



# THE TRIDENT

**DSPS.darien.org**  
**JULY 2020**

## DSPS DISTRICT 2

### Boating Is Back In Style

Boat sales are soaring. According to one stock analyst, the boat manufacturing sector is up by 19%. Boat rentals and boat sharing clubs also are experiencing increased demand.

In the changing world in which we are living, families are isolating themselves and spending more time together than ever before. Parents are working from home, the parking lots for commuters to the city are nearly empty. Also empty are the schools, as children are schooled online and at home. Most recreational activities have been shuttered now for months, including theaters, restaurants, sports and amusement parks. Families are choosing home entertainment by default. As for vacations, going through airports, confinement to an airplane, and staying at resorts has become less safe.

Boating became one of the first activities to be allowed. Phase 1 of re-opening included safe boating activities. With respect to boating during the pandemic, last month's issue of the "The Trident" has a link to a three-minute instructional video on social distancing. If you missed it, check it out at <http://dsps.darien.org/Videos.htm#SocialDistance> (you can find past issues of "The Trident" by clicking the "DSPS News" button on our website; see page 2 for a guide to the website). Marinas and boat clubs have been among the first public places to re-open.

Along with more boating, there needs to be more education, and this is where we come in. Look at the course offerings listed in our 2020 Membership Directory, just published and mailed in June 2020.

Happy boating!

Mark Dam, Commander, Darien Sail & Power Squadron



### **The Bridge**

Commander

Cdr Mark Dam, P

Executive Officer

Lt/C Lynn Wise Oliver, AP

Education Officer

Lt/C Peter Adler, N

Treasurer

Lt/C John Pedersen, SN

Admin Officer

Lt/C Jim Travis, JN

Secretary

Lt/C Gerry Raasch, P

Asst Education Officer

1/Lt P.J. Adler, P

Asst Admin Officer

1/Lt Marc Cohen, AP

P/C Geoff Axt, AP

### **Members at Large**

Jeff Brown, S

P/C Frank Kemp, JN-IN

Roger Klein

Neal Konstantin, AP

### **Advisors**

P/D/C Jeff Gerwig, AP-IN

Peter Lasalandra, AP

## Get To Know The DSPS Website

The DSPS website ([dps.darien.org](https://dps.darien.org)) has many interesting and informative features. If you haven't used our website recently, here's a brief guide.



### Top Button Bar:

**DSPS News:** Newsletters and recent announcements.

**Education:** Classes and seminars offered by DSPS, our neighboring squadrons, and our national organization. Instructor's notes for DSPS classes.

**Calendar:** Calendar of DSPS classes and social events, viewable either as a monthly calendar or as a list.

**Officers of DSPS:** the Bridge (see column to the right) committees, and appointed positions.

**Membership:** Information about DSPS and our parent organization (America's Boating Club), including membership benefits and how to become a member.

**Links:** Marine Safety, Vessel Safety Check, Charts, Weather, and other boating resources.

**Gallery:** Photographs of DSPS people, places, and events.

**Contact Us:** DSPS email address: [DSPS.CT@gmail.com](mailto:DSPS.CT@gmail.com)

### Second Button Bar:

**Events:** Upcoming DSPS events, including Flare/UP!, classes, speaker series, and more.

**Videos:** Videos about DSPS and boating safety videos.

**Members Only:** Password-restricted access, includes the roster and other items of interest to members ([email us](#) if you forgot the password).

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**The Big Gray Text Boxes:**

Click on the blue right-pointing chevrons in the lower right corner of each box to go to the indicated page.

The chevrons and the “Info/Registration” button in the “Coastal Boating Competence Course” box go to an information page about our “signature” basic boating course.

The chevrons in the “Courses, Seminars, and Boat Operator Certification (BOC)” box go to the same place as the “Education” button in the Top Button Bar.

The chevrons in the “Upcoming Events” box go to the same place as the “Events” button in the Second Button Bar.

**Weather Information Buttons:**

**Current Weather Buoy Data:** The University of Connecticut Department of Marine Sciences Long Island Sound Coastal Observatory provides data from buoys in Long Island Sound, including New London Ledge Light; Central Long Island Sound (about 14 nm SE of New Haven Harbor); the ARTG buoy (north of Smithtown Bay, Long Island); Western Long Island Sound (about 3 miles off Greenwich); and Execution Rocks. Data includes wind speed and direction, air temperature and humidity, barometric pressure, dew point, and apparent temperature. The Central and Western LIS buoys also have wave data. A map showing the approximate locations of these buoys is [here](#).

**NOAA Zone Forecast:** This page includes links to several local marine weather forecast products, including the current and 7-day forecast for Long Island Sound west of New Haven / Port Jefferson.

**NOAA Tide Predictions:** Tide prediction at Long Neck Point, Darien, for today and tomorrow.

**Radar of the Area/Region:** Current Weather Underground weather radar map.

**Buttons At The Bottom:**

In addition to the various legal notices, the buttons at the bottom of the home page will take you to the USPS “Stargazer” guide to the night sky, the USPS home page for members and the America’s Boating Club home page for the general public, the District 2 website, and the DSPS Facebook page.

**The DSPS Garden At Pear Tree Point Beach**

For years, our Squadron has taken over the responsibility of cleaning, planting, and maintaining a walk-through garden at Darien’s Pear Tree Point Beach. The garden includes a path and two teak benches. It has become part of the routine walk that many Pear Tree Point walkers enjoy.

Recently, Geoff Axt, Gerry Raasch, and I cleaned, weeded, and mulched the garden. While we were toiling there, many walkers thanked us for our work. Although I offered a spare shovel if they wanted to help, I had no takers.



Geoff informed them that we were on a “work release program,” which seemed to make them pick up their pace.

Jim Flynn, from Darien Parks and Recreation, brought a load of mulch and loaned 2 wheelbarrows for the effort. After we were done, Jim called and thanked the DSPS on behalf of



the town of Darien.

A big thanks goes to Geoff Axt and Gerry Raasch,  
Mark Dam