



THE BILGEWATER

UTICA SAIL & POWER SQUADRON, INC
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A Unit of United States Power Squadrons
Utica, New York
usps.org/localusps/utica

November 2006

District 6

TWELFTH NIGHT PARTY
JANUARY 14, 2007, 1230 (12:30P.M.)
RAMADA INN, NEW HARTFORD, NY
Lt/C Linda La Duc, P

Twelfth Night (generally January 5) “mark” the end of the Christmas season (Columbia Univ. Press); the eve of Epiphany, celebrated as a holiday in parts of Europe and the United States and marked by feasting, merrymaking, and the lighting of bonfires (American Heritage Dictionary).

While I am sure that the Ramada would frown on the bonfire part we do hope you will plan to be there for the feasting and merrymaking on January 14, 2007. With registration scheduled to begin at 1230, there will be plenty of time for merrymaking and to celebrate the beginning of an exciting new year for boating activities. Feasting is set to commence at 1330. The Ramada Inn has a scrumptious menu planned with something for all tastes. Look for more details in the next Bilgewater.



Also on tap will be our guest speaker, none other than our own esteemed P/C Harry Winberg, SN, who will make a presentation on his trip to Greece.

We do hope you will mark this date on your calendar and make plans to join us on our Twelfth Night!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE - P 2

***** THE OLD SKIPPER SEZ- P 3**

*****P/C DAVID ELLISON, SN - P 4 *** FROM THE SEO - P 5 *****

CHECKING THE BILGE - P 6

UTICA SAIL & POWER SQUADRON - OFFICERS



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

by Cdr Gerald R. Fry, JN

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DATES TO REMEMBER IN '06

SQUADRON MEETING 6 DECEMBER
BILGEWATER DEADLINE 8 NOVEMBER
12TH. NIGHT PARTY 14 JANUARY

Congratulations to our squadron for a job well done in many areas. First of all, we must celebrate our great Haul-Out party at the Sea Shell Inn. It was a fine feast and a great atmosphere with the sun setting on Oneida Lake. Forty three of you participated in this event on 22 September. We are also thankful that our one member who became ill at the party is now doing well. You can read more about the party in a later article.

Second, we now have 22 members studying in our Advanced Grade courses and a new batch of potential members involved with the Boat Smart class. Please read the Squadron Education Officer's Report for more details.

Third, in addition to our name change, we have worked many hours discussing the squadron By-Laws with the goal of approval by the United States Power Squadrons national committee on rules. Lt/C George Peckingham, AP has led this effort and done the modifications to the model by-laws for submittal to national. When the By-Laws are approved by national they will be submitted to all of you for final approval.

Fourth, I must congratulate our current Bridge Officers and the other

see Commander page 3

Commander from page 3

members who attend our squadron meetings for their hard work. We have a fine group of people learning to lead our boating club toward a brighter future. They deserve many thanks from all of us.

Fifth, several members are participating at the district level. Seven of us will travel to Holiday Valley Inn at Ellicottville, NY on 27 October to attend the D/6 Fall Conference. These meetings are fun but primarily intended to inform our members about new initiatives from national headquarters. All are welcome to come.

Now that my arm is tired from patting everyone on the back, I must end with best wishes for a sunny fall season. May your boat rest securely on the hard and may you feel satisfied that you have prepared it properly for the cold winter. I am learning some new things in Engine Maintenance; what about you?

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.



The Old Skipper Sez!"

by P/C Robert Skalwold, SN

How Deep Is the Water?

Learn the rule of the 12ths.

Rule: The tide level will change from high or low water by 1/12 of the range in the first hour, 2/12

in the second hour and 3/12 in the third hour.

