## AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB



For Boaters, By Boaters™

## District 10 D10 Communicator



Volume 19 Issue 4

December 2023



2022

COMMUNICATOR

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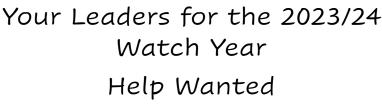
Administrative Officer

#### **Upcoming Events:**

National Annual Meeting

2024 Spring Conference Combined Change of Watch with D10 & Minnetonka Power Squadron
2024 Summer Rendezvous at Minnetonka

Central Wisconsin Sail & Power Squadron







**2022** 

COMMUNICATOR

## AMERICA'S BWATING CLUB



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# District 10 D10 Communicator



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D/C Jennine Fine, S

Greetings D10 Members:

T'was the week before Christmas, and all through the "Fine" house. ... Not a creature was stirring not even a bunny, cat, dog, fish, gnome, and especially a mouse. However, I can still hear a beetle crawling somewhere.. turkeys, deer, and racoons wandering around my yard which is totally clean of leaves... complements of Dave.

As I reflect upon the past few months since the last July Communicator, I would like to highlight the following activities:



Lots of summer fun times with fellow Minnetonka Squadron members and sunset cruises on "Fine 4
 Cruisin'".

- The D10 Summer Rendezvous held in August hosted by Madison, Milwaukee, and Oshkosh Squadrons.
- The National Governing Board Meeting in Kansas City, MO in September.
   Attendees: (Left to Right) Dave Fine, Kim & Mike Wiedel, myself, Jim & Julie Pahl-Washa. Missing in this pix was Wes Koplitz. Accepted the 1st Place Member Involvement Retention Award on behalf of St. Paul Squadron Commander Kris Harmon.
- Multiple meetings with the D10 Planning Committee to Simplify District &
  Squadron Bylaws to better fit the future of our organization. Thank you
  members of the Planning Committee: Chair Jim Pahl-Washa, Dave Fine, Bob
  Denoto, Kevin Wehrmann, Bernie Dohr, & Chad Lowney with the influence of
  Greg Korstad (Rules Committee Chair). Now the hand off goes to the D10 Rules Committee to change
  the D10 Bylaws.
- Virtual D10 Council Meeting in November.
- Enjoyed a special 60th Birthday for St Paul Squadron.

 Enjoyed a special holiday celebration with Hiawatha Valley. With much sadness, Hiawatha Valley Sail & Power Squadron has dissolved.

- Virtual Weather Course.
- Virtual D10 Bridge Monthly Meetings.
- Virtual D10 Commander Meetings.
- Virtual D10 2024 Spring Conference Planning Committee meetings.
- Worked with Webmaster Rob Gaddes who is constantly updating the D10 Website. Thank you,
   Rob, for all you do.

#### 50 Year Members for 2023

A BIG shout out and Congratulations to Three Members of District 10. FIFTY YEARS of Service and Dedication to the United States Power Squadrons and America's Boating Club!!!

- Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron P/D/C Ronald M Kraase, 40 merit marks
- Milwaukee Sail and Power Squadron Jeffrey E Spence, 5 merit marks
- St Paul Sail and Power Squadron, Donald B Anderson, 42 merit marks

Unfortunately Ronald Kraase passed away this Fall.

I have a passion for our organization and will continue to help those who volunteer their time and talents to keep our organization alive. Members of D10 are AWESOME!!!

I would like to thank the D10 Bridge (Dennis, Sandra, Wes, Suzanne, Tracy, Stacy, Chad, and Dave), the D10 Commanders (Dennis, Bob, Amy, Robert, Scott, Jim, Roger, Thad, Paul, Geoff, and Kris), the D10 Committee Chairpersons (Geoff, Greg, Arthur, and Jim). Without you, I could not have successfully accomplished my role as the D10 Commander.

On that note .......From my home to yours, I would like to wish You and Yours "A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS & A SAFE, HAPPY, AND HEALTHY 2024".

