

ON THE HORIZON

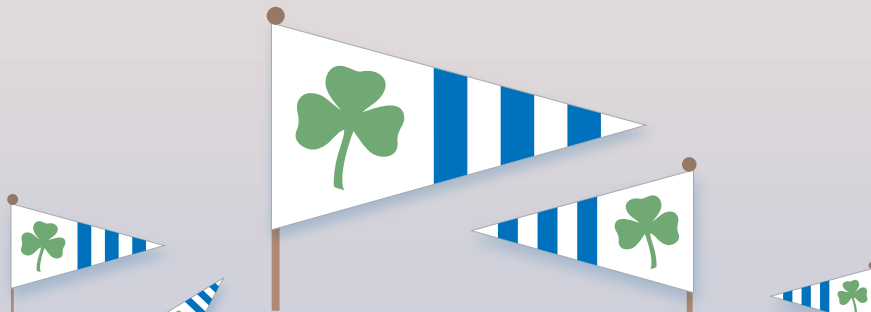
Dundalk Sail & Power Squadron • District 5

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December 2005

Season's Greetings!



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BRIDGE 2005-2006

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Kindly submit articles to Rick
by the 5th of every month
via mail, email or fax
Thank you.

Dundalk Gets Kudos for Membership Efforts

Dundalk SPS received a Growth Award from the National Membership Committee for increasing membership above three percent. The award, made at the District 5 Education Conference in Silver Spring, noted that Dundalk grew by 3.6 percent from May 2004 through May 2005. Dundalk was one of only six of 35 District 5 squadrons achieved the 3 percent growth goal. This happened even while losing a number of members through resignation and death.

Dundalk's Commander Ken Finck said a lot of the credit should go to Dundalk's Executive Officer and Membership Chair Bernie Karpers for his enthusiasm in recruiting. Lt/C Karpers, in turn, said credit should go to the entire squadron for their combined efforts. Cdr Finck also praised P/C Walter Neese, who was recognized with a Power of One Award for bringing in a new member.

Cdr Finck expressed delight with the apparent reversal of a recent trend towards declining membership and foresees a return to the "glory days" of the 70s and 80s when membership was at a peak.

District Brass To Attend Dundalk Events

The lineup for guests from USPS District 5 to visit has been firmed up. The Chairman of Squadron Functions, P/C Alexei Zuk has informed Cdr Ken Finck of the following schedule

This is considered a great lineup because D/Lt/C Simkins is currently the D-5 Executive Officer and will likely be the next Commander. P/D/C is an old friend and very popular and influential

person in the District. So Dundalk will have a great opportunity to find out what will be happening in the next year or so on both the District and National levels. In addition, we can let these key figures know about Dundalk's achievements, concerns, etc. and what fun-loving, friendly folks we are.



Christmas Party
Dec. 21 2005
D/Lt/C Richard P. Davis AP



Founder's Day
Feb. 15, 2006
D/Lt/C Kathryn J. Simkins P



Change of Watch
Mar. 18, 2006
P/D/C William D. Selden V, AP



Dundalk Aims for *Big* Presence at Boat Show

Dundalk Squadron has received the dates and times for us to support the booth at the annual winter Boat Show at Baltimore's Convention Center. Dundalk shares the USPS booth with two other area squadrons. The chart below lists the time periods we need to cover. Members may sign up for a whole time period or any part (as brief as 30 minutes) by emailing John Rice at captfoghorn@comcast.net or Cdr Ken Finck at cankenhelp@juno.com or calling them.

The booth at the boat show is a great venue for enlisting boaters for our courses as well as recruiting them to join our squadron. Plus it gets you free admission, a savings of

\$8.00, credit towards a merit mark and is usually reported to be a lot of fun.

Dress is blue blazer with gray slacks or skirt or winter dress uniform or equivalent civilian attire.

DATE	TIME
Sat. Jan. 21, 2006	1400 to 1700
Sun. Jan. 22	1100 to 1400
Mon. Jan 23	1200 to 2000
Sat. Jan. 28	1700 to 2000

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Cdr Kenneth H. Finck, P



Now that we are well into fall and we have broken out the winter uniforms, I look back and reflect that Dundalk has had a really good boating season this year. This is largely thanks to the super planning of Lt/C John Hall, during the activities meeting at his house. This is where John and others too numerous to name help plan out the boating season. The meeting is more like a family get-together with food, drinks, and camaraderie in the living room. John starts off the session by going over what we did last year, and what do we want to do this coming year. It's a really well put-together event. So if you would like to have a say, or just come there to enjoy the evening, ask John, who will become our new Executive Officer in March.

