



DSPS DISTRICT 2

THE TRIDENT

DSPS.darien.org

MARCH 2016

Dear Members,

Our annual **Member Meeting and Change of Watch** ceremony will take place on Sunday, March 20. We will hold the meeting at Darien Social (across from the Darien train station). The Change of Watch will start at 3:30pm. After the ceremony author Eric Dolin will discuss his new book *Brilliant Beacons* (see next page for more details). We hope you can join us.

I want to thank the current Bridge for their efforts in 2015. We had many activities which required all to help with the planning, coordination and execution. A special thanks to: Peter Lasalandra and Roger Klein who organized the 5 speaker events. All were excellent presentations and helped us through the off-season. Thanks to Frank Kemp who continues to be a master at the Basic Coastal Boating course. He and his table assistants continue to provide excellent safe boating skills training to our community. Frank is our squadron's biggest contributor. Our Admin Officer Gerry Raasch assisted wherever and whenever needed. He was responsible for all social aspects of our events. Gerry made these events fun for everyone. Peter Adler and Alex Salvi organized the education courses over the past year including Seamanship and Advanced Piloting. Alex also participated in the Vessel Safety Checks (VSC) performed by Alex, Jim Walsh and John Hess. Over 25 boats were inspected. A special thanks to Minnie Ingardia who performed the role of secretary for DSPS and John Pedersen who kept the financials. Chris Winalski and Mike Crofton assisted with fresh ideas and Jeff Gerwig kept us grounded in the processes of USPS and D2. Thank you for a job well done. Your efforts helped us re-charge Darien Sail & Power and made us one of the top 5 squadrons in the US. In 2016 many of the same faces will return but in different roles. We welcome Jim Travis, Geoffrey Axt, Lynn Oliver, Neal Konstantin and PJ Adler.

We targeted 2015 as a re-shaping year. We held courses on Safe Boating (Winter and Spring), Seamanship (Spring), Advanced Piloting (Fall); conducted the Spring Refresher (May) and Boat/Camp (July); conducted 25+ Vessel Safety Checks (VSC) at no charge; held our off-season speaker series with presentation in Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, Mar; participated in the Darien Memorial Day parade (May); kept membership informed of activities thru this monthly newsletter and the DSPS website.

Fair Winds to all,

The Bridge

Commander

Peter Kelly, JN

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, AP

Members at Large

Michael Crofton

Frank Kemp, JN

Roger Klein

Chris Winalski, JN



Upcoming Activities

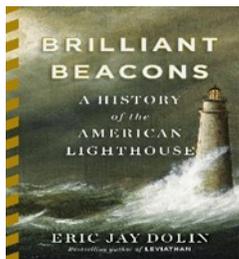
Education

- **Seamanship course** will start on Tuesday, April 5 at Norwalk YC, Nathan Hale Drive, Norwalk. This is an ideal course for those that have completed the Basic Coastal Boating course and would like to improve their boating skills. Course will cover: Rules of the Road, Knots and lines, Anchoring, Mooring, Boat handling and Emergencies afloat. For more information, see dsps.darien.org/DSPSNews.htm
- **Basic Coastal Boating/safe Boating course** will start on Monday, May 2nd at Noroton YC in Darien. If you know someone that needs their CT Safe Boating certificate or would like a refresher course, let them know. See dsps.darien.org/index.htm

Events

- **Spring Refresher Sat, May 21 at Noroton YC, 23 Baywater Dr, Darien, 8:30-11:30am** - “On the water” activity. Using a DSPS member boat we will “refresh” your safe boating skills. Practice what you learned in the Basic Coastal Boating/Safe Boating course. Be prepared for the upcoming season. Open to DSPS members, guests and graduates of Basic Coastal Boating/Safe Boating. Coffee/donuts, box lunch and refreshments provided.
- **Darien Memorial Day parade Mon, May 30 at Goodwives Shopping Center: 8:30-10am** - Children and adults are invited to walk in the Darien parade or ride the float.

DSPS Speaker Series—March 20th, 3:30pm at Darien Social Club



Brilliant Beacons is a work rich in maritime lore and brimming with original historic detail. In his book Mr. Dolin presents a comprehensive history of America’s lighthouse system, highlighting the political, military, and technological battles to establish the system. In his talk, Mr. Dolin will tell stories of many interesting events and colorful characters involved in the development and operation of our lighthouses.



Eric Dolin

Eric has advanced degrees in environmental management and has worked for the National Fisheries Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Harvard’s Museum of Comparative Zoology as well as many domestic and foreign environment agencies. Mr. Dolin will have copies of his book available for purchase for cash

Darien Beautification - Look for our Darien Sail & Power signage along a roadway in Darien. We have sponsored a garden plot with the Darien Beautification Commission. If you have a green thumb and would like to help us clean up and plant the space, please contact me at pkelly103@gmail.com. Our garden plot will be on Ledge Rd or at Pear Tree Point beach. Spring is almost here !

Closing Message

It is time to turn my responsibilities on to the new Bridge. This is my final newsletter as DSPS commander. We re-started the Trident newsletter in 2011 with periodic publications and moved to a monthly newsletter 2 years ago. We tried to keep the members informed of the events and activities that we have had throughout the year. Many members attend 1 or 2 events/activities each year and continue to support us with their membership dues. We thank you for your support which allows us to continue to promote safe boating in our community. Come Join Us!

Darien Sail & Power is on a good course for the future. I welcome the new Bridge and wish DSPS the best.



Peter Kelly