



# WILMINGTON POWER SQUADRON

DISTRICT 5

A Unit of United States Power Squadrons®  
SAIL AND POWER BOATING

## THE LUBBER'S LINE

VOLUME 73, ISSUE 4

January - February 2012

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Commander's Message</i>	<b>2</b>
<i>Who's Who</i>	<b>2</b>
<i>Education Dept.</i>	<b>3</b>
<i>Administrative Dept.</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>2012-2013 Yearbook</i>	<b>5</b>
<i>Bridge Year Nominees</i>	<b>7</b>
<i>WPS Birthdays</i>	<b>9</b>
<i>Calendar</i>	<b>10</b>

### *A History of Navigation - Age of Exploration*

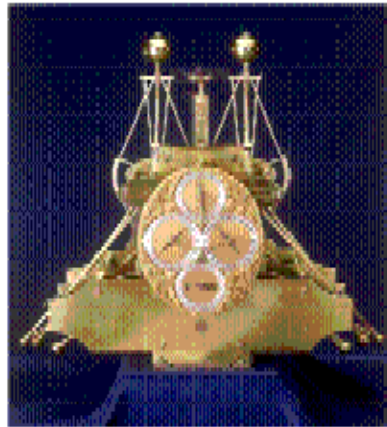
by

*Peter and Carol Trogden*

The 2011 Boating Season is over, for most of us. Now the 2011- 2012 WPS Assemblies Season has begun. These are opportunities for all of us to get together, without the boats, and renew old acquaintances. Last month was the first of the season and 54 members enjoyed catching-up with each other and sharing the appetizers, lasagna, and pie.

### John Harrison's H-1 & H-5

#### Greatest achievement in time keeping



Weems & Plath



13

**WPS 2012  
Change of Watch  
Reservation  
Form  
Page 10**



**January Social  
Baltimore Harbor  
Light Restoration  
Project  
Page 6**

#### Promotion Code USPS25

We hosted Peter Trogden and his wife, Carol. Peter is the CEO, of Weems & Plath, manufacturer of fine nautical instruments. He gave us a brief history of the company and its founders, Capt. Phillip Van Horn Weems and Carl Plath. Peter has made a personal study of Navigation History and travelled the world visiting Nautical Museums and historical navel venues. His presentation, *Age of Exploration Time Line*, began with the first recorded sea exploration in 2750 BC by the Egyptians; Polynesian's in the South Pacific, 2500 BC; in the 600's BC,

*(Continued on page 5)*

**Wilmington Power Squadron****Commander**

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**Visit us on the web at:**

**[www.wilmingtonpowersquadron.org](http://www.wilmingtonpowersquadron.org)**

The Lubber's Line is a publication of the Wilmington Power Squadron published the first week of January, March, May, August, and October.

**COMMANDER'S  
MESSAGE**

*By Cdr. James Robinson, AP*

The United States Power Squadrons was organized in 1914 by a few like-minded yacht club members that had installed gasoline engines in their boats. The founding was soon followed by the sponsoring of educational instruction emphasizing boating protocols, safety, and etiquette on the water. The immediately popular concept spread throughout the entire United States. Most of these original groups (squadrons) are still functioning today. A sampling across our organization discloses that the hobby over recent years has undergone some significant changes. Many of our sister squadrons have experienced across the board declines in the numbers of "power boat" members. Spoken as a statistic, we now have a greater percentage of sail members vs. powerboat members. Additionally the average age, if there is such a number, of fellow boating hobbyists is steadily increasing.

Many squadrons, each experiencing this change in varying degrees, have opted to add "sail" to their name. The only perceptible benefit of the change has been that the inclusion of "Sail" to the squadron name more appropriately reflects the interest base of membership.

The name change topic has been and continues to be the subject of spirited debate at all levels of USPS. The changing of the name has **not** served to increase the membership. What it has done, thanks to the internet and the "GOOGLING" process, is to radically improve our organizational visibility to not only members but to the general public as well.

Has USPS outlived its name? Is it time for a name change? The subject will be brought up for discussion and possibly a vote at the WPS Annual Meeting and Founders' Day Social on 17 February 2012.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

*(Continued page 4)*

## *Education Department*

One Certification Class, instructed by P/C David Sharpless, AP, was held at McKean High School in October. Results for each of the three students in attendance were excellent. In the area of Advanced Grades, Advanced Piloting, once again ably taught by P/C Marty Wagner, AP, tested in early December. Results for each of the Advanced Grade students are still pending. Absent any course requests from membership, no Electives or Advanced Grades classes have been scheduled for the spring.