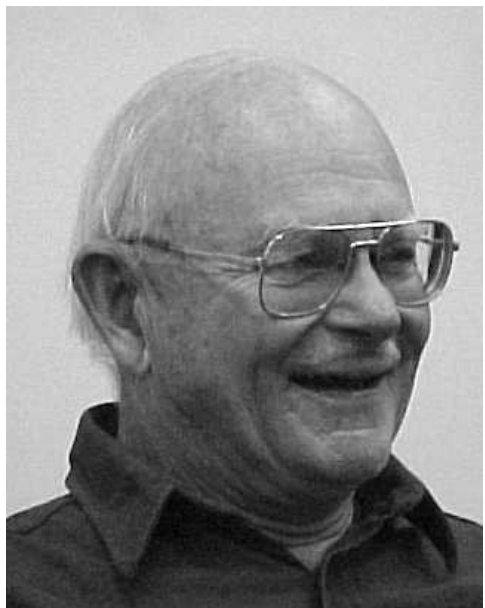
Thus, at the end of 3 hours, the tide will change $1/12 + 2/12 + 3/12 = 6/12$, which is mid-range. Now count hours back from time of the other extreme. (This won't pass muster in the USPS exam, but it will be sufficient for crossing the bar, figuring scope of your anchor rode or setting the length of your spring lines at a pier.)



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

P/C DAVID ELLISON, SN AWARDED 50 YEAR PLAQUE

At the District 6 fall conference P/C David Ellison, SN was awarded his 50 year membership plaque for continuous membership in the United States Power Squadrons and Utica Sail and Power Squadron.



On Saturday evening, 28 Oct 2006, at the formal dinner dance, this honor was conveyed to P/C Dave Ellison, SN by a representative of the Chief Commander P/V/C Russell Gray, SN of the Raleigh Power Squadron. Commander Gerry Fry, JN accepted the plaque for Dave and passed it on to P/C Harry Winberg, SN who so graciously offered to deliver it to Dave and Lucille Ellison who now live near their daughter in Albany.

Many of us fondly remember Doctor Dave through our various opportunities to know and respect him either as a medical doctor or a friend in Utica Sail and Power Squadron. Dave and Lucille sailed “Aragorn” out of Sackets Harbor for many years. We so much enjoyed hearing about their year and a half cruise to the islands in the Caribbean Sea. Dave loved to tell about their experience of riding out a three day blow while sailing from just south of Bermuda down to the Virgin Islands. He proudly displayed his small scale chart with the course plotted day by day while describing how their electronic navigation equipment failed after the storm and how they relied on celestial navigation to reach their destination “dead on”. Dave fairly glowed with excitement.

Dave was very active in our squadron and enriched many of our own experiences in courses such as Cruise Planning with his vast experience. We congratulate him on 50 years of service and fellowship in our quest for safe and competent boating. May he and Lucille enjoy their family and be content in their elder years.



From The SEO

By Lt./C Vicky Fry, JN



Last month we mentioned spring courses and students. Now you should know what is happening with our educational program this fall.

Engine Maintenance is being taught by Fred Dyer, JN with the first half of the course finishing on 17 October. Participating in this elective course are George Peckingham, Rick Gassner, Linda LaDuc, Beth and Rick Joyal, Colleen Welch and Chuck Harter, Jim Davis, and Gerry and me. Nice class with lots of individual experiences to discuss.

Junior Navigation as orchestrated by P/C Ellen Webster, SN is making life more interesting for Dave Schulz, Beth and Rick Joyal, and George Peckingham. We look forward to these folks finishing JN, going on to the Navigation course and becoming Senior Navigators some day. These folks are really pushing Gerry and me along with Rick Gassner to finish the N course work. We wouldn't want these eager mariners to leave us in their wake.

Seamanship starts Oct. 12 with Cdr. Gerry Fry, JN at the podium. Ten members are expected to come including Dick Axt, Dave Strobino, Ricky Joyal, Tim and Dottie Ischia, Bryan Walrath, John and Sue Mercurio, George and Peggy Silverman, Bryan Walrath, and two of Jo Zogby's progeny. This course is recently revised and is in the testing stage. This testing will encourage the students to critique the authors. A bonus, on top of a value packed course content. Good luck everyone!

In addition to this strong member course program, P/C Dean Woodard, P and Richard Smith, P are again teaching the Boat Smart course. What a team! They will finish up on 26 October and could use some help in correcting the examinations and talking to prospective members.

We have mentioned the new seminars being offered by national headquarters this fall. Four of these have been ordered for preview by squadron members. We will be previewing these in member groups this fall perhaps at dinner meetings or on Saturday afternoon gatherings. They include Using VHF/DSC Marine Radio, Using GPS, How to use a Chart, and Onboard Weather Forecasting. Our goal is to learn a few things and also learn how to best offer these seminars to the public. Your ideas are most welcome.

