



# SANDBAR SOUNDINGS

Ocean City Power Squadron  
A Unit of United States Power Squadrons®  
District 5

Volume 32, Issue 2

March-April, 2011

## 2010-2011 Bridge Officers

Commander	Cdr Frederick F. Stiehl, P
Executive Officer	P/C Antonino G. Curro, AP
Educational Officer	Lt/C Bela J. Gulyas, AP
Administrative Officer	Lt/C James G. Rorke, AP
Secretary	Lt/C Marilyn Strait
Treasurer	P/C William E. Killinger, P

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## SANDBAR SOUNDINGS

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## Commander's Message



As I write this looking out the window at 3½ feet of snow on the ground in Island Park, ID, it's hard to believe that winter is coming to an end. We'll soon be back on the Eastern Shore where I'm certain spring will be in the air bringing thoughts of warm outdoor activities again. This is my last message as Commander so I want to thank all of you, especially the P/Cs and others who stepped up to the Bridge, for your support during this rebuilding year.

Our Bridge year started with the always popular Hospitality Room at the D/5 Spring Conference where we offered "sex on the beach" (a drink) to our friends and enjoyed various seminars during the meeting portions of the weekend. We "cruised" through the summer after our annual Blessing of the Fleet, enjoying a trip to Chincoteague and several raft-ups with limited mishaps. We also were able to take several families from the Believe in Tomorrow program out for fishing and sightseeing on the Bay. This was also our most active year to date for the VSC program (see P/C Watt's article on page 5). The fall brought us back to the land "social" season with a wine tasting, the awards banquet, and our holiday party. We ended the year by raising funds for the Penguin Swim in support of Atlantic General Hospital. Thank you, again, to our hearty swimmers who went into the ocean on 1 January (I wish I could have joined them – **really**). The annual OC Boat Show wrapped up the Bridge year and provided us with the opportunity to hand out educational and membership information to hundreds of visitors to our booth. Throughout the year our education program continued to instruct and entice the public to learn about safe boating and consider joining OCPS.

We are about to enter a new Bridge year with new leadership. I want to urge all of you to give your strong support to Mort Brown and his new Bridge, which will be sworn in on 11 March, as they carry us through the year. Please look at our calendar of upcoming events and call the officer or chairperson of the event to offer your assistance. Don't wait for them to call you!

Spring is the time for renewal. Renew your interest in the Squadron. You'll most likely learn something new and have fun while you're doing it.

**Cdr Frederick F. Stiehl, P**

## Executive Officer's Message



As another Bridge year comes to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank all the committee chairs and members for all their help throughout the year.

Again, our participation in the Ocean City boat show this year was a success. As a result we had many inquiries in the areas of Membership, Vessel Safety Examination, and Safe Boating Classes. A big "Thank You" to all the volunteers who staffed our display.

On 25-27 March, the D/5 Spring Conference is again being held at the Princess Royale in Ocean City. As in the past, Mary Ann Wyrwal has stepped forward to chair the OCPS hospitality suite project committee. I encourage everyone to attend. Mary Ann and her team always make us proud with good food and clever themes.

Finally I want to wish our new Executive Officer (Jack Tellman) and new Bridge, a very fun-filled and successful year. I urge all to support him and the Squadron, as you have me.

**P/C Antonino G. Curro, AP**

## Educational Officer's Message



A year ago I was asked to return for one year as your Squadron Educational Officer. Our goal was to once again reestablish participation in our Advanced and Elective boating courses. The public boating course had good attendance this year. Several Stephen Decatur High School students joined the adults who took the course. We were able

to offer this program at a reduced rate for adults and free of charge for the high school students thanks to a grant that I was able to procure from the Maryland Coastal Bays Program & Chesapeake Bay Trust. Many thanks to P/C Wally Stevenson, AP, and Lt Jan Stevenson, P, who once again delivered this important course.

Last summer I offered the Seamanship course to four people. Everyone enthusiastically participated in the class. Van Caffi did a great job conducting the Engine Maintenance course for four eager students at the beginning of the last boating season.

Attendance at the various seminars that were offered during the last year ranged from three to 15. Thank you to the past commanders who conducted these "quick (2 hours) and painless (no test)" classes.

In my messages this past year, I have urged all of you to get involved in our educational program as students and/

or instructors and I do this again for the last time. Please remember that, as members of USPS, we should all be committed to the coals of the organization – civic service, fraternity, and **SELF-EDUCATION**. The educational opportunities offered by USPS make it unique among boating organizations. Take advantage of these opportunities.

**Lt/C Bela J. Gulyas, AP**

## Administrative Officer's Message



THINK SPRING!

