

## Summer

2023

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### Your 2023-2024 District 1 Bridge

L. to R.: Education Officer Arthur Andrea, AP, Secretary Linda L. Lewis, AP, Treasurer Peter Jenkin, SN, Admin Officer William J. Waseleski, AP, Commander Pat Pabouet, P.

Photo, P/D/Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN

## “From the Helm”: Cdr Pat Pabouet, P

I would like to thank the following Squadrons for their hospitality during their Changes of Watch: Norwich, New Britain and Meriden. Meeting with your Squadrons brought back a lot of memories. A squadron change of watch is the signal that there will be new things happening, a new commander and a new Bridge with new ideas. A change of watch indicates that the boating season is not far away and will be in full swing in a few weeks.

Our District is also trying out some new ideas: a newly revamped June Rendezvous and Council meeting in June. Our new Admin Officer, Bill Waseleski, suggested a revised schedule and changes to the picnic. We think it will be a big improvement and everyone we have talked to about it thought so to. The day will start with coffee and ‘other’ at 0900, the council meeting at 0930, the blessing of the fleet at 1030, happy hour at 1100 and lunch at 1200. The menu will include the usual hot dogs and hamburgers, plus clams, steamers, corn on the cob and then desert supplied by each of your squadrons. I hope you will try to attend. Please see inside for full details and the rest of our summer activities.

We would like to offer more courses District wide. If your members look for a course and your squadron doesn't have an instructor, put it out district wide so other squadrons can see what is needed and offer their instructors to run a class. This is the only way our education program will survive. Please give our DEO Art Andrea a call and tell him what classes you are offering and what instructors you have. Let’s get back to our classrooms!

Patrick Pabouet, P, Commander, District 1

## 2023 Spring Conference (excerpts from the minutes of D/Lt/C Linda Lewis, AP)

The 2023 Spring Conference was held on 18 March at the East Glastonbury Fish and Game Assoc in Marlborough, CT.

Cdr Art Andrea, AP called the meeting to order. The presentation of colors was led by D/Lt Ken Bell, Sr. AP followed by the Pledge of Allegiance accompanied by bagpipe music by 1SG Mark Otterson, 2nd Co. Governors Foot Guard. The Invocation was given by District Chaplain D/Lt Paul Bialecki, P.

Chaplain Bialecki then led a memorial service for deceased members in the last year (see page 7). A candle was lit for each as the bell tolled. The bagpiper played Amazing Grace following the reading of the names.

D/Lt/C Pat Pabouet, P introduced our guest speaker, Richard Simon, owner of Shoreline Diving Services, LLC which does underwater inspections of dams, boats, salvaging, anything to do under water.

He talked about the U Boats of WWI and WWII and the hundreds of wrecks in Long Island Sound that are deteriorating due to storms, waves, and tides. He noted a Norwegian freighter, the Volund, which collided in the fog at the Race 100 years ago. He mentioned that there are sunken subs that were used for target practice.

He talked about the importance of knowing what you have for insurance on your vessel, the coverage and the dates of said coverage. You don’t necessarily have coverage when you venture out of your immediate area. Always check!

The members broke into three groups for ‘Breakout Sessions’ with the Commander, the Education Officer, and the Secretary.

Following an excellent lunch, the meeting resumed with the reports of the officers, followed by the vote to approve the Auditor’s Report presented by P/D/C George M. Gilbert, JN and the vote to approve the 2023-24 Budget presented by District Treasurer Lt/C Peter Jenkin, SN. V/C Charles Wells, SN, our National Education Officer, zoomed in for our election and installation of officers.



1SG Mark Otterson  
Photo by Cdr Paul  
Bialecki, P

## Join us for the 2023 June Rendezvous and Council (Check out the new schedule!)

### DISTRICT RENDEZVOUS

#### Safe Harbor Essex Island Marina, Essex, CT

Date: Friday 23 June–Sunday 25 June

Hosts: The New Britain and Norwich Squadrons

Dress: TEAM Casual – Polo Shirts with USPS or  
Squadron Affiliation

#### Saturday, 24 June

0900 -- Coffee and ‘other’ provided by the Norwich Squadron

0930 -- District 1 Council Meeting hosted by the Norwich Squadron

1030 – Remembrance Ceremony and Blessing of the Fleet  
by Cdr Paul Bialecki, P, D1 Chaplain

1100 -- Happy hour (Beer/Wine with donations)

1200 -- Lunch, cooking by the New Britain and Norwich Squadrons

1400 -- Raffle



**This schedule and cookout will be a major departure from our previous June Rendezvous.**

We are condensing the day so that members can enjoy the meeting, blessing of the fleet, and then move directly into our new picnic menu.

