

the Bilge Pump

BULLETIN OF THE HARTFORD POWER SQUADRON

A UNIT OF DISTRICT 1

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

Volume 79, Issue 6 – February 2018



Winter Boating Season Activities

Schedule of Upcoming Squadron Activities		
08 thru 11 February	Hartford Boat Show Connecticut Convention Center, 100 Columbus Blvd, Hartford, CT	2
13 February	Executive Committee Meeting – “ <i>Bridge and general membership welcome</i> ” – MDC	
14 February	Valentine’s Day – <i>Captains, take your Admiral to dinner!</i>	
27 February	Members’ Meeting – “ <i>Philip A. Gaudreau, Jr. Accredited Marine Surveyor</i> ” Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT	6
13 March	Executive Committee Meeting – “ <i>Bridge and general membership welcome</i> ” – MDC	
27 March	Annual Meeting “Awards and Recognitions” Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT	
8 April	Change of Watch Dinner – Manor Inn Restaurant, Milldale, CT	
10 April	Executive Committee Meeting – “ <i>Bridge and general membership welcome</i> ” – MDC	
8 May	Executive Committee Meeting – “ <i>Bridge and general membership welcome</i> ” – MDC	
22 May	Members’ Meeting – “ <i>Topic to be determined</i> ”	
Schedule of Upcoming District 1 Activities – <i>For further details, see the current issue of Sounds of 1</i>		
16 February	February Council – Eversource Energy, 107 Selden St, Berlin, CT	
17 March	Spring Conference – Manchester Country Club 305 S Main St, Manchester, CT 06040	
22 June – 24 June	June Rendezvous – Essex Island Marina	
23 June	June Council – Essex Island Marina	
14 July	Sail Race – Branford Yacht Club	
13 July – 15 July	Mini Cruise – Mystic Seaport	
July	Fishing Derby – Waterford	
10 August – 12 August	Mini Cruise – U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT	
15 September	Poker Run – Hamburg Cove Yacht Club, 13 Cove Rd, Old Lyme, CT	
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At the Helm

Cdr Patrick A. Pabouet, P | (860) 528-7700 | argus06108@aol.com



February is upon us and we are getting closer to the boating season. To get you more into the mood, the Hartford Boat Show starts on February 8th and runs through February 11th. Stop by our booth and say hello. It is going to be a busy month with the boat show, our ABC courses, and some Advance Courses beginning. It's a good time of the year to take a course and ready yourself for the summer. Get a friend to sign up with you. Also, this month, our Members' Meeting will take place on February 27th.

The January Members' Meeting was very informative. Commander Ely from the Coast Guard went over the duties of different branches of the Coast Guard on Long Island Sound. He discussed Ice Breakers, Coast Guard Patrols, Emergency Response teams, and what we can expect if we need help. He discussed the proper protocol when calling the emergency 911 line for the Coast Guard. Commander Ely simulated contacting the United States Coast Guard in an emergency using their smartphone app and talked with one of his men so we could listen in on an emergency call.

Our trip to the Mohegan Casino was a lot of fun. Perhaps next year we can fill the bus. Our thanks to Bill Waseleski and his team for planning a great event.

Cdr Patrick A. Pabouet, P

Executive Department

D/Lt/C Timothy Tyler, SN – Squadron Executive Officer | (860) 561-0669 | timtyler@timtyler.us

Hartford Boat Show

The Hartford Power Squadron will be sponsoring a booth at the Hartford Boat Show. The show now in its 49th year provides us with an opportunity to reach out to the boating community and get them involved in our squadron.

We are always looking for volunteers to help us with the show. Volunteering gets you into the show for free on the day you are scheduled to work. It's not too early to get involved.

To assist with the booth and gain free admission to the show, call Frank Pascucci at (860) 635-3172 or email him at frank@fpascucci.com.

