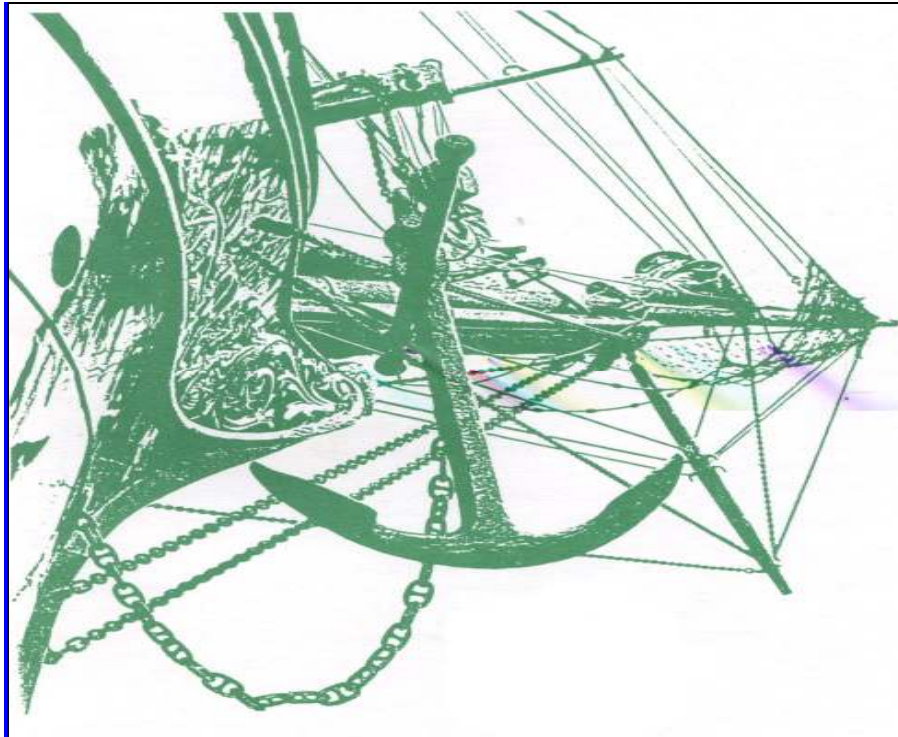

Anchor Lines

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SOMETHING DIFFERENT

February 15, 2007

BOX BAR & GRILL

777 W. Ann Arbor Trail

Plymouth, MI 48170

734-459-7390

(Across from park)

Parking on street

Social Hour: 1800 (6:00pm) Dinner 1900 (7:00pm)

50/50 Raffle

MENU

BURGERS: Choice of toppings & fries

BLACK BEAN BURGER: Choice of topping, corn chips & salsa

OR

CHOICE OF SANDWICHES: with fries

Southern pulled pork Texas style brisket Grilled chicken with choice of burger toppings

Reuben on rye

Hot beef & potato in bread bowl (no fries)

OR

CHOICE OF SALADS:

Taco Salad

Chargrilled chicken salad

Spinach salad

Chef salad

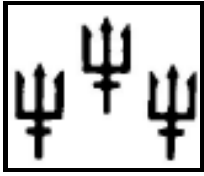
Coffee or Tea

\$12.00 tax & tip included Reservations required by February 12th, 2007

Please contact **Toni Devantier**, by Phone: 734-207-4985

or email: reservations@dearborn-squadron.org.

COMMANDER'S DEPARTMENT



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While trying to write this article, I thought back over the past year with the Dearborn Power Squadron with many fond memories. The monthly meetings with socializing and dinner, the Steak Roast, Conferences, and many other opportunities to have fun and make friends have made this year special. My only regret is that I did not participate in the educational activities of the Squadron, which I hope to change this year, as education is our most important duty and reason for being.



Since this is my first position on the Bridge, some of you may be wondering who I am and what am I doing as Commander all of a sudden. I am relatively new to Dearborn Power Squadron but have been a member of the USPS since 1998. I have been a Commander in my past life, so theoretically I should know what I'm doing and be able to serve the Dearborn Squadron well, and I am honored to be asked to serve. I am open to comments and suggestions, both in updating me on traditions of DPS, as well as new ideas. My email is janamail@comcast.net, and my phone number is 734-434-5469. Please use these; I will TRY to respond to all.

I do not own a boat, and how I got into the Power Squadron is an interesting story. My first love and passion has been scuba diving in the Great Lakes, which puts me out on the water in many different vessels. When I mentioned to my best friend that I was going to take a 3-hour boating safety class at a local high school because I wanted to learn how to be safer on the water, as well as under it, he said "Why don't you take a REAL boating class – the Power Squadron has a class starting soon." So I took the class, and I got hooked. I've come to learn that the overall love of boating, being on the water and the friends that I have made, will last much longer and be of more value to me than even scuba diving in the long run.

You can read about the specific plans for the year in other articles in this newsletter. A better way is to come to meetings and find out for yourself – I look forward to keeping in touch with the friends I've already made and to making more this year, so join us for a meeting and dinner.

I would like to thank the past Bridge, especially P/C Marge Hamlin, S, and P/C Al Tondreau, AP, who stepped in to fill a special need. I look forward to working with the new Bridge and also the Fall Conference committee, led by P/C Fred Hoitash, AP.

I'd like to close by quoting C/C Ernie Marshburn, SN, Chief Commander of USPS, by saying that my plans for this year are to "work hard, learn a lot, and have a lot of fun."

