



# 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, 2010

District 6

## **HAUL OUT PARTY AT GARY'S RESTAURANT**

**LAKE SHORE DRIVE, VERONA BEACH**

**OCTOBER 2, 2010**

**5:30PM CASH BAR 6:00 PM—BUFFET**

**MENU**

**BEEF TIPS & GRAVY**

**TURKEY WITH STUFFING & GRAVY**

**PORK ROAST WITH STUFFING & GRAVY**

**SALAD BAR**

**ROLLS**

**PEAS AND CARROTS**

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**CALL COLLEEN AT (315) 797-2009 WITH RESERVATIONS**

**ALSO**

**A FRAMED SAILING PRINT WILL BE RAFFLED OFF DURING DINNER!**

**RAFFLE TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE IF UNABLE TO ATTEND**

**PARKING IS LIMITED SO CAR POOLING IS ENCOURAGED**

**ABC BOATING CLASS**

**OCT. 7, 14, 21 AND 28, 2010**

**WHITESBORO HIGH SCHOOL**

**6:30 TO 8:30 EACH NIGHT**

# UTICA SAIL & POWER SQUADRON - OFFICERS

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NOTE: Utica Sail & Power Squadron Web Page

**usps.org/localusps/utica**

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# COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

by Cdr Bryan E. Walrath, JN



It's been a beautiful summer and time to get our squadron ready for fall. Through this summer the most exciting event was the boating certification program at Alexandria bay. P/D/C Dave Schultz, AP and P/C Gerry Fry, JN, have some excellent articles and I do not think I could improve on them. I know talented writers when I read them. We hope to certify more members and open this program to the public next spring and summer. I found a good explanation of this program on the USPS web site, <http://www.usps.org/eddept/boc/main.htm> As Gerry has mentioned, this is an excellent opportunity to bring members into our organization. Not to mention, it's just a wonderful program.

This last weekend I was invited to Buzard's Bay to sail with P/C Rick Gassner, JN. I not only had the opportunity to sail but in our spare hours discussed some possible events for this fall and winter. There are boat shows in NYC, January 19 – 23 and in Boston Feb 26 - Mar 6. A bus trip may be in the making. I learned that as a USPS member, your show ticket includes a one year subscription to *Yachting*, *Motorboating*, *SaltWater Sportsman*, *Ski*, or *Spa* (\$10.00 value).

I will also check with the NYS canal system to see if they will offer lock tours again.

We will continue to work through the next season to help our organization grow. If anyone has suggestions please let me know.

Again, let everyone know who we are, so when you are at a dock, (oops let me change that for the new seasons, a bar, mall, or anywhere), take some sightings, teach someone how to tie a new knot and most of all; explain that you are the great and humble boater you are because you are a member of the Utica Sail and Power Squadron.

I hope to see everyone at the next Haul Out party at Gary's.

# SEO REPORT

By P/DC David Schulz, AP

And

P/C Gerry Fry, N



Summer 2010 certainly has been a great boating season. Even the closure of the Erie Canal between locks 20 and 21 recently was just a minor short term glitch. Our June ABC class was quite successful but the numbers of folks in the class was disappointing. Subsequently we had requests to run an additional class but the logistics of putting one together just did not work. We have names and telephone numbers plus one of our members, Lt. Pierre Prevost, S called with info that he had several co workers interested in ABC. We will pursue them as well as a list of others for our October class.

**Navigation** class tested 3 of 4 members and was successful for all 3. They are completing site folders and will submit them soon.

**Weather** was completed and tested. We are in process of scheduling testing 2 of the class members.

The **education committee** set up at our June meeting to establish pricing of our courses to non members has yet to meet, but will very soon.

A number of our members attended D6 Rendezvous at Bonnie Castle Resort on the St. Lawrence River and successfully completed the on – the – water component for Inland Navigator certification. P/D/C Dave Schulz, AP, P/C Geo. Peckingham, JN, P/C Gerry Fry, JN, P/C Rick Gassner, JN, and Lt/C John Reittinger, JN all were successful. Certification application is done individually so if you have not submitted your paper work, call me for instructions. In order to be certified as a “Certifier” 2 other components are required, CPR and First Aid. The District is providing CPR but First Aid is accomplished through the American Red Cross. We will try to set up the class for Squadron members interested.

At Rendezvous BBQ “Team Utica” (Reittingers, Frys, Gassners and Schulz) participated in a Jimmy Buffet Trivia contest. Team Utica scored and won first prize. Who would have known – Jimmy Buffet? Each member received a certificate and a pair of boat friendly plastic tumblers suitable for storage of consumable margaritas.

Also at Rendezvous Lt/C John Reittinger, JN received a very special award. The **Bent Prop**. This award was given for the remarkable ability to safely pilot a boat over a St. Lawrence shoal without use of a river chart and without bodily harm to his passengers save of course his own feelings. The out drive and prop of the boat however are another issue. What is remarkable is that USPS insurance covered the repairs and the deductible was covered by the National Office.

Fall Council is 17 - 18 September 2010, and will include a **Leadership Seminar** and the new **Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes Seminar**. Get your registration in for Saturday. You must pre register for lunch by 13 Sept. No walk-ins will be accepted so if not registered lunch will be on your own.

Our fall **ABC class** is scheduled for 07, 14, 21 and 28 October 2010 at Whitesboro Sr. High School from 1830 – 2030. Lead instructor will be P/C Dean Woodard, P. Please get the message out and recruit class members.