We start this spring season off with the Change of the Watch ceremony, which will be held at the Clarion Hotel in Ocean City. The event begins at 1800 hours on 11 March. Contact Cdr Fred Stiehl, P, at 410-641-6535 for details and reservations.

March also has the D/5 Conference right here in Ocean City. The D/5 Conference will begin on 25 March at the Princess Royale Hotel. The Ocean City Power Squadron will provide a Hospitality Suite in room 223 from 1900 to 2100. This function will be graciously hosted by Mary Ann Wyrwal. Please contact Mary Ann at 410-208-9695 for information and details.

April's activity schedule is currently in the planning stages. To remain up to date, please check out our web-masters events calendar at [www.ocpowersquadron.org](http://www.ocpowersquadron.org).

I want to take a moment to say that I enjoyed serving this past year as your Administrative Officer and I offer my congratulations to Lt/C John Wyrwal, P, who will be our new Administrative Officer for 2011.

**Lt/C James G. Rorke, AP**

## Safety Report

In lieu of our regular Safety Report, please check out the Vessel Safety Check report on page 6.

## Good & Welfare



Fred and I have returned after a wonderful trip out West to visit our sons in Wyoming and Idaho. Winter is beautiful out there – the Tetons, Yellowstone, dog-sledding, snowmobiling, a snow coach ride to Old Faithful! The best part was learning out that we will become grandparents for the first time in August!

Condolences go out to P/C Judy Prange, P, and her husband, Nelson, P, on the death of Judy's father in November. I apologize for not reporting it in the last issue.

We recently learned that Lt/C Marilyn and Bert Strait have purchased a home in Florida and will be moving there in the next few months. Marilyn has served this Squadron well as Secretary and they both will be missed. I particularly would like to thank Marilyn for helping me by e-mailing this newsletter for the last few months. Hopefully, I have finally created a usable e-mail "group" in our computer and will be able to survive without her. In a related matter, as of the Change of Watch, the Secretary's position is vacant. If you have a couple of hours a month and are willing to help the Squadron in this capacity, please contact our new commander, Mort Brown, S, at 410-641-8040.

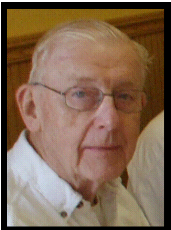
We are happy to welcome new members Dean and Suzanne Witmer. More information on them can be found to the right on this page. Be sure to add them to your roster!

"Happy Birthday!" to our members listed on page 6.

Welcome back to all of our "snowbirds." It's good to have you back!

**Lt Jeanne Stiehl, S**

## District and National News



As we get ready for the Spring and Summer events in our own Squadron, you might give some serious thought to attending the national Governing Board meeting at the Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons, 3121 High Point Road, Greensboro, NC., 11-18 September. This is a great way to wind down the boating season and prepare for a less watery winter. It would also provide the possibility of a visit to Power Squadron Headquarters in Raleigh, NC, nearby. Tours are already scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, 14 & 15 September. The Library there provides a moment in the history of USPS, whose founding centennial we will be celebrating in a few years. It is a record of many years of service of all of us who have boated and taught and shared boating experiences with many generations. It is an easy run down I-95 and I-40, and don't worry. They have Internet everywhere!

As we go to press, D/5 is getting ready for the social event of the year! We will meet at the Princess Royale in Ocean City 25-27 March to train our new squadron officers and to welcome our new District Bridge. Balancing the highlight of the Change of Watch on Saturday evening will be the always stupendous and creative parade of hospitality rooms provided by many District Squadrons. I hope that most or all of you get a chance to be a part of this event, because it will build a sense of unity in all of us as we

share in the great work of the Power Squadrons in our District, in our whole country and in union with the Canadian Power Squadrons. And it is in our own backyard! In any event, have a great Spring and a happy boating season!

**R/C Louis M. Reitz , AP**

## Roster Addition

### New Members

Dean and Suzanne Witmer  
19 Portside Court  
Ocean Pines, MD 21811 (winter)  
315-345-2705  
witsend123@aol.com

7098 Hovey Cove Lane  
Henderson, NY 13650 (summer)

### Boats

1975 26' Irwin  
1960 19' Lyman  
1987 Boston Whaler Montauk




## **F.Y.I.**

*Sandbar Soundings* is available in hardcopy by regular mail and/or as an attachment by e-mail. Please inform Lt Jeanne Stiehl, S, Editor, by e-mail at stiehl@mchsi.com or by phone at 410-641-6535 if you would like to change how you receive this publication. Every member who receives this publication by e-mail rather than by regular mail saves our Squadron money!