Winter Seminars conducted over the past several years have been well received and attended. Some of you have expressed desire in learning more about competitive sailing. Interest in the subject seemed to peak during the 2011 Annual Cruise; hence, why not offer a **customized** sailing seminar formatted to appeal to both the experienced and novices amongst us, an offering non-boat owners (charterers, occasional crewmembers, "like to try" sailors, everyone) would consider a "must do"? **Consider it done!** This type endeavor, in many ways a first for WPS, is being headed up by Tom Stoner, AP, supported by a crew of very capable and experienced advisers, co-instructors, etc. Topic subjects will embrace boat/crew prep, sail trim, discussion on racing vs. rallying, and considerations of wind, weather and current.

When: Sunday, 26 February 2012

Time: 1300-?

Where: New Castle Sailing Club, New Castle, DE

Fees: FREE-No Charge

Exam: NO

Registration: David Sharpless

(302) 239-7995 or E-mail [bdsharpless@verizon.net](mailto:bdsharpless@verizon.net)

The schedule for WPS Spring Certification Classes is as follows: (1) Kennett Square, Pa (site to be announced) - 22 March 2012, (2) A. I. DuPont High School - 03 April 2012, (3) McKean High School - 19 April 2012.

Can you think of anything we can do for you in the way of boating education? Perhaps the answer is a specific boating subject in which you would have interest if presented in seminar format. Challenge us with your request(s).

*P/C C. David Sharpless AP  
Education Officer*



## *Administrative Department*

Once again this fall and winter, we have a great line-up of events to brighten your winter and bring a little fellowship with fellow boaters. The assemblies committee has worked to bring you an entertaining and educational series of presentations for 2011-2012. We recently heard from Peter Trogden of Weems and Plath, who gave us a historical perspective of navigation with the many instruments sailors have used over the ages to find their way across the seas. In January, we will focus our sights on a landmark of the Chesapeake Bay and hear about the efforts being made to preserve the Baltimore light. Then in February we'll be treated to some great photography as our own members, the Englers, share pictures and stories from their trip to the Bahamas last winter. This is a great opportunity, so look for the assemblies announcement in this issue and get your reservations for the January and February events in today!

We are also starting to make plans for the boating season next year and will welcome suggestions you may have for activities on or off the water. We are considering another spring picnic, perhaps on a Sunday afternoon this year. You will also be hearing about a sailboat racing initiative being put together by some of our members. This will be an opportunity for some of our members who have not previously tried racing to join our sailors on the water for some fun. Some sailing seminars and other instruction are also in the works. This is a real grassroots effort, so we're hoping those of you with some interest will give it consideration!

*Lt/C Judith C. Stadler, AP*  
*Administrative Officer*

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*(Commander's Message, continued from page 2)*

Your WPS membership may provide you with some unexpected savings ideas. Check out the USPS Member Benefits website for not only ideas but savings as well. For example, just to name a few retail participants, Weems and Plath offers nautical and weather items, Sears carries just about *everything* and you can even save up to 12% on Dell products. Your USPS certificate number can be your key to unlocking some of these potential savings.

Breaking news for Jacksonville National meeting - two of the positions on the Nominating Committee slate will be contested. In accordance with USPS BYLAWS, paragraph 5.6.1, the position of Administrative Officer and Educational Officer were challenged by petition in accordance with Bylaws article 11, Section 11.2 (2) by V/C Robert Sweet, SN for Administrative Officer and R/C Eugene Moltens, SN for Educational Officer. Updates on the vote to follow in future *Lubber's Line* issues.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the January and February socials. From the Robinson Family, Zelma, Jim, Jimmy and Charley - Have a great Holiday Season!