Won't you join us for improving your marine operations knowledge and for the fun of meeting with your friends of the Utica Sail and Power Squadron? Life-long Learning is satisfying and it keeps you sharp.



CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A. Woodard
PILLSBURY DOUGHBOY

Please join me in remembering a great icon of the entertainment community. The Pillsbury Doughboy died yesterday of a yeast infection and trauma complications from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 71.

Doughboy was buried in a lightly greased coffin. Dozens of celebrities turned out to pay their respects, including Mrs. Butterworth, Hungry Jack, the California Raisins, Betty Crocker, the Hostess Twinkies, and Captain Crunch. The grave site was piled high with flours. Aunt Jemima delivered the eulogy and lovingly described Doughboy as a man who never knew how much he was kneaded. Doughboy rose quickly in show business, but his later life was filled with turnovers. He was not considered a very smart cookie, wasting much of his dough on half-baked schemes. Despite being a little flaky at times, he still was a crusty old man and was considered a positive roll model for millions. Doughboy is survived by his wife Play Dough, two children, John Dough and Jane Dough, plus they had one in the oven. He is also survived by his elderly father, Pop Tart.

The funeral was held at 3:50 for about 20 minutes.

□ □ □

IDIOT SIGHTING:

I was at the airport, checking in at the gate when an airport employee asked, "Has anyone put anything in your baggage without your knowledge?"

To which I replied, "If it was without my knowledge, how would I know?" He smiled knowingly and nodded, "That's why we ask."

Happened in Birmingham, Ala.

□ □ □



Richard Smith, P and I enjoyed teaching our last Boat Smart class at the new offices of the Americu Credit Union in Rome.

This has been the first time in some years that we have been able to offer a boating class in Rome and we appreciate the opportunity to have done so this year.

For your information we are printing the letter sent to the good folks at the credit union by our Commander.

Mr. Mark Pfisterer, CEO
Americu Credit Union
1916 Black River Blvd.
Rome, NY 13440

Dear Mr. Pfisterer,

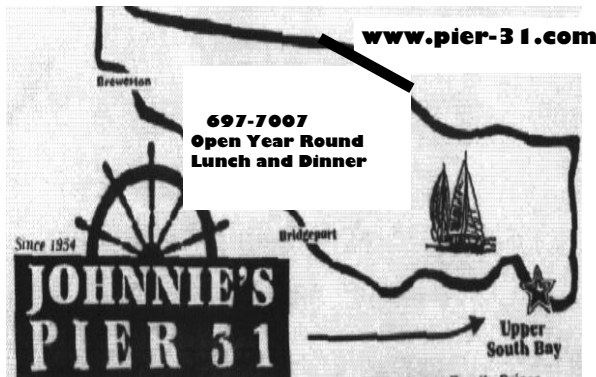
Please accept the gratitude of the Utica Sail and Power Squadron for the use of your Office Park facility to conduct a basic boating safety course. This course was taught by Richard Smith and Dean Woodard of Rome to nine local boaters of various ages. Our goal is to improve the safety of the boating experience for all boaters.

A special thanks must be extended to Lorraine McCormick and Linda Fabbio for their assistance in our use of the room. Please be assured that their and your dedication to service and community support are recognized and very much appreciated.

Best Regards,
Cdr Gerald R. Fry, JN

□ □ □

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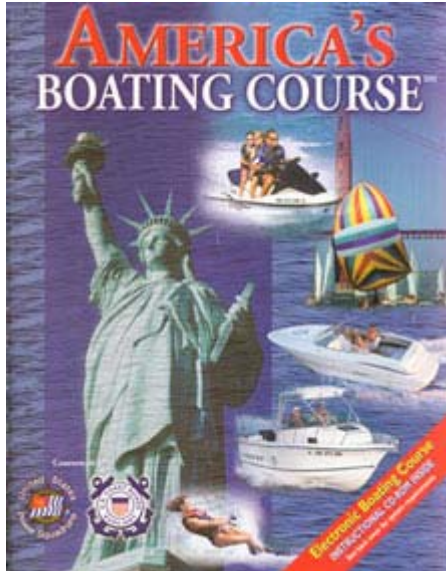
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The BILGEWATER
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