

## FROM THE BRIDGE

About 265 members of USPS gathered recently for a four-District weekend conference in Nashua, N.H. Our Chief Commander, James Stewart, encouraged us to look to a bright future of boating education, civic service and fraternal activity. He called for flexibility in our approach to squadron and district activities. Above all, he exhorted us to have fun – not to take ourselves so seriously that we miss the point of being together.

Those members of Cape Cod Power Squadron who have made a substantial contribution of personal effort to advance the purpose and program of USPS are being recommended to the Chief Commander for the award of a Merit Mark. I have asked all CCPS Bridge officers to submit their recommendations of members who have worked in a substantial manner during calendar year 1991. Awards will be made right after the first of the year and will be announced as soon as the Chief Commander makes his award announcement.

If you are like me, you recently received your 1992 dues notice. One way to celebrate the navigational and seamanship achievements of those who sailed the Atlantic in 1492 – 500 years ago – is to renew your USPS membership NOW !! The dues for 1992 at both the National and Squadron level have not gone up over those of last year. We are holding the line in spite of increasing costs, particularly those associated with housing our most important educational programs. Please make the work of our volunteer treasurer a little lighter by taking the time, now, to send your renewal check/form today! Your membership is a sign that you care about *safe boating through education*.

We look forward to being together for our Holiday party on 12 December. The occasion provides an opportunity for us to do two things – have fun with our friends and share some gifts of food with our needy friends and neighbors.

Enjoy the information in this issue of our Squadron update and feel free to call me at 778-2476 to offer suggestions, register complaints, or volunteer to help with Squadron activities.

Arthur F. Kimber, AP  
Commander

## SOME BOATING SAFETY STATISTICS

(Taken from *Small Craft Advisory*, newsletter of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators', Aug./Sept. 1991)

**MASSACHUSETTS:** Alcohol continues to receive a major share of law enforcement attention in Massachusetts, with a new bill aimed at the intoxicated operator passed with some fine tuning considerations on tap for the next legislative session. The state wrapped up its first (fiscal) year of a boat titling program on a very positive note. It now appears that the State's Environmental Police will be able to hire a few more officers in the last half of the current fiscal year [...probably between five and ten officers...].

**Massachusetts Statistics:** 1990 boating accidents: a total of 127 vessels reported 102 accidents: fatal: 22; non-fatal injury: 30; property damage: 50. In all, boating accidents claimed the lives of 26, and injured 53. In comparison, overall, Florida topped the list with 88 fatalities and led the way with 540 non-fatal injuries. Florida reported a total of 918 accidents involving 1,247 vessels. Of the fifty states (excluding D.C., Guam and others), Vermont had but 3 accidents, involving 3 vessels and 5 people, unfortunately, resulting in five fatalities!

## VHF RADIO USER FEES - Sunk for now!

(Taken from BOAT/US REPORTS, November 1991)

The U.S. Senate has pulled the plug on a controversial proposal to charge VHF radios licensees a "user fee" to support the Federal Communications Commission – for this year at least.

The plan to raise \$65 million by charging a \$50 fee to anyone with an FCC license – on top of the \$35 licensing fee already required was approved by the full House of Representatives in September. [the bill stopped in the Senate]. BOAT/US has opposed this additional fee levied on boaters ever since it was proposed in the President's [1992] budget presented to Congress last February. The money was to pay for such traditional FCC agency work as rulemaking, policymaking, enforcement and international functions.

BOAT/US argued that a VHF radio is an important piece of safety equipment on a boat, particularly in an emergency situation, and that boat owners make no real use of FCC services, other than applying [paying] for a licence [in the first place]. Ironically, amateur, or "ham" radio operators were given an exemption because the House Committee said they perform a public safety role. [This issue will likely surface again next year as more pressure is placed on Congress to lessen the budget deficit].