(Continued from page 1)

the Phoenicians navigate the Mediterranean, the Atlantic Coasts (North and South), and rounded Africa; 100 AD, Chinese invent first compass; 120 AD Egyptians develop foundation of cartography; 1330, invention of Cross Staff to determine Latitude; 1759, John Bird builds his first Sextant; 1770's, Cooke explores the Pacific; 1884, Greenwich, England established as Prime Meridian; 1903, Wright Brothers fly; 1907, gyroscopic compass invented; 1909, Perry reaches North Pole; 1927, Lindberg solo nonstop flight across Atlantic; 1943, loran electronic beacon system; 1993, GPS system; 2004; Space vehicle "Spirit" sends pictures back from Mars. If you were not there, you missed a good presentation.

Some key learning's:

When navigating in unfamiliar territory, don't irritate the natives: Capt. Cook  
Have a backup plan: Apollo 13 using a sextant when electronics failed.

Peter Trogdon donated several Navigation Training Aids to the Squadron for use in our Education Program and reminded us that we, as USPS Members, are granted 25 % off on everything on their website [www.weems-plath.com](http://www.weems-plath.com) by using the promo code USPS25 through December 31st.

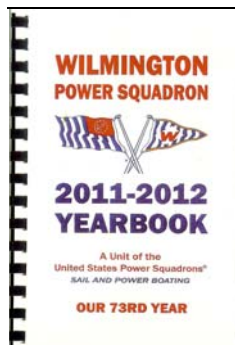
P/C John Ingram, AP  
Assemblies Committee

### **DON'T WORK IN THE DARK**

What sets the Wilmington Power Squadron apart from other boating organizations? We are vibrant -- and solvent. Maintaining a balanced book requires a great deal of effort on the part of your Officers, Executive Board and Committee Chairs. For example, the cost of producing our annual directory that you use all year long to find phone numbers, calendar of events, E-Mail addresses, etc. is offset by the revenue from advertisers, and this is where YOU can participate. Do you own a business or offer a professional service? If so, let our membership know. Don't work in the dark! Please take out an ad in our annual directory and reach several hundred potential clients. Do you work for a company that could benefit from reaching out to our members? If so, let Barbara Sharpless or Rita Shade know and they will send out an advertising packet.

The cost is small for great exposure to our very loyal membership. A full page ad is only \$70.00 and a half page ad is \$50.00. As an added "thank you" we put a link on our web site for businesses and services relevant to boaters.

You can contact Barbara Sharpless at [bdsharpless@verizon.net](mailto:bdsharpless@verizon.net) or Rita Shade at [ritashade@gmail.com](mailto:ritashade@gmail.com). Thanks!



### **2012 - 2013 Yearbook**

**It's the time for our yearbook *to be assembled and printed.* If you have any changes to your listing in the member roster section of the yearbook please email your changes to Barbara Sharpless at: [bdsharpless@verizon.net](mailto:bdsharpless@verizon.net)**



**JANUARY ASSEMBLY**  
**Baltimore Harbor Light Restoration Project**  
**20 January 2012**

Please join us and learn about the history of the Baltimore Harbor Lighthouse. The Lighthouse is owed by the BHL, LLC of Annapolis, Maryland, a group of private individuals who are committed to the restoration and preservation of the Baltimore Harbor Light.

The evening begins at 1830 (6:30 PM) with appetizers and soft drinks and continues with dinner at 1900. Dinner will include Casapulla subs, chips and dessert. The cost this year is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 12.

Our meeting will be held at the Brandywine Community Center on Naamans Road, just off Concord Pike (Route 202). The Community Center is a free-standing building with a dome, and is by the fountain in front of the shopping center.

Reservations due by Tuesday, 17 January 2012.

*Lt/C Judy Stadler*

*Lt Betty Ingram*

*Co-chairpersons*

*Assemblies Committee: Lt Mary Stacey, Geri Walker, Zelma Robinson, Lt. Rita Shade, P/C Donna Zimmerman, Anne & Mike Minard & P/C John Ingram...*



**Baltimore Harbor Light Restoration Project**  
**- 20 JANUARY 2012 -**

Names of those attending (for name tags) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.00      \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$4.00      Total = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BETTY INGRAM and mail with this form to**

Betty Ingram, 8 Tarragon Court, Wilmington, DE 19808  
(H) (302) 633-1733 (W) (302) 999-2631  
Email: Bkooingram@verizon.net

### ***Nominees for the 2012-2013 Bridge Year***

As the current Bridge year is soon coming to a close, the Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following candidate's for next year's Bridge and Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee, on behalf of our general membership, wishes to extend thanks to all of those dedicated members who have agreed to serve. The vote on these nominations will be held at the February 17, 2012 Founder's Day Assembly which begins at 1830 at the Brandywine Community Center off Naaman's Road.