Kindest Regards,

D/C Jennine Fine, S

D10 Commander





## AMERICA'S BWATING CLUB







#### **D10 Nominations Committee**

By Nominations Committee Chair, Commander Geoff Carman, N-CN

Fellow members of District 10, your District Nominating Committee for the first time has not been able to identify any new prospective members for a position on the District Bridge for the 2024 watch year. So I am asking each and everyone of you to consider if you would be willing to volunteer some of your time to support the work of the District Bridge in whatever capacity you can manage. Currently, the most dire need is for Administrative Officer, and Secretary, but we also need help in the Education department either as DEO or assistant DEO. You may have been approached by your squadron representative and at the time you declined or maybe you feel that as a newer member you don't have the experience necessary, but in a volunteer organization you get the opportunity to use your particular skills to make your bridge assignment your own and therefore make the organization better for everyone. I am asking you to please call or email me, and together we can decide what position best suits your abilities so that I can present you as a candidate for that position to the committee.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cdr. Geoff Carman, N-CN D10 NomCom Chair

Email: jmcarman@new.rr.com

Cell: 920-312-3255

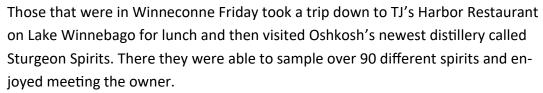
#### D10 Winneconne Rendezvous 2023







The D10 Winneconne Rendezvous was a joint effort between the Oshkosh, Madison, and Milwaukee Squadrons. There were 46 members and guests registered from around the D10 district. The event started Thursday when the 3 squadrons gathered to set up the seating, tables, and canopies for Sunday Brunch. Many hands make light work, (engineers and building contractors) quickly set up the area after which we were treated to a cooking demo by Suzanne, followed by delicious food, and cocktails.







Friday evening, we all gathered at the Fin n Feather restaurant on the river where everyone was able to order off the menu for a traditional Supper Club dinner and Old-Fashioned drinks. Some members who had purchased advance tickets then went down to Oshkosh to see the Pyrotechnic Guild International fireworks show. This event showcases the skills of people that put-on firework events around the country. Those that attended said that the event was amazing and that it also incorporated a choreographed drone show together with

the fireworks. The evening concluded back at the barn where we showed the movie "Finest Hours".

Saturday started early with donuts and coffee at the Barn in the park so that everyone could sign up for a boat to cruise the Fox River and Lake Butte des Morts. Bill Dohr brought his pontoon, the Madison group rented a pontoon from the Wolf River Resort and we were very lucky to have the use of two more pontoons which belonged to the neighbors of Geoff and Suzanne. In all we had a flotilla of six boats for the cruise so we were able to accommodate everyone in attendance.









The cruise stopped at Fratello's restaurant and brewery on the river in Oshkosh for a break where we had snacks and sampled the local beers. At 1700 everyone boarded the Fin n Feather sternwheeler for a sunset cruise and dinner. The weather was perfect, the food was great and plentiful and we could sit on top of the boat and socialize with friends that we had not seen in a long time. After returning to the Barn, we were treated to an ice-cream social with sundaes and root-beer floats, followed by Bingo where the winners were able to pick nautical themed prizes.

Sunday Brunch was held at the Carman home where Suzanne along with some willing helpers treated us to a delicious hot breakfast for about forty guests. Once everyone had eaten, the work crew quickly took down the canopies, stored them away along with the tables and chairs.









I feel that the weekend was a success as the weather was great, and we were able to get our members on boats for cruises, many of whom said that they had not been on a boat for years. The participation of members and friends at this event contributed to a fun and enjoyable time. It enabled us to meet people, that without this event we would not have had the opportunity to socialize with and get to know each other.





# St Paul Sail & Power Squadron Happy 60th Birthday !!!

























# Hiawatha Valley Sail & Power Squadron Holiday Party ... The Last Hurrah !!!









































#### Disti

Greetings,

#### **District Executive Department**

I hope that everyone had a great summer I know I did. It is time for a quick update on what is happening in district 10. On VSC it looks like we will fall a little short of my goal of 900 inspections we are currently at 858 inspections. We had a lot of squadrons that increased the number of VSCs this year.



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D/Lt/C Dennis Schultz AP-IN



Duluth 162%

Hiawatha Valley 107%

Marinette-Menominee 116%

Milwaukee 133%

Oshkosh 173%

St Paul 112%

Duluth member Tom Cawcutt Sr did 71 VSCs Thanks for everyone's help. This is important work that we do by putting safer boaters on the water. For a lot of the boating public this may be their first contact with Americas Boating Club. One thing I do is give the boater one of our squadron trifolds with information about us and encourage them to contact me if they have any questions.

