water's edge screaming "We need your help!" It was Lady Joanne and she pointed to the ship, which was close by in the shallow water. "Come on, they have Admiral Di and Sir Read at the castle with some of the others" she yelled as she led me to the raft waiting to take us to the ship. I was definitely in shock and full of questions as we headed to and then boarded the ship. "We need to get going. I'll fill you in on our way to rendezvous with the fleet" bellowed the Captain, who was none other than Sir Rick at the helm of the Busted Shamrock, well known in these parts as the fastest ship in the fleet.

As we moved swiftly through the rolling seas, Sir Rick explained, "it was those same pirates we heard about who took over the northeast side of the island, but this time they came over to our side, boarded and looted our ships, and took several prisoners. I'm afraid they took them to Bushirbana". This was even worse than I first thought as Bushirbana is the home of the old skull castle, the clandestine hide-away for the pirates and buccaneers who preyed on ships transporting Indian treasures back to the Old World while passing through the once tranquil waters surrounding Aruba.

As we sailed towards the northeast side of the island, I could see our fleet appearing on the horizon. We pulled to starboard of the Commander's ship, and prepared to board. Just

after boarding, the sky darkened, the trade winds picked up three fold with the waves building. I greeted the Commander, and asked, "How are we going to make it in these seas? It looks like 6' and climbing". With that Commander Bernie laughed while saying, "We can do it, Stu, no problem. In fact, I have done it many times before in seas much greater than this. We just need to proceed with caution, using our superior navigational skills and knowledge. Plus they won't expect us to come in these seas, so we can catch them by surprise". We were fortunate to be led by the infamous Commander, whom the pirates knew and feared as 'The Viper'. With his trusted mate and Queen of the Fleet, Kathleen, at his side, you knew we were in good hands.

As the captains assembled for the briefing before taking helm of their ships, I asked, "Who else besides Admiral Di and Sir Read were taken prisoner?" Sir John proclaimed, "Sorry to say they have the rest of the Hall family along with the Bussey's, Seidenman's, and Solesky's, along with Lady Brande" (who is the wife of Sir Walter, captain of our largest battleship). Just then the Earl and Countess of Stuenes, Roy and Tracey appeared, and Roy said amidst his pain and anger, "They also got my dad, the Duke of Stuenes". This was really bad.

Fortunately we had found out where the prisoners were held by those who escaped with Lady Mary Ellen, who discovered a hidden tunnel in the old skull castle. Following were Ladies Bobby and Fuzzy along with Lois, the Countess of Nehmer, who were led back to the fleet by Sirs Ken, Bob, Brooks and Lane. What a great feat by those escaping the clutches of the evil pirates.

The Commander went over the plans to free the prisoners, gave last minute instructions to the captains, and yelled for all to hear "We are the SPAF (Sail & Power, Aruba Fleet), and success will be ours!" The Commander then gave me a 5-sided coin, which could unlock any door in the castle in case I was captured. It was then time for us all to set sail.

What a sight to see our magnificent fleet as we moved together towards Bushirbana, and our mission. We were told Howard and Connie, the Baron and Baroness of Barry, were already underway so they could arrive at Bushirbana with the rest of the fleet. It was both exciting and scary traveling on the high seas - not knowing what we would find ahead. The wind was picking up even more as the seas continued to rise, and then we lost site of the rest of the fleet as the skies turned black.

Suddenly a noise fractured the air as the seas roared again, sounded like a loud bell echoing over the water, and then my worst fears were realized - our ship was being boarded and taken over by pirates. I'm not sure where they came from or how they took us by surprise, but I sure found out the meaning of 'Shiver Me Timbers'.

Now I was really mad and as I screamed at the pirates, "Where's my Admiral Di?" I was grabbed from the side and shaken violently! I yanked my head to see my attacker, I was groggy, couldn't figure out what was going on. And then I saw.

I saw it was Di, and she was shaking me and yelling, "Wake up, I'm right here, you must have had a bad dream". Wow! Was it really all a dream? I sat there silently for a minute. Then the silence was broken and reality set in when Di said, "Didn't you hear the loud bell sounding for Happy Hour?" Whew, it was only a dream, yet it seemed so real. Well now

there was only one thing left to do - Happy Hour!

I went to the bar and told the bartender, "Give me two Happy Hour Specials", and then asked "What is the special today?" The bartender replied, "Pirate Coladas, today only, two coming right up". Pirate Coladas, now that was strange I thought as I reached into my pocket to pay for the drinks. What was this in my pocket? Seems like it has 5 sides – Hm-mmmmm!

Lt/C Stuart Newborn, S

Change Your Calendar

The March general meeting, which features the elections of Dundalk Sail & Power Squadrons Bridge and other officers for the coming year, has been changed. It is now slated for March 14th, which is the second Wednesday of the month rather than the third. The meeting will be at the usual place and time – Boulevard Diner in Dundalk at 1830 for optional dinner and 2000 for the meeting.

The Change of Watch date has also been moved, and is now scheduled for Friday, March 16th. The big dinner/dance, which marks the change of leaders for the squadron, will be held at the Sparrows Point Country Club.

CALENDAR 2007

February 21

General Membership Meeting /Founders Day

This is when we remember all the old-timers who founded Dundalk Sail & Power Squadron back in 1961. The program includes Lane Letch bringing a projector to show some old squadron movies. As usual we meet at the Boulevard Diner. Dinner and/or drinks optional at 6:30 p.m. Meeting begins at 8:00 p.m. The food is good and the camaraderie is even better.

March 14

General Membership Meeting /Annual Meeting

*Note that, due to circumstances beyond our control, this is the **SECOND** Wednesday!* At the Boulevard Diner. Dinner and/or Drinks optional at 6:30 p.m. Meeting begins at 8:00 p.m. Elections will be held at this meeting.

March 16

Change of Watch Banquet

Note that the date has changed from the original plan, and is on a Friday night. Join us for the Squadron's most elegant evening: dinner and dancing at the posh Sparrows Point Country Club. Out with the old, in with the new. Who will walk away with the coveted Busted Shamrock? This is really a special one as our special guest will be the National Commander Ernie Marshburn.

March 29 – April 1

District 5 Spring Conference in Ocean City (Hospitality Suite)

If you make only one District event, make it this one. Friday night is the hospitality suite which Dundalk won the last two years. Saturday learn a lot about boating and your United States Power Squadrons. The sign-up form for the Spring Conference may be found in your current *Mark 5*, last month's *On the Horizon* or online at www.uspsd5.org

Official Notice of Nominations

The Nominating Committee of the Dundalk Sail & Power Squadron, having met in accordance with the by-laws, recommends the following members in good standing for the Bridge and Executive Committee:

Commander
Executive Officer
Administrative Officer
Squadron Education Officer
Treasurer
Secretary

Asst. SEO
Asst. Secretary
Asst. Treasurer

Lt/C John Hall, AP
Lt/C Tracey Stuenes, P
Lt/C David Seidenman, S
P/C Walter Neese, SN
P/C Richard Bussey, P
Lt/C Stuart Newborn

P/C Lois Nehmer, SN
1st/Lt Joanne Day, SN
1st/Lt Michael R. Dulany, P

For the Executive Committee:

Dianne Newborn
Robert Porak
Tom Clark
Bobbie Blaker
Ray Schiff

This slate was submitted by this years Nominating Committee Chair, P/C Brooks Riley, AP. The elections will be held at the squadron's annual meeting on Wednesday, March 14th at the Boulevard Diner in Dundalk. The new officers will be sworn in the following Friday night at the Sparrows Point Country Club at the Change of Watch Dinner/Dance.