



# 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)

November, 2004

District 6

---

## EDUCATIONAL BENEFACTORS FUND PROPOSAL

The recent tragic death of Lt./C Stephen E. Smith, S and the most generous gift by his wife Jackie Smith to purchase educational equipment in his honor inspired the Utica Power Squadron to form a special committee to propose an Educational Benefactors Fund.

Two major sections of the squadron mission include boater safety education. One aspect is boater safety education for the public as a civic service. The second aspect is member education with advanced grade and elective courses. We need to update the squadron's educational methods and equipment as the National USPS upgrades the boating safety courses. These updates cost money. Some of these costs will be met by recent generous donations in memory of Stephen Smith. In the future other "Educational Benefactors" may step forward to support our work for boating safety.

The Educational Benefactors Fund is proposed to encourage donations by USPS members and friends to purchase educational equipment and supplies. National USPS has greatly improved Piloting and is in the process of upgrading Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigation and Navigation. These course revisions include ways to take advantage of the full potential of GPS navigation. Fortunately the courses retain most of the traditional subject matter to support a "Seaman's Eye" scrutiny of the electronic information and provide backup in case of electronic failure. The new courses incorporate new technology in the form of Power Point presentation computer software and chartplotter navigation software for cruise planning and control. Two currently identified needs are a laptop computer and a digital projector. The squadron is working to identify other needs related to course improvements.

As proposed, the Educational Benefactors Fund would be supervised and managed by the Squadron Treasurer as a separate body of money to be expended only for the purpose discussed above. It would not be used for general squadron expenses or obligations to the national USPS. Approval of the Squadron will be required for fund disbursements.

continued on page 3

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE - P 2 \*\*\* PORT LEFT - P 3 \*\*\*  
FROM THE SEO - P 4 SDQUADRON DATES - P 5 \*\*  
CHECKING THE BILGE - P 6 \*\*\* OUR SUPPORTERS P 7

# UTICA POWER SQUADRON OFFICERS

- Commander.....David W. Schulz, AP  
266-0511
- Executive Officer.....Gerald R. Fry, JN  
824-0978
- SEO..... Ellen Webster, SN  
336-3444
- Administrative Officer..... Stephen E. Smith, S  
339-3691
- 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** Editor .....Dean A. Woodard, P  
336-1026  
**woodardd@twcny.rr.com**
- Circulation.....Vivian Selover
- Public Relations Officer .....Jacqueline Smith  
339-3691
- Web Master ..... Rick Gassner, AP  
723-2582

NOTE: Utica Power Squadron Web Page  
**usps.org/localusps/utica**  
e-mail the Commander at:  
**david.schulz@verizon.net**

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Utica Power Squadron, District 6 or the United States Power Squadrons. Copyright © 2000 Utica Power Squadron ® All rights reserved. The Squadron®, United States Power Squadrons®, USPS®, The Ensign®, the Trident and the Wheel and Ensign designs and America's Boating Club® are registered trademarks of United States Power Squadrons Inc. Jet Smart®, BoatSmart®, The Squadron Boating Course, and America's Boating Course are additional property of the USPS.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- |                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>12<sup>th</sup> Night</b> | <b>16 Jan 05</b>  |
| <b>Spring Council</b>        | <b>4-5 Feb 05</b> |
| <b>Founders Day</b>          | <b>18 Feb 05</b>  |
| <b>COW</b>                   | <b>20 Mar 05</b>  |
| <b>Launch Party</b>          | <b>May 05</b>     |
| <b>Haul Out Party</b>        | <b>Sep or Oct</b> |
- see page 5*



## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

*by Cdr David W. Schulz, AP*

We attended a very good D/6 Conference in Corning, NY where we were represented by P/C Josephine Zogby, AP, P/D/C Dagne Struthers, SN and myself. Our District 6 Commander is making great progress at reducing time spent on reports and increasing time spent on our main mission of boater education. Of course recognition of Squadron accomplishments are also an important feature.

