



THE TRIDENT

DSPS DISTRICT 2

DSPS.darien.org
OCTOBER 2014



Peter Kelly

Dear Members-

Boats are being prepared for storage. I know the cold weather is approaching quickly when the “frost biting” teams are starting to organize. It was a great boating season this year. I hope you have some fun memories on the water. I am heading to Baltimore in early November to move a boat south. It should be an interesting week as we travel down the Chesapeake Bay and into the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW). Hopefully I’ll have a few pictures for the next newsletter.

Our “off season” speaker series is starting up. We have Michael Tougias speaking on November 2nd at the Norwalk YC (10 Nathan Hale Drive, Norwalk) at 4:30pm. Michael recently wrote a book on the sinking of the tall ship “Bounty” during super-storm Sandy. It’s about a heroic USCG rescue in treacherous waters. Michael is a great story teller. Come join us! Bring a boating friend. Plan to stay for refreshments after the talk. We look forward to seeing you on Nov 2nd.

Our next speaker is Ralph Naranjo on December 7th at Darien Social, 10 Center St/Post Road, Darien. Ralph’s resume includes inshore and offshore racing, Bermuda, Hawaii and transatlantic passages, as well as a five year family voyage around the world in a 41 foot sloop. He will discuss his adventures and how you can enhance your boating skills and venture safely around Long Island Sound or further afield. We are excited about having Ralph. There will be holiday refreshments after the presentation. More details will follow shortly.

Our winter class schedule is starting to take shape. We are always challenged at finding classroom space at a reasonable cost. Our plans are to offer the Basic Coastal Boating/Safe Boating class once in mid-February and again in the Spring. The Sail class (offered every other year) is being planned along with Seamanship, Cruise Planning and possibly Advanced Piloting. The off season is a great time to improve your boating skills for the 2015 season. Start thinking about taking one of the courses offered.



The Bridge

Commander
Peter Kelly
Exec Officer
Peter Lasalandra
Education Officer
Peter Adler
Secretary/Treasurer
Gerry Raasch
Admin Officer
Minnie Ingardia
Asst Education Officer
Chris Winalski

Members at Large

Alex Salvi
Roger Klein
Frank Kemp



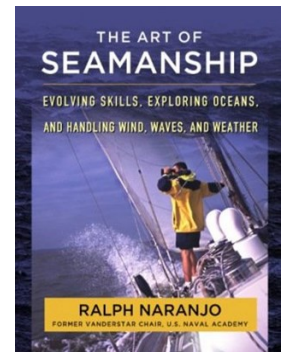
Upcoming Activities

November 2nd, Presentation/Author - Michael Tougias, author of *Rescue of the Bounty*, will give a dramatic visual presentation about this event at the Norwalk Yacht Club, 10 Nathan Hale Dr, Norwalk on at 4:30 pm. The tall ship *Bounty*, featured in the Marlon Brando movie *Mutiny on the Bounty*, sank during super-storm Sandy in 2012. The captain and a crewmember perished in the accident but the Coast Guard performed harrowing helicopter rescues to save the other fourteen sailors. Tougias will use slides of the storm, the survivors, and the rescue to make this “an edge-of-your seat” visual program. Refreshments after the presentation. Friends are welcome.



December 7th - Holiday Party and presentation by Ralph Naranjo. Ralph's program begins with a five year west bound voyage across three oceans that's condensed into 15 minutes of South Seas highlights-- landfalls in Hawaii, Tonga, Fiji and a passage on to New Zealand. Ralph will share how life aboard became the norm for a family of four, and what challenges wind and waves held in store for the *Wind Shadow* crew. Their track would eventually reach across the Indian Ocean and around the Cape of Good Hope, and five months after departing Cape Town, South Africa they would arrive in Greenport, NY a fitting point to refocus on boating closer to home.

Ralph will explain how to fast track crew skill development and why boat handling is a blend of tried and proven skills augmented by new technology. This is a program for power boaters and sailors alike and is a tale of adventure and preparedness.



Safety Tips: I'VE RUN AGROUND AND I CAN'T GET OFF

The first rule of safety when grounded is to check for injuries and to get life jackets on everyone aboard, then look for hull damage. You don't want move the vessel from a grounding situation until you know it will float. The grounding sea bed may be all that is protecting you from “going down.”

Make a plan. Do not run your engines. Drawing muck or sand into your water intake is a great way to ruin them. Outboards can be raised and outdrives on I/Os can be trimmed, while sailboats with centerboards can lift them. You may want to shift the weight of the crew fore or aft, one side or the other, to break loose. A strong swimmer in the water can push a smaller boat towards deeper water. Be sure to attach a safety line and don't forget the life jacket! Making use of a requested fellow boater's passing wake is not a bad idea.

Sail boats with their deep keels are more difficult to free. Heeling the boat may do the trick. With some wind, raising the sails and sheeting them hard may heel the boat enough to free it. Another method is to use the dinghy to set an anchor at some distance from your boat, enabling you to slowly winch in the anchor rode.

When all else fails, wait for the rising tide or call a commercial tow company and let your boater's insurance bail you out. They will need your boat description, your estimated location, and detail of your problem.

Do not issue a MAYDAY call unless someone is seriously injured, the vessel is sinking, or severe weather is closing. If the towing service does not respond, it is more appropriate to issue the call, “Pan Pan”, which alerts others and law enforcement of your non- life threatening distress situation.

The three main causes of running aground are excessive speed; alcohol use and not paying attention. Obviously a little prevention will help ensure that you stay afloat. Reading a chart and the basic principles of safe boating are taught in our Basic Coastal Boating, Seamanship and Piloting courses. Plan on attending one of our courses in 2015.