### **NATIONAL "APPEAL FOR REPEAL" OF THE FEDERAL BOAT "USER FEE"**

BOAT/US urges boaters to send the President [and Congress] a message: "Help Repeal the Boat 'User Fee' Tax." Between 18-20 November, important phone calls to make include: The White House: 202-456-1111; House Speaker Thomas Foley: 202-225-5604; Sen. George Mitchell (Majority Leader): 202-224-5556 [ed. note: comments to Gerry Studds, John Kerry and Ted Kennedy would also be appropriate].

## CCPS HOLIDAY BENEFIT

At the holiday season our hearts go out to those in need in our community. This year, the Cape's economy still appears gloomy, and more and more of our neighbors are in need of many kinds of assistance. Again this year, the Executive Committee of the Cape Cod Power Squadron voted to adopt The Food Pantry, Depot Street, North Harwich as the charity for our holiday benefit.

Your Executive Committee is calling on all members to make a contribution to the Food Pantry. Contributions in the form of NON-PERISHABLE FOOD (canned or boxed goods: real food, please) or cash would be appropriate. Food donations will be accepted at the Squadron's Holiday Party on 12 December. Cash contributions, (checks only, please) will also be accepted at the party, or may be mailed to the treasurer. Please make checks payable to the Cape Cod Power Squadron, and mark them "FOOD PANTRY."

Many families on the Cape depend on food donations to provide a balanced, nutritious diet. This year, your donations will make a real difference. Please join with your fellow squadron members in sharing some of your bounty with those who are in need at this holiday season.

Thank you very much.

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I/We are unable to attend the Squadron's Holiday Party on 12 Dec,

but are pleased to participate in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

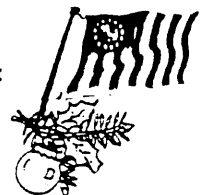
NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your check (payable to Cape Cod Power Squadron, marked "Food Pantry") to:

Lt/C Steven B. Paine, 13 Cobblestone Road, Barnstable, MA 02630

Food donations will be accepted at the party.

**THANK YOU !**





# Cape Cod Power Squadron

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS  
CAPE COD, MASSACHUSETTS

## Holiday Dinner Meeting



*Three will be fun for all!  
Bar Snacks . . . Singing . . . Dancing  
Music by the Michael A. Pluto "Orchestra"  
Sing-along of Christmas Songs and Carols  
Good Food served by Bishop's Terrace*

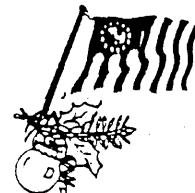
**WHERE:** BISHOP'S TERRACE (North side of Rt. 28, West Harwich,  
approx 1/2 mile east of Dennisport traffic light. Phone: 432-0253.

**WHEN:** THURSDAY, 12 DECEMBER 1991

**TIME:** 1830: HOLIDAY CHEER & SNACKS  
1930: DINNER

**PRICE:** \$15.00 per person.

**MENU:** *Choice of: Seafood Newburg en Casserole with Puff Pastry*



- OR -

*Face Top Roast Beef with Mushroom Sauce*

*Served with Caesar Salad, Baked Potato, Vegetable du Jour,  
Chocolate Creme de Menthe Cake, Coffee, Tea*

**DON'T FORGET**  
your non-perishable  
food donation for  
**THE FOOD PANTRY!**

All members and their guests are welcome. Please, to help us plan, fill out the coupon below and mail it so that we will receive it no later than MONDAY 9 DECEMBER, 1991. Reservations will be required.



CCPS Holiday Dinner Meeting

**RESERVATION DEADLINE: 9 DEC 1991**

*Reservations will be required. Sorry, but CCPS cannot give credits for dinners after this deadline.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING DINNERS:

\_\_\_\_\_ SEAFOOD NEWBURG @ \$15.00 ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ROAST BEEF @ \$15.00 ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total of \_\_\_\_\_ Dinners TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO:**



Lt. Robert L. Park  
16 Braddock Lane  
Harwich Port, MA 02646  
Phone: 432-5418