Dundalk Sail and Power Squadron is doing better every year. The general membership meetings are having a lot more people show up, and the boating outings are attracting more crafts. You could see this during the last navigation contest, with Dundalk winning the "Most Boats Entered" award.

The Frostbite Cruise wrapped up the official boating system the weekend of October 15th at the Sparrows Point Country Club. This was headed up by P/LT/C Rolf Stuenes, who did a wonderful job of putting the weekend together. A great day on the bay was topped off with a fine dinner at the club, where we were joined by some newer members and a number of guests. Great Job Rolf!

P/C Connie Barry has asked her VSC inspectors to try to keep checking vessels even though the weather has turned

cooler. So if any of you reading this column out there either have a boat or know of someone who has a boat that has not yet been inspected, please call Connie or any of the Vessel Safety Inspectors. The latest report indicates Dundalk has completed almost 150 inspections for the year. That's good, but we could even squeeze in a few more.

I would like to Thank Lt/C Bernie Karpers for doing a fine job as membership chair as well as Executive Officer. So fine, in fact, that you will see a story about our squadron on page 30 of November's *Ensign*, the USPS national magazine. The article cites Dundalk for excelling at involving and maintaining members.

I just finished reading the "on line" version of the Horizon and it's great! The color pictures really make it. Perhaps one day the squadron will have the resources to print in color. Meanwhile, those of you with computers should enjoy the online version. Thanks go to Lt/C John Hall for a fine job of integrating the Horizon into the Dundalk web site. Remember that the next general meeting on Dec. 21st will feature the annual the holiday party. This year we will once again do the great Chinese gift exchange the entertaining P/C Read Van Zile running the show. Bring a gift for a person of the same gender as yourself, with a limit of around \$10.00 and the sillier the better. And remember there will be some kids there, so if the gifts are for people grownups only (like wine), please put warning on it. Bring friends so that we can show them Dundalk SPS is more than boating safety and education. We like to have fun!

I will see you ALL there.

ADMIN REPORT

Lt/C John Hall, AP

Well it looks like the boating season is winding down. It's time to start getting ready for next year. Our next event is our Christmas party on December 21st. The party is one of my favorite events of the year. The business part of the meeting only lasts about one minute so don't be late or you'll miss it! We will be bringing our kids so don't be afraid to bring yours! We will be having the Chinese gift exchange where you have a chance to "steal" someone else's present. Of course the next person to pick may like your present the best and steal it from you! Bring a \$10 gag gift and join in the fun! It's always fun to try to guess which present will be the hot item that everybody wants.

We will kick off the new year with a cruise planning party at my house. Mark your calendar for Sunday January 15th at 1400 hours. In addition to lots of good food and good company we will set the schedule of rendezvous for the next year. Some events are set in stone (crab feast) but we need help planning the others. Help us decide when and where to go.

At one of our meetings the importance of education and experience came up. I have found some interesting statistics that I would like to share with you. Although these numbers are from a study that is several years old they are still relevant.

Using exposure hours to compare fatalities based on their boating experience,

- boaters with less than 100 hours of operating experience had a fatality rate of 64 per million hours
- three times higher than the rate of 22 for those with 100-500 hours
- those with over 500 hours of experience had a fatality rate hardly measurable at .0018

Measuring fatalities whether or not the boater had any sort of boating education, the results were equally lopsided:

- The fatality rate for those without education was 14 per million hours
- for those with education, .03 per million hours

Amazingly that works out to the fact that an inexperienced and uneducated boater is 16.5 million times more likely to have a fatal accident on the water than a well experienced educated boater. How does that stack up against winning the lottery? The odds against winning the Maryland lotto jackpot are only 600,000 to 1. Don't play the lottery out on the water! Use the benefits the power squadron offers. Take the more advanced boating classes. Each one will add to your knowledge and enjoyment of your boat. The other education the squadron offers is out on the water. A great idea for a novice boater is to convoy to some of our rendezvous with other power squadron members. That way you have a friendly guide for your trip and friends waiting for you when you get there. One of the great things about the power squadron is the way that everyone is ready and willing to help out. There always seems to be someone with the right knowledge and/or equipment to take care of any problem.