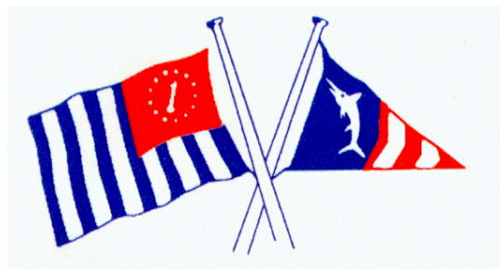
# Calendar of Events

## Mar

- 11 EXCOM Meeting  
Ocean Pines Library  
Time: 0930  
Cdr Fred Stiehl, P 410-641-6535
  
- 11  Change of Watch  
Clarion Resort Hotel  
101 St. & Coastal Highway, Ocean City  
Time: 1800  
Cdr Fred Stiehl, P 410-641-6535
  
- 12 OCPS Boat/Trailer Entry  
O.C. St. Patrick’s Parade  
Theme: “Free Vessel Safety Checks”  
Time: 1200  
P/C Joan Watt, AP 410-208-2747
  
- 16 ABC Public Safe Boating Course  
Ocean Pines Library  
Time: Registration 1830  
Class starts 1900  
Course runs for 4 weeks  
P?C Wally Stevenson, AP 410-726-1509
  
- 20 Winter Luau  
(sponsored by Maryland Coastal Bays)  
Seacrets  
49th Street, Ocean City, MD  
Time: 1300-1700
  
- 25 Visit the OCPS Hospitality Suite, Room 223  
D/5 Conference  
 Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City  
Time: 1900 to 2100  
Mary Ann Wyrwal 410-208-9695
  
- 25-27  D/5 Officers Training and Spring Conference  
Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City  
Lt/C Jack Tellman 410-641-7054  
P/C Tony Curro, AP 410-641-8712

## Apr

- 08 EXCOM Meeting  
Ocean Pines Library  
Time: 0930  
Cdr Mort Brown 410-641-8040
  
- 11  Wine Tasting  
Fenwick Wine Cellars  
Route 54, Fenwick Island, DE  
Time: 1600  
Jim Rorke, AP 410-208-6486
  
- 21  General Meeting  
O.P. Community Center—Assateague Room  
Time: 1900  
Cdr Mort Brown 410-641-8040
  
- 29-30 NOAA Co-op Charting Workshop  
Norfolk, VA  
Lt Dan McGrath, AP 410-641-5570

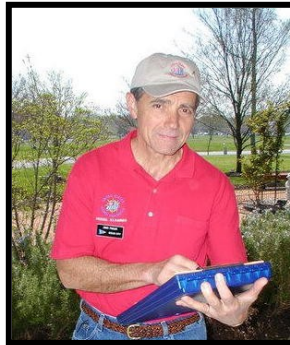


Be sure to check our  
website at  
[www.ocpowersquadron.org](http://www.ocpowersquadron.org)  
for our most up-to-date  
Event Calendar.

## **2010 – Another Great Year for the OCPS Vessel Safety Check (VSC) Program**

An impressive 306 vessel safety checks were completed this season by our dedicated Vessel Safety Examiners! As a result of our efforts, OCPS will be recognized with an award in March at the D/5 Conference in Ocean City. It appears that OCPS will take 1<sup>st</sup> place again for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row. This is an accomplishment considering D/5 includes 6 states (Maryland, southern New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, DC, and eastern Pennsylvania).

I'm very proud to announce that John Paulus, for the second year, had the highest number of individual vessel safety checks! He completed a total of 110. This number is very significant because John is a part-time resident of Ocean City. John and his wife, Elaine, live in New Jersey. Because John carries his VSC information when he travels, he completed VSCs in Maryland, New Jersey, and Virginia. It is obvious that John is dedicated to the VSC program and to helping boaters become safer!



Out of 224 VSC Examiners in the D/5 Area, only three VSC Examiners completed 100 VSCs or more and I'm proud to announce John was the second highest Examiner with his 110 VSCs! This is quite an accomplishment and John will be awarded the USPS Century Club Award and Pin for this effort. Actually, John is our only VSC Examiner to complete this many VSCs in one year in the 10 years that OCPS has been a part of the VSC Program!

Each year our Vessel Safety Examiners spend time at the ramps, marinas, and individual home docks with boaters to go over a checklist of required safety equipment mandated by federal, state, and local regulations. A decal is awarded when a boater is in compliance. Sometimes boaters are very anxious to get in the water after the safety check. Other times boaters are very receptive to discussions about other safety information and OCPS classes available to the public. Regardless of the amount of time spent with the boater, every VSC results in a safer boater on our waters.