D/6 Squadrons voted unanimously to participate in USPS Headquarter annual dues billing to begin sometime next year. What that means to Utica Power Squadron is that most of our work will be done for us and dues will be able to be paid using a credit card. This also means that when we recruit new members at our public boating classes, dues can be paid using a credit card as well as a check.

USPS Headquarters is currently conducting a survey in which our SEO, P/C Ellen Webster, SN will provide input concerning our public boating classes. The survey will assist in creating a new public Boating Course that will consolidate and replace Boat Smart, Chart Smart and Squadron Boating Course. The new course will dovetail into Seamanship thereby enhancing the content of that newly revised course.

The number of Vessel Safety Checks accomplished by all the D/6 Squadrons has dramatically increased. There are now active examiners in all D/6 Squadrons. If you are interested in becoming an examiner for next boating season please call P/C Dean Woodard, P who will assist you in realizing that dream.

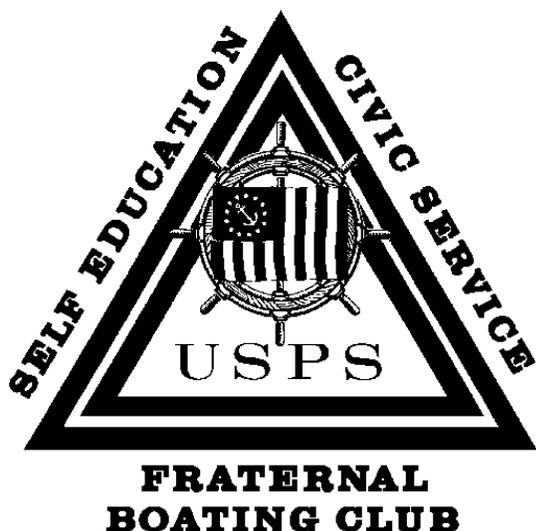
*Commander page 4*

## BENEFACTORS FUND

*from page 1*

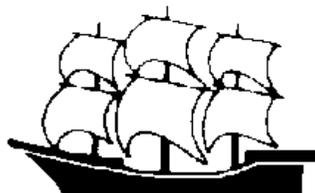
All donations will be acknowledged by a sincere letter of gratitude. The Squadron Treasurer will send the letter to the donor with a copy to the family in cases where the gift is made "In Memory Of ...". Major benefactors who give or inspire "In Memory Of ..." donations totaling \$1000.00 or more will be memorialized by a decal attached to the equipment purchased. Also with permission of the donor of \$1000 or more, his or her name will be mentioned in the Bilgewater. All donations to Utica Power Squadron are tax deductible as a charitable donation to a not for profit organization.

This proposal for discussion and action is respectfully submitted by a committee consisting of P/C Harry Winberg, SN, Treasurer Tom Sears, AP, and Executive Officer Gerry Fry, JN.



## 'PORT LEFT, STARBOARD RIGHT'

*From time to time we need to be reminded of our own limitations. A friend sent the following and we just had to print it again. It is a true "classic of the sea". daw*



Once upon a time there was a famous sea captain. This captain was very

successful at what he did; for years he guided merchant ships all over the world.

Never did stormy seas or pirates get the best of him. He was admired by his crew and fellow captains. However, there was one thing different about this captain.

Every morning he went through a strange ritual. He would lock himself in his captain's quarters and open a small safe. In the safe was an envelope with a piece of paper inside. He would stare at the paper for a minute, then lock it back up. After, he would go about his daily duties.

For years this went on, and his crew became very curious. Was it a treasure map? Was it a letter from a long lost love? Everyone speculated about the contents of the strange envelope.

One day the captain died at sea. After laying the captain's body to rest, the first mate led the entire crew into the Captain's Quarters. He opened the safe, got the envelope, opened it and...

The first mate turned pale and showed the paper to the others. Four words were on the paper, two on two lines:

"Port Left, Starboard Right"

### *Commander from page 2*

By the time you receive this newsletter we will have concluded another Boat Smart Course at Whitesboro Sr. High School. Piloting is underway and is still accepting students. This is an all-new, very exciting and very impressive course.

