



## Change of Watch 2007

Held during the Nor' Easter of 2007, this year's Change of Watch welcomed the return of Commander Bruce Borkowski, JN and his entire Bridge.

District Commander Kathleen Bisogno, JN officiated at the Change of Watch again hosted within the friendly confines of Ciao Bella restaurant in Cresskill, and we were delighted to welcome the Commander's family as well!

Of course at the end of the ceremony and dinner, some of the attendees regretted not having brought along at least a small dinghy for the trip home, but the atmosphere inside was warm, dry and friendly!



D/4 Cdr Kathleen Bisogno, JN administers the Oath of Office to OPS Cdr Bruce Borkowski, JN and his Bridge.



Cdr Bruce shares a happy moment with SEO and P/C Gene Darvin, JN and his wife Miriam.



Michele Frank, wife of P/C Jon Frank, chats with OPS Secretary Bill Munier, P.

## OPS Presents First Seamanship Class in Many Years

Lead by our inimitable instructor Tom Smith, the first Seamanship class presented by our squadron in many years was recently completed at the Roy W. Brown Middle School.

The Seamanship course concentrates primarily on "hands-on", practical topics, with an

eye to improve everyday nautical skills

Congrats to OPS members *Joseph Scaltro* and Administrative Office *Claudia Smith* for successfully completing the course. Hopefully Seamanship will be again offered in the fall, and every OPS member is encouraged to consider this course!

## Spotlight on New Members



New OPS member Bill LaRaia.

Congratulations and “Welcome Aboard” to several new OPS members: William LaRaia and Robert Almberg, both of River Edge, Joseph Staum of New Milford and Joseph Scaltro of Paramus.

*Bill LaRaia* is particularly looking forward to family boating on New Jersey’s lakes and considered his Boat Smart experience as a “must know for new boater”!

*Joe Staum* also thought Boat Smart was “great” and “informative” and hopes to expand his knowledge of boating in the future as well as getting involved with boating get together.



New OPS member Joe Staum had a great Boat Smart experience.

*Bob Almberg* enjoys boating with his three children (ages 8, 10 and 12) and hope to buy a larger boat in 5-10 years. Bob also anticipates enrolling in advanced classes in the future.

*Joe Scaltro* had an excellent Boat Smart experience and decided to continue his nautical education immediately with Seamanship. Joe anticipates getting more involved with boating in the future.

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## Attendees Rewarded with Spectacular Spring District Conference

Every D/4 Conference is a valuable learning experience and a memorable social event, but this past spring conference was outstanding.

The workshops were challenging and informative and the overall atmosphere was electric.



OPS P/C Michael Ganci Jr., AP, (right) discusses Piloting issues at the D/4 Conference

Of course, the highlight of the conference was the address by Chief Commander Ernest Marshburn, SN. Commander Marshburn spoke about the need for

USPS to become more responsive to the present times, to attract new members and to meet the needs of local squadrons. His presentation was followed by a question and answer period which gave D/4 members the opportunities to pose specific questions to the Chief Commander.

An additional welcomed feature of this spring’s conference was the delightful performance of a choral group from Raritan. These talented singers entertained the lunch time audience of over 100 squadron members with a variety of tunes both old and new. It was a fantastic way to break bread and to share good times with friends!

Another outstanding aspect of the conference was the interactive workshop lead by Captain Donald Launer, the author of *A Cruising Guide to New Jersey Waters* (Rutgers University Press). Captain Launer drew from his over seventy years of sailing experience on N.J. waterways to describe in vivid details the vagaries and the beauty of our state’s navigable coasts, bays, rivers and inlets. His power point presentation was both visually spectacular and educationally enlightening!



2006-2007 D/4 Cdr Harold Oslick, SN (left) joins Chief Commander Ernest Marshburn, SN for a Q & A session.

# TRI-DISTRICT RENDEZVOUS



6, 7, 8 July 2007

Liberty Landing Marina, Jersey City, NJ



**Come join fellow members from Districts 2, 3 and 4 for a weekend of socializing and boating. Chief Commander Ernest Marshburn, SN will be there for all to meet and get to know.**

**The scheduled events are as follows:**

**Friday 6 July** - Boats check in to marina beginning 1300, day and evening are open for socializing on docks, taking in the sights in New York City (there is a water ferry to NYC from the marina) and fine dining at the Liberty House Restaurant at the marina. Arrangements have been made at the Newark Airport Marriott for those of you coming by car, see below for details.

