



# the Bilge Pump



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



Volume 80, Issue 6 February 2019

Schedule of Upcoming Squadron Activities		Page
12 February	Executive Committee Meeting – “Bridge and general membership welcome” – MDC	
<b>14 February</b>	<b>Valentine’s Day – Captains, take your Admiral to dinner!</b>	
26 February	<a href="#">Members’ Meeting</a> – “A Discussion on Connecticut’s Boating Industry” Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT	<a href="#">6</a>
12 March	Executive Committee Meeting – “Bridge and general membership welcome” – MDC	
26 March	Annual Meeting “Awards and Recognitions” Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT	
07 April	Change of Watch Dinner – “Awards and Recognitions” Manor Inn Restaurant 1636 Meriden-Waterbury Turnpike, Southington, CT 06489	
09 April	Executive Committee Meeting – “Bridge and general membership welcome” – MDC	
04 May	<a href="#">Swap Meet and Cookout</a> – Portland Riverside Marina, 37 Riverview St, Portland, CT	<a href="#">5</a>
07 May	Executive Committee Meeting – “Bridge and general membership welcome” – MDC	
<b>Schedule of Upcoming District 1 Activities – For further details, see the current issue of <i>Sounds of 1</i></b>		
30 March	District Spring Conference – “Branford Yacht Club, Branford, CT”	
22 June	District June Council – “Essex Island Marina, Essex, CT”	
13 July	District Sail Race – “Branford Yacht Club, Branford, CT”	
<b>Also in this Issue</b>		
	<a href="#">Fallen Comrades</a> – Frank Pylant, Stan Klein	<a href="#">2</a>
	<a href="#">At the Helm</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
	<a href="#">Call to the Annual Meeting</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
	<a href="#">Educational Department</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
	<a href="#">Merit Marks</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
	<a href="#">Last Month’s Members’ Meeting</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
	<a href="#">Safety Corner</a>	<a href="#">5</a>



## Fallen Comrades

**P/Lt/C Franklin R. Pylant, AP, passed away on 22 January 2019**



**Frank and Joanne at the 2007  
Change of Watch**

Long time active member, P/Lt/C Franklin R. Pylant, AP, 91, passed away on January 22nd. He leaves his beloved wife, Joanne, a son and daughter, grandson and two great-grandchildren, a step-son, step-daughter, and a sister.

Frank joined the Hartford Squadron in 1990 and soon became involved with the Squadron Leadership. He was Asst. Secretary from 1994-1996, Asst. Education Officer from 1996-1997 and became Education Officer in 1997, serving until 2010. He continued to serve on the Executive Committee until 2012. He received his 25-year pin in 2015.

Frank and his wife, Joanne, were fixtures at meetings and events for many years. Anyone taking our ABC Basic Boating Course in those years will remember Frank grading their tests.

Frank served in the U.S. Army with tours in Germany, South Korea, and Vietnam, earning the Bronze Star for meritorious service and retired as a Master Sergeant. After his retirement, Frank worked for the US Post Office. He was actively involved in his community as a Scout Master, helping the Plainville Food Pantry, teaching Sunday school, and as a member of the VFW.

Frank's full obituary is at <http://www.newbritainherald.com/NBH-Obituaries/343498/franklin-r-pylant>

**Stf/C Stanley L. Klein, SN, passed away on 25 January 2019**



Middletown Squadron member, Stf/C Stanley L. Klein, SN, 69, of Cromwell, beloved husband of Patricia (Guerrini) Klein of forty-two years, passed away at home with his family by his side on Friday, January 25, 2019.

Born in Paterson, NJ, he was the son of the late Arthur and Elsie (Jacobs) Klein and the brother of the late Herbert Klein. Stan was a life member of the United States Power Squadrons (USPS) since 2016, affiliated with the Middletown Squadron. He achieved the top ranking of Senior Navigator, and in his thirty years with the squadron he earned twenty-eight Merit Marks. In his long career with the organization, he was the Educational Officer for both Middletown Power Squadron and District 1. Stan also wrote the "Celestial Tools for Navigation" software that is used to simplify using the complicated formulas required for celestial navigation. The software is used by the entire USPS organization. Stan also made it available on the internet to anyone wishing to use it. At a recent District 1 conference, the USPS National Educational Officer recognized Stan's work with a special National Advancement Celestial Navigation Award. Stan was an assistant regional director of the Boat Operator's Certification (BOC) program, and Staff Commander of Off Shore Navigation, serving in that position for many years.

