



THE **BILGEWATER**

UTICA SAIL & POWER SQUADRON, INC
Sail and Power Boating - America's Boating Club ®
A Unit of United States Power Squadrons
Utica, New York

April 2014

District 6

SAVE THE DATES:

**LAUNCH PARTY AND SQUADRON AUCTION
FRIDAY, 30 MAY, 1730 (5:30PM) AT LOCK 20
BRING A DISH TO PASS, \$5.00 PP, AND SOME-
THING NAUTICAL (or almost nautical) TO AUCTION.
BE PREPARED TO HAVE A GOOD TIME!**



**ABC3 CLASS
SATURDAY, 31 MAY @ LOCK 20, 3 & 5 JUNE AT
WHITESBORO HIGH SCHOOL
NEW YORK STATE HAS A NEW BOATING CERTIFI-
CATE REQUIREMENT SO PLEASE HELP US FILL
THIS CLASS BY RECRUITING FAMILY AND FRIENDS
WHO MIGHT NEED TO GET THIS CERTIFICATE!**

UTICA SAIL & POWER SQUADRON - OFFICERS

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839-5522
Executive Officer.....Robert Walker, JN
SEO..... David W. Schultz, AP
266-0511
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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Commander Linda S. LaDuc, AP



Hi to all and hello spring!

Although it does not appear that winter wants to let go, we are beginning to see some definite signs of spring which means that it will soon be time to uncover and begin to prep our boats for launch. Of course with all of the ice on our lakes and rivers this year it might be June before our boats touch the water! Seriously, let's hope not!!

In light of the new boating safety law, this would be a good time to encourage family and friends that have not already done so to take our ABC3 boating course which will be offered 31 May (at Lock 20) and 3 & 5 June (at Whitesboro High School). This course will be taught by P/C Dean Woodard, P and P/C Ellen Webster, SN, and will meet all New York State requirements. Please help get the word out.

We are also looking forward to our Launch Party which will be held Friday, 30 May, at Lock 20, so mark your calendars now. Remember that we will once again be holding our auction that evening, so start looking for anything nautical (or almost nautical) that you think you can part with for the sale. Last year's event was highly successful and a lot of fun as well. More information will come out in the next Bilgewater.

P/D/C Dave Schulz, AP, and I attended the D/6 Conference in Batavia at the end of March. Membership problems are nationwide and we will have to get creative with our thinking to draw new members and then keep them actively involved. We did gain three new members from the Weather class taught by P/C Harry Winberg, SN, and are in the process of regaining two former members. We are looking forward to having our all of them join us at our upcoming events.

Here's to warmer weather, seeing boating friends and hearing the sounds of a boatyard.

SEO REPORT

By P/D/C David Schulz, AP



Congratulations to Mark Bronson, P, Peter Kaido, John Sterling III, Jamie Wilbert and Mitchell (Mickey) Wilbert on their very successful completion of the Weather Course taught by PC Harry Winberg, SN. All received very high grades with one perfect score.

Last month we wrote about offering Advanced Piloting (AP) but have received no response. Perhaps just as well. The advancing warmer weather and soon opening of the canal will signal the opening of our boating season. AP requires about eight weeks of instruction. Perhaps early Fall will bring more enthusiasm for the class so stay tuned.

Likewise we have also received no response or enthusiasm for any USPS Seminars. Therefore those also will be curtailed until the Fall. In the interim please go to www.usps.org/education and checkout the available seminars. You will be surprised. Many have been upgraded recently. While you are checking that out you may as well browse the entire USPS website. It will take you several days. It will no doubt amaze you and enlighten your pride in our 100 year old USPS. By the way, the website has also been recently upgraded. It has been done mainly by volunteers.

Planning for our ABC3 class at lock 20 has begun. We have decided to use our traditional schedule again this year. First class will be 31 MAY 2014, 1200 – 1600 at Lock 20 pavilion then continue 3 JUNE 2014 and 5 JUNE 2014, 1830 – 2030 at Whitesboro High School. When promoting this course be sure that you mention to prospective students that it is a mandatory 8 hours course thus attendance is mandatory at all three classes. We will appreciate any word of mouth promotion of the class by our entire membership.

In the meantime PC Rick Gassner has offered to teach ABC3 to any group using a single day or two (2) day format. You may contact Rick at the email address supplied elsewhere in this newsletter or by contacting us at 315 725-4826. Remember that the latest New York State Law requires “Any person born on or after May 1, 1996 MUST have a Boating Safety Certificate to operate a motor boat. Operators must be at least 10 years of age to take a course. Boating safety certificates may only be issued by NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, United States Power Squadrons or United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. Additional information concerning NYS boating laws may be found on page 39 of the free New York State Boater’s Guide. The Guide is available from Dave, Dean or Rick.

The Utica squadron is looking for more participation in the Vessel Safety Check (VSC) program. Anyone that is interested in attending training contact Dean. We will be setting up the class in the next few weeks.