Even if you can't volunteer, we'd still love to see you at the show. Buy your tickets at HartfordBoatShow.com before February 7 and use our special promo code **HPS123** to save \$2 off each adult ticket. Tell your friends and family too. They can all use our code.

COME SEE US!!

HARTFORD BOAT SHOW 18

February 8-11, 2018

Connecticut Convention Center

Life Is Better With A Boat

SAVE \$2 OFF

EACH ADULT TICKET

Buy ticket at HartfordBoatShow.com
Before February 7 and save!
Use our special promo code: HPS123

Tickets on Sale at HartfordBoatShow.com



Educational Department

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

Get the most out of your membership - GET MORE EDUCATION!

Following are our advanced and elective course offerings for Spring 2018. Please call Roy at 860 841-8620 or e-mail him at roybergeron01@yahoo.com with your questions or to register.



Advanced Course:

Piloting will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at St. James Church, 3 Mountain Road, Farmington, CT.

Cost:

\$73 Member (Includes \$17 for piloting instruments)

\$187 Non-Member (Includes 1-year membership to USPS/HPS and \$17 for piloting instruments)



Elective Course:

Engine Maintenance Course will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at the MDC Training Center, 125 Maxim Road, Hartford, CT.

Cost:

\$54 Member

\$151 Non-Member (Includes 1-year membership to USPS/HPS)

Spring 2018 ABC3 Public Boating Courses are scheduled as follows:

The ABC3 Course consists of eight two-hour classes that fulfill the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) requirements for a Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation with Personal Watercraft, Safe Waterskiing, and Coastal Boater Endorsements. Our next course offering will be held at:



Simsbury: Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., Henry James Memorial School, 155 Firetown Rd., Simsbury (Must register with Simsbury Continuing Education at 860-658-3870) Cost: \$69 plus a town-imposed facility fee.



Farmington: Thursday, March 1, 2018, at 6:30 p.m., Farmington High School, 10 Montieth Dr., Farmington (Must register with Farmington Adult Education at 860-404-0290) Cost: \$69 plus a town-imposed facility fee.

If you are interested in taking any of our courses or seminars, or if you think you may be interested in teaching, please contact Roy at the email or phone above.

HPS Fall Education Results

We are disappointed to report that there were not enough signups for our fall class offerings to make it worthwhile to hold the classes, so we have no fall education results this year.

As noted above, we are offering two advanced courses and two ABC courses. If you know anyone new to boating, or anyone that has been boating for a while that could use a refresher (including yourself), please tell them about our ABC courses.

There is nothing shameful about going over the basics after a long stretch of being away from the water and before starting the new boating season. In fact, it is a smart thing to do. You would be surprised how much you forget. As you know, ABC covers the required topics that all recreational boaters must know. In addition to the rules of the road, some of the other topics covered are required safety equipment, navigation aids, lights and sounds, anchoring, communications afloat, adverse conditions, water sports safety, trailering, personal watercraft safety, and knots and lines. There is also an introduction to digital charts and GPS waypoint navigation, a key skill for boating on larger lakes and rivers and coastal waters. If you have ever found yourself questioning any of these skills, sign up today so you can be a safe and confident captain.



Call to the Annual Meeting 27 March

D/Lt Clifford W. McKibbin, SN – Squadron Secretary | (860) 655-4623 | cliff15.mckibbin@comcast.net

The Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 27, 2018. Elections will be held for the new Bridge that will take office at the “Change of Watch Dinner” on April 8, 2018. The report of the nominating committee will be in the next issue of *the Bilge Pump*. The report will include nominations for the Bridge, Executive Committee Members at Large and Elected Committees. As a member, you can also nominate members to these positions by petition. To do this, please contact the Secretary fifteen days prior to the Annual Meeting (by March 12, 2018). We will then make the petition nomination available to the members seven days prior to the Annual Meeting. Please mark your calendars for this important meeting.