There is a nationwide effort within USPS that all public boating course instructors be certified by USPS. This is being done because some state and local governments are requiring it. We suspect it is also because of the legal requirement that all PWC operators successfully complete a boating safety course that includes a proctored exam. The fact that we are providing legal proof of completion when we issue the certificate has become an issue. Instructor certification is required for public boating courses only. It is suggested for all other course instructors but not mandatory. If you are or have been a professional teacher, certification is a matter of submitting the paperwork. If not, you must complete an Instructor Training course. USPS has such a course that has been newly revised. We are currently obtaining all the necessary documents to certify our instructors. It is also believed that if you have completed the USPS Instructor Qualification Course (IQ) you may be certified. However it should be noted that for the public boating course instructors only, certification must be done by 2005 and will be redone every 5 years.

Bob Hyde continues treatment and is staying close to home. We sure miss him at meetings. Many have asked about him and "TJ" at Conference.

Hope all is well with everyone else. See you at our next meeting, 1 Dec 04. 1930 at Sears Oil. By the way Dagne Struthers is conducting Operations Training (OT) at 1830 prior to our meeting. You can still join us if you would like to know how USPS is put together and how it is supposed to operate.

## From The SEO

*Lt/C Ellen Webster, SN*



Greetings!

Just a few announcements for you. P/C Harry Windberg, SN has agreed to teach the Sail course. This course has two 6 week sections. Sail 101 (part one) will begin on 13 January 2005 at the Whitesboro Senior High School. The time to be there is 1900 (7:00 PM). Sail 102 (Part two) will commence on 14 April same time same place.

I have to tell you, taking a course from Harry is a great experience. He is one of the best instructors that I have ever known. His classes are interesting and informative and a joy to attend.

To learn more about the Sail course visit the USPS national web site at [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org).

My thanks to Lt/C Gerry Fry, JN and P/C Rick Gassner AP for teaching the Piloting course. Too bad that only two people took advantage of opportunity to check out the all new piloting course. It's really a great course. With only 2 sections covered there's plenty of time left to join the party! This course emphasizes pre-planning of your voyage by using computer chart plotting software and loading this info into your GPS. Traditional paper charting methods are used to provide a careful watch to back up the GPS positions. Gerry and Rick have plenty of books and supplies on hand and welcome you to join the class. The class meets at Whitesboro Senior High School on Thursday nights at 1830. Please give Gerry 824-0978, Rick, 735-2541, or myself 336-3444 a call for more info.

That is all!

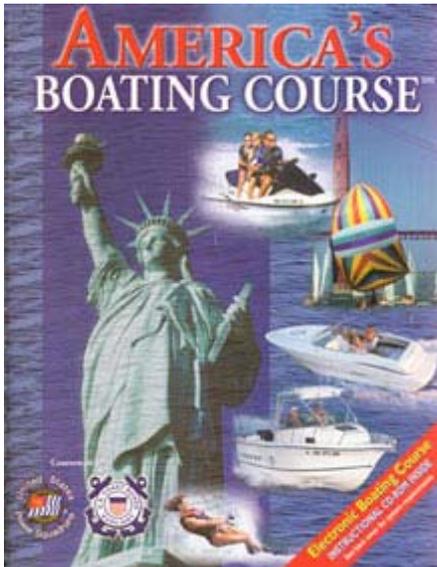
Ellen

## DATES 2004 – 2005

### UTICA POWER SQUADRON

Event	Date	Place
Fall Conference	5-7 Nov 04	Raddison, Corning, NY
Lock tour		TBA
12 <sup>th</sup> Night	16 Jan 05	Ramada Inn
Spring Council	4-5 Feb 05	Holiday Inn, Waterloo, NY
Founders Day	18 Feb 05	TBA
Spring Conference	8-10 Apr 05	Clarion Riverside, Rochester, NY
COW	20 Mar 05	Kitty's on the Canal
National Safe Boating		
Week / Boat Smart	21 - 27 May 05	Lock 20 Park
Launch Party	May 05	Lock 20 Park
D/6 Rendezvous	25-28 July 05	Edgewater Resort, Alex. Bay, NY
Fall Council	4-5 Sep 05	Holiday Inn, Batavia, NY
<b>Fall Conference</b>	<b>4-6 Nov 05</b>	<b>Hotel Utica, Utica, NY</b>
Haul Out Party	Sep or Oct	TBA (new or revived event)

Note: Events column does not include educational courses start dates.