The nominees for the 2012-2013 Bridge Year are as follows:

#### ***Bridge Nominees:***

Commander: Lt/C Judith C. Stadler, AP  
Executive Officer: Lt Donald R. Engler, P  
Administrative Officer: Lt John S. Ross, AP  
Education Officer: P/C James Robinson, AP  
Secretary: Lt/C Barbara L. Sharpless, P  
Treasurer: P/C Martin G. Wagner, AP

#### ***Executive Committee General Members:***

P/C Harry S. Anderson, II, JN  
P/C Richard A. Butler, JN  
P/C John G. Ingram, AP  
Lt John E. Koval, Jr., P  
P/C Jay R. Minshall, AP  
P/C C. David Sharpless, AP  
Lt Charles R. Stadler, AP

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee:

*P/C Harry S. Anderson, II, JN*  
*P/C John G. Ingram, AP*  
*P/C Donna F. Zimmerman, JN*

### **2012 Cruise Reminder – Notification of Date Change**

The annual Summer Cruise is still in the formation stages as of this writing. Please note, the date listed for the 2012 cruise in the current yearbook has been changed. **The Cruise will begin on Saturday, 16 June, commencing with the Commander's Kickoff/Spring Picnic and ending on Friday, 22 June. The Skip-pers' Meeting has been changed to 6 June.** Please mark these new dates on your calendar. The itinerary, activities, highlights, reservation form, etc. will appear in forthcoming issues of the Lubber's Line. Additionally we shall be establishing an information "e-net" for the purpose of keeping our potential cruisers and shore goers apprised as plans move forward toward fruition. All members are invited to participate in all or any portion of this Week on the Bay event.

Interested in receiving the e-mails, have questions, whatever? Contact David Sharpless at 302-239-7995 or send an e-mail to [bdsharpless@verizon.net](mailto:bdsharpless@verizon.net).

*P/C Dennis M. Wallace, P*  
*P/C C. David Sharpless, AP*





## ***WPS 2012 CHANGE OF WATCH***

The 2012 Change of Watch, our 73<sup>rd</sup>, is fast approaching. At the request of Commander James Robinson, AP, a location near the water was sought. The North East River Yacht Club has been reserved for this event. The Commodores' Room, ours for the day, not only offers beautiful and appropriate accommodations for our Change of Watch but also includes a scenic overlook of the Northeast River.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, 18 March 2012 and join fellow members in both recognizing and honoring outgoing Commander James Robinson, AP, and his Bridge and to welcome incoming Commander Judith C. Stadler, AP, and her Bridge. Socializing will begin at 1130 followed by an all-you-can-eat brunch. A cash bar will be available. The Change of Watch ceremony begins at 1300. The cost is a very reasonable \$30.00 per person. Please see the Registration Form on Page 10 for details.

*2012 Change of Watch Committee*

## ***WPS Holiday Party***

This year our holiday social was held December 11 at the home of Bill and Donna Zimmerman. Everyone was well fed with a large selection of appetizers and desserts that WPS members brought along to share. It was a delightful evening, and we thank Bill and Donna for opening their home for all of us.

We are also happy to report that there were 38 boxes filled with gifts for the seamen who visit the port of Wilmington. More continue to come in even after the party, and John Ingram has delivered them to the Seamen's center for distribution. Many thanks to all of you who took time to prepare the boxes. Reports are that the seamen look forward to coming to Wilmington this time of year and really enjoy receiving the gift boxes.





**FEBRUARY ASSEMBLY  
FOUNDER'S DAY & ANNUAL MEETING  
Jubilee's Journey to the Bahamas  
17 February 2012**

Please join us for our Founder's Day and Annual Meeting on Friday, 17 February 2012. Don and Sue Engler will be our featured speakers and will share highlights of their trip on Jubilee to the Bahamas last year.

The evening begins at 1830 (6:30 PM) with appetizers and soft drinks and continues with dinner at 1900. Dinner will include Pizza, Salad and Dessert. The cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 12.

