



# 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)

March 2005

District 6

## THANK YOU!



As we celebrate our Change of Watch we need to take a moment to express our thanks to our departing leadership.

Lt/C Walt Kramer, AP has served as our Secretary for many years. Walt has always been a dependable leader with many ideas. Among other things, Walt has been the force behind all of our canal trips during the winter months. We owe him much.



Cdr Dave Schulz, AP has served us well. Joining us only three years ago he has led us during a time of change and development. We look forward to Dave working at the district level. We are sure that he will contribute as much to the District as he has to the Utica Squadron.

And then there is Ellen. P/C Ellen Webster, SN has led our education department for many years. She has managed the national and district bureaucracy with skill and grace. She is a fine teacher and a remarkable person. Her contributions are and continue to be immeasurable.

None of these folks will be missed; they remain important contributing members. Thanks guys!



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266-0511

Executive Officer.....Gerald R. Fry, JN  
824-0978

SEO..... Ellen Webster, SN  
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Administrative Officer.....

Secretary..... Walter H. Kramer, AP  
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## DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>Boat Smart</b>	<b>17 March 05</b>
<b>COW</b>	<b>20 Mar 05</b>
<b>Spring Conference</b>	<b>April 8-10</b>
<b>Coast Guard Trip</b>	<b>1 May</b>
<b>Launch Party</b>	<b>May 05</b>
<b>Haul Out Party</b>	<b>Sep or Oct</b>



## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

*by Cdr David W. Schulz, AP*

So the time has arrived when our Change Of Watch will bring us a new Bridge and some fresh ideas. My time as Commander has gone by all so fast. I am most grateful to the Bridge and our membership for all that you have contributed during my watch. Your contributions are what make our Squadron so great.

I am proud to have served as your Commander and representative.

There are a few folks that I feel a need to give an extra special "Thank You" beyond the Merit Mark. To Lt/C Tom Sears, AP and Sears Oil Company for the use of the beautiful "Board Room" for our spirited meetings; P/C Dean Woodard P for your ideas and encouragement and especially for all the work required to produce the Bilgewater and your teaching in the public boating classes; To P/C Ellen Webster for all your work as our SEO – the countless hours spent behind the scenes to keep our education program up to date and running smooth; To P/C Harry Winberg, SN for all of your tireless contributions as a teacher and writer, your wonderful ideas and encouragement and your warm hospitality in providing an alternative meeting place; and to Lt/C Gerry Fry, JN and 1/Lt Vicky Fry, JN for your warm personal friendship, your encouragement, fresh ideas, teaching and all around big help; To P/C Ed Gaffney, AP for your friendship, ideas encouragement and support; to P/C Rick Gassner, JN for your ideas, friendship, encouragement and support; to P/C Jo Zogby, AP for all that you have done for this Squadron in the past and present and for all that you have done for Ann and I.

(commander from page 2)

Finally to P/C Earl Selover, SN and Lt/C Steve Smith, S – I will simply say your Squadron and I miss you very much. Thanks for everything.

I intend to remain active in our Squadron and hope that our new Commander will give me some challenging assignments.

Thank you, everyone, for making my watch so special. I hope we have made a difference. Thank you for the memories.

See you all at Change of Watch and all of our activities and programs.

## A LETTER FROM THE NATIONAL EDUCATION OFFICER

I need your suggestions.

Everyone is aware of the major problem we have in getting everyone who participates in water sports to wear PFDs. Just looking at the statistic that shows that in some 80-90% of deaths last year, PFDs were not worn, should be enough to wake us up. I think most of us in USPS are aware of this and will wear our PFDs in most circumstances. However, how do we get to the majority outside of USPS - and specifically the fishermen and hunters that use small boats, canoes, and kayaks? I would be appreciative of any suggestions as to what specific education strategies can be developed to encourage the wearing of PFDs.

I am on the NASBLA Education and Paddlesports Committees and this is an area where we need to develop education strategies that will enable us to improve our record by getting more individuals to wear PFDs.

Thanks for your help!  
Spencer P. Anderson

### LET GEORGE DO IT

Soon to be Lt/C George Peckingham, P, has been working very hard to get the squadron records up to date. Please check out the information below and send any changes along to George at the address below and he will do it.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_ Type ( ) Sail ( ) Power Style or brand \_\_\_\_\_

Where to you keep your boat? \_\_\_\_\_

To George V. Peckingham 9240 Brown Tract Rd Remsen, NY 13438 e-mail duke\_peck@msn.com or just hand George this form at the COW or any Squadron function. Thanks for the help.

## **AHOY YE TARS, VIEW THESE COMING EVENTS**

**Boating Safety Course** --- A "Boatsmart" Course will start 17 March and run four consecutive Thursday nights (1830 to 2030) with the final exam and recruiting party on 7 April. Location: Whitesboro High School. Contact Commander Dave Schulz for additional details and to signup your friends.

**Change of Watch** --- Utica Power Squadron's annual Change of Watch dinner and ceremony will be 20 March 2005 at 1230. Deadline for reservations through Commander Schulz is 13 March 2005. More below..

**Squadron Meeting** --- All UPS members are invited to the monthly Squadron Meeting to be held at 1930, 6 April at Sears Oil Co. in Rome.

**District 6 Spring Conference** --- 8, 9 and 10 April 2005 in Rochester N. Y. Contact Commander Schulz to join our party.