The meeting will be held at the Olympia Diner in Newington. The meal will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Please note, if attending at 6:30 p.m., there is a \$15 meal charge. If you choose to just attend the meeting starting at 7:30 p.m., there is no charge. Please contact Commander Pat Pabouet at (860) 528-7700 or argus06108@aol.com if you are interested in becoming active in your Squadron, participating in committees or learning more about our organization.

Merit Marks

Every year merit marks are given by National to individuals who have contributed extraordinary time to the squadron, usually by holding an elective office, serving on a committee or teaching courses. Only one merit mark can be given to a person per year. Members achieving “Senior Member” (5 merit marks) are entitled to receive one free class of their choice. Members reaching 25 merit marks become “Life Members” and no longer must pay dues. The following members have been awarded merit marks for the calendar year 2017. We thank them for giving their time and effort to help our Squadron in so many ways.

Marty Abrams, Roy Bergeron, Thomas Berlandy, Elaine Cleary, Jonathan Emerson, Marvin Goldberg, Kenneth Letendre, Cliff McKibbin, Pat Pabouet, Frank Pascucci, Mike Rinaldi, Jim Salvatore, Paul Silversmith, Tim Tyler, Frank Ventrella, William Waseleski, Don Watson and Ken Weeks.

HPS First Annual Casino Bus Trip

D/Lt Clifford W. McKibbin, SN – Squadron Secretary | (860) 655-4623 | cliff15.mckibbin@comcast.net

Last month’s Casino Bus Trip was our first effort at holding a non-boating related activity for our members.

The “Season’s Buffet” was ridiculous. They had mounds of shrimp, oysters, and clams on the half shell. They also had prime rib cut to order, pork, turkey, and all sorts of Asian foods as well. Usually, there was only one person ahead of you to get anything you wanted. The dessert section was 40’ long and even had specialty coffees. All for the \$15 food voucher. It was very well done, you were assigned a table and a waitress took your drink order (alcohol extra charge). Your drink was waiting when you got back from the buffet. If you wanted coffee or tea at the end, the server would get that too. A few people found they could spend the food voucher in stores.



They had “no smoking” areas for those wanting them. Lots of digital games and slots. Several large sections of digital consoles you could sit at and play blackjack, roulette, and a few other games with a live person (showing on your console) doing the dealing, spinning, etc. You played against that person with another 100 or so people doing the same thing.

The trip over took less than an hour and the driver was very careful and helpful. We had “Jell-O shots”, chips, cookies, soda, and water on the way as well as a 50/50 raffle that paid \$65.

There were also some big winners: \$500, \$400, \$300, \$175. A few said they spent their “\$50” but enjoyed it. All in all, it was very successful trip and everyone had a good time.



Last Month's Members' Meeting

“A Discussion on Search and Rescue”

Last month's meeting featured a discussion on Search and Rescue by USCG Commander J. Andrew Ely. The Commander discussed the Coast Guard's search and rescue organization and the methodologies they use to respond to reports of actual or potential distress. An informative and entertaining discussion was followed by a lively question and answer session in which the Commander answered questions on search and rescue, vessel examinations, and all things “Coast Guard.”

One interesting take away from the discussion was the fact that a great majority of distress calls that the Coast Guard receives today are from cell phones. While this is a way to reach them, it must be stressed that IT IS NOT THE BEST WAY. The best way is to use your VHF radio. The Coast Guard has equipment that can quickly and accurately pinpoint your exact position if your VHF radio is used. If you use your cell phone, the best they can tell is you are within the range of a particular cell tower. Cell tower range is affected by a myriad of factors and is generally 3 to 5 miles, but it can be up to 22 miles or more. Even at the low end, that's a lot of water to cover when looking for 20 to 40 feet of boat! So a word to the wise...keep your VHF radio in peak working order and use it in an emergency.

