



# 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  
<http://www.uticainfo.org>

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District 6

Happy   
Halloween



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# COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

by Cdr Bryan E. Walrath, JN



Hi everyone,

Update on the Haul Out Party. I hope I got to everyone. There was a last minute miscommunication when we found out the Sea Shell Restaurant had closed for the season. The Lake Delta Inn was happy to take us in and provide an excellent menu at the same time and price.

We have postponed our ABC class that would have stated on Oct 6. We will reschedule for November and our education dept. will meet this coming Tuesday, the 18<sup>th</sup>, to firm up dates and educators. We still plan to follow this up with Seamanship.

I have reserved Aquino's Restaurant for Nov 30 for our Christmas Party. It will be the same menu as last year and at the same price, \$20. Our 12<sup>th</sup> Night party brunch will be at the Lake Delta Inn on January 8, 2012. 2012 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lake Delta dam.

On Saturday morning, Sept 24, we attended officer training at the District 6 Fall Council, at Geneva and in the afternoon the Mariner's Compass seminar. The Mariner's Compass seminar was presented by Bill Herrick in power point format. It was an informative seminar with a discussion of the different types of compasses and how to make adjustments for variation and corrections. The main point was if you are going to buy a compass, get the biggest and most expensive one you can handle. Bill asked who didn't have a compass on their boat. Well, reluctantly your commander raised his hand. Hay, I am never on large bodies of water, but someday, maybe. The Fall D/6 conference will be November 11-13 at Auburn, NY

As a Power Squadron member and commander this has been an adventure. The USPS is like the tip of an iceberg, a large iceberg.

# Mastering marlinespike

## Spanish bowline

Frequently featured on demonstration boats for its beauty and complexity, this bowline variant is used in water rescues and to

hoist objects in a horizontal position. The two loops formed by this knot are connected, but a greater load on one loop may cause it to enlarge and the other loop to shrink. This could be useful, however, if two different-size loops are needed.

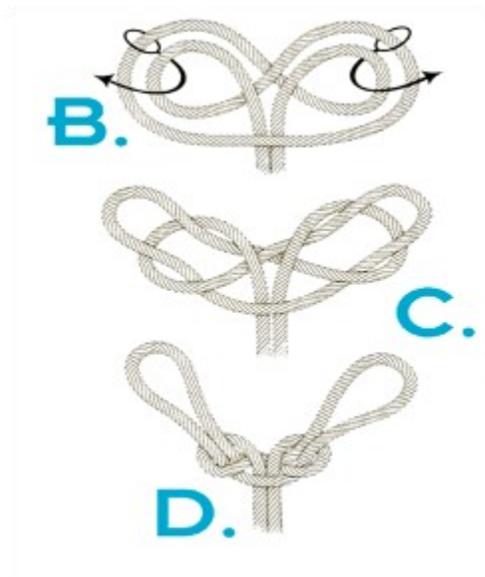
**A.** Create three initial loops, making the central loop much larger than the other two.



**B.** Fold the central loop over the side loops. Simultaneously pull the lateral edges of the large loop through the two small loops.

**C.** Hold these two loops and pull the working parts of the rope to form the knot.

**D.** The final knot after tightening.



the USPS guide [Knots, Bends and Hitches for Mariners](#)

Commander from page 2

We are a local squadron with links to our district and to national. We offer many courses and attempt to reach all boaters, of all ages, boats of all sizes, and in all water ways, in a time when we have the internet, GPS and high technology. In addition there are other boating organizations like the Coast Guard Auxiliary. We have discussed the possibility of reaching out to other groups and to share resources and activities. The adventure continues.

If you would like to receive the Bilge water via email, let us know. Let's face it, email is the way and so is sail angle. When boating you can bring it up on your laptop or iPad.

# SQUADRON CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Wednesday November 30, 2011. 6:00 PM**  
**Aquino's Family Restaurant**  
**910 Floyd Ave,**  
**2010 \$20 per person**  
**Salads**

Garden Salad  
 Broccoli Salad

**Entrees**

Lemon Chicken Bianco with greens (mild)  
 Roast Pork with Honey Citrus Sauce

**Pasta**

Ziti with Marinara Sauce

**Sides**

Garlic Mashed Potatoes  
 Garlic Bread

**Dessert**

Mini Puffs and Cannolies  
 Coffee/Tea



# CAUGHT ON THE NET

This is for all boaters with an internet connection. Check out what is online. The easiest way is to go to Google, Bing, or any search tool and key in USPS YouTube or USPS Facebook. Or go to the USPS website, USPS.org. There on the right hand side there are links to Facebook and YouTube.

There are videos with beautiful boats and scenery. There is something for everyone. I found myself wanting to watch all the video clips and but then I forget about my to-do list for the day. AT USPS.org, there are over **20** video clips on boating topics.

West Marine has some good links too. They have **441** videos. Check out <http://www.youtube.com/user/WestMarineInc> Did you want advise on how to prepare for a hurricane? How to use epoxy? What to look for when buying a VHF radio? It's there. USPS online boating seminars can be found at. [http://uwf.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassListing.ClassListingDisplay&int\\_category\\_id=4&int\\_sub\\_category\\_id=170](http://uwf.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassListing.ClassListingDisplay&int_category_id=4&int_sub_category_id=170) This was a link from USPS.org.