**Seamanship Course** --- Utica Power Squadron will begin a sequence of Advanced Grade member courses with Seamanship to start on 28 April 2005 at Whitesboro High School 1830 to 2030. Contact Vicky Fry to reserve your place and book.

**Oswego Coast Guard Station Visit** --- Enjoy a station tour, board the 47 foot Rescue Lifeboat and the 25 foot Utility Boat. Planned for morning of 1 May. More on the next page.

### **Change of Watch**

Sunday 20 March 2005 at Kitty's On the Canal, Utica starting at 1230. Commander Dave Schulz, AP will receive District Commander Mary Joyce D'Aurizio, P and other guests (You too!) for the Change of Watch. This ceremony will follow a fine dinner including your choice of Teres Major with Portobello Mushrooms or Marinated Grilled Chicken over Greens. Teres Major is just a fancy way to say Tenderloin Steak. Several other items will grace the buffet table

*turn to page 5*

for your culinary delight. The price is \$15.00 per person inclusive of taxes and tip. Cash bar opens at 1230. **Reserve your meal choice with Commander Schulz no later than 13 March 2005.** Contact Dave at 315 266-0511 or David.Schulz@verizon.net

You will certainly want to attend for the social intercourse, fine food, and to support your new bridge officers. See you there.

## **Oswego Coast Guard Station Tour**

April is a little early to get on the water so plan to join your squadron friends on this interesting outing. Hear about the station operations and new Homeland Security duties. Tour the big motor rescue boat that is heavy duty and self righting for rough water duty. The lake water will be too cold for us to have a ride on the boat so don't promise the kids too much. Children are welcome.

We are planning to rent a bus. We plan to leave Rome by 0830 on Sunday 1 May 2005 and return about 1500. This will allow time for a nice lunch and perhaps some shopping in the harbor-side mall. Cost of the bus ride will be \$10 for each seat. If you are interested contact Gerry Fry at 315 824-0978 or frygr@dreamscape.com before the 6 April squadron meeting. A final decision will be made at this squadron meeting. The decision concerning this outing will be based on your stated interest. This will be a grat time to bring the kids or grandkids. With a full bus we will split the group in half for the tour. We will have activities for the other half during the tour.

## **Upstate Boat Show and Fishing Sale**

Your Utica Power Squadron was represented at this show at Turning Stone Casino on 4, 5, 6 March 2005. We shared a booth with the Coast Guard Auxiliary compliments of the show's promoters. This show allowed substantial exposure for your squadron to the boating public of central New York. Member courses and member activities were stressed. A fine brochure prepared by P/C Dean Woodard, P was used to advertise our BoatSmart course offerings and Vessel Safety Check service. Power Point pictures were displayed using our new laptop computer and digital projector thanks to the Steven Smith Educational Benefactors Fund.

Your squadron is indebted to P/C Rick Gassner, AP, Lt/C George Peckingham, P and Lt/C Gerry Fry, JN for setting up the booth on Friday. Booth duties were graciously accepted for two shifts by P/C Ellen Webster, SN and Randy Webster, AP. George Peckingham also put in two shifts as did Gerry Fry. Other members contributing their time and talent were P/C David Kobernuss, SN, P/C Dean Woodard, P with wife Kathy and Grandson (a little Dean), P/C Robert Skalwold, SN with wife Phyllis, and Tom Mahar, AP. P/C Pete Martin, P stopped in to give moral support after his long day in the insurance company booth. Everyone enjoyed the show and their help is very much appreciated. As always remember that "member benefits are directly proportional to member involvement".



## CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A. Woodard P

Time for change comes along with every Change of Watch that we conduct.

This year we will be making deeper changes than we have in some times and I am excited about the prospects and the direction of our squadron. I hope to see you at the COW so that we can talk and share our goals. See you there.



A trip to the Coast Guard base in Oswego. Sounds like a lot of fun. Is there anything else you would like to do when we are there? Soon to be Lt/C Howard Wyatt suggested that we hire a bus for the trip. Sounded like a good idea at the time. Now with the gas prices climbing about every day a good idea looks like genius. We have asked our grandson to join us. Sounds like a lot of fun.

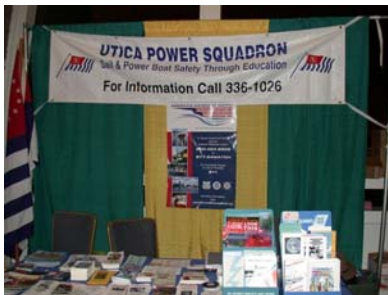


This is from a book called Disorder in the American Courts, things people actually said in court,

Q: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

A: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

*Thanks Dave—I thought it was funny!*



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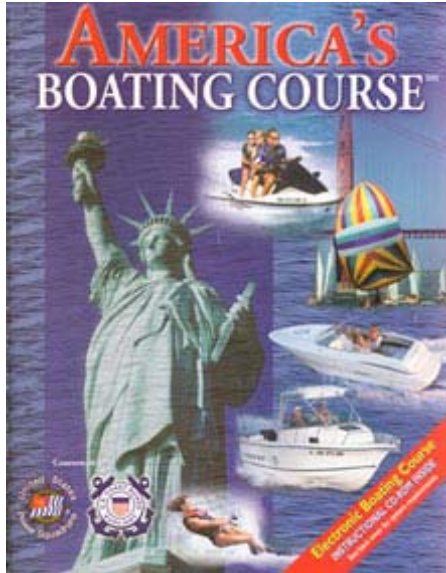
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## NEED A BOATING COURSE?

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

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