



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

January 2006

District 6

HEAR YE HEAR YE, EH?

By P/C Ellen Webster, SN

Once again it time for the Utica Power Squadron's annual Founder's Day Party! The date is 17 February 2006 at the Verona VFW Post 6811, 4928 Spring Road Verona, phone 363-9327. Time to be there is 1730 (05:30 PM). (It's a party, there's no time clock, get there when you can!)

Directions to the VFW:

From Utica: Take Route 49 west to Rome. Route 49 will merge with Routes 365, Route 26 and Route 69. Follow the signs for routes 365 and 26 - to Oneida.

Proceed westward from Rome on route 365/26. Route 26 will diverge to the South just west of Rome. The next traffic light will be in about 5 miles. This is the light for Spring Road. Turn left. The VFW is a little ways down on the right. (Across the road from BOCES.)

If you choose to approach from Route 5: When heading west on route 5, turn right at the second light in Vernon, NY. This will put you on Route 31 north. Proceed to the junction of Routes 365 and 31. This will be the second light. Turn right and head east on Route 365.



Turn right and head east on Route 365. Turn right at the next light. This will be spring road.

The party is a potluck, covered dish affair. The squadron buys the beer, you bring the food. The cost of admission is \$5.00 per couple, \$3.00 for singles. Dress is casual.

We also hold our annual auction. This is when we ask you to donate an item to be auctioned off the evening to help raise money for the squadron. Anything goes. The only restriction is that anything you bought at last year's auction is not allowed back on the auction block until next year!

Any questions, please give be a call at 336-.3444. Please don't call The VFW. I only included their number in this notice for emergencies or for the lost and weary traveler that would perhaps have a cell phone and needs directions.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE - P 2 ***

ADVANCING ON - P 3

*****WEATHER CLASS- P 4 *****

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK P 5

CHECKING THE BILGE - P 6

UTICA POWER SQUADRON OFFICERS



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

by Cdr Gerald R. Fry, JN

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- SQUADRON MEETING 1 FERRUARY 06**
(MEETING AT 1815 FOR IQ EXAM)
- 12TH NIGHT PARTY 15 JANUARY 08**
- FOUNDER'S DAY 17 FEBRUARY 06**
- CHANGE OF WATCH 19 MARCH 06**
- TRIP TO LOCK 17 TBA**

The Substitute Commander's Message
By Executive Officer George Peckingham, P
Cdr. Gerry Fry, JN and SEO Victoria Fry, JN are combining vacation in Florida with attending USPS Annual Meeting. Sometimes when you join an organization, such as the Power Squadron, for educational purposes the benefit you receive is broader than expected. The work done by the membership often goes unnoticed. Cdr. Gerry Fry passes out "attaboys" regularly to all that contribute. To Gerry here's an attaboy for a job well done. Teaching classes, commanding the squadron with humor and good judgment takes a lot of work.

Ten months a year this publication comes out and gets distributed thanks to Dean Woodard, P. To Dean here's an attaboy for an ongoing good job.

For those with spare time, "Google" your name sometime and you'll find out how many times you've been cited in this world renowned publication. For the computer unsavvy amongst us, "Googling" is going to the Google website and doing a search of your name.

Even though the boating season is some months off the Squadron has a number of activities scheduled, times and dates are listed elsewhere. These include Twelfth Night, Spring Council, Founders Day and The Change of Watch. The lock visitation for this year is currently unscheduled. A date will be announced as soon as arrangements are completed.

The Squadron needs to revise its by-laws. The proposed changes have been posted on the Squadron website (usps.org/localusps/utica/) for some time and there have been few comments received by the bridge. If you have any recommended changes please forward your proposed revisions. We are also

to Page 3 Commander

ADVANCING ON

by P/C Ellen Webster, SN

This notice to serve as a second announcement for the inaugural commencement of the all new and improved Advanced Piloting course. Class will begin at 1900 hrs (07:00 PM) on 19 January 2006 at the Whitesboro Senior High School.

The suggested text is the all new USPS **Advanced Piloting** Student Manual and The **Weekend Navigator** by Bob Sweet (same text that was used in the most recent Piloting class). The cost for just the student manual is \$20.00. The cost for both the student manual and The weekend Navigator is \$40.00.

Other class supplies would be such things as a course plotter, sharp pencils, and a good eraser! A really good, BIG eraser.

The course is designed to teach you to use the USPS rectangular course plotter, But I have nothing against the USPS Square course plotter, a pair of triangles or parallel rules. Whatever keeps your boat afloat! The cost for the "approved" course plotter is \$5.00.

This course is designed to be a continuation of the Piloting course. It will deal with some of the perils of navigating in coastal waters. Such things as longer distances between navigational aids, less protected waters, tides and tidal currents. It also includes the use of electronics for navigation. Such things as GPS, radar and digital charting. It should run for about 10 weeks, but that's not written in stone.

