



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

<http://www.uticainfo.org>

February, 2010

District 6



THANKS RICK

Cdr Rick Gassner, JN again returns to the title of Past Commander. Many of us consider this the greatest honor in the Power Squadron, having served as a commander of ones squadron. When he was needed, Rick returned as commander for a second term, in fact he served his third year in this office. We needed him last year and we are looking forward for many more years of service from our Commander. Thanks Rick.

United States Power Squadrons®

District 6 Spring Conference 2010

19 March to 21 March 2010

Holiday Inn Ithaca Downtown

200 South Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY 14850

Telephone: (607)272-1000 — Fax: (607)269-0406

MKuryla@harthotels.com

Room and Meal Reservations

Room Rate is \$94.00 per night — Deadline: 5 March 2010.

Send YOUR squadron commander.

FOUNDER'S DAY PARTY

February 12, 2010 5:30 PM

VFW Spring Road \$5.00 per couple and a dish to pass

CHANGE OF WATCH

March 14, 2010 11:00 AM Beeches, Michelina's Room

\$16.00 for brunch

UTICA SAIL & POWER SQUADRON - OFFICERS

Commander..... Richard R. Gassner, JN
735-2541
Executive Officer..... Colleen A. Welch, AP
797-2009
SEO..... Gerald R. Fry, JN
824-0978
Administrative Officer..... Bryan E. Walrath, JN
337-6051
Secretary..... John J. Rettinger, JN
868-8585
Treasurer..... Thomas A. Sears, AP
337-6953
Assistant SEO..... Linda LaDuc, AP
839-5522
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NOTE: Utica Sail & Power Squadron Web Page

usps.org/localusps/utica

e-mail the Commander at:
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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

by Cdr Richard R. Gassner, AP



Greetings,. It seems the groundhog saw his shadow and we still have more winter before boating season (especially in Washington DC area). It is the season to enjoy each others company at our parties learn more about boating and the Power Squadron. It was a good time at the 12th nite party with a good speaker. It is always a fun and informal time at the Founders day party with our auction. The next party is the Change of Watch, our installation of new officers, to be held at the beeches on March 14, 11am. The date for Change of Watch has changed from March 21 to March 14. This is because it conflicted with the District Spring conference being held March 19 to 21.

The Change of Watch is a more special occasion in that I get to thank all the people that have made this squadron function. From putting out the Bilgewater, to teaching power squadron courses, to planning parties, etc, I appreciate all the time and energy that has been given by all. I am happy we are getting new people involved. We need new enthusiasm! I am especially impressed with the number of people attending the upcoming Spring Council meeting on Feb 27. This is important because it is where we can learn how the organization works and get updated on the new changes. Besides the business part of the meeting there is always a valuable learning session. Also we get to know the district and other squadron members on a personal basis.

Another function coming up is the Spring Conference from March 19 to 21. It will be held at the Holiday Inn downtown Ithaca. On Friday night is an informal party where each squadron sets up food and drinks and everyone socializes by going from room to room. On Saturday is the business meeting during the day and a

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SEO REPORT

By Lt/C Gerry Fry, JN



New classes in Navigation and Weather are off and running before these mighty cold winter winds. Thanks to P/C George Peckingham, JN and P/C Harry Winberg, SN, we have five N students and 10 WX students moving forward in their enjoyment of boating and in our Power and Sail Squadron. Additional enjoyment will be made available later in the spring when we offer the Instructor Development course.

Next on our agenda is to make arrangements for the two public boating courses that we will offer this spring. My first step will be to put the dates of the two sections of ABC/3 on the national USPS computer system. This step makes the announcement of our offerings and lists them with BoatUS and our state public boating education authority. Then we advertise locally as the dates approach.

Section one will be taught at the Whitesboro High School on March 25, and April 1, 8, 15. This eight hours of instruction will include a final examination that meets the standards set forth by New York and the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. As always we are looking for members to assist in teaching this course. Hopefully, P/C Dean Woodard, P will be back from whatever tropical clime he is basking in now to help as he has been so dedicated to do for many years.