Although not a member of the Hartford Squadron, we felt it fitting to include Stan as one of our honorees. Stan was always willing to teach the Junior Navigation and Navigation courses for any squadron that requested he do so. On many occasions he did so for Hartford. He was a patient teacher who was able to make complex ideas understandable. Were it not for Stan, our current Commander would not be a SN. He took sightings with him on bitter cold days on a beach in Groton and guided him through the complexities of sight reduction and advanced plotting techniques. Stan was there whenever called upon to answer a question or clarify navigational concepts. They became friends and he will be deeply missed.

The last couple of years Stan started attending open mikes. He went from observer to participant and made many new friends along the way. Stan was always willing to offer his time and help to his family, friends, associates and even strangers.

Along with his wife, Stan is survived by a son, Jeff Klein of Norwalk; daughter, Laura Klein of Cromwell; grandson, Logan Rich, and several brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews. To the world you were a Dad, to your family you were the world.

Stan's full obituary is at

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/hartfordcourant/obituary.aspx?n=stanley-l-klein&pid=191375443&fhid=24220>

*Frank and Stan, your friends in the Hartford Power Squadron salute you both and wish you Godspeed.*



## At the Helm

Cdr Timothy F. Tyler, SN | (860) 561-0669 | [timtyler@hartfordpowersquadron.com](mailto:timtyler@hartfordpowersquadron.com)

Bill Waseleski, with help from his lovely wife and daughter, planned this event to the casino and it was crazy good. From the moment we sat down on the bus to the time we reached the casino, we were treated to hot coffee to warm us and a variety of donuts to delight our taste buds. Both to and from the casino, when everyone settled in their seats on the bus, the goodies never stopped being served — more donuts and cookies, brownies, chips, Jell-O Shots, Mimosas, Bloody Marys (complete with celery sticks), beer, wine, and water. We all enjoyed a very tasty, comfortable ride. We had a 50/50 raffle on the bus which provided an \$80 prize to our winner Mark Case. There was a designated driver, so there were no worries. There was lots of lively conversation. Everyone thanked Bill and his family for all they did for us to make this trip special. Our bus driver felt the mood of his passengers and joined in with a joke. It was a smooth and safe ride both ways.

A storm was predicted to move into our region that night. We watched the weather and decided to leave the casino two hours earlier than originally planned to avoid the storm. It was a full day and changing the leave time to avoid a storm was a reasonable decision.

Unquestionably, the show was a success. The decision to move the boat show to this venue was smart. From the time the show doors opened until they closed, hundreds of people got to view boats, products, services, and so much more boat and marine-related information offered by all the vendors. Show-goers liked the move to the casino and vendors were comfortable and delighted to talk to the crowds of people who stopped by their booths.

Other organizations were also present and generously handed out information about their missions. For example, Mystic Aquarium is busy teaching volunteers to identify where our regional seals live and study the habits and health of these animals. When a seal is in trouble, they are there to help. They do great work and are always looking for volunteers to teach their techniques to and to get them involved with their mission to save our seals.

The “Season’s Buffet” was phenomenal. I can’t say enough about it. They serve most everything anyone would want, and all food was delicious. The size of the buffet room alone was amazing. It was like no other buffet I have ever seen, and the price was ridiculous (in our case free with our food voucher) for what you got.

Gambling was fun. Elaine and I lost the money we designated for gambling. Although we lost, we had a good time doing it. We met many people we knew and made new friends at the show. To sum this up, the show, the food, the shops, the gambling, and the people both on the bus and at the show made for a very different and fun-filled way to spend the day. For those of you who did not go, you might want to make it a date to join us next year. You’ll find this is a deal that’s hard to refuse.

Stay safe out there.

Cdr Timothy F. Tyler, SN

## Call to the Annual Meeting 26 March

Lt/C Bill Waseleski, P – Squadron Secretary | (860) 212-2636 | [wwaseleski@centuryspringmfg.com](mailto:wwaseleski@centuryspringmfg.com)

The Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 26, 2019. Elections will be held for the new Bridge that will take office at the “Change of Watch Dinner” on April 7, 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 before the Annual Meeting (by March 11, 2018). We will then make the petition nomination available to the members seven days before 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 attend the meeting only, it starts at 7:30 p.m., there is no charge. Please contact Commander Tim Tyler at (860) 561-0669 or [timtyler@hartfordpowersquadron.com](mailto:timtyler@hartfordpowersquadron.com) if you are interested in becoming active in your Squadron, participating in committees or learning more about our organization.



## Educational Department

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

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

Following are our advanced and elective course offerings for Spring 2019. Please call Roy at 860 841-8620 or e-mail him at [roybergeron01@yahoo.com](mailto:roybergeron01@yahoo.com) with your questions or to register.



#### Advanced Course:

Do you want to learn the essentials of safe coastal and inland navigation using basic GPS in conjunction with charts and other marine data? The Marine Navigation course teaches you how to use the GPS along with traditional dead reckoning techniques for planning and laying out safe routes, as well as ensuring that you are on-course while underway.

