

Water Fronts for Jan. 28

The Ventura Power Squadron, which has helped thousands of county residents get involved in boating over the years, will soon bestow its highest honor on longtime member Don Shultz.

Shultz, who has been a Power Squadron member for 59 years, will be awarded his 50th merit mark. Such marks are awarded on an annual basis to members who contribute substantially to the United States Power Squadrons. To receive one means you've done a fair amount of work in a given year. To receive 50 means you must love what you are doing.

And Shultz certainly does.

Shultz has served in numerous capacities, including commander of the Ventura Power Squadron and as District Commander of the 13 squadrons located in the Los Angeles area. He has taught marine electronics, advanced piloting and junior navigation, headed up the Vessel Safety Check program for eight years, and served on many of the squadron's bridges and committees.

He will be honored by fellow members at the organization's change of watch on Saturday, Feb. 13, at Logsdon's Restaurant at the Santa Paula Airport.

Shultz's interest in boating started when he was 10, when his dad bought a 27 foot sailboat for the family. Don spent his time sailing in Newport Harbor, and completed the Power Squadron's Basic Boating Class as a teenager. He subsequently joined the Los Angeles Power Squadron in 1953. Shultz served in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1954 to 1958. In 1962 he married Janet and in 1965 graduated from CalPoly Pomona with a degree in electrical engineering. Shultz raised his family in Camarillo, worked at Point Mugu and has enjoyed and maintained boats in Channel Islands Harbor for more than 40 years.

Shultz also has been active in the Boy Scouts of America with his two sons, both of whom became Eagle Scouts. He holds the rank of Senior Navigator, the highest grade recognized in the United States Power Squadrons.

Ventura Power Squadron is something of a misnomer in that the organization isn't restricted to power boaters. Sail boaters are encouraged to become members.

The Ventura Power Squadron is non-profit organization dedicated to safe boating through education and civic outreach. One of over 400 squadrons throughout the United States and abroad, the Ventura Squadron has more than 100 members who enjoy both sail and power boating, and support a full suite of educational courses that range from basic boating classes to advanced courses in GPS, RADAR, and celestial navigation. Ev Ashworth, commander of the Ventura Squadron, said "We are always seeking new sail and power boater members. Our motto is 'Boating is fun, let us show you how.'" He said the cost of membership is typically more than offset in membership savings for insurance, boat supplies, and instruments.

The Squadron's next Public Boating Course will be held at the Ventura Yacht Club on Tuesday evenings at 7:30, starting on Feb. 16. This 10-week course covers all of the basic elements to safe boating, including knots, boat handling, rules of the road, safe operation, weather, and US Coast Guard and California boating laws and regulations. The course is free. The cost for the printed materials and course plotting instruments is \$60 per person. Class size is limited to 50 persons, on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information contact Ashworth at 432-9732. For more information about the Squadron and its courses, visit the website at [www.usps.org/ventura](http://www.usps.org/ventura).

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Upcoming sailboat races:

\* Saturday, Feb. 13, PBYC Spring Series 1. This popular three race series is hosted by Pierpont Bay Yacht Club. The other races are on Feb. 27 and March 20. The skippers meeting for each race is at 8:30 a.m. and racing starts at 11 in the vicinity of the Mandalay buoy. All finishes will be in the Ventura Harbor entrance channel. Entry fee is \$80 for the series (\$70 for USSA members) or \$30 for individual races (\$25 for USSA members). For more information, contact Richard Countess at (818) 889-2669 or at Rcountess@aol.com.

SOLID BOX:

2010 ocean sailboat racing schedule:

Feb. 13, PBYC, Spring Series 1

Feb. 20-21, CIYC, SCYA Midwinters, PHRF & J-24.

Feb. 27, PBYC, Spring Series 2

Feb. 28, PCYC, Racing Rules Seminar

March 13, AYC, St. Patrick's Day Race

March 14, PCYC, Regional Training Race

(Fax your race announcements, results and other information to Stan Whisenhunt at 659-3058 or call him at 659-1464. His e-mail address is Swhisenhun@aol.com).