



# BILGEWATER



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*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)

October, 2004

District 6



**Lt/ C Stephen E. Smith, S**  
**"Smitty"**

**02 February 1954 – 02 October 2004**

Power Squadrons. Steve loved to play Mr. Tool Time, golf, ski travel with his wife Jackie to Europe, Greece, Alaska, the Caribbean and anything else that would befit a man with a love of the great outdoors.

*(from Steve's memorial service program)*

"Smitty" was an avid golfer, cross country skier, and had an innate propensity to be on open water. The dynamics of wind on sails reaching a hearty six knots or more on a summer's day was his true heart's content. This affection was nurtured as a toddler by trips aboard the family's boat "Rock-a-Boy" on day trips on the mighty Mississippi on hot summer days. The move to Rome, NY, found him growing up on the shore of Delta Lake that eventually culminated in his becoming Commodore of the Lake Delta Yacht Club. His love for sailing was nurtured aboard the family boat "Ichabod" on Oneida Lake and graduated to Lake Ontario by skippering his beloved thirty-four foot Pearson sailboat, the "Windsun" out of Sackets Harbor. His love for sailing led him to assume the position of Administrative Officer in the Utica Power Squadron, The United States

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# UTICA POWER SQUADRON OFFICERS



## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

*by Cdr David W. Schulz, AP*

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

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

- Fall Conference**      **5-7 Nov 04**
- 12<sup>th</sup> Night**            **16 Jan 05**
- Spring Council**       **4-5 Feb 05**
- Founders Day**        **18 Feb 05**
- COW**                    **20 Mar 05**
- Launch Party**           **May 05**
- Haul Out Party**        **Sep or Oct**

Commander's messages are often easy to write but time consuming and very necessary. I always seem to need Dean to "prod" me to get it done. It is laziness on my part most of the time. This time it is the weight of what I must write about.

When a Squadron of any size loses two staunch supporters in a short period of time it becomes a sad task and words very often fail to tell how the heart feels.

The loss of P/C Earl Selover, SN was difficult enough. Now we must mourn the loss of our Administrative Officer, Lt/C Steven Smith, S and celebrate his short presence among us.

I met "Smitty" soon after joining transferring my membership to Utica Power Squadron. He was taking a course, ironically, taught by Earl Selover that I joined in progress. My association with him was all too short. I was looking forward to working with him when he became Commander. As a Bridge Officer and as a friend I admired his easy, – friendly style. His sense of organization and leadership style was notable. I was moved by the way he and his wife Jackie worked and played in harmony with each other. They seemed to complimented each other in all that they did together including boating. We share some of Jackie's loss and also sympathize in the profoundness of her loss. Lt. Jackie Smith has begun an Education Fund in "Smitty's" honor and memory. We will hear more about the fund at a later time.

We have been hit hard, it seems, the past few months with our losses and illnesses. Lt/C Gerry Fry was in Lewis

*(Continued bottom page 5)*

## SEA GRANT STUDY FINDS NEW YORK'S RECREATIONAL BOATERS SPENT \$2.4 BILLION IN 2003

*Recent survey shows boating has \$1.8 billion economic impact and creates 18,700 jobs*

STONY BROOK, NY. September 27, 2004. The national economy may go through highs and lows, but in a New York Sea Grant-funded study out this month, Cornell researchers found that the state's recreational boaters spent a whopping \$2.4 billion last year despite the poor summer weather. The effort is the first of its kind to directly measure expenditures related to recreational boating and their impact on the state's economy. Using questionnaires sent to a sample of New York's half a million registered boaters, researchers estimate that in 2003 recreational boating had a total statewide economic impact of \$1.8 billion, accounted for approximately 18,700 jobs, and contributed \$728 million to labor income.