As is the policy of all USPS courses, there is no prerequisite for this course. So if you missed out on the last piloting class or have taken the older piloting course, please don't let this stop you from joining the fun. Hell, I haven't taken the new piloting course either and I'm your instructor! The way I look at it, all the electronics in the world doesn't change how a boat moves through the water, they just make it easier to prove where you are in the pond!

Commander from page 2

contemplating a name change to Utica Sail and Power Squadron. If you have thoughts on this please forward them to either Gerry e-mail at fyg@dreamscape.com or to me at duke_peck@msn.com. With the bylaw revision we are also contemplating a name change to Utica Sail and Power Squadron. If you have thoughts on this please forward them to Gerry or me. We will also do a straw poll during the Twelfth Night and Founders Day events.

The Squadron has two scheduled classes starting this month:
Weather, taught by Harry Winberg, SN, starting Wednesday, January 18 at 7:00p.m. at the Whitesboro high school, and Advanced Piloting, taught by Ellen Webster, SN, starting Thursday January 19, 2006 at 7:00p.m. at the Whitesboro high school.

ABANDON: 1) The state in which a sailor acquires a boat.
2) Wild state in which a sailor relinquishes a boat

SPINNAKER: An extremely large, lightweight, ballooned-shaped piece of sailcloth frequently trailed in the water off the bow in a big bundle to slow the boat down.

SPINNAKER POLE: Jocular term based on ethnic slur used to describe an individual who attempts to fly a spinnaker

That's all I got for you!

Ellen



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN A WEATHER CLASS

by Harry Winberg, SN

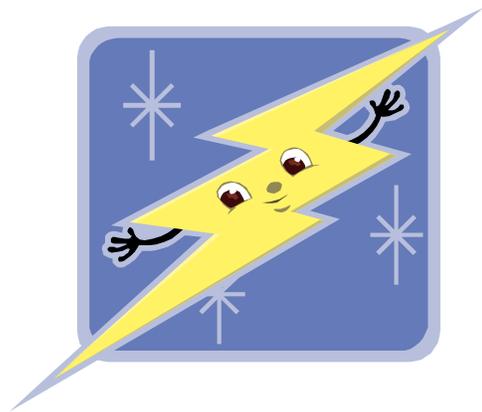
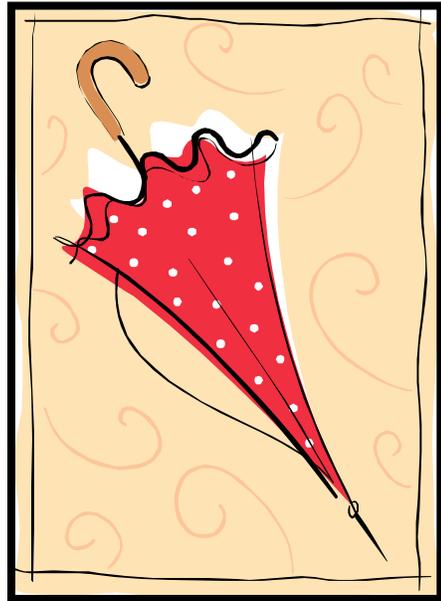


The Utica Power Squadron will be teaching the Weather course once again this semester. It will run from Wednesday, January 18 until we are finished, in the neighborhood of 13 weeks total. But there will be a 2-3 week break between the two modules of the course, probably latter February to early March. It will be held at the Whitesboro High School and

classes start at 1900 each evening. It is not cheap- - the tuition will be \$ 45, which includes the two very good textbooks, forecasting plotting materials and excellent cloud sample charts.

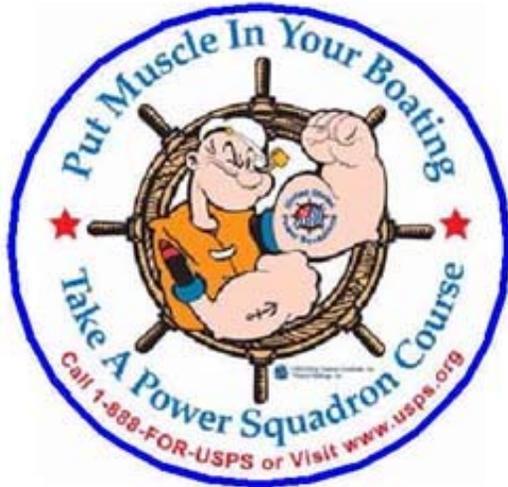
Having stated the logistics, why should you want to take this course?? Well, are there peculiar circumstances which created the enormous hurricane environment of 2005? Is it of interest to know how millions of tons of water can simply be lifted thousands of feet into thin air? Do you wonder how the weather gurus can tell what's gonna happen without looking out the window? Does the term "adiabatic lapse rate" induce sleep or boredom? How do those airliners up there paint the skies with tic-tac-toe lines? Do you want to proceed to "SN" status?

