



# THE BILGEWATER



UTICA POWER SQUADRON, INC

*Sail and Power Boating - America's Boating Club* ®

A Unit of United States Power Squadrons

Utica, New York

[usps.org/localusps/utica](http://usps.org/localusps/utica)

February, 2004

District 6

## WHAT'S HIS NAME? AND WHAT'S HER NAME?



Old "what's his name" and "Mrs. what's her name" returned to Utica for the Jan. 18th Twelfth Night Party held at the New Hartford Ramada Inn. Over 90 friends, relatives, and fellow boaters (all friends, we are sure!) honored Lucille Ellison SN and David Ellison SN. Harry Winberg SN hosted a fitting and well deserved tribute to these long time active members of the Utica Power Squadron. The Ellisons returned for this special occasion from the Al-

bany area where they now live near a daughter or two and several lively grandchildren.

It was a wonderful party as several Ellison grandchildren spoke joyfully of sailing many summers from of the Sackets Harbor area. Betty and David Kobernuss SN remembered sailing with the Ellisons in the Virgin Islands and many other good times. Harry Winberg presented a North Atlantic chart that the Ellisons used to record daily positions during their trip from the U. S. east coast to the Virgin Islands. Unfortunately it will be difficult for them to use the chart again since all 90 guests respectfully and lovingly covered it with their signatures. Bob Skalwold SN fondly remembered good times with the Ellisons and Dr. Grabow recalled some family get-togethers. Jackie Smith presented a pair of antique wine glasses with etchings of the letter E for future planning sessions by Dave and Lucille of Sackets Harbor.

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# UTICA POWER SQUADRON OFFICERS



## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

*by Cdr David W. Schulz, AP*

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

**SQUADRON MEETING - 3 MARCH 04**  
**BILGEWATER DEADLINE - 10 MARCH 04**

**CHANGE OF WATCH**  
**21 MARCH 04**

SEE PAGE 8

Time marches on and it has also been said that time moves faster the older you get. If that is true then our boats should be in the water by now!?!?

We have had a busy January and beginning of February. We had a slow start to Seamanship, due to the weather. However, we have gained two new members - Terry and Tom Plizga - and they are already involved with Seamanship. By the way Seamanship is all new and is now offered only as a two module course. First module is Seamanship (maybe should be Seamanship/Shemanship) with the second module called Boat Handling. There is still time to join this newly revised and expanded course.

We have just returned from Spring Council in Waterloo where we learned that there have been big changes to Junior Navigation (JN) and Navigation (N) courses. The changes reflect an emphasis on electronic navigation, using paper and pencil as back - up tools. Considerable course material is supplied on CD- ROM. Other major course changes are in Piloting (P) - adds digital charting and Advanced Piloting (AP) - adds electronic navigation and changes tidal effect sections. Other changes include the discontinuance of the use of the square course plotter, which is replaced by the rectangular course plotter with, of course parallel rules.

We were happy to finally receive the Prince Henry trophy. He is big and heavy but will be on display at our meetings and Founder's Day and Change of Watch. The trophy is presented to the Squadron that has the best-weighted results for members completing Junior Navigation and Navigation. Helping Utica obtain this honorable award were Lt/C Gerry Fry JN, 1st/Lt Vicky Fry JN and P/C Rick Gassner AP. Thanks and congratulations for your efforts folks.

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*Lucille Ellison < SN , P/C Rick Gassner, JN, P/C David Ellison, SN and Debbie Gassner*

David's former partner Herb Skogland, MD broke up the guests with his narration of several of David's many pearls of wisdom and wit. Harry concluded with warm remarks about his family's long relationship with David and Lucille both in Rome and while sailing out .

A fitting tribute from fellow Power Squadron members; a reunion with family and friends; and darn good food and drink. Commander Dave Schulz AP smoothly started the program, Harry Winberg who claims he isn't funny exceeded

with considerable humor and sincerity, and Jackie and AO Steve Smith S made considerable arrangements for a most delightful afternoon. We all wish the Ellisons the very best of life's pleasures in the future and hope they come back next year or sooner.

### National Safe Boating Week May 22-28, 2004

During this week, members of the National Safe Boating Council, including the Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Power Squadrons, State Boating Law Administrators, Army Corps of Engineers, American Red Cross and other groups provide extensive media coverage, local exhibits and special programs on safe boating. We plan to offer demonstrations, exhibits , a Boat Smart Class and Vessel Safety Checks at the Lock 20 Park. Plan to join us for the activities on Saturday 22 May 2004. With the help of P/C Frank Gruenewald, AP we will again have an outstanding event. If you have any suggestions or would like to help out, contact P/C Dean Woodard, P at 336-1026 or email woodardd@twcny.rr.com.

