



THE TRIDENT

DSPS.darien.org

JANUARY 2017

DSPS DISTRICT 2

Dear Members,

There's snow on the ground and the temperature is in the low 20's. It's time to think about boats!

Our speaker series is well underway. The series began with a topic that's of major interest to every boater: the weather. Ed Cesare talked about sailing in the Atlantic Cup and Bermuda Race, and about the team's decision to start Leg 1 of the Atlantic Cup, literally under a Tropical Storm Warning, but (along with 40% of the fleet) decline to start the Bermuda Race under an uncertain forecast.

If you missed Christopher Swain on December 4 or Sarah Crosby and Dick Harris on January 8, you missed some really interesting and informative discussions on water quality in Connecticut's waterways and Long Island Sound.

For those of you who missed our December 4 speaker, Christopher Swain swims to put threatened waterways squarely in the public eye, and to support protection, restoration, and education efforts. Christopher's December 4 talk focused on his current swim from Montauk Point to New York City, down the length of Long Island Sound. For more information or to follow his progress as he continues his swim down Long Island Sound or to get in touch with him:

Website: <http://www.swimwithswain.org/>

Email: onehealthyocean@gmail.com

Phone: 617-233-4120

On January 8, Dr. Sarah Crosby, the Director of Harbor Watch and Dick Harris, the Founder and former Director of Harbor Watch, spoke to us about their work monitoring water quality in Long Island Sound and the harbors and waterways in Fairfield County. This hit close to home: some of the waterways that Harbor Watch checks for contamination include the Noroton River, Five Mile River, the Norwalk River, and Norwalk Harbor. For more information about Harbor Watch:

Website: <http://earthplace.org/page/harbor-watch-projects>

Email: s.crosby@earthplace.org

Phone: (203) 557-4403



The Bridge

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Next month, we're going to switch from water quality to Revolutionary War privateers. On February 12, Robert Patton is going to talk about his book *Patriot Pirates*, which tells the story of the American privateers in the Revolution. The book covers the entire war from Boston to Yorktown. American merchants armed hundreds of small ships to interdict the British maritime supply lines. We'll meet again at **Norwalk Yacht Club at 5:00 p.m., Sunday, February 12**. Be sure to save the date.

In March, we will combine our Change of Watch with the final session of our speaker series. On **March 19**, Kevin de Regt will talk about "Sailing the Great Loop" (a circumnavigation of the eastern U.S. — up the Hudson, through the Erie Canal to the Great Lakes, down the rivers from Chicago to Mobile, through the Gulf of Mexico, down around Florida, and back up the coast to Connecticut. **More details will follow, but save the date: March 19**.

The fall and winter is also the time for boating education. This fall, we had a very successful Piloting course taught by Chris Winalski and John Pedersen. We had nine graduates, including two members of the Noroton Volunteer Fire Department: Geoff Axt, Gary Bernhardt, John Butcher, Mark Dam, Brendan Keene, Rich Kosnik, Lin Nesdale, David Passaretti, and Bob Steckel.

The first session of DSPS's renowned Coastal Boating Competence Course (our version of the USPS ABC course, aka the "basic boating course") will begin on **Monday, January 30, 2017**, at 7:00 pm at Darien's Middlesex Middle School, 204 Hollow Tree Ridge Road, Darien. To pre-register, pay, or find more details, go to the DSPS website at <http://dsps.darien.org/>

DSPS will also offer an Advanced Piloting (AP) course starting soon (**Tuesday, February 28, 2017**). We hope to see many of the recent Piloting graduates as well as anyone else who has a firm grasp of basic piloting and wants to learn more advanced techniques. You can find a general description of the AP course [HERE](#). If you're interested in taking AP, please email our Education Officer, Alex Salvi (asalvi@gmail.com) **now**. If you haven't taken the Piloting course recently and are not sure if AP is right for you, email Peter Adler (padler@pipeline.com).

Other dates to keep in mind:

- **April (day TBD):** Anchoring Seminar
- **Saturday, May 6:** FLARE/UP at Weed Beach, Darien. Here's your chance for hands-on instruction in how to use pyrotechnic safety equipment and to learn the difference between inexpensive devices and those that can actually help you in an emergency.
- **Saturday, May 20:** Spring Refresher at Noroton Yacht Club, Darien. Primarily for graduates of the Coastal Boating Competence Course, but anyone who wants a refresher on basic boating techniques is invited to join us for an enjoyable morning on the water, where you can "Practice What We Teach."



Ed Cesare Talking
About Weather



Ed Cesare Sailing In Weather

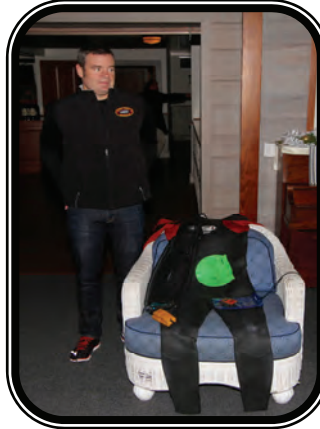


Piloting Graduation Party

November 13 Speaker Event



Chris Swain and Lynn Oliver



Chris Swain with Equipment



PJ Adler Trimming the Tree

December 4 Holiday Party & Speaker



Peter Adler Introducing Sarah Crosby & Dick Harris



Dick Harris of Harbor Watch



Barbara Raasch and Jim Travis Enjoying Some Refreshment After the Harbor Watch Talk



Advanced Piloting Class