**Picnic Menu.** All of the food will be **provided by the District.** We will have cherrystone and steamer clams to start, hot dogs, hamburgers, coleslaw, potato salad, macaroni salad, tossed salad, corn on the cob, soda water, and coffee.

**Dessert.** Each Squadron is asked to bring a dessert for 8-10 people.

**Tickets** are \$10 for adults, \$5 for age 5-12, no charge for children. Send your check made to “USPS-D1” to Peter Jenkin, 26 Essex Glen Dr, Essex, CT 06426-1563 by 19 June.

**Teacup Auction:** Each Squadron is asked to bring an item to be auctioned off in a ‘Tea Cup’ auction. There will be both a 50/50 raffle and members can purchase additional tickets for the Tea Cup Auction.

**Fun for kids and adults.** A ‘Corn Hole’ contest as well as the pool will be available all day.

**Covid Precautions:** Currently no masks are required on the lawn or in the pavilion. They may be required in the office.

**Contact:** D/Lt/C Bill Waseleski, AP, at [wwaseleski@centuryspringmfg.com](mailto:wwaseleski@centuryspringmfg.com) for further questions.

**Dockage:** The dockage is \$5.50/ft/day. 30a service is \$18/night, dual 30a/\$35, 50a/\$50. Full refund if canceled before noon 3 days before.

To make a reservation, call 860-767-2483 or go online at “Dockwa.com” and enter the location “Safe Harbor-Essex Island” to find the marina. Enter the dates you want to reserve and follow the steps. When you get to the box labeled “special request”, enter “Traveling with the Power Squadron” so they can put our members together to the extent possible. If you have special needs please specify those as well. Note that “Dockwa” is best used on a laptop, not a cell phone.

**Directions to drive:** Take Rt. 9 to exit 3. Turn left onto Rt. 154. From North, turn left onto West Ave. From South, turn right onto West Ave. Take West Ave into the center of town and continue down Main St. Take a left onto Ferry St and another left onto Pratt St. Park in any available spot on the street. Take the small ferry over to Essex Island (no charge).

## Mini Cruise to the Port Jefferson YC, Long Island, NY with the New Haven Sail and Power Squadron

The New Haven Sail and Power Squadron has invited the District along on their Mini Cruise to Port Jefferson.

Date: 7-9 July, 2023

Where: Port Jefferson Yacht Club

Moorings at \$65/night and some slips still available

Launch Service provided, 8 AM to late evening

Club monitors VHF channel 68

Make your own reservation at 'Dockwa.com' for the Port Jefferson Yacht Club. Enter that you are traveling with the New Haven Power Squadron

Check in any time after noon



- Free time ashore to explore Saturday afternoon and evening
- Happy hour aboard Commander's yacht, *Pearl*, 1700 hours. BYOL & shareable munchies
- Dinner arrangements flexible. Large group, small groups, dine on your own yacht, etc.

Checkout time is 11:30 AM Sunday

Getting there and returning:

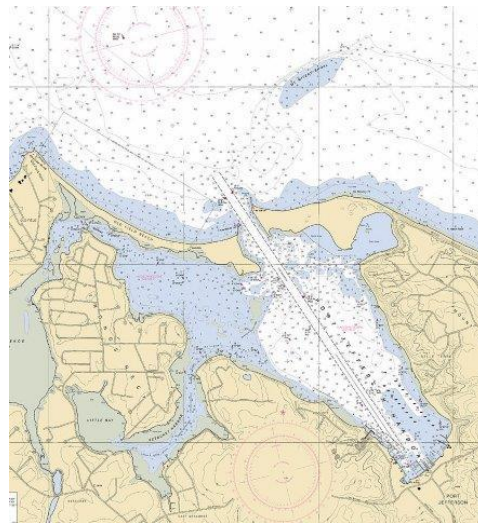
Currents: Flood starts 7/7, 9:42 AM Friday for an early start

Flood starts 7/8, 10:42 AM Saturday

Ebb starts 7/9, 5:06 AM Sunday

Plan to catch the ebb for the best trip east, knowing that the flood will turn against you by 12:30. An alternative is to continue your trip to the west and visit Huntington, Oyster Bay, Eaton's Neck, etc. You will get a later ebb to return to the east later in the week.