A Vessel Safety Check ensures the vessel and its equipment comply with federal, state and local safety requirements.

Both the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the United States Power Squadrons have certified vessel examiners who will perform a free Vessel Safety Check ("VSC") at your boat, at a time of mutual convenience. There is no charge, and no consequences if you don't pass. Our goal is simply to help make boating as safe as possible for you, your family and your friends, through education.



Stuff at <http://nysparks.com/recreation/boating/safety-courses.aspx?cnty=&sort=1>

Motorboats New Law Effective May 1st 2014 All individuals born on or after 5/1/96 are now required to successfully complete an approved course in boater education in order to operate a motorboat. Approved courses include those offered by NYS Parks, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary or the U.S. Power Squadron. Individuals less than 10 years of age may not take this course of instruction. Certain allowances to this law have been made for visitors to New York, persons renting a boat from a livery and persons purchasing a new boat for the first time. Please refer to Frequently Asked Questions for more information. Find a Boating Safety Course near you.

The Utica Sail and Power Squadron will offer a boating safety course beginning May 31 at Locke 20 at noon until 4 PM. The boat safety class will continue at Whitesboro Senior High School, Rt. 291, on Tuesday June 3rd and Thursday June 5th from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM each night. The course is open to all adults and youngsters at least 10-years of age when accompanied by an adult enrolled in the class. Cost for a course text book is \$30.00. All instruction is free and students may share text books. Additional details can be obtained by calling David Schulz at 315-266-0511.

CAUGHT ON THE NET

National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) has identified a potential problem with using gasoline in our boating engines.

On March 6, 2009, a new pro-ethanol lobbying organization called Growth Energy and 54 ethanol manufacturers formally requested that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) increase ethanol blend levels in gasoline up to 15 percent (E15). As is required by law, EPA on April 21 published a Notice for Comment in the Federal Register, beginning a 30-day public comment period that closes on May 21, 2009.

There are 18 million boats currently in operation in the U.S., and none of them have been designed, certified or warranted to run on anything above E10, the current maximum legal blend level. Boaters know very well that increased ethanol blends will cause performance problems with their boats and engines, increase maintenance costs, potentially pose safety risks and increase air pollution.

And yet, neither EPA nor any other federal agency has done a single test on the impacts of E15 on marine engines, fuel systems, or components. Marine engines and fuel systems are not designed, calibrated or certified to run on anything above 10 percent ethanol.

If you this affects you, then explore more information at this website: <http://capwiz.com/nmma/home/>



CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A. Woodard, P

A BIBLICAL STORY FOR LENT...

A woman runs a red traffic light and crashes into a man's car. Both of their cars are demolished, but amazingly, neither of them is hurt. After they crawl out of their cars, the woman says; "Wow, just look at our cars! There's nothing left, but fortunately we are unhurt. This must be a sign from God that we should meet and be friends and live together in peace for the rest of our days."

The man replies, "I agree with you completely. This must be a sign from God!"

The woman continues, "And look at this, here's another miracle. My car is completely demolished, but my bottle of wine didn't break.

Surely God wants us to drink this wine and celebrate our good fortune." She then hands the bottle to the man.

The man nods his head in agreement, opens it, drinks half the bottle and then hands it back to the woman. The woman takes the bottle, immediately puts the cap back on, and hands it back to the man.

The man asks, "Aren't you having any?"

The woman replies, "Nah. I think I'll just wait for the police."

Adam ate the apple, too.

Men will never learn...

Hi USPS People, I put my new address and phone number into DB2000 and uploaded it to National.

Address is 719 Londonberry Court, Conway, SC 29526. New home phone is 843-369-0998. Louise and I are still unpacking and getting and getting used to the new house, but we have sure enjoyed the weather in Feb and Mar. The snow gauge we put in the lawn never saw snow so I took it out yesterday so I could fertilize and cut the lawn. Miss ya'll George

SINGLE FEMALE seeks male companionship, ethnicity unimportant. I'm a very good girl who LOVES to play. I love long walks in the woods, riding in your pickup truck, hunting, camping and fishing trips, cozy winter nights lying by the fire. Candlelight dinners will have me eating out of your hand. I'll be at the front door when you get home from work, wearing only what nature gave me.... Call (404) 875-6420 and ask for Annie, I'll be waiting.....

Over 150 men found themselves talking to the Atlanta Humane Society.

From George Peckingham

Address is 719 Londonberry Court, Conway, SC 29526. New home phone is 843-369-0998.

Louise and I are still unpacking and getting and getting used to the new house, but we have sure enjoyed the weather in Feb and Mar.


The snow gauge we put in the lawn never saw snow so I took it out yesterday so I could fertilize and cut the lawn. Miss ya'll George

**PLEASE SUPPORT THESE GOOD FOLKS THAT HELP
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