Our second offering of ABC/3 will start the day after our Launch Party. I am looking forward to the Launch Party on June 4. Therefore, June 5, Noon to 4:00PM will be the time at Lock 20 to start this course. Final classes will be the following Tuesday, June 8 and Thursday, June 10 at Whitesboro High School.

By the way, Whitesboro School District has been extremely good to us over several years to let us use two or three classrooms every fall and spring. They do not have to do this for us. In addition they do not charge us anything for the lights. Many school districts do charge for use of facilities by outside groups.

If you know a School Board member at Whitesboro, please thank them for their kindness and their support of public safety through safe boating. Since we are all dedicated volunteers, we certainly can appreciate when others help in our volunteer efforts to make life better for all.

Now let's see. Do I have enough books for a March class? Have I reserved the classroom? Do we have the teaching resources lined up? Have we given needed information to our squadron public relations officer (PRO)? What have I forgotten? Will the "CRS" disease continue to plague me?

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dinner dance that night to install the new district officers. On Sunday morning is a meeting of the new District commander with all the Squadron commanders. This is a valuable meeting to coordinate the district with the squadrons. The deadline for room reservations is March 5.

Utica Sail and Power Squadron

Planned Activities List

For 2010

February

3 February Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

12 February Founders' Day Party 1730 Verona Legion Hall

March

3 March Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

14 March COW 1200 Dibbles Inn - Vernon

April

7 April Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

May

5 May Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

June

2 June Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

4 June Launch Party 1700 Lock 20 - Marcy

5 June Boating Course 1200 Lock 20 – Marcy

September

1 September Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

October

6 October Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

November

3 November Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

December

1 December Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

MERIT MARKS

The following members have been awarded merit Marks for 2009.
 Congratulations to all, A job well done.

First Name	Last Name	SQ Rank	Grade	MM
Fred S.	Dyer		JN	30
Gerald R.	Fry	Lt/C	JN	9
Victoria Ann	Fry		JN	9
Richard R.	Gassner	Cdr	JN	15
Frank H.	Gruenewald		AP	52
Linda S.	LaDuc	1/Lt	AP	6
George V.	Peckingham		JN	6
John J.	Reittinger	Lt/C	JN	1
Ann E.	Schulz			2
David W.	Schulz		AP	11
Thomas A.	Sears	Lt/C	AP	24
George M.	Silverman		P	3
David E.	Strobino		AP	1
Robert John	Walker		JN	1
Bryan E.	Walrath	Lt/C	JN	3
Ellen E.	Webster		SN	19
Randall I.	Webster		AP	10
Colleen .	Welch	Lt/C	AP	4
Harry L.	Winberg		SN	29
Dean	Woodard		P	16
Josephine W.	Zogby		AP	18



Subject: Loran C

Coast Guard announces publication of notice of intention to terminate the Long Range Aids to Navigation (Loran-C) signal

SEATTLE - The U.S. Coast Guard's Director of Prevention Policy announced Thursday publication in the Federal Register of plans to cease broadcasting the North American Loran-C signal Feb. 8.

In the Pacific Northwest this decision will include Loran Station Havre, Mo., but not Loran Station George, Wash., which will continue to support an international network.

As a result of technological advancements during the last 20 years and the emergence of the U.S. Global Positioning System, Loran-C is no longer required by the armed forces, the transportation sector or the nation's security interests, and is used by only a small segment of the population.

President Barack Obama's fiscal year 2010 budget supported the termination of outdated systems and specifically cited the terrestrial-based North American Loran-C system as such an example. The president did not seek funding for the Loran-C system in fiscal year 2010. Termination was also supported through the enactment of the 2010 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill.

The decision to terminate transmission of the Loran-C signal reflects the president's pledge to eliminate unnecessary federal programs.

The Loran-C system was not established as, nor was it intended to be, a viable systemic backup for GPS. If a single, domestic national system to back up GPS is identified as being necessary, the Department of Homeland Security will complete an analysis of potential backups to GPS. The continued active operation of Loran-C is not necessary to advance this evaluation.