This season the top three VSC Examiners, other than John, who will receive special recognition at our Change of Watch, were Carl Littleton with 46, Lt/C Bela Gulyas with 40, and P/C Bill Neubrand with 36.

OCPS can be very proud of all our VSC Examiners who have dedicated themselves to this very important program.

Thank you to our great team of Examiners for a job well done!

**P/C Joan S. Watt, AP  
Chairman, OCPS VSC Program**



# Happy Birthday!

**Mar**

- 06 Tony Curro
- 07 Ken Wolf
- 07 Elaine Timmes
- 14 Ginny Rush
- 15 Ed Fleming
- 16 Duke Pantos
- 18 Joleen Killinger
- 19 Doris Lloyd
- 20 Tom Quinn
- 31 Ellen Wentzel

**Apr**

- 01 Mary Boyd
- 07 Neil Knight
- 09 Renee Fox
- 10 Lynn Matricciani
- 10 Joane Wolpin
- 11 Caitlin Weiss
- 14 Bela Gulyas
- 16 Pat Gulyas
- 18 Noreen Bergold
- 20 Mel McGinnis
- 30 Martie Waldron



# Roster Update

If any of your information needs to be changed, please fill out the form below and mail to:

P/C Fred Stiehl, PC  
 50 Newport Drive  
 Ocean Pines, MD 21811  
 410-641-6535  
 stiehl@mchsi.com

Member Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Cert. No: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cellular Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

*Have you ever seen such a Site?*

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



## Happy St Patty's Day!



OCPS had the "Luck of the Irish" Saturday, 12 March, which resulted in a beautiful day to take a boat ride in the 30<sup>th</sup> annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Ocean City! Cdr Mort & Lorraine Brown, John & Elaine Paulus, Phil & Missy Curro, P/C Tony and Bonnie Curro, and I participated. From Ocean Pines we carpooled to 60<sup>th</sup> St. and decorated our pontoon boat with banners, PFD's, and green plastic shamrocks. We also decorated ourselves with green hats, beads, and scarves, and threw out over 500 pieces of candy while "boating" from 60<sup>th</sup> St. to 45<sup>th</sup> St. P/C Tony Curro, AP, drove the pick-up truck pulling the boat on a trailer. There were large crowds of people all along the parade route. OCPS got great publicity and we had a really fun time!

At the end of the parade we continued down the highway in the boat and climbed off at the American Legion to eat corned beef & cabbage.

Thanks to member Van Caffi of Van's Marine Service for providing the pontoon boat on a trailer and his pick-up truck so OCPS could participate in the parade, get publicity, and have a fun day!

P/C Joan Watt, AP





Save the Date!  
Monday, 11 April 2011  
Time: 1600



Wine Tasting  
Fenwick Wine Cellars  
Route 54 (just west of Smitty McGee's)

This will be a private session for  
OCPS members and their guests.

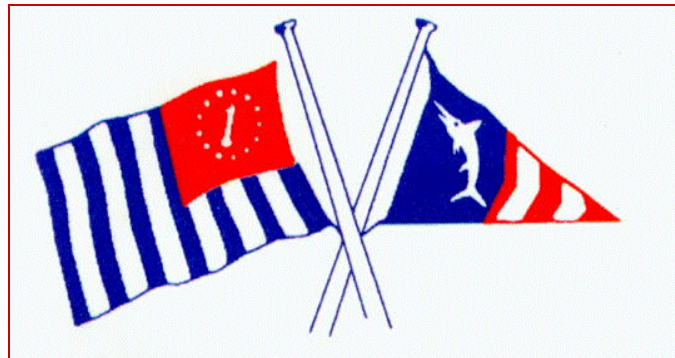
More details to follow.

**Just do it!**

Visit our Hospitality Suite (Room 223)  
D/5 Spring Conference  
Princess Royale Hotel  
Ocean City, MD  
Friday, 25 March  
Time: 1900-2100

*Food, Fun, "Adult Beverages"*

# Ocean City Power Squadron



Founded 1980

SANDBAR SOUNDINGS  
Ocean City Power Squadron  
239 Ocean Parkway  
Ocean Pines, MD 21811



*Ocean City Power Squadron Bridge  
2011—2012*

**Commander**

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Berlin, MD 21811  
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E-mail: brownmn@yahoo.com

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410-641-7054  
E-mail: jtellman@verizon.net

**Educational Officer**

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6428 York Road  
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410-377-5417  
E-mail: lmreitz@juno.com

**Administrative Officer**

Lt/C John J. Wyrwal, P  
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410-208-9695  
E-mail: jmwytrwal@mediacombb.net

**Secretary**

VACANT

**Treasurer**

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