PLEASE NOTE that the starting time for dinner at the general meetings has been moved up to 1830 in an attempt to prevent the late starts for the business meeting which are still set for 2000. The **Holiday Party** is Dec. 21st at the Boulevard Diner, 1660 Merritt Ave. in Dundalk.

Chesapeake Bay Memories Seeks Support From Dundalk SPS

Chesapeake Bay Memories (CBM), a charitable organization based in Middle River, wants to work with Dundalk SPS to provide area children with life-changing experiences on the water. The group's executive director, Penny Soteria, described CBM's work to attendees at the Dundalk November general meeting. They are a three-year-old charitable organization offering "high-caliber, hands-on Chesapeake Bay watershed-focused educational programs" for kids from 8 to 18. More than 6000 children from 40 public schools and 22 community groups have participated in their programs so far, at no cost to the students. More than 200 volunteers support their efforts.

One of the primary activities of CBM is to have the kids crew on Seaclusion, a 60-foot 1911 skipjack they acquired. Many times they take an afternoon cruise over to Hart-Miller Island where a tour is then offered. The student-teacher ratio on the cruises is 4 to 1. They have recently added canoeing and sailing programs.

Because one of CBM's goals is to teach some boating safety to the youths, Ms. Soteria sees an opportunity for Dundalk SPS to provide some of that training. Also individual Dundalk members are encouraged to volunteer to help on the cruises and/or to support CBM financially. Ms. Soteria noted that insurance for their vessel is quite expensive.



Kids enjoying Seaclusion

Alice Havre, Former Dundalk "First Lady" Dies

Alice Havre, wife of Dundalk SPS Past Commander (1970-71) Andy Havre, JN died on Nov. 20th. She also assisted Andy during his years District 5 Commander. Long-time Dundalk Member Micky McNellis recalled Alice as "such a doll." McNellis recalls that Alice made dozens of shamrock-shaped mints - dozens of them for several of the Hospitality suites and was a great help to Andy during his tours of duty for the squadron and district.

Alice was such a doll! I remember that when we did several of the Hospitality suites, she made shamrock-shaped mints - dozens of them! Read, Rolf and those who have been around longer than I could tell you of her assistance to Andy when he was Cdr and D/C - particularly Dorsey Butterbaugh, who was his Flag for both...get in touch with him!

She lived close to Read's boat (on her boat) when I spent summers with him. I'd see just the edge of her vacuum

cleaner come up behind the curtains to trap the spiders! She always had to do the glass doors when her grandchildren left fingerprints...Alice called them "angel prints". Read LOVED her stuffed tongue...(to each his own!)

She was a feisty lady who would yell back at Andy when the time was right, but was a loving and supportive wife...

Micky McNellis

XO's REPORT

Lt/C Bernie S. Karpers, N

T*his is the time of the year to say thank you.*

You have made a great effort to keep Dundalk Sail and Power Squadron active this year. We have achieved nearly every goal established. Thank you to all of the committees of the executive department. Your activity has been appreciated and you have obtained significant response.

Thank you to Lt John Rice, S who has chaired the Boat Show Committee. Under his leadership the Boat Show schedule has been obtained three months before the event. This has not happened in recent memory. The Baltimore Boat Show will run from Saturday 21 to Saturday 28 January 2006, in the Baltimore Arena. Note the dates and times for Dundalk's participation in the separate story in this issue. Please note the dress code: blue blazers with gray slacks/skirt. No T-shirts or jeans please. Let us present a business like appearance to the public. We are an award-winning squadron. We know it is early but consider these dates as you book your January calendar. Please sign up for this activity with the Boat Show Committee.

Co-op charting has been active through the generous effort Francis Koukias assisted by our Commander, Ken Finck, S. They have attended regional meetings for Co-op charting and encouraged us to participate. We look forward to better effort by the squadron next year.

Legislative and Liaison Committees, both chaired by P/C Howard Barry, JN, has been actively representing the individual pleasure boat operator, as well as the Power Squadrons through meeting with the Maryland State Boat Advisory Committee.

