



THE BILGEWATER



UTICA POWER SQUADRON, INC

A Unit of United States Power Squadrons

Utica, New York

usps.org/localusps/utica

November, 2002

District 6



FIFTY YEARS AND STILL GOING STRONG

For members of Utica Squadron the highlight of the District 6 Fall Conference held at the Hotel Utica was the award of a national certificate for 50 years of membership in the United States

Power Squadrons, to our own P/C Dr. Edward Gaffney, AP. Many of us have known Ed for many years and knew that it seemed that he was always there when he was needed both for squadron business and personal advice. Never would we have guessed that this "young" man is in fact our "oldest" member. We should say that he has been a member of the Utica Squadron the longest of any member, if not the oldest chronologically.

Ed is shown above at the Utica Squadron hospitality room with P/C/C **Richard W. Minor, SN, Representing the USPS Chief Commander and his wife, Nancy.** Ed was our bartender handing out the Matt Brewing Company "samples" and generally entertaining the troops Friday evening. The Minors were most enjoyable folks and the Chief Commander could not have been better represented.

On Saturday evening at the dinner dance (the food was great by the way) Ed showed off some of his collection of "stuff". Among the items of interest was the very first issue of the Deep 6 (District 6 newsletter), and a copy of the text Ed used for his first boating course (Chapman's Piloting Seamanship and Small Boat Handling of some low number addition) when classes were really classes.

A remarkable man, outstanding boater, super railroad engineer and a great friend.

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UTICA POWER SQUADRON OFFICERS

Commander.....Dean A. Woodard, P
336-1026
Executive Officer.....David W. Schulz, AP
266-0511
SEO..... Ellen Webster, SN
336-3444
Administrative Officer..... Gerald R. Fry, JN
824-0978
Secretary..... Walter H. Kramer, AP
245-0578
Treasurer..... Thomas A. Sears, AP
337-6953
Assistant SEO..... Victoria A. Fry, JN
824-0978
Membership..... Fred S. Dyer, JN
336-5396
BILGEWATER EditorRichard A. Smith, P
339-3295

NOTE: Utica Power Squadron Web Page
usps.org/localusps/utica

e-mail the Commander at:
woodardd@twcny.rr.com

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DATES TO REMEMBER

**BOAT SMART STARTS NOVEMBER 21 AT
1700 AT WHITESBORO SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
SQUADRON MEETING DECEMBER 4 AT 1930
SEARS OIL BUILDING
TRIP TO LOCK 20 - DECEMBER 20TH
12TH NIGHT - JAN 19TH RAMAHDA INN
FOUNDER'S DAY - FEBRUARY 14, 2003
CHANGE OF WATCH IN MARCH TBA**

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

by Cdr Dean A. Woodard, P



It looks like Lt/C David Schulz, AP said about everything I wanted to say in his "From the Executive Department" article on the next page. I could not agree more with his thanks and praise. I also don't have the heart to tell him that the guidelines for USPS news letters require that the first use of a member's name the rank and grade should be with the name. I was thinking that I could just list everyone with their whole title in this column and we would be fine. Then I thought: what the heck, Dave wrote it and that's what he wants to say, so let it be. So I will just say "thanks".

Charles Gaetano, one of the Hotel Utica owners, joined us Friday evening and toured our hospitality rooms. We were very pleased that he was able to "play" with us. We were even more pleased with the outstanding work that has been done to reestablish this magnificent center piece of downtown Utica. If you have not had an opportunity to enjoy the Hotel Utica in its splendor, I would encourage you to do so. The place looks great, the food is outstanding and the people are just wonderful. Now if we can get Ken to get Chuck to join the squadron, where he belongs, all would be well.

Lt/C Gerry Fry, JN, our AO, is working hard to line up our social events for the winter. (Boy I hate to have to use the "W" word.) You will see in this issue of the **BILGEWATER** that we are developing a list of things to do. Please do plan on joining us at 12th Night in January, Founder's Day and the Change of Watch. It looks like Gerry is about to produce some fine events that you will not want to miss.

The trip to Lock 20 on December 20, should be a lot of fun. Lock 20 is where P/C Frank Gruenewald, AP has devoted much of his time to the development of the Lock 20 Park. Now you get to see the mechanics of the lock and its inner works. Please let Lt/C Walt Kramer, AP know if you can join us.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

by Lt/C David W. Schulz, AP

It's over and wasn't it Grande. The D/6 Conference with the D/6 Conference Committee giving the Navigational rules and headings and our Squadron, as host, applying proper variation and deviation and using the applicable tide tables, allowed us to sail through a mighty fine Fall Conference at the Hotel Utica Nov. 8 through 10.