Note: For the retired...Take the week off to enjoy the 4<sup>th</sup> of July somewhere, check in at PJYC on Friday for a more extended visit to this great port.



## 15 July: District Sail Race with the Branford Yacht Club

We are joining with the Branford Yacht Club to take advantage of their 15 July "Branford Invitational" which is part of the ECSA (Eastern Connecticut Sailing Association) racing schedule. If you are already a member of the ECSA, you can take part and earn ECSA points as well as credit for your squadron. Trophies will be given for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> places in each class.

**Dockage:** If you are not in the Branford area, you can sail over Friday and racers can use their dockage free of charge and make a weekend of it.

**Entry fee:** \$35.00 per boat (\$30.00 for USSA members) plus \$12 prepaid per person attending the awards party/ \$15 when paid at the party. Non-racers can come and enjoy the day and join in the party.

**Contact:** Art Andrea for the race entry form and for help with the PHRF-ECSA rating certificate and any other details. [arthurandrea@sbcglobal.net](mailto:arthurandrea@sbcglobal.net) or 203-641-0954.



P/D/Lt/C Peter DePascale, AP in "Irish Mist".

Aerial file photo by Boatpix.

## District Fishing Derby with the Norwich Squadron

District 1 is invited to join Norwich Power Squadron's 22nd annual fishing derby/picnic on Friday, 28 July. Fishing begins in Long Island Sound at 0800 until 1400. Social hour follows at 1600 with a picnic at 1730 at the Lewis Cottage, 25 Nichols Lane, Waterford, CT 06385.

For more fishing information please contact P/C Gene Lewis at 860-442-4740. You don't have to fish to come to the picnic. Please RSVP by 26 July who will be coming to Linda Lewis at 860-908-3877 or [linleew1@comcast.net](mailto:linleew1@comcast.net). Cost is \$5 plus a side dish. Come and enjoy a wonderful time.

Deb Warner reeled in a skate.  
File photo by Cdr Gene Lewis, N



## Get your Squadron more involved with Civic Activity.

Two Power Squadron activities that do a lot of good for the boating community are:

**Vessel Safety Checks.** You can become a Vessel Safety Examiner and be your Marina's 'go-to' person for inspections. Your fellow boaters will appreciate having the USCG sticker attesting to the fact that they have been inspected and met the basic requirements for boating safety. It may even save them a USCG inspection.

You will take a short course, pass a test, and do 5 checks a year to maintain your qualifications. Contact D/Lt/C Pat Pabouet, District VSC Chair, at [argus06108@aol.com](mailto:argus06108@aol.com) to find out more.

**CoOp Charting.** Again, you can help the boating community as well as the USCG to make sure Nautical Aids to Navigation (ATONs) are properly located. We also report problems such as missing numbers, poor paint job, obscured by foliage, etc.

Going on a CoOp outing is a fun group event with a few hours checking ATONs and perhaps a lunch at a landing. Reports of problems are then made to the USCG and all inspections are reported to the USPS CoOp Committee for credit. All the reporting is on-line and fairly straight-forward.

Our District was 8th in the country due to Hartford's efforts. If a few more Squadrons got involved, we could do even better.

- Hartford has 'adopted' the CT River but that doesn't stop other Squadrons from checking it as well.
- No Squadron has adopted other major waterways in CT. There are a lot of them. These include: New Haven/Branford area, the Milford area, the Housatonic River, Niantic Bay, the Thames River, Mystic/Stonington/Watch Hill/Fisher's Island.

For more information please contact P/C Roger Breunig, AP/LM, District CoOp Chair, at [ptgezer@yahoo.com](mailto:ptgezer@yahoo.com).

## Are You Missing Our Emails!

160 of our District 1 members do not have an email address on file. This means the only communications you get are paper publications. You may be missing out on last minute announcements of squadron activities, cancellation of events, and other important communications from your Squadron, District, and National.

If you are getting this issue via paper copy, you can send us your email and we will update DB 2000 so you can get it via email. If you want a paper copy, you can let us know and we will send it via both email and paper copy.