All of our winter meetings will be held at the Brandywine Community Center on Naamans Road, just off Concord Pike (Route 202). The Community Center is a free-standing building with a dome, and is by the fountain in front of the shopping center.

Reservations due by Tuesday, 14 February.

*Lt/C Judy Stadler*

*Lt Betty Ingram*

*Co-chairpersons*

*Assemblies Committee: Lt Mary Stacey, Geri Walker, Zelma Robinson, Lt. Rita Shade, P/C Donna Zimmerman, P/C John Ingram, Anne & Mike Minard*

**- 17 February 2012 -**

Names of those attending \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.00      \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$4.00      Total = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO BETTY INGRAM and mail with this form to**

Betty Ingram, 8 Tarragon Court, Wilmington, DE 19808  
(H) (302) 633-1733 (W) (302) 999-2631  
Email: Bkooingram@verizon.net

*WPS Cruise Photos*



**WILMINGTON POWER SQUADRON**  
**CHANGE OF WATCH**

**Sunday, 18 March 2012**

**North East River Yacht Club**  
**North East, MD 21901(I-95 Exit 100A)**

Arrive at 1130 to socialize with friends. Drinks may be purchased from the bar.

**BRUNCH BUFFET – 1200**

*Fresh Cut Fruit, Danishes, Bagels, Toast, Made-to-Order  
Omelets, Scrambled Eggs or Eggs over, Eggs Benedict,  
French Toast, Warm Syrup, Bacon, Sausage and  
Potatoes, Orange and Grapefruit Juice,  
Seafood Crepes and Smoked Salmon*

**CHANGE OF WATCH CEREMONY – 1300**

*Assorted Mini Desserts, Coffee and Tea after the ceremony*

Please forward your reservation slip and check **payable to WPS** to:  
Barbara Sharpless, 2 Hailey's Trail, Newark, DE 19711 by **Friday, 9 March 2012**  
*(Please don't be late.)*

**WPS CHANGE OF WATCH**  
**Sunday, 18 March 2012**

Names of Attendees:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30.00 per Person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_





***WPS Birthday List /January -February***

<i>Jan-Feb</i>	<i>Date</i>
Robert V. A. Harra, Jr.	Jan 02
Lois B. Radcliff	Jan 02
Deborah L. Rodenhouser	Jan 03
James Robinson	Jan 04
Irene duPont, Jr	Jan 08
Kathy Scott-Reager	Jan 15
Frank V. Bailor	Jan 17
David I. Netting	Jan 21
Richard Parton	Jan 21
Mike Minard	Jan 22
Patricia S. Maher	Jan 28

<i>Jan-Feb</i>	<i>Date</i>
Pierce W. Johnston, Jr.	Jan 29
George C. Bently	Jan 30
Erich D. Smith	Jan 09
Sue F. Engler	Feb 11
Francis H. Richardson, Jr.	Feb 12
D. Jeffrey Russell	Feb 12
Paul David Ehrlichman	Feb 13
Pat Esterle	Feb 17
John J. Polk	Feb 18
Nancy N. Goettel	Feb 22
Harry S. Anderson	Feb 23





# Calendar of Events

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



Weekly Luncheons on Wednesday:  
 Lucky's Coffee House, Concord Pike, Talleyville DE

18 January	1930	WPS Executive Committee Meeting
20 January	1830	WPS Social Brandywine Community Center
25 January-04 February		USPS Annual Meeting Jacksonville Riverfront, Jacksonville, FL
07 February	1900	WPS Spring Educational Courses Begin Advanced Grades & Elective Courses A.I. DuPont High School
07 February		Deadline for March/April Lubber's Line Material
15 February	1930	WPS Executive Committee Meeting
17 February	1830	WPS Annual Meeting & Founders Day Social Brandywine Community Center
18 March	1130	WPS Change of Watch North East River Yacht Club, North East, MD
21 March	1930	WPS Executive Committee Meeting
22 March	1900	Safe Boating Certification Class Begins Kennett Square, PA area
30 March-01 April		D/5 Officer Training/Spring Conference Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City, MD
31 March		Cruise Registration Due

Or  
 Current Resident

*Dated Material—Please Open Immediately*

The Lubber's Line  
 Wilmington Power Squadron  
 2 Halley's Trail  
 Newark, DE 19711-3006

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