



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>

September, 2009

District 6

Haul Out Party at Gary's Restaurant

LAKE SHORE DRIVE SOUTH, VERONA BEACH

"YOUR PICTURE WINDOW ON ONEIDA LAKE"

OCTOBER 2, 2009 1730 COCKTAILS—1800 DINNER

5:30 p.m. cash bar,

6 p.m. buffet

Buffet Menu:

Beef Tips & gravy w/noodles

Turkey w/stuffing & gravy

Pork Roast w/stuffing & gravy

Sides: *salad bar; rolls; peas & carrots*

Desserts: *blackberry cobbler; apple dump cake;*

chocolate cake w/choc.peanut butter frosting

Drinks: *coffee; tea; iced tea; milk, water*

All for only \$20 p/person; make your reservations early – space may be limited

UTICA SAIL & POWER SQUADRON - OFFICERS

Commander..... Richard R. Gassner, AP
735-2541
Executive Officer..... Colleen A. Welch, AP
797-2009
SEO..... Gerald R. Fry, JN
824-0978
Administrative Officer..... Bryan E. Walrath, AP
337-6051
Secretary..... John J. Rettinger, AP
868-8585
Treasurer..... Thomas A. Sears, AP
337-6953
Assistant SEO..... Linda LaDuc, AP
839-5522
Membership..... Fred S. Dyer, JN
336-5396
BILGEWATER Editor Dean A. Woodard, P
336-1026
woodardd@twcny.rr.com

Web Master Rick Gassner, AP
gasnerr@roadrunner.com

NOTE: Utica Sail & Power Squadron Web Page

usps.org/localusps/utica

e-mail the Commander at:
gasnerr@roadrunner.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.



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

by Cdr Richard R. Gassner, AP



Welcome back from the summer boating season. Now kids are starting school and resorts are closing up for the season. Although there is still good boating in Sept and Oct, now is the time to think about winterizing and putting the boats away. Don Casy of **BoatUs** gives fantastic tips on winterizing. Check this website out: <http://www.boatus.com/winter/>.

It is also time to plan to take more Power Squadron courses. I am sure you have seen the boaters that have no idea of the "rules of the road" or the dangers they can face because of no boating knowledge. You can combat these problems by taking our advanced boating courses and also encouraging your acquaintances to join the Power Squadron.

A new law was signed by Gov Patterson requiring those aboard boats under 21 feet to wear PFD's at all times. See the article later in this Bilgewater.

We also need people to learn how to give Vessel Safety checks. Next season I would like to establish a goal that all boats owned by our members will have a VSC by July 4th.

We need more members to attend our Bridge meetings and become involved. It is fun and contributes greatly to the boating community.

Every squadron and district commander has been made aware of USPS' intention to use SailAngle.com as our primary means of communication with members and by now that information should have been promulgated to each member. To that end, all USPS mailing lists have been replicated on SailAngle, as have groups representing each squadron, district, national committee, and national department. The early adopters have been shaking down the facility and our interface to it. It is now extremely important that

See next page

Commander from page 2

all members enroll in SailAngle. The process has been made extremely easy. Just go to www.usps.org and on the left of the page near the top you will see a button labeled "Access SailAngle.Com".

We have also been informed that the (Nov/Dec 2009 issue) issue of the Ensign will be delivered online only.

No more mail? Seems like times and money change all things. That makes it even more important that you take a long look at SailAngle.

THIS IS TOO MUCH

- A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse. "But why?" they asked, as they moved off. "Because", he said, "I can't stand chess-nuts boasting in an open foyer."

SQUADRON PUBLIC BOATING CLASS

**OCTOBER 15, 22, 29 WITH THE
FINAL EXAM ON NOVEMBER 5, 2009
WHITESBORO SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
1830 TO 2030 EACH NIGHT**

If you would like to help teach this class, your efforts will be most appreciated. If you can help, call P/C Dean Woodard, P at 336-1026
Or e-mail to woodardd@twcny.rr.com

If you have anyone that needs or would like a boating class this fall, please contact SEO Gerry Fry, N to sign up.

We are looking forward to this class with a new book and great excitement. please consider helping out as much as you can.

BIG CHANGES AT USPS COMPUTER SERVICES

Additional information re Commander's message.

Every squadron and district commander has been made aware of USPS' intention to use SailAngle.com as our primary means of communication with members and by now that information should have been promulgated to each member. To that end, all USPS mailing lists have been replicated on SailAngle, as have groups representing each squadron, district, national committee, and national department. The early adopters have been shaking down the facility and our interface to it. It is now extremely important that all members enroll in SailAngle.

