



the Bilge Pump

BULLETIN OF THE HARTFORD POWER SQUADRON
 A UNIT OF DISTRICT 1
 UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

Volume 81, Issue 4 – November-December 2019



Nantucket Pond
 Photographed by Brooke Martin
 2019 Photo Contest Winner

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10 December	Executive Committee Meeting “Bridge and general membership welcome” – MDC Training Facility	
14 January	Executive Committee Meeting “Bridge and general membership welcome” – MDC Training Facility	
16 – 19 January	Hartford Boat Show at Mohegan Sun	
28 January	Members’ Meeting – “Topic to be announced in next Bilge Pump.” Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT	<u>6</u>
11 February	Executive Committee Meeting “Bridge and general membership welcome” – MDC Training Facility	
Schedule of Upcoming District 1 Activities “For further details, see the current issue of Sounds of 1”		
16 November	District Fall Conference Manchester Country Club, 305 South Main St, Manchester, CT 06040	
8 December	District Holiday Party Campagna’s Restaurant, 151 Marlborough St, Portland, CT 06480	<u>3</u>
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At the Helm

Cdr Timothy F. Tyler, SN | (860) 561-0669 | timtyler@timtyler.us

The holiday season is upon us. Halloween candy has been consumed, clocks have been turned back, and Thanksgiving is rapidly approaching. For a lot of us, the boating season is over, and it's time to start thinking about winter sports activities. But that doesn't mean we have to abandon all things boating related. The District will be having its Holiday Party on December 8th, and our squadron will be having its third annual Mohegan Sun Casino bus trip on January 18th. This year, like last, it is being held concurrently with the Hartford Boat Show, so if you win big at the tables or the slots, you can buy the boat of your dreams right then and there! Information on both activities can be found in this issue. If you are unable to join us on the bus, there is a way you can attend the show for free and help your organization at the same time. The District is looking for volunteers to cover our booth. No experience is necessary, just a desire to spread the word on why you feel USPS is a worthwhile organization with which to be associated. If you are interested in signing up for a 3-4 hour time slot or have any questions regarding the show, please call Commander RuthAnne Collins at 860-444-9027 or email her at rdctruffles@gmail.com. Sign-ups will be on a "first-come, first-serve" basis. We had a fantastic turn out last year and tons of fun! If you volunteer for a shift, parking and entrance to the show are free. Come help with promoting USPS as America's Boating Club!

Another opportunity to spend time with old friends, and to make new ones, presents itself on November 16th in the form of the Fall District Conference. For some reason, district events are not traditionally well represented by squadron members. The best I can figure, these events are seen as events to be attended by squadron bridge members who are actively engaged in the running of the squadrons. Nothing could be further from the truth. While these members do traditionally attend, all

are welcome and encouraged attend, you will get a better the district is run, usually partake in an enjoyable meal, special activities such as the blessing of the fleet, and sessions. This Fall's held at the Manchester will be hosted by our center around planning for



events. Think about places where you have wanted to rendezvous with others, and let your voice be heard! The venue is beautiful and is close enough so that all Hartford members who would like to see what a District Conference is all about can do so. This years' luncheon will be a buffet of Tossed Salad, Penne Pasta with Marinara Sauce, Chef's Choice of Vegetable and Starch, Rolls, Roast Sirloin with Mushroom Sauce on the side, Chicken Francaise, coffee, tea, and dessert. A cash bar will also be open for "Attitude Adjustment" and during lunch. Send your check for \$28/ person, made out to "USPS D-1" by November 1st to Peter Jenkin, 32 Fieldstone Court, North Haven, CT 06473-2892. Please make your reservations as walk-ins may not be served a meal. Please help Hartford make this a successful event.

squadron members to participate. If you understanding of how enjoy a guest speaker, and participate in flare demonstrations, educational breakout Conference is being Country Club and squadron. It will next summer's

So, as you can see, between our squadron and the district, many events are being held this winter. These events incorporate business, socializing, fun, and good food. I believe if you attend, at the end of the day you will walk away feeling it was time well spent.

Your bridge and I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year, spent with friends and loved ones. Please consider adding us to that list of friends.

Stay safe out there.
Cdr Tim Tyler, SN



Educational Department

Lt/C Roy L. Bergeron, AP – Squadron Educational Officer | (860) 841-8620 | roybergeron01@yahoo.com

The Fall season is in full swing, and it is an excellent time of year to learn about boating. Each Fall we offer classes in Seamanship and Advanced Piloting. This Fall, we have a Junior Navigation Course which is in progress.

We also have Electronic Navigation and Cruise Planning available as self-study courses. Seamanship has been eliminated and will be replaced by the new Boat Handling Course. Both the Boat Handling and Advanced Piloting Courses are on hold until textbooks and an Instructor are available.

Please contact Roy Bergeron if you are interested in Electronic Navigation or Cruise Planning.

For Spring, we will be offering America's Boating Course for the CT Boat Operator Certificate in both Farmington and Simsbury. For elective courses, Marine Electrical and Engine Maintenance are planned in Hartford. Piloting will be offered as an advanced course in Farmington. Piloting is offered each Spring and begins in February, usually the first Thursday after the Boat Show. Specific start dates and locations of the Spring Courses will be in the January issue of *the Bilge Pump*.

The October Members' Meeting

At our October meeting we had not one, but two speakers from Sea Tow, a multiple area sea service, covering Central, Southern, Eastern Connecticut, and part of Rhode Island. They shared with us information on services available to members of their organization.

Sea Tow is more than a towing service. It is a franchised organization that offers many different services to boaters in trouble. With high-speed vessels strategically located for rapid response, they can assist with unexpected problems 24/7/365 days of the year.

Additionally, Sea Tow provides educational classes for beginner, intermediate, and advanced boaters emphasizing hands-on as part of their advanced university courses.