## America's Boating Channel Urges Use of Engine Cut-Off Devices

Are you aware of the legal requirement for using engine cut-off devices? This is a requirement that could save your life.



The requirement to use an engine cut-off switch (ECOS) took effect on April 1, 2021, and applies to all U.S. waterways, with fines of \$100, \$250, and \$500 for the first, second, and third offenses, respectively. State and local authorities may choose to enforce the law differently, but using an engine cut-off switch is now the law for qualified vessels everywhere in the United States.

The law applies to all personal watercraft and recreational boats under 26 feet with motors capable of 115 pounds of static thrust (a little under 3 horsepower). Boats not currently equipped with an engine cut-off switch are exempt, but that grandfather clause is closing fast. Another recent federal law required manufacturers to install engine cut-off switches on all new boats starting in January 2020.

Watching videos like "[Engine Cut-Off Devices](https://youtu.be/3J3M8dMzqTk)" (<https://youtu.be/3J3M8dMzqTk>) is an excellent way for boaters to prepare for safer experiences on the water. America's Boating Channel also produced a sequel entitled "[Wear an ECOS](https://youtu.be/i0Nu7Gu-JG0)" (<https://youtu.be/i0Nu7Gu-JG0>). It covers differences between boating knowledge and boating skills and why it matters. Viewers learn approaches to take to improve their boating abilities.

You can follow the above links or visit <https://www.youtube.com/@AmericasBoatingChannel> to find these and other safe boating videos, which are an excellent tool to help recruit participants to our educational program and to membership. Invite your friends and neighbors to watch, like and subscribe to America's Boating Channel to introduce them to what our organization has to offer.

Available on YouTube, America's Boating Channel offers quick and easy access to professionally produced high-definition safe boating and boater education videos. [America's Boating Channel™](#) is produced by the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.

*Ed. This article was provided as a support service to USPS newsletter editors by our National Organization. We will continue to use these informational articles as space allows.*

## CT-DEEP Sets New Minimum and Maximum for Striped Bass

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) took emergency action earlier this month to implement a 31-inch maximum size limit on recreational striped bass fisheries along the Atlantic coast.

To come into compliance with the ASMFC emergency action, CT DEEP has implemented a new 28-31" harvest slot limit for striped bass effective May 26, 2023. The new 28-31" harvest slot limit means that any striped bass that is less than 28 inches or greater than or equal to 31 inches must be released without avoidable injury. This regulation will apply to all waters of the state (marine and inland district).

Questions on the new striped bass harvest slot regulation can be sent via e-mail to [deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov](mailto:deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov), or call 860-434-6043 and leave a voicemail and someone from DEEP Marine Fisheries will return your call as soon as possible.

## Our New Masthead

You may have noticed our slightly revised Masthead on the front page. It has two changes.

The 1<sup>st</sup> change is that we now show 11 Squadrons of District 1. The Milford Squadron has merged with the New Haven Squadron and the Westerly Squadron has merged with the Norwich Squadron. The 'District History' on our District Web Page describes the merge.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> change is that we have returned the USPS logo to the top left of the masthead. This is to emphasize that we are the United States Power Squadron, America's Boating Club. The America's Boating Club logo can now be seen on the footer on each page.

**National Awards** *The following awards were presented by USPS for the year 2022-23.*

**50 Merit Mark Award**

P/C Roger Breunig, AP/LM Meriden

This milestone makes Roger an Emeritus Member of the National Governing Board.

**2022 “Distinctive Communicator Award” for Publications**

District 1	Sounds of 1
Hartford	The Bilge Pump
Meriden	Masthead
Middleton	The Jib Sheet
New Haven	Bulletin
Norwich	The Compass Rose
Springfield	The Flying Bridge
Waterbury	Pharos Beacon

**2022 “Distinctive Communicator Award” for Websites**

District 1
Hartford Power Squadron
Meriden Power Squadron
New Haven Power Squadron
Waterbury Power Squadron

**2022 CoOp Charting Awards**

District 1	8 <sup>th</sup> in USPS
Hartford Power Squadron	Honor Roll, 8 <sup>th</sup> in USPS

**Annual awards for contributions to the National Education Fund for 2022 with a 100% contribution**

Hartford	24 <sup>th</sup> Year
Middletown	9 <sup>th</sup> Year
New Britain	28 <sup>th</sup> Year
Norwich	22 <sup>th</sup> Year
Springfield	20 <sup>th</sup> Year

