12th Night Party to be held Jan 6, 2019, 1100 hours

On Saturday, January 6, 2019, 11:00 am, Utica Sail and Power Squadron, America’s Boating Club, will have their 12th night gathering at the Delta Inn in Rome. Our guest speaker will be boat builder Dave Strobino. Last year we missed our event with Dave due to bad weather. But as a true boatman, Dave has volunteered again for this year’s event. Dave has 20 years’ experience building boats and has completed 14 vessels. Dave’s latest and most challenging project is to replicate a 1936 16 ft. Zephyr 225 class hydro, capable of over 60 mph. Please call Bryan Walrath at 315-337-6051 by Tuesday, January 2. Below is one of the 14 boats that Dave has built. Price $20
Hi to all….

Usually as I get ready to type my Commander’s report, I have an idea in mind which seems to grow and then I just run with it until it is completed. For some reason, as we approach this special Holiday time of the year, I have what I guess would be termed writer’s block! I will note, of course, the 12th Night Party to be held on 6 January 2019 at Delta Lake Inn (with a presentation by member Dave Strobino); the Founder’s Day Gathering to be held at Cornell Cooperative Extension on 9 February, 2019, and the Change of Watch to be held at The Beeches on 24 March 2019. There will also be an ABC3 course offered on Thursdays, March 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2019. In addition, I must thank all of the members of the Bridge for their continued efforts to keep our group going, and also all of our members for staying the course with us.

However, during these unsettled times we seem to be facing daily I feel as if we need a better message; one of love, and giving; a message of hope, cooperation and appreciation for one another. After all, we are all trying to get through each day the best way we can. I think of my America’s Boating Club friends with fondness and the realization that if I did not belong to this group, I would probably not know most of you. What a loss that would be. I think of those we have lost and even though they are gone, they have left their imprint on most of us with some word or phrase that is implanted in our memories.

The song “Humble and Kind” (1), sung by Tim McGraw, has a verse that stays with me: “Don’t take for granted the love this life gives you, when you get where you’re going, don’t forget, turn back around, help the next one in line, always stay humble and kind”.

So, my message to you is this….enjoy the Holidays by spending time with those you love, family and friends alike, think giving instead of getting, do all you can to stay healthy, offer help to those in need, take pleasure in the little things and always, stay humble and kind.

“Humble and Kind”, written by Lori McKenna
Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Commander LaDuc at 1705 HRS.

Location: Oriskany Public Library

Members Present: Commander Linda LaDuc, AP, Secretary: LT/C Ellen Webster, SN, Treasurer/SEO David Schulz, AP, Editor P/C Rick Gassner, SN, Safety Officer Randall “Q” Webster, AP

Commander LaDuc determined a quorum was present for the meeting.

Lt/C David Schulz, AP led us in both prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the 7 November 2018 Executive Committee meeting were approved.

Commander’s Report:

Commander LaDuc reported on the Niagara Falls conference. She reported that there was a program on tall ships as the tall ships flotilla will be passing through the Buffalo, NY area in the summer of 2019. She also reported that the squadron had again won the shipping over award for member retention in the 2017-2018 squadron year.

Commander LaDuc took the lead in the task to tweak the 2019 calendar of events. She volunteered to contact AO officer Bryan Walrath, N to confirm the reservations to the various venues. She also volunteered to contact Dave Strobino to ask if he would be able to provide a program for the Twelfth Night Party in January.

She also reported that webmaster Rick Gassner has been working to revise and update our website.

She asked for confirmation of the 2019 slate of officers.

Randy Webster made the following motion: That all the members of the current bridge will remain at their posts for the 2019-2020 squadron year.

Motion was seconded by Dave Schulz. Motion carried.

Secretary and Committees: Lt/C Ellen Webster, SN no further report.

‘Bilgewater’ Editor Deadline for the next Bilgewater is 12 December 2018.

Web Page/Webmaster: see Commander’s report.

Treasurer and Committees: Lt/C David Schulz, AP reported that the Funds on Hand: $2817.61 in savings, $1248.36 in checking. He also reported that we had received from National a refund check for the return of course materials valued at $54.20. In turn, National sent us a bill for the processing fee that we now owe. The process left us all scratching our heads.

(Treasurer’s report continued): Once again, Lt/C David Schulz, AP also agreed to check when we last made our donation to the Oriskany Library and report on that at the next Bridge meeting.

Administrative Officer (AO) and Committees: absent. See Commander’s report.

Membership: see commander’s report.

Squadron Education Officer (SEO) and Committees: Lt/C Dave Schulz reported that he will be conducting a Leadership Development Course (formerly known as the Operations Training course) after our monthly squadron meetings beginning in February 2019. The course will require about 6 hours of class room time.

PRO Officer: no report

Old Business: see treasurer’s report.

New Business: Dave Schulz volunteer to give a presentation of the history of USPS at the Founder’s Day party.

Announcements: Next meeting Wednesday 2 January 2019, 1700 HRS, at the Oriskany Public Library.

Meeting Adjourned 1846 HRS.
We have scheduled a new America’s Boating “ABC” Course for March 7, 2019. The old course that was scheduled for Oct 25, 2018 has been closed. Unfortunately no one had registered. We have to do better advertising and make it easy to register. The New York Law is as follows:

**Personal Water Craft** - all operators, regardless of age, must successfully complete an approved course in boater education in order to operate a personal water craft.