Researchers Nancy Connelly, Tommy Brown and David Kay of Cornell University's Department of Natural Resources found that for boating trip related expenditures such as launching fees, lodging, food, and gas, boaters spent over \$431 million statewide. The survey also tabulated how much boaters spent on boat purchases, equipment, boat repair, insurance, and annual fees associated with the use of marinas and yacht clubs. Overall in 2003, almost \$2 billion was spent statewide on these non-trip related expenses. Of this figure, \$1.2 billion was for boat purchases.

"With these research findings, it is clear that recreational boating is big business and an important economic generator for the people of New York State," said Jack Mattice, New York Sea Grant Director. "The intent of the study was not only to quantify the impact of boating, but also to provide information that will help managers, planners, and other decision makers make more informed decisions regarding coastal resource use and development," adds NYSG's coastal processes and facilities specialist Jay Tanski who served as project manager.

As one of the nation's major boating states, boating is a key recreational industry in virtually all areas of New York, especially the marine waters, Hudson River, Great Lakes, St. Lawrence River, the Finger Lakes, and Lake Champlain. The economic data will be used to develop tools that will allow managers to better evaluate the impact of boating on a regional scale.

The New York Sea Grant study broke out expenditure and economic impact figures by boating region and major water body:

Trip related expenditures:

- Ø \$173 million associated with trips to and in regions bordering the Great Lakes and Finger Lakes
- Ø \$53 million associated with trips to and in the Hudson River area
- Ø \$162 million associated with trips to and in the New York City/ Long Island Metropolitan Area

*(Continued Sea Grant page 5)*

# From The SEO

*Lt/C Ellen Webster, SN*



## PUBLIC BOATING CLASS

### US Power Squadron "Boat Smart" Course Offered

A boating safety course is being offered at Whitesboro Senior High School located at 6000 State Route 291 in Marcy NY. The class runs for 4 consecutive weeks, with classes starting on Thursday Oct.21 and continuing on Thursday Oct. 28, Nov. 4 and 11th, 2004. Each class will run from 6:30 PM until 8:30 PM.

The course, called "Boat Smart", is comprised of four 2-hour sessions and includes a written exam. This course meets all New York State boating certification requirements for insurance reductions, youthful operator and Personal Watercraft Certification (PWC).

All PWC operators starting in 2004 will be required to have such certification.

Parents are invited to bring their children 10 years of age and older with them to this class. Youth boating requirements including Personal Watercraft will be met for youth 10 to 18 upon successful completion of this course. Children under 18 must be accompanied by their parents to take the class.

There is no charge for instruction; there will be a \$25 fee for textbooks. Sharing a textbook with a friend or family member is allowed. Enrollment will be on a first come basis and the class size is limited.

If you have any questions about the class, offered by the Utica Squadron of the United States Power Squadrons, please call 315-266-0511 or email david.schulz@verizon.net

## PILOTING

The Utica Squadron will be offering a Piloting course starting this month.

This is the new course that we wrote about last month. The addition of GPS and new technology make this a course that will also be of interest and value to members who have credit for the Piloting course and would like to sit in and see what is new,

If you are interested or have questions, give our SEO Ellen Webster, SN, a call at 336-3444

# SEA GRANT STUDY

(continued from page 3)

## Non-trip related expenditures:

- Ø \$661 million associated with the economic regions bordering the Great Lakes and Finger Lakes
- Ø \$194 million associated with the Hudson River region.
- Ø \$907 million associated with the New York City/ Long Island Metropolitan Area

## Total economic impact by region:

- Ø \$600 million associated with the economic regions bordering the Great Lakes and Finger Lakes
- Ø \$184 million associated with the Hudson River region
- Ø \$843 million associated with the New York City/ Long Island Metropolitan Area

The study was conducted in 2004 with the aid of an advisory panel of agency and boating industry experts from around the state. The estimates were based on a mail survey of 6,000 boaters registered in New York State in 2003. These figures may be conservative for the marine region since data indicate boating activity may have been suppressed due to the weather that year. "Last June was one of the wettest on record and the threat of Hurricane Isabel striking New York's marine coast in September resulted in many people pulling their boats early, further shortening the season," said Tanski. In addition, the figures do not include spending by transient boaters and others who are not registered in the state. Additional expenditures are most likely made in water bodies bordering other states, especially around Long Island and New York City. Non-motorized boaters, such as kayaks, canoes and small sailboats, are also likely to have made economic contributions throughout the state, but were not included in the study since they are not registered by the state.