Our Commander manned his computer and kept us in constant touch with the District Committee and our own Committee. What a magnificent job he did, working through many watches to get it all done. Many thanks to our Purser, Capt. Rick Gassner, and our treasurer, Tom Sears for their many contributions. Thanks also to Ellen and Randy Webster for their work on the new Utica Cup planning and so many other jobs. Thanks to Jo Zogby and Ed Gaffney who brought real credit to our squadron with their table decorations, Hospitality Room organization and Goody Bags. Frank Gruenewald contributed time, stuff and support for the Goody Bags. Walt Kramer was pitching in everywhere and always dependable. Bob Hyde did the Ship's Store after leading the way through the doors of national and getting what we needed, when and where we needed it. Thanks to Dave Kobernus, and others, including Gerry and Vicky Fry and Dagne Struthers whom I saw at the registration table. Ken Virtuoso, (oh Ken!) you did so well, for the design and execution of the search for the Utica Cup. Ken's game worked so well that even the bellboys got into the search for the Utica Cup. What a great time we had.

We can't thank F.X. Matt Brewing enough for all their help with beverages, fantastic posters, handouts for the goodie bags and an overall reason to be in and enjoy Utica New York.

To everyone who worked and played with us over the last few months – thanks. I am proud to have been your chairman.

dave

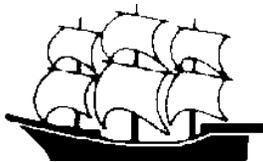


**WANT A NAME TAG?
NEED A HAT?
WANT A NEW BURGEE?**

Call Bob Hyde at 724-2067

He also has ensigns and most anything else you might want!

TWELFTH NIGHT PARTY



January doldrums are worse than the horse latitudes. Put some wind in your sails with the Utica Power Squadron buccaneers and mates. Food, companionship, and entertainment are promised for lifting your heading and spirits.

On 19 January 2003 at 1300, you will sight the bright colors of these gallant (but oh so safe) boaters in the Ramada Inn, New Hartford. Drop your ground tackle by the bar or slip directly into the lagoon at Regency B. Galley slaves will serve your choice of Roast Prime Rib au jus or Seafood Newburgh promptly at 1330. Local pirates will extract twelve *simoleans* (\$12.00) from the purse of each captive at the gang plank. Courage and bravery will be required to fight the gamblers who will lure you with raffle tickets for gaudy prizes. Perhaps a captive or local wench will provide some entertainment to salve your titillated taste buds. Turn beam to the breeze and make your heading for this event by signaling Gerry Fry at 824-0978 or frygr@dreamscape.com. Join the fleet to put some wind in your sails and fine grub in your belly.

PLEASE CLIP AND POST THIS ANNOUNCEMENT

Boating Class Offered

A boating safety class is being offered starting on November 21, in the Whitesboro Senior High School. Three additional classes will be held on December 5, 12 and 19. Each class will be from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM

The class is comprised of four 2-hour sessions and includes a written exam. This course meets all New York State boating certification requirements for insurance reductions, youthful operator and Personal Watercraft Certification. All PWC operators starting in 2004 will be required to have such certification. This phased in requirement will apply in 2003 to all born on or after 1/1/72.

Parents are invited to bring their children 10 years of age and older with them to this class. Youth boating requirements including Personal Watercraft will be met for youth 10 to 18 upon successful completion of this course. Children under 15 must be accompanied by their parents to take the class.

There is no charge for instruction; there will be a fee for textbooks if you choose to purchase one.

Enrollment will be on a first come basis and the class size is limited.

If you have any questions about the class, offered by the Utica Squadron of the United States Power Squadrons, please call 339-3295 or 336-1026

Email woodardd@twcnny.rr.com

THE UTICA CUP



D/C Robert L. O'Connell, SN accepts the Utica Cup on behalf of D6 from the Utica Squadron

Now we know the rest of the story. You will remember the last time we wrote that the Utica Squadron was in search of the Utica Cup. In fact, we didn't really know if there was indeed a Utica Cup or this was just a rumor spreading across the world of District 6. We searched high and low and assigned multitudes of special investigators to search the beautifully restored Hotel Utica from top to bottom in what proved a vain effort to locate the Utica Cup. On Friday evening and again on Saturday morning an amnesty was offered for return of the cup. Finally a member rose and confessed (amnesty, remember, no names) that he indeed not only knew of a Utica Cup, but indeed he had the very item in his basement but he forgot to bring it. So close but yet so far.

Never fear, Utica Squadron is near. Not only were we near, but Saturday evening we took great pleasure in giving a real Utica Cup to District 6 as a permanent, **real**, award to encourage all boats attending the District 6 Rendezvous to extend the utmost hospitality to all who attend.

The Utica Cup, originated by our own P/D/C Dagne Strouthers, SN as a gift from her and Tom Baker to the district is now a full blown district trophy with deed and the works.