### **FOUNDER'S DAY 2004**



P/C Bob Hyde, AP and P/C Earl E. Selover, SN, are shown in the photograph to the left. We thank our District Commander, Michael Kelly, SN for the contribution of his time and his photos.

Cdr David Schulz, AP served as master of ceremonies and P/C Ken Virtuoso, P, served as the auctioneer.

A great time was had by all!

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE FROM PAGE 2

It has become apparent that a considerable amount of course material is being delivered electronically replacing, for the most part, overhead and slide projectors. Additionally VHS videos are being replaced with DVD. The uses of lap top computers processing DVD and CD-ROM into digital video projectors are fast becoming the delivery system of choice. Personally I see the use of these products beyond the classroom. It is likely that we will need to acquire this equipment in the near future. The expenditure is rather expensive, however, it has come to our attention that grants and other financial assistance is available. We have begun the process of looking into these resources.

Spring Conference will be 2-4 April in Canandaigua, NY at Canandaigua Inn On The Lake. Would like to see a big group from Utica. Rooms are \$76.00 per night and must be reserved through me (266 0511) before 16 March 04 in order to receive this room rate and tax exemption. Make your check payable to Utica Power Squadron and give or mail to me.

Meal reservations are handled through District 6 and must be made by mail to Rochester, NY before 9 March. You will find the form in the District 6 Newsletter or call me and I will get one to you.

As usual we will be hosting a hospitality room with several other Squadrons. This is a fun time and we can share experiences with other boaters with common interests.

See "yaw!" at Change of Watch. District 6 Commander Mike Kelly SN will be with us.

## BOATER'S SUMMIT

BY CDR DAVID SCHULZ, AP

In December 2003, New York Sea Grant, District 6 of The United States Power Squadrons and the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary held the first-ever Boater's Summit in Brewerton, NY. Representatives from the boating community across upstate New York State included the Niagara River-Buffalo area, Rochester, Syracuse, Binghamton, Watertown, 1000 Island region, Ithaca, Utica and Rome. Utica/Rome was represented by P/C Rick Gassner AP and Commander Dave Schulz AP.

Representatives of New York Sea Grant, the Empire States Marine Trades Association, Cornell University, the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation and the Boating Industries Association of Central New York spoke on emerging issues that are impacting boating in upstate New York.

David White (NYSG) spoke about water level management, dredging, the economic and environmental impacts of boating, and the effects of terrorism on boating. He suggested that by organizing the diverse organizations and groups in upstate NY, we can offer boaters the opportunity to provide unique input on emerging issues, initiatives and regulations aimed at making boating safer and the environment cleaner.

P/D/C Will Kirmie represented District 6 of the United States Power Squadrons. His enthusiasm for the Summit is due, in part, to the fact that recreational boaters put a lot of money into the economy but get little bang for the bucks.

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*Boater's Summit from page 4*

There is a need for boaters to learn to communicate with each other and to speak with a unified voice on the issues that affect them. Will also stated that his Boater's Summit connections will help the Power Squadrons reach a larger and new audiences for our boating safety and etiquette programs.

Dennis Montgomery of Cayuga Wooden Boatworks in Ithica said that as a group, marina operators, marine business owners and those interested in boating will have a much larger voice than one small business owner alone. "We've identified the issues; now we need clout with the agencies and regulators".

Dennis Honeywell, director of the Boating Industries association of Central New York spoke on terrorism, tourism and boating and said that restaurateurs on both sides of the St. Lawrence River have felt the effects of the post 9-11 rules on boaters. "the regulations this past Summer were cumbersome. As a result, boaters were not sure what to do and so were not traveling". It was his feeling that the groups attending the Boaters Summit are looking for ways to make boating more comfortable for tourists.

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 2 Captain, Linda M. Oltz stated that one of the benefits of the Summit is the networking. The USCGAUX interest is in recreational boating including equipment requirements and safety issues and in how we can disseminate correct information to the average "Joe Boater" in a timely fashion. An example is getting out the information on the required equipment and safety measures in operating a PWC and the regulations for operators. She noted that all PWC operators, as of 1 Jan 04, are required to have passed a proctored boating safety exam and carry proof of that when operating their craft.