The notice may be viewed online at www.regulations.gov, docket number: USCG-2009-0299. For more information on terminations, reductions and savings

**A guy is 72 years old and loves to fish
He was sitting in his boat the other day when he heard a voice say,
'Pick me up..'
He looked around and couldn't see anyone.
He thought he was dreaming when he heard the voice say again,
'Pick me up..'
He looked in the water and there, floating on the top, was a frog.. The man said, 'Are you talking to me?' The frog said, 'Yes, I'm talking to you.
Pick me up, then kiss me and I'll turn into the most beautiful woman you have ever seen. I'll make sure that all your friends are envious and jealous because I will be your bride!' The man looked at the frog for a short time, reached over, picked it up carefully, and placed it in his front pocket. The frog said, 'What, are you nuts? Didn't you hear what I said? I said kiss me and I will be your beautiful bride.'
He opened his pocket, looked at the frog and said,
'Nah, at my age I'd rather have a talking frog.'**



CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A. Woodard, P

Some "medical?" terms.

- Artery.....The study of paintings
- Bacteria.....Back door to cafeteria
- Barium.....What doctors do when patients die
- Benign.....What you be, after you be eight
- Caesarean Section.....A neighborhood in Rome
- Cat scan.....Searching for Kitty
- Cauterize.....Made eye contact with her
- Colic.....A sheep dog
- Coma.....A punctuation mark
- Dilate.....To live long
- Enema.....Not a friend
- Fester.....Quicker than someone else
- Fibula.....A small lie
- Impotent.....Distinguished, well known
- Labour Pain.....Getting hurt at work
- Medical Staff.....A Doctor's cane
- Morbid.....A higher offer
- Nitrates.....Cheaper than day rates
- Node.....I knew it
- Outpatient.....A person who has fainted
- Pelvis.....Second cousin to Elvis
- Post Operative.....A letter carrier
- Recovery Room.....Place to do upholstery
- Rectum.....Nearly killed him
- Secretion.....Hiding something
- Seizure.....Roman emperor
- Tablet.....A small table
- Terminal Illness.....Getting sick at the airport
- Tumor.....One plus one more
- Urine.....Opposite of you're out



- Ten Thoughts to Ponder for 2010
- Number 10 Life is sexually transmitted.
- Number 9 Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die..
- Number 8 Men have two emotions: Hungry and Horny.If you see him without an erection, make him a sandwich.
- Number 7 give a person a fish and you feed them for a day; teach a person to use the Internet, and they won't bother you for weeks.
- Number 6 Some people are like a Slinky Not really good for anything, but you still can't help but smile when you shove them down the stairs.
- Number 5 Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals, dying of nothing.
- Number 4 All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
- Number 3 How can a 'slight' tax increase cost you \$200, and a 'substantial' tax cut saves you \$30?
- Number 2 In the 60's, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.
- And The Number 1 Thought For 2010 "Life is like a jar of Jalapeno peppers: What you do today, might burn your ass tomorrow!



Funny story about a traffic camera:
 I was driving when I saw the flash of a traffic camera. I figured that my picture had been taken for exceeding the limit even though I knew that I was not speeding.
 Just to be sure, I went around the block and passed the same spot, driving even more slowly, but again the camera flashed.
 Now I began to think that this was quite funny, so I drove even slower as I passed the area once more, but the traffic camera again flashed.
 I tried a fourth and fifth time with the same results and was now laughing as the camera flashed while I rolled past at a snail's pace.
 Two weeks later, I got five tickets in the mail for driving without a seat belt.
 You can't fix stupid.

EDUCATIONAL BENEFACTORS FUND

This Fund was established in memory of Lt./C Stephen E. Smith, S to encourage donations for the purchase of educational equipment and supplies to support our two-fold mission: boater safety education for the public as a public service, and Squadron member education. Contributors may donate in memory of loved ones, or to acknowledge special occasions such as weddings, birthdays, promotions, bar mitzvahs, get-well wishes, and special achievements.

All donations are tax deductible.

(Suggested Format)

In Memory of John Doe by: Mrs. John Doe

Congratulations to by: _____

**Contributions should be sent to
Squadron Treasurer Thomas A. Sears, AP**

The BILGEWATER
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Rome, NY 13440