D10 has ramped up activity in the Cooperative Charting (civic-side of the triangle) this year. Cooperative Charting education and field exercise events were held in Central Wisconsin (August 17), Minnetonka (October 7) and St. Paul (October 14). All 3 Squadrons have achieved Honor Roll status (number of participants and earned credits for documenting benchmarks) as of early November! So far, two individuals Sandra and Bud



Broekema have also achieved Honor Roll status (based on earned credits). The Honor Roll year goes through 12/31.

D/Lt/C Dennis Schultz, AP-IN D10 Executive Officer 715 572-4554 Dave1401wsfm@gmail.com



#### Cooperative Charting Corner

#### By D/Lt/C Sandra Broekema

Central Wisconsin Power Squadron hosted a Cooperative Charting Workshop and Field Exercise on August 17<sup>th</sup> for Sea Scout Ship 1. Two Sea Scouts, two Scout Leaders and D/Lt/C Dennis Schultz, AP-IN attended the training session held on the Samoset Scout Council building in Weston, Wisconsin. A 45-minute introductory presentation was followed by an hour and a half of field work – locating and documenting 3 local geodetic survey marks for a total of 42 USPS points. After the field work, the team enjoyed a pizza dinner at Sam's. Central Wisconsin is halfway to achieving Honor Roll Status (2 observers and 90 points) in 2023.

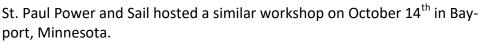


D/Lt/C Sandra Broekema, S









Minnetonka Power Squadron held their annual Geodetic Expedition on October  $7^{th}$ .







#### **District Educational Department**

#### Boating Courses taught 1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023

Central Wisconsin: 2 Classes with 12 students registered and 12 completions

Madison: 1 Class with 18 registered and 16 completions Minnetonka: 1 Class with 17 registered and 17 completions

Oshkosh: 1 Class with 6 registered and 6 completions St Paul: 1 Class with 10 registered and 10 completions

Total for D10: 63 registered and 61 completions



R/C Wesley D. Koplitz, JN-CN

#### D10 Educational Class Instruction (1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)

Minnetonka: Boat Handling Course with 9 registrations and 6 completions

Boating on Rivers, Locks, and lakes Seminar with 13 completions

St Paul: Boat Handling Course with 7 registrations and 5 completions

#### Recommended Educational Awards (1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)

Prince Henry: No completions reported for JN or N = No Prince Henry Award Squadron Educational Award (SEA): Minnetonka (8.7 points) edges out St Paul (7.69 points)

#### The D10 Virtual Weather Course began on Monday November 27th.

The virtual USPS Weather Course began on Monday, November 27th. There are 15 students and 3 instructors. Special thanks to P/D/C Dale Perry, P/R/C Greg Korstad, for assisting the DEO in teaching this great offering. Sessions are being recorded by D/C Jennine Fine. Your DEO is challenged in the act of recording these GoToMeeting sessions.

Regards,

Wesley D. Koplitz

**District Educational Officer** 





#### **District Administrative Department**

Greetings:

Membership is Job 1 for the Administrative offices across America's Boating Club and our District Goal is to add at least 100 new members (about 10% of membership) by 12/31. As of October 31, Squadrons have added 93 new members, just 7 shy of our goal. Unfortunately, 179 YTD non-renewals has dropped our overall member retention rate to 80.5% (compared to our goals of 90%). Current membership stands at 849 compared to 918 at the beginning of the year.



D/Lt/C Sandra Broekema, S

On a more positive note, we have achieved one of our departmental goals by submitting 6 applications for the Membership Involvement and Retention Award (MIRA)! And, on top of that, St. Paul Sail and Power Squadron won first place, announced at the Fall Governing Board in Kansas City in September!

Thank you to Duluth and Green Bay Squadrons for submitting timely applications for the BoatUS Distinguished Civic Service Award! Winner to be announced at the USPS National Annual Meeting in February 12-14 in Orlando.