We are currently looking at the needs of our members for courses and seminars. We expect to make up a schedule very soon. You can help with the process by making known what **you** want and/or need by calling me at 266-0511. Leave a message if I don’t answer. If you don’t call us we will call you. You calling us is easier.

## Utica Sail and Power Squadron

### Planned Activities List

For 2010

#### September

1 September Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

#### October

**2 October Launch Party 5:30 Gary’s Restaurant see page 1**

6 October Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

#### November

3 November Squadron Meeting 1930 Sears Oil Co. – Rome

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Do you have a boat photo you would like to share?  
This is George Silverman’s new boat.

1. Boat was purchased last May.
2. Wellcraft. Model: St. Tropez
3. Year: 1988
4. Length: 32’
5. Engines: twin Merc V-8 7.4L, 454 CID
6. Berthed at Mariners Landing, Sylvan Beach



**ADVANCED TRAINER CERTIFICATION AT  
D/6 RENDEZVOUS 2010  
ALEXANDRIA BAY, NY**

Every new boater needs some help to become competent boat operator. United States Power Squadron's new Boat Operator Certification Program is designed to give a new or experienced boater a considerable body of knowledge and practice. It is expected that many of the students will become new members of USPS.



*Lt/C John J. Reitinger, JN  
takes home a coveted award.  
Ask him what it was for.*

Since the first level of boating competence certification is called "Inland Boating", our squadron needs some people to instruct and certify students for this level of boat operation. At the District 6 Rendezvous, five of your fellow members earned the title of "Certified Inland Boater". P/C George Peckingham, JN, P/C Rick Gassner, JN, P/D/C Dave Schulz, AP, XO John Reitinger, JN, and P/C Gerry Fry, JN participated in this training on the water and are now completing some additional coursework to be fully certified as "Advanced Certifier" for the purpose of teaching new boaters.

On the water, we were instructed to maneuver the boat in several ordinary and some unusual ways. Each maneuver is designed to help familiarize the new boater with the handling characteristics of his/her boat. Docking and undocking skills were covered with each student repeating each skill until he got it right. This included backing into a slip as well as forward docking. We then learned how to turn the boat 360 degrees in its own length. Quite interesting and also top secret because you will have to take the competency test to learn this technique.

We then proceeded to a small bay downstream from Alex Bay to practice driving through several obstacles. Our instructors had anchored in a long row about seven floats with cement block anchors. We drove through the slalom fast and slow and then backed through. We practiced driving in a straight line directly toward and then away from the line of buoys. One seemingly odd maneuver was to drive with the boat on plane up to a buoy and turn sharply while pulling the gear box into neutral. The idea was to slide up as close as you could get to the buoy. Why? The best answer I can come up with is that this shows how you can stop fast without having your wake poop over your transom. I must have forgotten a couple of the maneuvers so you will have to talk with one of us and sign up to do the "Inland Boating Certification" for yourself.

A bonus of our participation in this event was the fourteen mile ride from our cottage to Bonney Castle. With the weather threatening to turn foggy, George Peckingham recorded waypoints of each green buoy on the way upriver, so I had a nice stored course to follow on the way back.

It was a great rendezvous where we learned some interesting things and had a good time. At the Friday night bar-b-que, your Utica Club team won first prize in the Jimmy Buffett Trivia contest. I should say that the ladies won with their answers.





## CHECKING THE BILGE

by P/C Dean A. Woodard, P

### Mayonnaise Jar & Two Beers....

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar and the 2 Beers.

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him.

When the class began, he wordlessly picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls.

He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was...

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls.

He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else.

He asked once more if the jar was full.

The students responded with a unanimous 'yes.'

The professor then produced two beers from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar effectively filling the empty space between the sand.

The students laughed..

'Now,' said the professor as the laughter subsided, 'I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things---your family, your children, your health, your friends and your favorite passions---and if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the

other things that matter like your job, your house and your car. The sand is everything else ---the small stuff.

'If you put the sand into the jar first,' he continued, 'there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls.

The same goes for life.

If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness.

Spend time with your children. Spend time with your parents. Visit with grandparents.

Take time to get medical checkups. Take your spouse out to dinner. Play another 18..

There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal.

Take care of the golf balls first---the things that really matter. Set your priorities.

The rest is just sand.

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the Beer represented.

The professor smiled and said, 'I'm glad you asked.'

The beer just shows you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of Beers with a friend.

☺ ☺ ☺

### HOW FIGHTS BEGIN

I took my wife to a restaurant.

The waiter, for some reason, took my order first.

"I'll have the rump steak, rare, please."

He said, "Aren't you worried about the mad cow?"

"Nah, she can order for herself."

And that's when the fight started.....

**Happy New Year to our  
Jewish friends**

**5771**

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## WHAT SHOULD WE KNOW?

Do you know of a member who is hospitalized, in need of a little cheering up from their friends, or celebrating a special occasion such as the birth of a child or grandchild, birthday, wedding, promotion, etc? Do you want to share an outstanding recipe with our members? Then fill in the information below and send to **George Silverman at 2010 Holly St., Rome, NY 13440 or e-mail to [gsilverm@twcny.rr.com](mailto:gsilverm@twcny.rr.com) Tel 315-336-5557**

### INFORMATION TO INCLUDE :

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name for Submission: \_\_\_\_\_

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