## 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.



## CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A. Woodard P

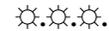
Ron Durgan, who had taken the Squadron Boating Course for some 12 weeks many years ago, brought his grandson to our most recent class just concluded in Whitesboro. He left a very nice note to say thank you for the boating class and included a clipping from the Los Angeles Times titled: Many Boaters Oppose Mandating Life Jackets. The article stated that "Last year 80 % of the nations 481 boating related drowning victims were not wearing life vests..." "Eighty six percent of the 4,000 boaters who responded to a Michigan State University survey opposed a life-jacket mandate." Ron concluded that he "...hopes they don't mandate life jackets for everyone on a boat underway... might not be a bad, (idea) but our suntans would look very peculiar to some folks." Interesting way of looking at things Ron. Thanks for the note.



## BY LAWS ON LINE

The Utica Squadron by-laws have been posted on our web site. Go to [www.usps.org/localusps/utica](http://www.usps.org/localusps/utica) and click on "Legal" and you will find the rules in PDF format. There has been discussion for some time that these rules need to be updated and made to conform with what is now reality. This whole process is easier said than done. If we add sail to our name, for example, we would then need to change our corporate name to match. The final product we approve must be approved by national.

If you would like to participate in this overdue project, contact the Commander and offer your services. Another job that will get done when some of the members decide to do it.



## BOAT US

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.

## COMPUTER ADVERTISING TERMS DEFINED

NEW - Different color from previous design.

ALL NEW - Parts are not interchangeable with previous design.

EXCLUSIVE - Imported product.

UNMATCHED - Almost as good as the competition.

FOOLPROOF OPERATION - No provision for adjustments.

ADVANCED DESIGN - The advertising agency doesn't understand it.

IT'S HERE AT LAST - Rush job. Nobody knew it was coming.

FIELD TESTED - Manufacturer lacks test equipment.

HIGH ACCURACY - Unit on which all parts fit.

FUTURISTIC - No other reason why it looks the way it does.

REDESIGNED - Previous flaws fixed - we hope.

DIRECT SALES ONLY - Factory had a big argument with distributor.

YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT - We finally got one to work.

BREAKTHROUGH - We finally figured out a use for it.

MAINTENANCE FREE - Impossible to fix.

MEETS ALL STANDARDS - Ours, not yours.

SOLID-STATE - Heavy as anything!

HIGH RELIABILITY - We made it work long enough to ship it.

**Like Having "Boston" In Your Back Yard**



**FOR YOUR BOAT LETTERING**

**COMPLETE MARINE SERVICES  
DOCKAGE, INSIDE STORAGE  
BROKERAGE, TRAVEL LIFT SERVICES**

**HOLMES MARINA, INC.**  
VERONA BEACH, N.Y.

**JAMES W. HOLMES**    HOME: 315-762-4232  
PRESIDENT            BUS: 315-762-0036  
FAX: 315-761-0540

Jean and John Kowalski  
and Family            Casual Waterfront Dining  
315-762-5623

Serving Lunch and Dinner

Open March through November

*Along the Canal by the Fishing Pier*

**Marine Paints  
Dockage - Storage  
12 and 25 Ton Mobile Lifts**

**MARCY MARINA**  
"On The Erie Canal"

200 F. Scharbach Drive - Marcy, NY 13403  
Mailing 9160 State Rt. 49 - Marcy, NY 13403

Carol Scharbach Thomas            (315) 736-7617

**Oneida Lake Marina, LLC**

New and used boat sales \* service \* dockage \* storage

Ron & Chris Renslow, Debbie Scarpinto

3713 Route 31                            rrenslow@twcny.rr.com

Canastota, NY 13032                            (315) 762-4865



NAUTICAL CLASSIFIEDS



**Free**

**USPS Uniform**

Size 42 - 44 Waist 38

**Contact Vivian Selover**

**336-3065**

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