SAVE THE DATE and please plan on attending the District 10 Spring Conference and Change of Watch in Minnetonka on April 12-14, 2024. We are still working out the details, so please watch for registration information and sign up early to reserve a room at our group rate.

The 2024 Rendezvous will be hosted by Minnetonka Power Squadron on and around Lake Minnetonka in Minnesota August 16-18, for on the water fun, food and fellowship! This relaxed summer event will include a lunch or dinner cruise, shuttles to Minnetonka's Streater Cove facility and a guided walking tour of Big Island. Watch for more information and sign up!

D/Lt/C Sandra Broekema, S
District Administrative Officer

#### **Tapping Time and Location for better Navigation**

Here's a bit of nautical history uncovered while on a cruise exploring the British Isles in September 2023.

The **Royal Observatory Greenwich** (Great Britain in the United Kingdom) is an astronomical observatory on a hill in Greenwich Park in southeast London, overlooking The River Thames. It played a major role in the history of navigation, not only because the Prime Meridian passes through it, but because it also lends its name to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), the precursor to today's Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).





The observatory was commissioned in 1675 by King Charles II, simultaneously with the newly created position of Astronomer Royal, to serve as the director of the observatory and to "apply himself with the most exact care and diligence to the rectifying of the tables of the motions of the heavens, and the places of the fixed stars, so as to find out the so much desired longitude of places for the perfecting of the art of navigation."



The observatory would first determine the time by stellar observations. A key instrument for determining time was the Airy Transit Circle (ATC), a highly accurate telescope used

from 1851 to 1938. It was agreed that the "meridian line marked by the cross-hairs (actually spider silk) in the Airy Transit Circle eyepiece would indicate 0° longitude (Prime Meridian) and the start of the Universal Day".

The time was determined by marking

the time a "clock star" of known location would pass two points through the aimpoint of the telescope. This information was posted to the 24 hour Shepherd Gate Clock at the gates of the Royal Observatory which is set to Greenwich Mean Time all year round.



Dietmar Rabich / Wikimedia Commons / "London, Greenwich, Royal Greenwich Observatory --2016 -- 4695" / CC BY-SA 4.0

By 1833, this red time ball was used as a public time signal. The ball rose slowly beginning at 12:55 pm came to rest at 12:58 pm and was released in free fall at exactly 1 pm GMT, allowing sailors to synchronize the chronometers on their ships on The River Thames below, to be set with great accuracy prior to sailing to aid in the calculations of longitudinal navigation. Later this timing signal was also sent by telegraph to distant locations.

British astronomers have long used the Royal Observatory as a basis for measurement. The basis of longitude, the meridian that passes through the Airy Transit Circle, first used in 1851, was adopted as the world's Prime Meridian at the International Meridian Conference on 22 October 1884 in Washington DC. Subsequently, nations across the world used it as their standard for mapping and timekeeping. The Prime Meridian was marked by a brass (later replaced by stainless steel) strip in the Observatory's courtyard. The buildings became a museum in 1960. Since 16 December 1999, the Prime Meridian has been marked by a powerful green laser shining north across the London night sky.

In 1962, more accurate triangulations determined that the actual longitude of the Prime Meridian was not 0° (Ordnance Survey System) but several meters to the east at 0°00'00.417" E- and has subsequently been replaced by the International Reference Merid-



By Hans Bézard - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, https:// commons.wikimedia.org/w/ index.php?curid=58338440

ian (IRM) as established by the International Earth Rotation and Reference System Service (IERS).

Since the 1960's, Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) now forms the basis of modern civil time, and is based on the best attributes of Universal Time (UT1) and International Atomic Time (TA1) using the weighted average of 450 Atomic Clocks across 80 national labs.

The scientific work of the observatory was relocated elsewhere in stages in the first half of the 20th century, and the Royal Observatory site in Greenwich is now maintained almost exclusively as a museum.

### **Come Have Fun with Us at National**





# Save the Date for D10 Spring Conference and Joint Change of Watch with Minnetonka Power Squadron 12-14 April 2024

Minneapolis Marriott West – special group rate Std King \$125/night (plus 11.53% tax & fees)



#### **Agenda Highlights:**

**Friday evening:** Check in, Welcome Reception and Awards Dinner Buffet

**Saturday:** Breakfast on your own (Kips), Business Meeting, Luncheon, Seminars, <u>Punchbowl Social</u> in the afternoon, Reception with appetizers and cash bar. Plated 3 course Dinner. Grand March, Joint MPS and D10 Change of Watch Program. Live musical entertainment follows dinner.