Public Relations Committee, chairman Lt David Seidenman, P has managed to get our education schedule published in the neighborhood papers from Belair to Towson and Dundalk. We have been able to reach the public on a regular and timely basis due to his activity. Our burgee project has been implemented thanks to the kind and gentle assistance of P/C Brooks Riley, AP. Burgees are now

available from Brooks. Get one and fly it with pride, for your squadron is better known by your activity.

Our safety committee has been active. Thank you to Roy Stuenes, P for his effort during this year. We had a great start to the year with the Safe Boating Weekend in Baltimore. He has made us aware of safety in boating. His recent article in "On The Horizon" was appropriate especially in light of our most recent ocean cruise. During one of our Bridge meetings Lt/C John Hall, AP brought up some data that showed a tremendous decrease in boating accidents as the time of use of the boat during the season is increased. For example the rate of serious accidents is almost 90% less than the national average, for those who use their boats more that 500 hours per year. The annual report for this committee has been filed with district headquarters.

The Vessel Safety Committee led by chairperson P/C Connie Barry, JN has performed well. This Committee has submitted records for 140 examinations this year. All reports are not in, and the final tally will be known by the end of this year. Thank you to Connie and the enthusiastic examiners. They have performed more examinations than last year.

Your Membership Committee is active. We have just completed our membership retention program. Our net loss of members was 10, and thus far we have replaced this loss with 14 additional members. Our most recent member is Mr. Mark Shapiro and he took his oath of office at our October meeting. Mark is interested in sailing and presently serves as the chairman for the Great Schooner Race. Please keep in mind that this year most of the new members were recruited as a result with direct contact with squadron members. Thank you to all for your participation in our effort. We are expecting a visit from a local Sea Scout Ship. The Sea Scouts have an interest in our education program.

Now as we look to the next year let us be thankful for the benefit of each persons contribution to our squadron. Happy Holiday Season to all.



You're Never Too Young

It is often said that a young mind is an impressionable one. There is great truth to this saying as countless academic studies have proven that a young mind is comparable to a sponge; it will just keep soaking up knowledge. So what better time to instill recreational boating safety values. We have all heard you can't teach an old dog new tricks.

Nautical Terminology

It is easy to increase a child's educational quotient, while at the same time instilling information that can serve to increase safety onboard and off. Starboard, Port, forward, aft- these simple terms are extremely important when describing an action in relation to the boat. Using proper terminology can be life saving for both the child and adult, because it eliminates confusion. Most children find it fun to learn new terms.

Radio Procedures

As a kid we never had a radio on our boat. Today, radios are available that are much less expensive and more dependable.

If you monitor the marine radio traffic on a weekend in the summer you may notice a little too much communicating. Especially on Channel 16. Educating our children on the "who, what, where and why's" of radio procedures benefit everyone. Children need to know the radio's purpose so they realize that it is not just a cool toy, also, in an emergency situation the Coast Guard will find information more believable if it is called in by a child who knows radio procedures.

Basic Navigation

The amount of navigation a child comprehends is age dependent. Start by teaching them to use landmarks to tell their location, especially which way to get back in an emergency. As the child progresses the best way to enhance their knowledge is with safe boating classes given by the expert instructors of the Dundalk Sail and Power Squadron.

PFD's

If you wear a PFD, your child will understand they need to wear one too. Lt/C John Hall, AP was noted recently wearing his PFD on a fishing trip. It doesn't leave his children very many excuses not to wear a PFD. You would be more likely to wear a PFD if you were comfortable in it (like one of the inflatables). Children too are more likely to wear one that they are comfortable in. Today there are many available for the style conscious.

Real-life Experience

There are few substitutes for real-life experience. Often it is a much harder and costly lesson, sometimes known as the school of hard knocks. These are the lessons we are least likely to forget. It is best not to wait for an emergency to learn the emergency procedures.

For example: If you have an old fire extinguisher, build a controlled fire and teach your kids to extinguish it. Show them how to extinguish fires with common sense methods.

Flares are a little different. Setting off last year's flares are more likely to upset authorities. This won't look good in front of the family.

Keep It Safe!



A Lighthouse of Our Own!