For a downloadable copy of the report, go to:

<<http://www.seagrantsunysb.edu/coastalgeo/boatingexpenditures03.htm>>

or go to New York Sea Grant's home page [www.nyseagrant.org](http://www.nyseagrant.org) and follow the links.

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

*(from page 2)*

County hospital for several days following an emergency visit suffering with pneumonia and strep throat. The illnesses caused stress on his blood/ sugar and his heart. He is home now and recovering quite well and is hopping to start the Piloting class as scheduled. P/C Bob Hyde, AP is still making regular visits at Veterans Hospital. He gets out a bit and is doing some driving but spends most of his time at home. We have just learned the Vivian Selover is in Rome hospital suffering with a broken hip.

Please keep all of them in your thoughts and prayers. I am sure that a telephone call or card will speed their recovery.

We hope to see you all at our next meeting, 3 Nov. 04, 1930 at Sears Oil Co. In Rome, NY.



## CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A. Woodard P

### The Impact of Fuel Prices on Recreational Boating During Summer 2004

A Study Conducted By: Recreational Marine Research Center at Michigan State University by Dr. Edward Mahoney et al indicates that recent fuel price increases have influenced both the amount and type of boating activity during Summer 2004, according to a Recreational Marine Research Center (RMRC) survey conducted during late July and early August. More than 4,000 (4,337) members of RMRC's National Boater Panel participated in the survey during late July and early August; eighty percent (3,306) took a trip during the summer (May—August) for which they purchased fuel. Forty-four percent of these boaters who purchased fuel for their boats during the summer did less boating because of higher fuel prices and seventy percent of these boaters took fewer boating trips. The impact of higher fuel prices was greatest on the owners of inboard and inboard-outboard cruisers.

Boaters paid an average of \$2.44 per gallon for gasoline and \$2.04 of diesel at marinas and \$2.01 per gallon for gasoline and \$1.90 for diesel at gasoline stations between May and August. In July they paid an average of \$2.45 per gallon for gasoline at marinas and \$1.99 at gasoline stations. Prices of gasoline varied across the country; with the highest prices in California, Washington and Oregon. The lowest were in the southern states.

You may want to compare your own experience with the national results. Do you agree?



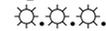
### **SOSPENDER recall**

This SOSPENDER recall is posted on the USCGAux National web page: Recall of Hammar products -- SOSpenders Corporation is recalling approximately 7,200

automatic inflatable personal floatation devices (PFDs).

Approximately 300 defective Hammar units in one lot of 500 were loaded incorrectly and will not inflate the vest. SOSpenders Corp. has made the decision to recall all Hammar products for 100% safety inspection. For more information go to: <http://www.sospenders.com/recall/index.html>.

[Posted: 26 September 2004. Source: Stuart D. Soffer, BC-AWP]

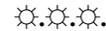


### **VIVIAN SELOVER**

We are sorry to report that Vivian is in the Rome Hospital recovering from a fall that resulted in a broken hip. We understand that she is doing well and would love to hear from us. Send her a card.

As you know, Vivian took over the mailing of the BILGEWATER last month. George Peckingham is making our mailing labels, another big job.

We will struggle on, and hope to get Vivian back to work as soon as possible. In the meantime, if anyone in the Rome area would like to help with the mailing of our newsletter, let us know. We could use a little help if you were so inclined.



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Contact Cdr Schulz with any questions.

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**Contact Vivian Selover**

**336-3065**

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