**Sunday:** Breakfast with the Bridge, Tips & Tricks with the Harmon's, Bridge Meeting.





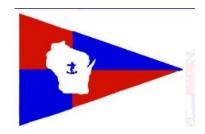
# D10 2024 Summer Rendezvous Lake Minnetonka, MN

Date: August 16-18, 2024
Hosted by Minnetonka Squadron
More Information to come



#### **Central Wisconsin Sail & Power Squadron**





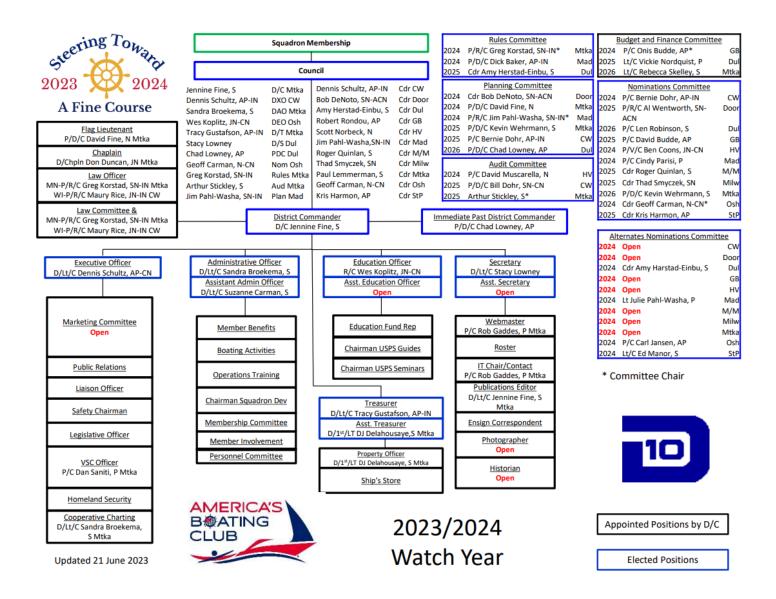
Central Wisconsin has had a busy summer. We participated in our third VSC event in Eagle River at the request of the Eagle River lakes association. I had the opportunity to do three tv spots to promote the event. If you ever get the chance, it was fun to talk about boater safety on television.

Unfortunately, we did not see much of an increase in participation. We are still trying to figure out how to make safety interesting. We had a good turnout for our July picnic and boat ride. We would love to have other D10 members attend our events so if you are in the area check our website and let me know if you would like to join us. In August we had another on the water event on the Wisconsin river with a boat ride to a restaurant for dinner. In September we did a fall color boat ride on the Minocqua chain of lakes followed by dinner again (yes we like to eat). We have had a pretty good year with our life jacket loaner stations. The lake Dubay station had 89 uses and Willow flowage station had 22 uses. We did one Jumpstart this summer and have received requests for training from our trifolds that we have placed with area boat dealers. We passed on the information to other squadrons for people that live outside our area. I would like to thank Sandra and Bud Broekema for coming to Wausau to train our Sea Scouts on how to recover geodetic markers. Central Wisconsin was able to recover enough markers to make the national honor roll. We fell short of last year's Vessel Safety Check numbers but we still did 171 checks this year. We will be participating in the Wausau Christmas parade with our Sea Scouts.





#### D10 2023/24 Watch Year





## AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB







Help Wanted !!! – District 10 is looking for people interested in taking on a current role at the District level. Key needs are:

- ⇒ D10 Assistant Education Officer
- ⇒ D10 Assistant Secretary
- ⇒ Publications Editor
- ⇒ Alternate Nominations Committee Member: Central Wisconsin, Door County, Green Bay, Hiawatha Valley, Marinette/Menominee, Milwaukee, & Minnetonka

Feel free to reach out to any member of the Bridge if you want more info. Taking on one of these roles is a great way to see what goes on at the District level and we could really use your help!

#### **D-10 Communicator Staff**

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