



THE BILGEWATER

UTICA SAIL & 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

October 2006

District 6

HAUL-OUT PARTY GREAT FUN

The Sea Shell Inn on Oneida Lake provided a most enjoyable atmosphere for our annual Haul-Out Party that was held on 22 September. Our meals were wonderful and a strong spirit of congeniality invaded the 43 members present. Old and new friends renewed their sense of club spirit with much vociferousness. Of course the adult libations loosened things up a little also.

Everyone joined new members George and Peggy Silverman, and Bryan Walrath in reciting our USPS Pledge. This is always a warm and fuzzy moment for both new and old members to observe and join the entire squadron in renewing our pledge to service and enjoyment of all that the United States Power Squadrons has to offer.

One of our very loyal and active members, Captain and P/C Rick Gassner, AP won the beautiful marine picture in the raffle. We must again thank Lt/C Colleen Welch, P for donating the picture that she acquired in England and framed herself. Her generosity gained the squadron a hundred and thirty dollars. We also thank Rick Gassner who designed the raffle tickets and made them available on our web page that he maintains.

Speaking of service, it was most gratifying to observe P/C Dean Woodard, P help one of our members who was taken ill. He was most comforting and attentive to our sick friend while we waited for the ambulance. His efforts appeared to comfort all of those present who were so concerned for the welfare of our distressed member. We are happy that she is doing better and to say "Good job, Dean".

As always, some stories were told about the old days. This was very enjoyable as were the terrific jokes told by your Commander. At least the Commander said they were terrific. No voting allowed. Hope you all can make the party next year.

See page 4 for some photos of the party.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE - P 2

***** MARINE SURVEY REPORT AND**

OLD SKIPPER SEZ- P 3

*****PARTY PHOTOS - 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

Commander.....Gerald R. Fry, JN
824-0978

Executive Officer.....George Peckingham. AP
831-2170

SEO..... Victoria A. Fry, JN
824-0978

Administrative Officer..... Linda LaDuc, P
839-5522

Secretary..... Colleen A. Welch, P
797-2009

Treasurer..... Thomas A. Sears, AP
337-6953

Assistant SEO..... Ellen Webster, SN
336-3444

Membership..... Fred S. Dyer, JN
336-5396

BILGEWATER EditorDean A. Woodard, P
336-1026
woodardd@twcny.rr.com

Circulation.....Vivian Selover

Web Master Rick Gassner, AP
723-2582

NOTE: Utica Sail & Power Squadron Web Page

usps.org/localusps/utica

e-mail the Commander at:

fryg@dreamscape.com

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Utica Sail & Power Squadron, District 6 or the United States Power Squadrons. Copyright © 2000 Utica Sail & 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 IN '06

SQUADRON MEETING 1 NOVEMBER

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 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 ground 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?

MARINE SURVEY REPORT

by Theodore L. (Ted) Swanson, AMS® #843

RACOR 500 FUEL FILTER PROBLEM:

The July/August 2006 issue of Passagemaker magazine includes a letter to the editor (pp. 26,28) regarding a change in Racor 500 Turbine filter elements which could present a problem to some of us. The letter specifically references the 2 micron elements for the 500 Turbine Series, which have traditionally been a dark brown color. That color was changed to tan a couple of years ago. Of importance is the fact that the configuration of the filter was also changed such that in older filter housings (produced prior to January, 1996) the new filter elements do not fit properly, seating lower in position within the filter housing than intended, with the holes in the center pipe lying above the top of the filter element, allowing fuel to bypass the filter element and proceed on to the engine unfiltered. The same problem exists for the 10 and 30 micron elements. All the filter elements are now tan in color, with lettering on the top clearly designating 2, 10, or 30 micron filters.

<http://www.waterwayradio.net/RacorFilterProb.htm>

Racor supplies a rubber spacer free of charge, which slides down over the center tube of the filter housing below the filter element, installed permanently, to avoid this problem. They are available through Racor Technical Support (800-344-3286). They say that a substitute would be a one inch piece of 5/16 inch ID fuel hose slid down over the pipe.

The Passagemaker letter and an accompanying reply from Racor point out that various Racor suppliers have not done a good job circulating this information. Most users, including diesel mechanics, are probably not aware of this problem.

Theodore L. (Ted) Swanson, AMS® #843
Swanson Marine Survey, Inc.
1012 Crane St., Key Largo, FL 33037
305-453-9801 off/fax 305-942-8808 cell
2swanson@bellsouth.net
www.force5.org/swanson

editor's note: Ted is a long time member of the Utica Squadron. We are happy to hear from him from time to time.



The Old Skipper Sez!"

“
by P/C Robert Skalwold, SN

THOUGHTS ON CRUSING Piloting and Navigation

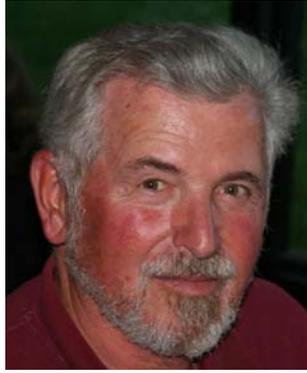
Learn and practice making a good use of single lines of position (L.O.P.). An L.O.P. can be had from a compass bearing on known object, celestial sight, known track of a ferry or radio direction. An L.O.P. across your path checks course over ground by a second one on the same or other point. A second L.O.P. from an object on shore or a celestial sight can be very useful even without a fix, by plotting a line parallel to the L.O.P. of the body passing through the desired position, sailing up to it and then taking up a heading the same as the L.O.P.