**Saturday 7 July** - **Note, if you are coming by car for the day only, any USPS boat will welcome you aboard, to freshen up, change clothes and relax.**

1030 - Flag Raising Ceremony, suggested attire uniform "E" or white short sleeve shirt and white shorts or slacks.

1130 - 1530. Boat ride on the "Little Lady" up the scenic Hudson River to the Tappan Zee Bridge with Buffet Lunch.

1630 - ?. Dockside cocktail party and pot luck dinner. In the past, this has been a wonderful evening with magnificent views of Manhattan on nice wide docks.

**Sunday 8 July** Breakfast, more socializing, goodbyes and departure before 1200.

**Any questions please contact P/C Bob Phillips 201-791-0120 or srobsd4@verizon.net**

**But wait.....there's more:**

- **Atlantic City Rendezvous: 3-5 August at the Senator Frank S. Farley Marina.** 33 boats have already signed up for the 45 available berths. The remaining berths will be available only till the end of June, so sign up soon. There will be a dock party at 16:00.
- **D/4 Raft-Up on the Toms River:** Sat 25 August, 12:00 to 17:00 at Money Island on the Toms River. Dinner 19:00 at The Pier (\$22.00).

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## **Fun in the sun? Absolutely, but don't forget to be safe out there!!**

How many times have we spent a wonderful day on the boat or at the beach only to feel miserable that night or the next day? The summer sun, wind and water can all contribute to the most exhilarating of experiences, but we all need to take certain precautions.

Here's a partial list of some simple things to remember when we're having fun in the sun:

- **Sunscreen (of course), but make sure the sun protection factor (SPF) is high enough for the time you plan to be in the sun (my suggestion is for 30 or 45). Also re-apply the sunscreen every couple of hours- more if you intend to go in the water.**

- **Drink plenty of water- dehydration can occur alarming fast in the hot sun.**
- **Don't forget to wear protective clothing and a hat- some shirts will not block the harmful ultraviolet rays. Read the small print.**
- **Wear sunglasses- check that your sunglasses project you from both UVA and UVB rays.**
- **If you feel light-headed, dizzy or weak, get out of the sun and cool down!**

By following some of these simple precautions, you'll have a great day in the sun and be ready to enjoy the evening as well! Happy safe boating!

## Tom Smith Prepares for Coast Guard "Six Pack" License

Congratulations and "good luck" to OPS Executive Officer Tom Smith as he completes the comprehensive and challenging licensing requirements to operate a vessel under the aegis of Coast Guard approval and standards. The so called "Six Pack" licensing has several components, some of which are purely clerical, but most of which require continued educational course work as well as extensive in-water training.

A partial list of said requirements are listed below:

### USCG License Requirements

#### General Requirements for Tonnage Licenses & Operator of Uninspected Passenger Vessels (OUPV or Six Pack) On Inland or Near Coastal Waters

- Minimum age - 18 years OUPV/ Tonnage Licenses up to 200 tons 19 years
- **Proof of Age, Citizenship, and Social security number** (Notarized copies acceptable)
- **First Aid and CPR Training** - Original or notarized copy of first aid and CPR course certificates. First aid certificate must be completed within the past 12 months from (a)The American Red Cross Standard First Aid and Emergency Care or Multi-media Standard First Aid Course, or (b) A Coast Guard approved first aid training course. CPR certificate must be currently valid from
  - a. The American National Red Cross,
  - b. The American Heart Association, or
  - c. Coast Guard approved or accepted CPR training course.
- Completed USCG information and **application** form is available via [www.uscg.mil/d1/units/msobos](http://www.uscg.mil/d1/units/msobos)
- **Drug Test** - USCG "Drug Free" testing requirements are listed along with the required drug test form at [www.uscg.mil/d1/units/msobos](http://www.uscg.mil/d1/units/msobos)
- **Physical Examination Report** - USCG form is included in your USCG application form, and must be completed within the past 12 months by a Physician, Physician's Assistant, or a Nurse Practitioner.
- Three Notarized **Character Reference** Letters - Recommendation letters from 3 different persons who have knowledge of applicant's suitability for duty.

**Sea Service** Documentation - the applicant's sea service must be documented by each vessel's owner. If applicant documents service on his/her own vessel, some form of proof of ownership must be included. Experience gained before age 13 will not be accepted. At least half of the required service must be obtained after the age of 16. One day of sea service consists of at least 6 hours underway. **For all licenses, at least 90 days of sea service must be within the past 3 years.**

### Let's hear from you!

Please feel free to contact any member of YOUR Bridge regarding any suggestion, idea or concern you might have.

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