The process has been made extremely easy. Just go to www.usps.org and on the left of the page near the top you will see a button labeled "Access SailAngle.Com". Just click on it, and follow the instructions below:

1. If you are already signed on to USPS you will be automatically transferred to SailAngle.com.

If not:

2. Enter your USPS Certificate number and password or preferably PIN when requested

3. You will be automatically transferred to SailAngle.com

4. Follow the steps to complete your profile (you can skip these steps up to three times)

5. Click on "Go to my group home page"

6. View the SailAngle.com Instructional Slide Show contained in the Group Forum

7. Note: the most recent members to sign-up are listed on the left-hand side of the Group Home Page. You may want to add one or more as a friend.

To add a friend, simply click on "+ add as a friend" and a request will be sent to their private message inbox. When they accept, you are linked as friends.

8. When finished, click on "My Home" on the silver navigation bar

One tip, once you get signed on to SailAngle, don't sign off; just exit the site. This will allow email notifications, etc to take you directly to the proper page without additional steps.

Once you are there, and have filled out your profile, you will notice that you will have been automatically enrolled in all of the groups to which you belong. You may also want to change your email notification preference from the default to limit the number and types of notifications you want to receive. This is found under a link on the Edit Profile page.

The reason it is important for you to enroll, is because shortly after the Kansas City Governing Board meeting, we will be terminating support for USPS mailing lists. We believe that the group and forum facilities found on SailAngle are far superior to the mailing lists we have been providing.

I hope to see many of you in Kansas City. I will be running the ITCOM Open Meeting on Friday and have a lot to talk about regarding upcoming items. A representative from SailAngle will also be giving a brief demo. That will be followed by a two hour seminar on DB2000 starting from the very beginning demonstrating how to install and configure it, up through more detailed uses.

At the seminar I will also be selling for \$5.00 a CD containing the very latest install files, MQSeries Clients, examples, etc.

John

R/C John R. Bradley, SN

Chair USPS Information Technology Committee 60 Old Brook Road Dix Hills, NY 11746-6432

(800) 777-3770 ext.203 Office

(631) 546-5768 Home

(631) 274-2103 FAX

jrb@accurecord.com

SEO REPORT

By Lt/C Gerry Fry, JN



Hi fellow boaters. I hope you had a very fine summer and can stretch your boating for a few more weeks. It is time now to think about fall classes, but first what about the accomplishments of our members last spring.

Five members completed the Junior Navigation course under the leadership of P/C George Peckingham, JN. Included in this honorable list besides George himself are C Rick Gassner JN, Rob Walker JN, Lt. John Reittinger JN, and Lt. Bryan Walrath JN. George will work with several other class members to complete the course this fall. Hopefully the new Navigation class can be successfully taken next spring by these newly qualified Junior Navigators. Congratulations to all on a great job.

Also last May several members assisted P/C Dean Woodard P to teach and administer the final exam to 33 students in an ABC3 class. With considerable help and encouragement, all 33 completed the course. We have noted that the study questions in the student manual have little value in preparing for the final exam. We are acting to remedy that situation and give the students a better chance to learn the important points that are stressed by national USPS and the state safe boating law agencies. For your information, we did not recruit a single new member from that class. This is a disturbing trend that has been evident in recent years. Membership recruiting is a task that we all need to act on when we recognize a potential member. Just pass the name on to Commander Rick or any Bridge member listed in the BILGEWATER.

We have made plans and arrangements for a public boating safety class to be held in October. This ABC3 course will start on 15 October and run on 22, 29 October and finish on 5 November. Location will be Whitesboro High School from 1830 to 2030 on those Thursday evenings. Books cost \$25 and can be shared within a family. Children under 15 years of age must be accompanied by an adult who is taking the course. P/C Dean Woodard P will lead an all star cast in teaching this course.

I am currently contacting prospective teachers for Seamanship and Engine Maintenance classes. Several members are being called to determine the level of interest in these courses. We may be able to get them started by late September depending on interest, instructor availability and book delivery.

Other possible classes for this fall include Instructor Development and Operations Training. These courses are very valuable for volunteer instructors and squadron officers.

Please contact me at 315 824-0978 or gerryfry1@verizon.net if you are interested in any of the squadron courses or seminars. Descriptions of courses and seminars may be found from the Education Department home page within the www.usps.org web page. Keep your mind active and enjoy your safe boating activities.



CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A. Woodard, P

RETIREMENT IS DIFFERENT FOR EVERYONE

One day, while going to the store, I passed by a nursing home. On the front lawn were six old ladies lying naked on the grass.

I thought this was a bit unusual, but continued on my way to the store.

On my return trip, I passed the same nursing home with the same six old ladies lying naked on the lawn.