## Haul Out

If you live in upstate New York, there's a good chance you are just about to take your last sail of the season and are well along with plans to haul your boat for the winter. Getting your boat ready for this kind of weather calls for some clear thinking and a well-developed checklist.

Start by going over the boat, stem to stern, and make a list of everything that needs attention before you relaunch next spring. You might break that list into must-do and nice-to-do, in case you find extra time or additional funds to spend on the boat. Once you've made your lists, decide which jobs you'll do yourself and which you'll ask your yard to take on. If you have the yard do the work, the more written details you give them on each job, the more efficient and cost effective they will be.

## Haul Out

### Check List:

- Warm engine and change oil and filter
- Flush freshwater system with non-toxic antifreeze.
- Clean or install new air-cleaner element
- Check condition of alternator belt; if it needs replacement get one ready to install next spring
- Coat cylinders with fogging oil and tape inlet manifold openings and breathers
- Top off fuel tank and add stabilizer
- Check stuffing box and shaft motion. Repack stuffing box if necessary
- Spray all electrical connections, including fuse board, alternator and starter motor with WD-40
- Check all zinc anodes for corrosion and replace if necessary
- Check all clamps and hoses for damage and replace if necessary
- Clean and dry all bilges
- Open fridge, coolers, drawers and lockers to keep air flowing and prevent mildew
- Check condition of all through-hulls and seacocks
- Clean toilets and empty holding tanks; disinfect as necessary
- Remove all portable electronic gear
- Remove all lines, halyards, inflatables, and moveable gear
- Remove sails for cleaning
- Check all deck hardware and lubricate with WD-40
- Check all clevis pins and turnbuckles for wear and replace as necessary
- Check all sail tracks for damage

Make sure the boat cover is well constructed and securely tied around the supporting structure. It works to include an elastic cord somewhere in all lines. This will keep tension on the line and keep them tight. Check that there are no hard spots along the supports that could chafe the cover and perhaps destroy it prematurely. Also provide at least two openings for ventilation.

***Make reservations for somewhere south for the winter!***



## CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A. Woodard, P

This is dedicated to everyone who ever taught school, parented children, or served their country.

A former sergeant, having served his time with the Marine Corp, took a new job as a teacher, but just before the year started, he injured his back. He was required to wear a plaster cast around the upper part of his body. Fortunately, the cast fit under his shirt and wasn't noticeable. On the first day of class, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in the school. The smart-a\$\$ punks, having already heard the "new" teacher was a former Marine, were leery of him and decided to see just how tough he really was, before they tried any pranks. Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, the new teacher opened the window wide and sat down at his desk. When a strong breeze made his tie flap, he picked up a stapler and promptly stapled the tie to his chest!!!

DEAD SILENCE.

He had absolutely NO discipline problems that year!!

☺ ☺ ☺

A couple was invited to a swanky costume party. Unfortunately, the wife came down with a terrible headache and told her husband to go to the party alone.

He being a devoted husband protested, but she argued and said she was going to take some aspirin and go to bed and there was no need for his good time being spoiled by not going.

So he took his costume and away he went. The wife, after sleeping soundly for about an hour, awakened without pain and, as it was still early enough, decided to go the party. Since her husband did not know what her costume was, she thought she would have some fun by watching her husband to see how he acted when she was not with him.

She joined the party and soon spotted her husband cavorting around on the dance floor, dancing with every nice woman he could, and copping a little touch here and a little kiss there.

His wife sidled up to him and being a rather seductive babe herself, he left his current partner high and dry and devoted his time to the new babe that had just arrived. She let him go as far as he wished... Naturally, (since he was her husband.)

Finally, he whispered a little proposition in her ear and she agreed. So off they went to one of the cars and had a quickie.

Just before unmasking at midnight, she slipped away, went home, put the costume away and got into bed, wondering what kind of explanation he would make for his behavior.. She was sitting up reading when he came in, and she asked what kind of a time he had. He said: "Oh, the same old thing. You know I never have a good time when you're not there."

- "Did you dance much?"

- "You know, I never even danced one dance."

When I got there, I met Pete, Bill Browning and some other guys, so we went into the den and played poker all evening...*But you're not going to believe what happened to the guy I loaned my costume to...*"

☺ ☺ ☺

Children Are Quick

---

TEACHER: Why are you late?

STUDENT: Class started before I got here.

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America ..

MARIA: Here it is.

TEACHER: Correct. Now class, who discovered America ?

CLASS: Maria.

TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?

HAROLD: A teacher

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## A WORD ABOUT YOUR BILGEWATER

Starting with this issue, P/C George Peckingham, SN, has volunteered to take over the printing and distribution of your BILGEWATER.

You can help George with this big task if you would be interested in having the BILGEWATER delivered to your computer and not to your mail box.

As you know the BILGEWATER has been available on the Squadron web page for many years. The question is: do you want it sent to you by e-mail or snail mail?

In these days of ever increasing printing and mailing costs, an electronic PDF file of the BILGEWATER sent to your e-mail address may be an acceptable option for you.

For or against, let George know what you want done. Call him at 315 831 2170  
Or e-mail him at [duke\\_peck@msn.com](mailto:duke_peck@msn.com).