For the above reasons and others you may have, we will welcome you aboard for this course. Please bring a pencil and your bright smiling faces. See you there



NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK 2006

20 - 26 MAY



The National Safe Boating Council, Inc. (NSBC) was organized in September 1958 under the name National Safe Boating Committee. The NSBC presently has a membership of over 325 U.S. and Canadian organizations, all with an interest in boating safety and education. The NSBC membership is diverse, with approximately 65% of the membership being nonprofit organizations and 35% being for-profit organizations.

The mission of the NSBC is to reduce accidents and enhance the boating experience. The NSBC is the foremost coalition for the advancement and promotion of safer boating through education. The National Safe Boating Council accom-

plishes this mission by:

- Conducting a series of on-going National Campaigns to promote Safe Boating.
- Providing opportunities to work directly with national and international leaders in boating education.
- Improving the professional development of boating safety educators.
- Distributing safe boating information.
- Developing and recognizing outstanding boating safety programs.

Supporting research initiatives that strengthen boating education and safety awareness.

This year we again plan to conduct the Utica Squadrons kick off program at Lock 20 Park in Marcy we will offer

- ◆ Boating Course
- ◆ Demonstrations
- ◆ Vessel Safety Checks
- ◆ and more.

Please reserve Saturday the 20th to participate in the national event.

Contact P/C Dean Woodard, P for more information and to volunteer



CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A. Woodard

We start with a belated Christmas story - don't worry - it has something to do with boats.

With Christmas quickly approaching, a husband told his wife that he wanted to buy a new power boat. Adamantly opposed to the idea, the wife argued with her husband for days about the purchase. Finally, inspiration struck, and the husband told his wife, "Listen, I really want this boat, so let's make a deal. If you let me buy it, I'll let you name it." "Fine," said the wife. Surprised that his wife finally agreed, the man quickly went out and purchased the boat, parking it in his driveway. The next day he went out to look at it, and noticed that his wife had already painted the new name on it: **For Sale**.

☺ ☺ ☺

VERY GOOD WISDOM

An Old Farmer's Advice:

Contributed by Lt/C George Peckingham, AP

* Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong. * Keep skunks and bankers and lawyers at a distance. * Life is simpler when you plow around the stump. * A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor. * Words that soak into your ears are whispered...not yelled. * Meanness don't jes' happen overnight. * Forgive your enemies. It messes up their heads. * Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you. * It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge. * You cannot unsay a cruel word. * Every path has a few puddles. * When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty. * The best sermons are lived, not preached. * Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway. * Don't judge folks by their relatives. * Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer. * Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older

and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time. * Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none. * Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance. * If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'. * Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got. * The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every mornin'. * Always drink upstream from the herd. * Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment. * Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in. * If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around. * Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

☺ ☺ ☺

BOATING CLASS

We will be offering our first public boating class for the Spring starting in March. This will be the four session Boat Smart course open to everyone. We do require that children under 15 must be with an adult who is taking the class. This course will meet all requirements for PWC as well as youth boating. If you have any questions or would like to help out, give P/C Dean Woodard, P a call at 336-1026 or e-mail at woodardd@twcny.rr.com.

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SOME ABSOLUTELY USELESS FACTS

In the 1400's a law was set forth that a man was not allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have "the rule of thumb"

Coca-Cola was originally green.
It is impossible to lick your elbow.

Ok! We'll try harder next month!!!

**WANT A NAME TAG?
NEED A HAT? WANT A NEW BURGEE? HOW ABOUT A
SHIRT?
George Peckingham at 315-831-2170 duke_peck@msn.com**

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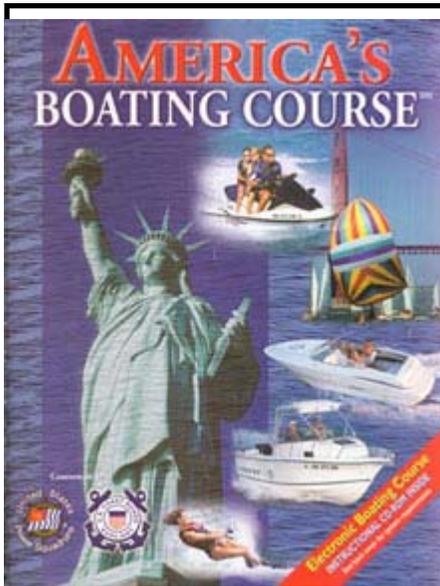
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NEED A BOATING COURSE?

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR A RELATIVE THAT WANTS A BOATING CLASS THAT MEETS ALL NY STATE REQUIREMENTS - AND THEY WANT IT NOW?

IF SO, YOU MAY WANT TO SUGGEST THAT THEY CALL ELLEN WEBSTER AT 336-3444 AND BUY A COPY OF AMERICA'S BOATING COURSE.

America's Boating Course is a self study course that has a textbook and a CD for your computer. We will also supply NY State specific information and study questions. When you have

finished the course, we will provide a proctored exam and a certificate that states that you meet all NY State requirements for boating and PWC.

The cost is \$35 which covers one exam. Additional exams will be \$5.00 each. Questions? Give Ellen a call.

The BILGEWATER
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