Enjoy it and may it promote good times and hospitality at the District 6 Rendezvous for many years to come. (Look to the Squadron Web page at www.usps.org/localusps/utica to read the deed for the Utica Cup and see how it may be won.)

In case you missed it we wanted you to be able to read the District 6 Press release that was printed in the Rome Daily Sentinel. The most often asked question? "Who are the three Presidents?"

United States Power Squadrons to Hold Conference in Utica

District 6 of the United States Power Squadrons will hold its Fall Conference at Hotel Utica November 8-10, 2002. District 6 covers much of New York State from the Pennsylvania border north to Canada and West from Lakes Erie and Ontario East to Utica. The District is made up of 19 Squadrons representing cities such as Auburn, Binghamton, Buffalo, Corning, Ithaca, Rochester, Syracuse, Utica and Watertown. Utica Power Squadron will host the 2002 conference.

The conference will center around educational and legal topics as they relate to boating in Federal and New York State waters. Members from the Canadian Power Squadrons will be in attendance to share ideas and join in the social activities.

The United States Power Squadrons (USPS) is the world's largest private, non-profit boating organization. Established in 1914 USPS has some 60,000 members organized into 450 squadrons across the country and in U.S. territories. Our members are boating families who contribute to their communities by promoting safe boating on the water and in the classroom.

USPS squadrons offer boating safety courses for the public several times each year as well as many internal courses for USPS members. USPS members help the National Ocean Service keep nautical charts accurate and save taxpayers millions of dollars each year by reporting chart corrections. More recently USPS has partnered with the United States Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary to conduct Vessel Safety Checks.

USPS has been honored by three U.S. presidents for its civic contributions and for educating more than 4 million boaters in the last half century.

DO YOU REMEMBER THIS?

The photo below was from our trip to Lock 17. That was a great day. Since then we have been to locks 18 and 19. This year we journey to Lock 20 in Marcy, New York.



If you have missed any or all of our squadron visits to the canal locks of the Utica Section, this is your opportunity to start to catch up.

Call Lt/C Walt Kramer, AP and let him know that you would like to be included on December 20th as part of the crew.

We are looking around for a nice place in the area that we might meet for breakfast prior to our trip to the canal. Ideas? If so, let Walt know when you call him.

BoatU.S.

Because of the special arrangement made with BoatU.S. our members are able to pay only one-half of the regular dues of \$19.00 - only \$9.50 per year for our members.

GA81671P

is our membership number.

Contact Cdr Woodard with any questions.



CAUGHT ON THE NET

NASA's Origins Program
<http://origins.jpl.nasa.gov/>

NASA's Origins Program seeks to answer two enduring human questions that we once considered around ancient campfires, yet still keep alive in today's classrooms: Where do we come from? Are we alone?

Check it out - it should provide some most interesting information for the navigator or just ordinary star gazer.



"The Old Skipper Sez!"

Politicians and diapers have one thing in common. They should both be changed regularly, and for the same reason

CHECKING THE BILGE



You will find included in this issue of the **BILGEWATER** an update listing of the telephone numbers of the squadron members. In addition P/C Earl Selover, SN has requested that we share with you the following change of addresses:

Paul G. Preuss has moved to 59 Waverly Pl in Queensbary, NY 12804
 Ferne Merrill is now at 259 Park Lane Dr. Webster, NY 14580.

Frank and Karen Newman live on Johns Road, not James.



If you have been looking for information on the Louis Vuitton Cup for 2002 (the challenge races for the America's Cup) Earl tells us we need only to look at <http://www.louisvuittoncup.yahoo.com> and can follow the whole story.



Did you notice the new look at the top of this page? Ads! Yep we have two honored sponsors for this issue of the **BILGEWATER**. Welcome to **Johnnie's Pier 31** and **Central New York Fiberglass**. They have been invited aboard this issue and we hope they stay with us and are joined by many more.

If you know someone who might be interested in supporting our newsletter, have them call the commander for details.

During the Conference afternoon session we presented District 6 with the new Utica Power Squadron burgee recognizing our 50-year existence as a Squadron. We were a little late, having gotten started in 1941. Better late than never; now on to 75 and a platinum edge. The new burgee has gold banding on the two edges. The burgee will be displayed at all D/6 functions and we hope it will be on your boat. See Bob Hyde if you would like your own .



We must admit that we have not been flooded with a great mass of snailmail and email trying to present great works for publication in the **BILGEWATER**. We really would like to change that. Send us your stuff, we would love to see your words in print. As always, ideas will work. Give us a little time and we would be happy to whip your ideas into shape.



"Every normal man must be tempted at times to spit upon his hands, hoist the black flag, and begin slitting throats." - Henry Louis Mencken (1880-1956)





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The BILGEWATER
Dean A. Woodard
Richard A. Smith
8268 Winchester Dr.
Rome, NY 13440