By Catherine Taylor

Hello from the new kids on the block! As founder, I would like to introduce you to Historical Place Preservation, Inc. (HPP). Via much paperwork, networking, and proving of our intentions to restore it to its former 1880's grandeur, Historical Place Preservation has obtained stewardship of the Craighill Channel Lower Range Front Light Station (CCLRFLS for a shorter mouthful). This beautiful example of a caisson style lighthouse, "the first built in Chesapeake Bay", was officially transferred to HPP by the Secretary of the Interior in July and the Quit Claim transfer deed was received from the General Services Administration in October 2005. The joint oversight of the US Coast Guard and the National Park Service ensures that qualified non-profits such as HPP 'do right' by historic lighthouses transferred under the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 2000 (NHLPA). Historic lighthouses, which were such an integral part of maritime life and industry and evoke a sense of nostalgia, are sadly losing their necessity due to modern technology and less-expensive pole replacements. To this end, HPP launched a campaign to save those it can one by one while working with local community organizations. We acquired CCLRFLS under the national pilot program of the NHLPA; the same program and with many of the same goals as the Annapolis Maritime Museum and City of Annapolis acquired the Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse under.

The CCLRFLS is the partner and front light of the range that includes the Millers Island Light (officially named the Craighill Channel Lower Range Rear Light). Restoration work will include repairing the windows, roof, repainting, and repairing interior and exterior water damage caused by neglect. Of course the privy will be restored as well and a dock will be added. Opening the lighthouse to the public presents a

unique challenge and opportunity for creativity since the range light is off-shore and only accessible by boat. Public tours will probably not begin for a few years after the work is completed.

As I'm sure the local lighthouses are important to the Dundalk Sail & Power Squadron, I would like to invite you to please join us as a charter member! Every ounce of involvement and help is invaluable. Whether you're a maritime history enthusiast, marine architect, or just a wonderful person, you'll have the chance to see an exciting project grow to success from the sea up! Members will form the base and foundation of this project, as well as have special access to the lighthouse for volunteer work before it opens to the public. Your contributions will be invaluable, even if only to recommend good boat parts (which we seem to be in perpetual need of!).

As a lifelong lighthouse enthusiast, I founded HPP in 2001 for the purpose of preserving lighthouses that are threatening to disappear due to neglect and lack of funds. Our philosophy is to preserve as much of the original look and feel of the lighthouse as possible, and restoring it back to life when keepers lived inside, then ultimately open it to the public. Not many lighthouses are currently available for public access, particularly off-shore lights, so I feel we are on the edge of a new preservation and historic education era and very excited at the prospect. For more information regarding membership with HPP, the history of the Craighill Range lights, and our immediate and long-range plans for restoration and preservation, visit the newly launched Craighill Range website, www.craighillrange.org. We also sport an online gift shop, just in time for the holiday season. We look forward to getting to know you!



In somewhat better days.



Photo taken recently.

DECEMBER

SQUADRON CALENDAR

December 21

Dundalk Sail & Power Squadron

Holiday Party

1830 'til the last present is stolen. Bring your sense of humor, a proclivity for fun and a gag gift of less than \$10 value. Oh yes, there's a five-minute business meeting in there somewhere. D-5 Admin Officer Richard Davis will be there, so please no screaming fits this time.

January 15

Annual Cruise Planning Meeting

1400 'til all cruises for the coming season are decided. Don't let them schedule a big event for a time when you can't make it. All members are encouraged to come and protect their interests. No complaints about cruises permitted from those who don't attend. Possible playoff game for Ravens may force rescheduling. Right.

January 21-29

Baltimore Boat Show at the Convention Center.

See article in this issue for signup times to person the booth. Meet lots of nice people, help your squadron and get free admission to see the new boats. Lt John Rice has all the info.

Feb. 15

Founders Day

Dinner at 1830, meeting at 2000 at Boulevard Diner. At the February general meeting Dundalk celebrates its own 4th of July when we broke free from the repressive Sue Island Power Squadron back in '61. D-5 Exec Kay Simkins will help us party (rumor has it she may soon be District Commander).

Mar. 15

Election Night

Dinner at 1830, meeting at 2000 at Boulevard Diner. Upset with the way things have been run around here? Come take your revenge. Please.

Mar. 18

Change of Watch

1900 'til 2300 or so. We're back at Sparrows Point Country Club for Dundalk's grandest evening. Say goodbye to the old bridge and greet the new. Many awards but none generates as much excitement as the "busted Shamrock." Our old buddy P/D/C Bill Selden V will attempt to keep us in line.

PLEASE JOIN US!