When sailing at night or in fog with traffic, check your compass to be sure that you are not wandering into the path of the vessel trying to keep clear of you.

**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**

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.



From The SEO

By Lt./C Vicky Fry, JN



“Education with a smile”

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 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 On-board 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? Lifelong Learning is satisfying and it keeps you sharp.

IDIOTS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD:

I live in a semi-rural area. We recently had a new neighbor call the local township administrative office to request the removal of the Deer Crossing sign on our road.

The reason:

"Too many deer are being hit by cars out here! I don't think this is a good place for them to be crossing anymore." From Kingman, KS.



CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A. Woodard

TRY TO READ THIS.

Cna yuo raed tihs? Olny 55% of plepoe can i cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in waht oerdr the ltteres in a wrod are, the olny iproamtnt tihng is taht the frsit and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it whotuit a pboerlm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Azanmig huh? yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt!

□ □ □

From the Mind of Stephen Wright: contributed by Dave Schulz

~I planted bird seed. A bird came up. Now I don't know what to feed it.

~I had amnesia once -- maybe twice.

~I went to San Francisco. I found someone's heart.

~Photons have mass? I didn't even know they were Catholic.

~All I ask is a chance to prove money can't make me happy.

~I'd give my right arm to be ambidextrous.

~If the world was a logical place, men would ride horses sidesaddle.

~What is a "free" gift? Aren't all gifts free?

~They told me I was gullible..... and I believed them.

□ □ □



Some Date Changes

It seems that the Town of Marcy is going to have a big event on the Saturday before Memorial Day when we have held our annual Safe Boating Week Kickoff events at Lock 20 Park. The plan is to move our event two weeks later so that would make it June 9, 2007. If I read my calander right, that would have us finishing our class the following week.

We had a descussion about the time of this outdoor event last year after we experienced a late near winter event. The suggestion was to move to a littler warmer time.. It seems that events have made the move for us. This may improve the attendance. The one year we had nice weather we had a rather large group.

I am not sure when we planned the Launch Party. That's above my pay grade.

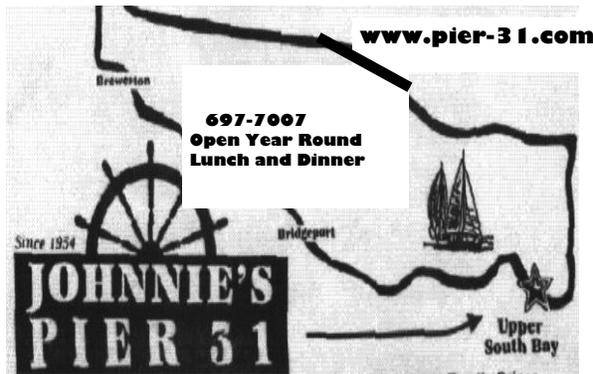
□ □ □

Richard Smith, P and I have been conducting a Boat Smart Class at the new Rome office of the Americu Credit Union. They have been great and we have been able to offer a class in Rome for the first time in many years. You may remember that the Rome schools wanted to charge us \$10 an hour for a class that we offered for free. Just didn't work that way.

This is also our first use of Power Point and the projector purchased through the Educational Benefactors Fund with funds provided in memory of Lt./C Stephen E. Smith, S.

We have a professional presentation in a great location. We hope to continue a fall offering in the Rome area next year.
daw

Like Having "Boston" In Your Back Yard



Callahan's



Marina

Located on Rt. 31,
9/10 of a mile W of Rt. 13

Deep Water Docking &
Launching

Mike: 315-697-7470
Jim: 315-697-9729

Callahan's Marina Inc.
9089 Callahan Dr.
Canastota, NY 13032



(Formerly "Skinners Marina")

705 Pioneer Ave.
Sylvan Beach, NY 13157

315.762.0112

- Small Ship Store
- Gas
- Diesel
- Transient Dockage
- Dockage
- Storage
- Winterization
- Transient Camping

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

canalviewcafe.com

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

**HOLMES MARINA, INC.
VERONA BEACH, N.Y.
Ed Holmes - Manager**

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



SEAARK BOATS

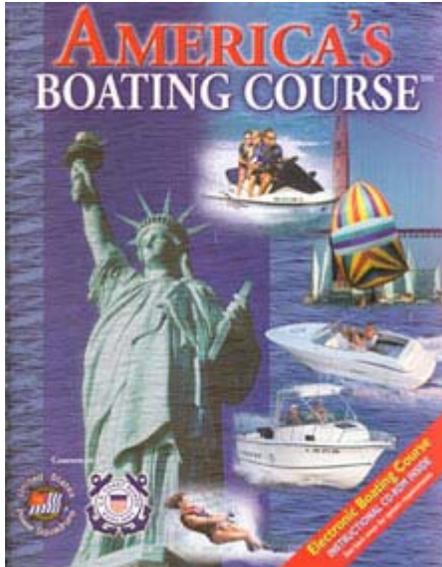
Oneida Lake Marina, LLC

New and used boat sales • service • dockage • storage

Ron & Chris Renslow, Debbie Scarpinato

3713 Route 31
Canastota, NY 13032
www.oneidalakemarina.com

Sales/Service (315) 697-4867
Marina (315) 762-4865
Fax (315) 697-4868



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