Wayne Hale, Jr, manager of Orleans County Marine Park on Lake Ontario, noted that he deals with boater issues year-round, but with only a small voice and piecemeal approach, harbor-by-harbor. The Summit and the boater survey to be issued by NYSG are good first steps toward organizing a coalition to bring larger-than-local concerns to the forefront with regulators, legislators, funding sources and tourism marketing groups.

A follow-up meeting is planned for May 04. We shall be in attendance once again and truly hope this group will make a difference. You may watch [www.nysgmarina.org](http://www.nysgmarina.org) for details.

## **WHAT'S NEW?**

**P/C Earl Selover, SN, is hard at work getting our membership\ roster in order.**

**Do you have any changes to report?**

**Boat Name?**

**E-mail address?**

**New Spouse?**

**Have you a new business or have you joined the ranks of the retired?**

**If there is anything at all Earl should know—please give him a call at 336-3065.**

**Thanks**



## CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A, Woodard, P

P/C Ellen Webster, SN sent in the following.

A company trying to continue its five-year perfect safety record showed it's workers a film aimed at encouraging the use of safety goggles on the job. According to Industrial Machinery News, the film's depiction of gory industrial accidents was so graphic that twenty-five workers suffered minor injuries in their rush to leave the screening room. Thirteen others fainted, and one man required seven stitches after he cut his head falling off a chair while watching the film.

Now we agree that is funny - not up to the standards of Dumber than a Bollard, but funny.



The Utica Squadron web page has been taken over by P/C Rick Gassner, AP with the help of Lt/C Gerry Fry, JN. We are pleased to announce that they have been able to secure much more space for our efforts. At this time you can still point to [www.usps.org/localusps/utica](http://www.usps.org/localusps/utica) and view our fine site. In the future we hope to be able to greatly expand our offerings for your use. Click on the site and tell the webmaster what you think. You may offer pictures our other contributions that you think may be of interest to the members.



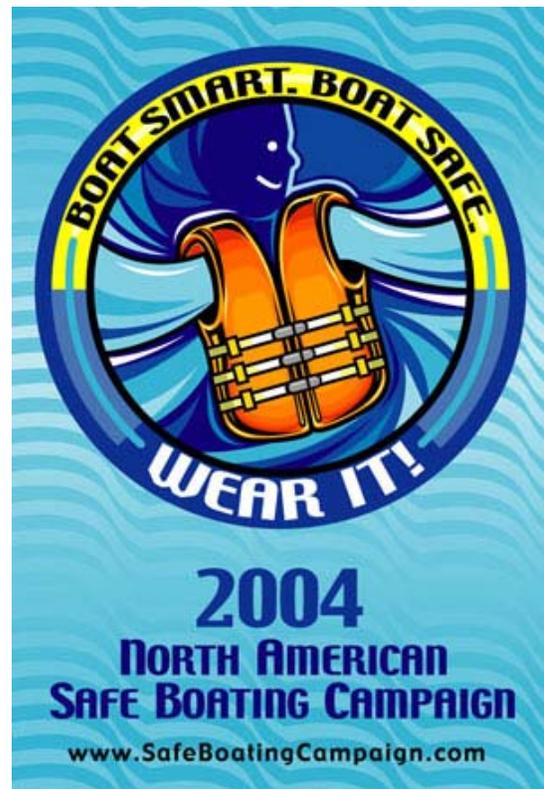
To the right you will see the logo for the 2004 Safe Boating Campaign. We hope that you will start to plan now to participate in the annual kickoff event. One of the events will be a Boat Smart Class. Time marches on and everyone needs certification for a PWC this year. Pass the word.

### *BoatUS/West Marine Offer Discounts for VSCs*

Once again, both BoatUS and West Marine have agreed to extend their 10% discount for boaters who have had a Vessel Safety Check (VSC) in 2003 and 2004.

**This year, however, all boaters** have to do to receive the discount is to show a copy of their completed ANSC7012 VSC form.

They are entitled to the discount regardless of whether they pass or fail the VSC. The unconditional discount is to encourage boaters to get a VSC, even if they believe they may not be in compliance with all boat and/or carriage requirements. The discount rewards boaters for the educational experience they receive, since all Vessel Examiners discuss a number of safety topics during each check.



Marcy - Lock 20 in May.  
Be there.

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## 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 Schulz with any questions.

**CHANGE OF WATCH**

**21 MARCH 2004**

**CHANGE OF WATCH**

**1200 - 1500**

***KITTY'S ON THE CANAL***

**YOUR CHOICE OF PRIM RIB OF BEEF  
OR BLACKENED TUNA**

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