The Commander also spoke about the U.S. Coast Guard Mobile App for Android and Apple smartphones. The app can be found at <http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=070-15-01&category=us-coast-guard-mobile-app>. The app is intended to provide boating safety resources for recreational boaters (**but not to replace a marine VHF radio**). Features of the app include state boating information; a safety equipment checklist; free boating safety check requests; navigation rules; float plans; and calling features to report pollution or suspicious activity. When location services are enabled, users can receive the latest weather reports from the closest National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration weather buoys as well as report the location of a hazard on the water.

The Commander demonstrated the app's Emergency Assistance button which, with location services enabled, will call the closest Coast Guard command center.”

Safety Corner

“2016 Recreational Boating Statistics”

D/Lt/C Timothy Tyler, SN – Squadron Executive Officer | (860) 561-0669 | timtyler@timtyler.us

I was looking over the latest Recreational Boating Statistics (2016) compiled by the U.S. Coast Guard and thought they might be of interest. Following is an excerpt from that report. The full report can be found here:

<http://www.uscgboating.org/library/accident-statistics/Recreational-Boating-Statistics-2016.pdf>

2016 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- In 2016, the Coast Guard counted 4,463 accidents that involved 701 deaths, 2,903 injuries and approximately \$49 million dollars of damage to property as a result of recreational boating accidents.
 - The fatality rate was 5.9 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. This rate represents a 11.3% increase from last year's fatality rate of 5.3 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels.
 - Compared to 2015, the number of accidents increased 7.3%, the number of deaths increased 12%, and the number of injuries increased 11.1%.
- Where cause of death was known, 80% of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 83% were not wearing a life jacket.
- Eight out of every ten boaters who drowned were using vessels less than 21 feet in length. • 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 15% of deaths.
- Where instruction was known, 77% of deaths occurred on boats where the operator did not receive boating safety instruction. Only 13% percent of deaths occurred on vessels where the operator had received a nationally-approved boating safety education certificate.
- There were 171 accidents in which at least one person was struck by a propeller. Collectively, these accidents resulted in 24 deaths and 175 injuries.
- Operator inattention, operator inexperience, improper lookout, excessive speed, and machinery failure rank as the top five primary contributing factors in accidents.
- Where data was known, the most common vessel types involved in reported accidents were open motorboats (47%), personal watercraft (18%), and cabin motorboats (15%).
- Where data was known, the vessel types with the highest percentage of deaths were open motorboats (47%), kayaks (13%), and canoes (9%).
- The 11,861,811 recreational vessels registered by the states in 2016 represent a 0.04% decrease from last year when 11,867,049 recreational vessels were registered.

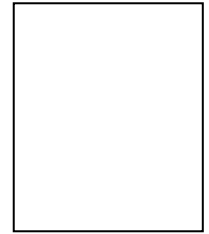
- Stay Safe



Hartford Power Squadron

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February Members' Meeting Will Feature "Philip A. Gaudreau, Jr. Accredited Marine Surveyor"

The February 27th Members' Meeting will feature a discussion on marine surveying by Philip A. Gaudreau, Jr., Accredited Marine Surveyor.

A marine surveyor is a person who inspects boats, cargo, engines, barges, and pretty much anything that is on the water. Most marine surveyors specialize in one type of survey, yachts, and small crafts being the most popular type of surveyor. These are usually vessels used for pleasure or small craft used for commercial less than 1600 Gross tonnage, and it is the area of expertise for our speaker. Phillip's credentials cover over 40 years of experience in the marine industry and are too numerous to mention here. He has spent the last 30 years as the sole owner and employee of Allpoint Marine Services, specializing in marine surveying.

Some of the items that will be covered in his presentation are:

- What is a Marine Surveyor?
- Why get a Marine Survey?
- Survey types: Prepurchase Survey, Condition and Valuation Survey, and Damage Appraisal.
- How does a marine surveyor get the boat to tell its story (Systems on Board, Tools of the Trade)?

Please join us for a night that will give you an look into the world of the Marine Surveyor, a night that is sure to be enlightening and of great value to anyone contemplating buying or selling a boat.

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 jimsall@comcast.net or 860-346-0680.