**Motorboats** - new law effective May 1st, 2014: all individuals born on or after 5/1/96 are now required to successfully complete an approved course in boater education in order to operate a motorboat.

As can be seen, there should be many people especially younger people that need a certificate. Below is a description of the course. Please bring this to the attention of any boater the needs one.

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**America’s Boating Course - 3rd Edition**

**What:** The course, called “America’s Boating Course 3”, is comprised of the required 8 hours of instruction. The first day will begin with a session of 2 hours. The additional 6 hours will be given during the following 3 weeks. It includes a written exam. Students will take an examination to earn their “Safe Boating Certificate”. This course meets all New York State boating certification requirements for insurance reductions, youthful operator, Personal Watercraft Certification (PWC) and motorboats. As of January 2004, all PWC operators are required to have successfully completed a boating safety course and as of May 2014 all born after 5/1/96 that operate a motorboat are required to completed a boating safety course.

Parents are invited to bring their children 10 years of age and older with them to this class. Youth boating requirements including Personal Watercraft will be met for youth 10 to 18 upon successful completion of this course. Children under 15 must have parental or other adult supervision during all classes to participate.

There is no charge for instruction; there will be a $30 fee for textbooks. Sharing a textbook with a friend or family member is allowed. Enrollment will be on a first come basis and the class size is limited.
CHECKING THE BILGE

An Arab Sheik was admitted to the Hospital for heart surgery, but prior to the surgery, the doctors needed to have some of his blood type stored in case the need arose. As the gentleman had an extremely rare type of blood that couldn't be found locally, the call went out around the world. Finally, a Scotsman was located who had the same rare blood type. After some coaxing, the Scot donated his blood for the Arab.

After the surgery, the Arab sent the Scotsman a BMW, a diamond necklace for his wife, and $100,000 US dollars in appreciation for the blood donation.

A few months later, the Arab had to undergo a further corrective surgery procedure. Once again, his doctor telephoned the Scotsman who was more than happy to donate his blood. After the second surgery the Arab sent the Scotsman a thank-you card and a box of Quality Street chocolates.

The Scotsman was shocked that the Arab did not reciprocate his kind gesture as he had anticipated. He phoned the Arab and asked him: "I thought you would be more generous than that. Last time you sent me a BMW, diamonds and money, but this time you only sent me a lousy thank-you card and a crappy box of chocolates?"

To this the Arab replied: "Aye laddie, but I now have Scottish blood in me veins."

An old Lady offers the bus driver some peanuts … so the driver happily munches them. Every 5 minutes she gives him a handful of more peanuts.

Driver: Why don't you eat them yourself?
Old Lady: I can't chew. Look I have no teeth!
Driver: Then why do you buy them?
Old Lady: Oh, I just love the chocolate around them.

The true story of the Chicken Gun. Too funny not to share!
Sometimes it does take a rocket scientist!

Scientists at NASA built a gun specifically to launch standard 4 pound dead chickens at the windshields of airliners, military jets and the space shuttle, all traveling at maximum velocity. The idea is to simulate the frequent incidents of collisions with airborne fowl to test the strength of the windshields.

British engineers heard about the gun and were eager to test it on the windshields of their new high speed trains. Arrangements were made, and a gun was sent to the British engineers.


"DEFROST THE CHICKEN."

(TRUE STORY..... )
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02 January</td>
<td>Squadron Meeting</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>Oriskany Library, Oriskany, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>06 January</td>
<td>12th Night Party</td>
<td>1100</td>
<td>Lake Delta Inn</td>
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<td>09 February</td>
<td>Founders’ Day Party</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>Oneida County Cooperative Ext</td>
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<td>06 February</td>
<td>Squadron Meeting</td>
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<td>18-24 February</td>
<td>USPS Annual Meeting</td>
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<td>Orlando, FL</td>
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<td>14-17 February</td>
<td>Syracuse Boat Show</td>
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<td>NYS Fair Grounds, Syracuse</td>
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<td>06 March</td>
<td>Squadron Meeting</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>Oriskany Library, Oriskany, NY</td>
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<td>07 March</td>
<td>ABC3 Boating Course</td>
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<td>24 March</td>
<td>78th Change of Watch</td>
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<td>The Beeches, Rome, NY</td>
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<td>03 April</td>
<td>Squadron Meeting</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>Oriskany Library, Oriskany, NY</td>
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<td>12-19 April</td>
<td>D6 Spring Council/Conference</td>
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<td>Tioga Downs Casino, Nichols, NY</td>
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<td>01 May</td>
<td>Squadron Meeting</td>
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<td>07 June</td>
<td>Launch Party</td>
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<td>River Side Marina, Rome</td>
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<td>05 June</td>
<td>Squadron Meeting</td>
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<td>Oriskany Library, Oriskany, NY</td>
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<td>July</td>
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<td>August</td>
<td>USPS D6 &amp; CPS Rendezvous</td>
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<td>August</td>
<td>No Squadron meeting</td>
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<td>04 September</td>
<td>Squadron Meeting</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>Oriskany Library, Oriskany, NY</td>
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<td>TBD September</td>
<td>Haul Out Party</td>
<td>1730</td>
<td>Aquino’s Restaurant, Rome; NY</td>
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<td>TBD October</td>
<td>ABC course</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
<td>D6 Fall Council/Conference</td>
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<td>Squadron Meeting</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>Oriskany Library, Oriskany, NY</td>
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Utica Sail & Power Squadron

David W. Schulz, Treasurer
37 Hosta Lane
Clinton, NY 13323