



# THE TRIDENT

**DSPS.darien.org**  
**AUGUST 2015**

## DSPS DISTRICT 2

**Boat/Camp 2015** was held on the last Friday of July. The campers from Stamford launched from Noroton YC. It was a beautiful day on the Sound. Thank you to all the volunteers from Darien Sail & Power, the Noroton YC, Person to Person and local friends. The kids had a great time exploring Sheffield Island, Five Mile River, Ziegler's Cove and the Darien Harbor.

Come join us next year if you missed the fun!

### The Bridge

Commander

Peter Kelly, P

Exec Officer

Peter Lasalandra, AP

Education Officer

Peter Adler, JN

Treasurer

John Pedersen, JN

Admin Officer

Gerry Raasch, P

Secretary

Minnie Ingardia, AP

Asst Education Officer

Alex Salvi, P

Members at Large

Michael Crofton

Frank Kemp, JN

Roger Klein

Chris Winalski, JN



## Upcoming Activities

**Norwalk Boat Show** will be held at Cove Marina from Sep 24-27<sup>th</sup>. Darien Sail & Power will be at the USPS booth. Stop by and use the boat skills virtual trainer which is a big hit with young and old. Volunteers are needed. Contact [Pkelly103@gmail.com](mailto:Pkelly103@gmail.com) if you would like to assist for a couple of hours at the booth.

**Speaker Series** - Similar to last year, we will have a speaker series on nautical/boating topics during the off-season. The speaker committee is working to identify and finalize the speakers. Peter Lasalandra and the other committee members have asked that you save the following dates Oct 25th, Dec 6th, Jan 10th, Feb 21st, Mar 20th.

**Educational offerings** - Class schedules for Fall and Winter are being coordinated. Darien Sail and Power hopes to offer Cruise Planning, Weather, Advanced Piloting, Seamanship and the Basic Coastal Boating/Safe Boating courses. Dates, times and instructors are being finalized. More details will be sent to you shortly.

**Thunderstorms and Severe Weather Forecasting webinar** - USPS has developed a webinar that will be presented on Sep 22 at 8pm ET. This webinar demystifies storm forecasting by explaining the dynamics of storms as well as the sources you can access to forecast them. To register go to [usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/800/getregform.cgi?S-6213](https://usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/800/getregform.cgi?S-6213)

With the upcoming off season activities, Darien Sail & Power members often like to wear a name tag. If any current member would like a Darien Sail & Power name tag (similar to the one shown), please send an email to [Pkelly103@gmail.com](mailto:Pkelly103@gmail.com) and we will order one for you free of charge if you promise to wear it to our next event.



## **Sailing with Kids and the Mystery of the Blue-Eyed Fish at Block Island** - Chris Winalski, JN

In July, we took our longest family sailing trip to date – a four-day, overnight excursion to Block Island from Mystic. It was the family's first 'offshore' experience. The outcome?

**From Dad's view:** Piloting the boat through Mystic and Fisher's Island Sound for the first time required all that I could draw upon from my route planning. The time I spent considering various passages over a chart in my dining room was time well spent. My coursework at DSPS prepared me for a safe planned passage.

**From the kids' view:** They are both prolific swimmers at home so getting the opportunity to swim off the back of the boat was a treat for them. My son Will enjoyed being cooped up with Mom and Dad on the boat. He said it gave him time to talk with us. Go figure. Our youngest Jack loved following me around the boat learning about every button, control, and gadget. He's at the age where his favorite questions are "Why?" and "How?" He learned about the electrical panel, the gas cutoff, how to operate the head, how to start the engine, how to use the VHF, where the water and diesel are stored, what the radar does ... the list goes on.

**From Mom's View:** Thankfully we arrived at the slip the night before our departure and loaded everything into the boat. Food, water, bedding, charts, safety gear, and galley utensils - it was like we were crossing the Atlantic. In hindsight, my wife reported that all we needed (apart from safety gear) was a few t-shirts and shorts – and a lot less food.



The trip had many firsts for all of us. We came back with many memories, many funny stories, and a weekend with lots of down time for reading, hiking around Block Island, and hanging out.

And, about that blue-eyed fish... When swimming off the boat, Will was certain he saw a huge fish pursuing with two blue eyes. Once on deck, he confirmed his observations and pointed the fish out to us. He spent a day agonizing over the "blue-eyed fish" only to come to learn that it was phosphorescent plankton. A Google search confirmed our suspicions. Riddle solved. Great Salt Pond now declared safe again for swimming. Sailing as a family activity saved.