This time my curiosity got the best of me and I went inside to talk to the nursing home administrator. 'Do you know there are six ladies lying naked on your front lawn?'

'Yes,' she said. 'They're retired prostitutes, - they're having a yard sale.'

☺☺☺

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) -- New York has become the first state to require life jackets for everyone in all small pleasure craft during the six coldest months of the year, when capsized boaters drown faster in chilly water.

Starting Nov. 1, kayakers, canoeists and all those aboard other boats under 21 feet must wear Coast Guard-approved personal flotation devices while on lakes, the ocean or other waterways. The rule will remain in effect through May 1. Violators will face fines ranging from \$25 to \$100.

Similar measures apply to canoes and kayaks in Massachusetts and to all manually propelled vessels, including rowboats, in Connecticut.

Falling into cold water can trigger shock, disorientation or gasping and inhaling water. Immersion can lead to hypothermia and passing out.

☺ ☺ ☺

Sometimes, when I look at my children, I say to myself ~-'Lillian, you should have remained a virgin.'
-- Lillian Carter (mother of Jimmy Carter)

Last week, I stated this woman was the ugliest woman I had ever seen. I have since been visited by her sister, and now wish to withdraw that statement.
-- Mark Twain

By all means, marry. If you get a good wife, you'll become happy; if you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher.
-- Socrates

☺ ☺ ☺

- Latest Info From Dept Of Health SWINE FLU ADVICE

If you wake up looking like this,



don't go to work

10 REASONS TO TAKE A BOATING CLASS AND JOIN THE UTICA SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

1. GET SMARTER

As a USPS member, you and your family can enroll in a great variety of elective courses & earn advanced grades. USPS elective courses are only available to USPS members.

2. "FREE ASPIRIN"

When your teenager & their friends complete the USPS Safe Boating course, your headaches disappear when they beg "Can I have the boat keys PLEEZ?" on the weekends .

3. MEET NEW FRIENDS

As a member of a local squadron (1 of over 450 squadrons in the USA), you will join with other boaters in your area who know the local waters, the best launch sites and anchorages, the marinas and boat repair shops.

4. ALL DRESSED DOWN WITH SOMEPLACE TO GO

You're automatically invited to join in the squadron and district cruises, rendezvous, predicted log contests, raftings and other on-water activities. The Utica Power Squadron has a full calendar of events for both on- and off-season fun. Come on and join us!

5. SAVE MONEY \$\$\$

Most marine insurance companies offer a minimum of 5-10% discounts for just completing the Safe Boating course.

Higher discounts are given for completion of advanced courses. Ask your insurance carrier! Example, BOAT US Inc offers a 50% discount on membership and 10% discount for towing to USPS members.

You also get "safe boater" rates for marine insurance and towing services.

6. FREE DIRECTIONS – IT'S OK TO ASK!

Thinking of boating in a river, lake or ocean far from your home? USPS has a Port Captain program which will provide call-ahead contact info for local USPS members who know the territory. Attention New Boat Owners: The Utica Sail and Power Squadron has lots of friendly people who have "been there and done that".

If you're a new skipper, we can help you avoid the common pitfalls of boat ownership. Attending just ONE boating safety course puts you way ahead on the learning curve.

7. UP-TO-DATE INFO ON ALL MATTERS NAUTICAL

The official USPS magazine, THE ENSIGN, has articles about safety, maintenance & repair tips, nautical adventure stories, international waters security & customs rules, etc etc. That dream trip to Canada and the 1000 Islands just got easier.

8. YOUR TAX DOLLARS ARE AT WORK

Take advantage of the many joint programs USPS has with the United States Coast Guard, the CG Auxiliary, and the National Ocean Services division of NOAA. Note that the USPS is a private, totally self-supporting organization and is not affiliated with the US Government.

9. LOTS OF FUN AT A VERY LOW PRICE

The entire family can participate in USPS activities and courses at very low cost. Family memberships are very affordable!

10. SAILING...TAKES ME AWAY TO WHERE I'M GOING...

USPS membership is not limited to power boaters - more than 40% of our members are sailors. The term "Power Squadrons" in our name dates to our founding in 1914 by the power boat division of the Boston Yacht Club. Following the first World War, our ranks broadened to include all types of boats, and sailors have been a major part of USPS ever since.

Where is Gary's?
Off State Route 13; turn at the Verona
Beach State Park Sign.
Take the first left turn before the park
entrance.
Follow the Eastern Shore of Oneida Lake
to Gary's Restaurant on the right.
Yes, it is on the same road where we have
gone to the Sea Shell Inn, but to the north.
See you there.