Sea Tow offers many services. They are a quick response organization with unlimited free towing within the service area, upgroundings, fuel drops, and many more services that will give boaters peace of mind. These services are important because, as boaters, no matter how experienced we may be, we can find ourselves in dangerous situations that require professional help to resolve. Sea Tow professionals will be there for us.

For more details about Sea Tow, their list of services offered, and membership sign-ups, representatives may be reached by phoning 860-395-0405.

A 50/50 raffle was held at the meeting, and the prize of \$38 was won by Lt/C Roy L. Bergeron, AP. Congratulations Roy!

District Holiday Party

Plans have been finalized for the much-awaited District Holiday Party. We'll be meeting on Sunday, 8 December 2019, at Campagna's Restaurant, 151 Marlborough Street, Portland, CT 06480.

Everyone enjoyed this venue in 2015, 2016, and last year. We'll meet at 2:00 p.m. and enjoy cocktails before enjoying your choice of meals: Veal Marsala (\$19.95), Chicken Parmesan (\$17.95), Salmon (\$22.95), or NY Strip Steak (\$23.95).

We'll also have a tea-cup raffle with lots of prizes. Please bring an unwrapped toy for "TOYS FOR TOTS."



For reservations, including your meal choices, please contact RuthAnne Collins at atrdctruffles@gmail.com or 860-444-9027 by Monday, 2 December.

2019 Photo Contest Winners

The winners of the 2019 Photo Contest are: First Place Brooke Martin, Runners Up are Cliff McKibbin, Karen Ventrella, and Jeanne Waseleski. We had a total of 17 submissions to the contest. Not as many as we had hoped for, but what lacked in quantity was more than made up for by quality. With so many great submissions, picking winners was not easy. We hope you enjoy the photographs as much as we do. Our thanks go out to everyone who submitted entries, it means a lot to us.

The canvas print of the first-place photograph will be presented at the January Members' Meeting. Should Brooke not be able to attend, arrangements will be made to get her prize delivered to her.

As promised, the winning photograph has been featured on the issue's cover. Below are the five runners up.



Serenity
Photographed by Karen Ventrella



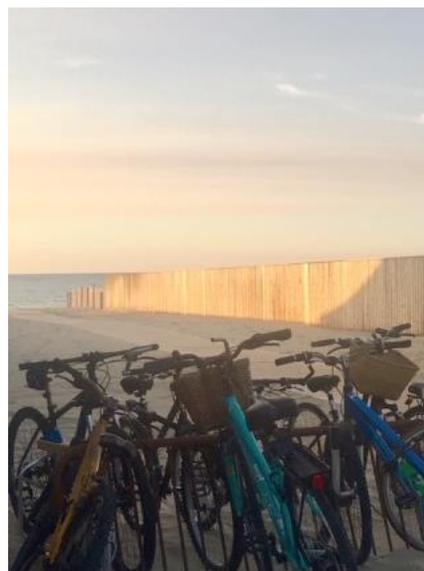
Zuiderzee Fishing Boat
Photographed by Cliff McKibbin



Nantucket Pond
Photographed by Brooke Martin



Nantucket Magic
Photographed by Brooke Martin



Enjoying the Last Rays of the Day
Photographed by Jeanne Waseleski

Bus Trip to Mohegan Sun

We are planning our third bus trip to Mohegan Sun. The outing will be held on Saturday, January 18, 2020. This scheduling was chosen to allow for the enjoyment of boat show, enjoying the casino, or both. The bus leaves at 10 a.m. and returns at 6 p.m.

We will be selling seats for the same price as we did last year, \$30.00. This price will again include the bus trip, \$15 casino gaming credits, and a \$15 food credit that can be used at any restaurant in the casino, or as full payment for their incredible buffet. There are also many shops to browse if you so desire. The credits effectively make this trip a no-cost trip to you.

Although the cost does not include admission to the boat show, we are offering discounted admission for participants at the price of \$10 per person.

This trip is not just for squadron members; it is also a fund-raising event. Please bring your family and friends and let them know they are encouraged to invite others to join us.



Open to Members, Friends, & Family

MOHEGAN SUN Casino
BOAT SHOW BUS TRIP

Saturday, January 18, 2020

Bus departs from Two Locations - Leaves Casino at 5:00 pm
DOT Commuter Lot, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington at 10:00 AM
Putnam Park & Ride, 3029 Main Street, Glastonbury at 10:30 AM

Casino Trip only \$30 per person
Casino Trip with Boat Show Admission \$40

50/50 Raffle
\$15 Game Voucher **\$15 Food Voucher**
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

For Tickets Contact:
www.hartfordpowersquadron.com/bustrip.html
Or Email:
boating@hartfordpowersquadron.com

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We now accept credit card payments. For more information, directions, or to purchase Bus Trip/Boat Show tickets, go to <https://hartfordps.eventbee.com/event?eid=154086423>.

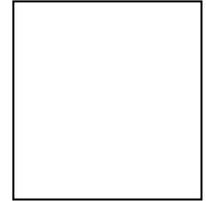
If it is more convenient for you, you may contact Cliff McKibbin at (860) 655-4623, or email him at cliff99.mckibbin@comcast.net, to reserve seats.

Let's keep the warmth of the holiday spirit going. Bus trip tickets make great Christmas presents and stocking stuffers! We had such a great time on our last trip that we are eagerly looking forward to this event. Let's fill that bus up and party again!



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January 28th Members' Meeting Will Feature ???



Date: January 28, 2020
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT
Cost: \$15 for dinner with a cash bar - or just come at 7:30 p.m. for the free presentation.
Reservations: Contact Jim Salvatore at jimsal1@comcast.net or 860-346-0680.