Cdr Jana Smith, AP

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



Singer-songwriter, Bob Dylan, once wrote a song titled, ‘The Times, They Are A-Changin.’ Whether it was society in the 1960s or the U.S. Power Squadrons today, the quote still holds true. For those of you who have been members for a number of years, the changes you see taking place might seem shocking. There are others who will see the changes as necessary and invigorating. I don’t have to tell you the state of affairs concerning our organization, whether it is at the National, District, or local level. We are an organization that is bleeding and in need of a transfusion –and fairly quickly. As doctors in this procedure, we can continue to treat the patient like we’ve always done, or we can try something new. I’m not one to tell you what is best (unless you want to talk politics with me), but I do ask that you keep an open mind about all matters that come before the Squadron. Much like Congress (sorry for the comparison), we want to make sure that ALL voices are heard on Squadron issues. Don’t be afraid to share your feelings with members of the new Bridge. I hope to see you at the annual meeting in Jacksonville, Florida.

Speaking of the new Bridge, I wish to thank all members who were able to attend January’s Change of Watch at the American Legion. The support you gave as voters is very much appreciated. I look forward to working with our new Commander, Administrative Officer, and Educational Officer, as well as the returning Bridge officers and Department chairpersons. Thanks to ALL of you, the members, for sticking with your Squadron through these tough times.

Stronger than all of the armies on earth is an idea whose time has come.

Everett Dirksen

Lt/C Dave Rayburn, P



EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

This is my first article as Educational Officer. The first thing I would like to do is thank P/C Fred Hoitash, AP, for doing a great job the last four years and helping me get started in my new position. THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGING! This is a good phrase to describe the Educational Department in the USPS. The last copies of the Boat Smart will be sent out some time in Spring of 2007. So for our Spring Boat Smart course, we will be using the Squadron Boating Course book with a syllabus, and PowerPoint® presentation, that is currently being reviewed by NASBLA to extend certification for the Squadron Boating Course. A brand new Boating Course book will become available sometime in 2008, lending itself to either an 8-hour or 12-hour format.

Spring 2007 Public Boat Course Schedule

Starting Dates, four-week Boat Smart course.

Jan. 29 Monday, John Glenn, Westland	Jan 31 Wednesday, Henry Ford, Dearborn
March 5 Monday, K & M Marine, Redford	April 16 Monday, John Glenn, Westland
April 18 Wednesday, Henry Ford, Dearborn	

Seminars

GPS, VHF Radio, Weather, How to Use a Chart

March 7, 14, 21, 28 (Wednesday Nights)

One 2-hour Seminar each night; exactly which night each will be held is yet to be determined.

As you can see we have a full schedule coming up. If you thought about teaching and have a couple of hours free once or twice a year, give me a call (724-981-5191) or send me an e-mail (Fmuylaert@aol.com). I have instructor packets for the four seminars listed above and we will be adding additional seminars as they become available.

Lt/C Frank Muylaert, P

You Might Be from Michigan....

If you know how to play Euchre.
 If the Big Mac is something you drive across.
 If you bake with "soda" and you drink "pop."

House and Senate changes to affect our waterways?

More than 153 million Americans now live in coastal counties. While it would be a stretch to suggest that the majority of Americans who live on or near the water may have had something to do with the outcome of the November Congressional elections, it should be noted that the elections have produced a new crop of Congressional leaders who largely hail from areas where boating is popular.

While we have no quarrel with the Great Plains, the simple fact is that there are many pressing public policy issues facing those who live near the water and the odds are these new legislators should be more sympathetic to the needs of those who live and recreate along our coasts, shores and waterways.

Take the incoming Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), who has represented the San Francisco Bay area for the past 20 years and who grew up as the daughter of the mayor of the port city of Baltimore, MD. She replaces Speaker Denny Hastert (R-IL), who represents an inland district west of Chicago.

The same holds true with the new House Majority Leader, Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD), who represents much of southern Maryland between the Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River. He replaces Rep. John Boehner (R-OH), whose Midwestern district is some distance from the water.

Meanwhile, the chairmanship of two key committees, House Appropriations and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will be led by two Great Lakes congressmen, Rep. David Obey (D-WI), and Rep. Jim Oberstar (D-MN), both of whom have had a long history of water resources advocacy.

On the Senate side, the second-ranking leadership position now belongs to Sen. Richard Durbin of the Great Lakes state of Illinois, who was a strong supporter of recreational boating issues when he was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. The Senate's previous number two position was held by Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY), whose state is known more for its rolling hills than for any scenic coastline.

The point of all this is that a sea of change has occurred in terms of who controls Congress. And, although some cynics may argue that it doesn't matter who's in charge, we believe—based on more than 40 years of experience in lobbying Congress—that it does make a difference. These new leaders will have the opportunity to take a fresh look and tackle some of the problems that have remained unsolved since the only Congressional committee whose responsibility included coastal America was jettisoned 12 years ago.

The last time Congress changed hands, as many as 100 Congressional staffers who were experts on everything related to our waterways were let go and the Coast Guard was relegated to a committee whose primary interest is the repair and building of highways.

Very little has been done to advance public policy involving coastal and marine issues since. Now, for the first time in years, there's a chance that there will be a major course correction. At the very least, some of the more pressing waterway issues should get a hearing and be put on the table over the coming months.

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Item supplied by Lt/C Dave Rayburn, P

Schedule of Forthcoming Events**Dearborn Power Squadron Events**

February 8	Executive Committee Meeting	37534 Sherwood Ct. S, Livonia
February 15	General Meeting	Box Bar and Grill, Plymouth

District and National Events

10 February	Combined Event	Port Huron
20-25 February	USPS Annual Meeting	Jacksonville, FL
3 March	Spring Council	Mt. Clemens
24 March	Commander's Ball	Detroit
30 March –1 April	D/9 Spring Conference	Lansing