**DISTRICT 1 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**Report of the District 1 Nominating Committee  
For the 2023-2024 one-year term  
(For Election and Installation at the June Council)**

Exec. Officer P/D/C Charles L. Marino, P Waterbury

Audit Committee

2023-2026 Lt/C Kevin F. Abbey, AP Springfield

The Nominating Committee

P/D/Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN, Chair

**District Awards** *The following awards were presented by District 1 for the year 2022-23.*

**District VSC Awards for most VSCs in 2022**

P/D/C Walter Wiegert, Jr., SN	Saybrook	1 <sup>st</sup> (68)
P/C Joyce Bonney, S	Manchester	2 <sup>nd</sup> (8)
P/D/Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN	Hartford	2 <sup>nd</sup> (8)
Lt. Scott Roden	Meriden	3 <sup>rd</sup> (7)
P/C Angela Anderson	Meriden	3 <sup>rd</sup> (7)

**Squadron Awards**

Saybrook	1 <sup>st</sup> (68)
Meriden	2 <sup>nd</sup> (29)
Hartford	3 <sup>rd</sup> (13)
Manchester	3 <sup>rd</sup> (13)
Waterbury	4 <sup>th</sup> (6)

**Historian’s Award** 100% of squadron histories through 2021-22

P/D/Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN	Hartford
P/C Joyce Bonney, S	Manchester
P/C Ken Bell, Sr., AP	Meriden
Cdr Paul Bialecki, P	New Britain
D/Lt/C Linda L. Lewis, AP	Norwich
Susan Mucciacciaro, P	Waterbury
D/Lt/C Linda L. Lewis, AP	District 1

**Remembering our Fallen Comrades**

The following members were honored in Chaplain Cdr Paul Bialecki, P’s Remembrance Ceremony.

Manchester

P/C Richard Jones, AP  
Earl Schofield  
Charles Sullivan, Jr. N

New Britain

Lt/C Robert DeConti, P

New Haven

Louise Brundage  
Richard Cobb  
Arthur Ferrucci, P  
Frank Zemina

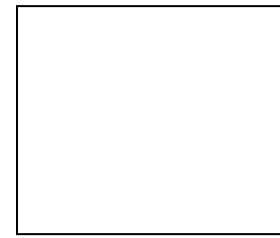
Saybrook

P/C James T. Clinton AP

The following members of the Meriden Squadron will be remembered at the June Rendezvous.

David DiStasio Sr., AP  
CherieLee Bell, S





Address Service Requested

**U.S. Power Squadrons, District 1**  
c/o 44 Copplestone Rd., Avon, CT 06001

Commander	Cdr Patrick Pabouet, P	860-781-7106
Education Officer	D/Lt/C Arthur Andrea, AP	203-468-1210
Admin Officer	D/Lt/C William J. Waseleski, AP	860-212-2636
Secretary	D/Lt/C Linda L. Lewis, AP	860-908-3877
Treasurer	D/Lt/C Peter Jenkin, SN	860-662-4860

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Photos: Cdr Bill Bonney, AP

«AddressBlock»

## 2021 U.S. Coast Guard Boating Statistics

- The fatality rate was 5.5 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels based on 4,439 accidents involving 658 deaths and 2,641 injuries. This rate represents a 15.4% decrease from the 2020 fatality rate.
- Property damage totaled more than \$67.5 million.
- Alcohol use is the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents; where the primary cause was known, it was listed as the leading factor in 16% of deaths.
- Where cause of death was known, 81% of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 83% were not wearing a life jacket.
- Where length was known, three out of every four boaters who drowned were using vessels less than 21 feet in length.
- Where instruction was known, 75% of deaths occurred on boats where the operator did not receive boating safety instruction.
- There were 188 accidents in which at least one person was struck by a propeller. Collectively, these accidents resulted in 24 deaths and 191 injuries.
- Operator inattention, operator inexperience, improper lookout, , machinery failure, and excessive speed rank as the top five primary contributing factors in accidents.
- The most common vessel types involved in reported accidents were open motorboats (47%), personal watercraft (19%), and cabin motorboats (13%). Where data was known, the vessel types with the highest percentage of deaths were open motorboats (44%), kayaks (15%), and pontoons (10%).