**Marine Navigation** will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 21, 2019, 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:

Overwhelmed by all those functions on your GPS or chart plotter? Want to use your tablet or smartphone to help you navigate on your boat? Interested in using a desktop computer program to plan your cruise and then copy that information to your GPS? This course covers the topics you need and want to know.

**Marine Electrical Systems** will begin 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 20, 2019, at the MDC Training Center, 125 Maxim Road, Hartford, CT.

Cost:

\$54 Member

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

### Spring 2019 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:



Farmington: Thursday, February 28, 2019, at 6:30 p.m., Farmington High School, 10 Montith 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 and New Instructor

We are running a bit late with our fall courses and they will be finishing up this month. We will report the fall education results in next month's newsletter.

As noted above, we are offering an advanced course, an elective course, and an ABC course. 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.

It is wise to go over the basics after a long stretch of being away from the water, and before starting the new boating season. You would be surprised just how much you can forget. Consider taking ABC as a refresher. If you know your stuff, Advanced Marine Navigation will help you build the skills and confidence to explore new waters. This is a great course, so please consider it.

Dawn Wile has become our newest ABC instructor. Dawn has been coming to monthly meetings, taking classes, and has now decided she would like to help others by teaching classes. Dawn, we welcome your commitment to safety and look forward to scheduling your first class. Congratulations!

## 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 2018. 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, Robert M. Goman, Kenneth Letendre, Cliff McKibbin, Pat Pabouet, Frank Pascucci, Mike Rinaldi, Jim Salvatore, Tim Tyler, Frank Ventrella, William Waseleski, Don Watson and Ken Weeks.**



## Swap Meet and Cookout

We skipped a year, but the HPS Swap Meet and Cookout is back! The event will once again be held at the Portland Riverside Marina on May 04 with a rain date of May 05. In addition to renting spaces to those who wish to sell their items, we are accepting donations of boating related items to be sold by the squadron. Proceeds from those sales will be added to the squadron treasury.

As in the past, food will be available throughout the day. There will be a simple cookout menu consisting of hot dogs, hamburgers, chili, kielbasa, chips, and other cookout items. And don't forget the 50/50 raffle!

## Last Month's Members' Meeting "Light Houses in Connecticut and Long Island"

January's meeting was well attended. From the joys of acquiring and sharing a lighthouse, to the wretchedness of arbitrary litigious neighbors, Susan Tamulevich of the New London Maritime Society gave us an enlightening and entertaining look into the trials and tribulations of lighthouse ownership. From Fresnel lenses to ghost stories, the evening was filled with a collection of interesting and insightful stories. Susan also gave a glimpse of what can be seen at the New London Maritime Society Custom House Maritime Museum (yes, it's a mouthful). This is a must see for you and your family if you are in the area and are interested in all things that have to do with the sea.

Our 50/50 Raffle winner at last month's meeting was Ken Bell Sr. of the Meriden Squadron. Congratulations Ken! Maybe now you can purchase the boat of your dreams.

## Safety Corner

### "2017 Recreational Boating Statistics"

Cdr Timothy F. Tyler, SN | (860) 561-0669 | [timtyler@hartfordpowersquadron.com](mailto:timtyler@hartfordpowersquadron.com)

Some found the 2016 Recreational Boating Statistics compiled by the U.S. Coast Guard and published in last year's *the Bilge Pump*, of interest, so we are publishing the 2017 results. Following is an excerpt from that report. It's good to see that rather than an increase in accidents, injuries and fatalities as was the case in last year's report, the numbers for 2017 decreased. Also, of note is drowning is still the leading cause of fatal boating accidents and people are still not wearing their life jackets. We need to do a better job of getting the word out. The full report can be found here: <http://www.uscgboating.org/library/accident-statistics/Recreational-Boating-Statistics-2017.pdf>

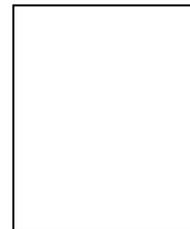
### 2017 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- In 2017, the Coast Guard counted 4,291 accidents that involved 658 deaths, 2,629 injuries and approximately \$46 million dollars of damage to property as a result of recreational boating accidents.
  - The fatality rate was 5.5 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. This rate represents a 6.8% decrease from the 2016 fatality rate of 5.9 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels.
  - Compared to 2016, the number of accidents decreased 3.9%, the number of deaths decreased 6.1%, and the number of injuries decreased 9.4%.
- Where cause of death was known, 76% of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 84.5% were not wearing a life jacket.
- Where length was known, 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 19% of deaths.
- Where instruction was known, 81% of deaths occurred on boats where the operator did not receive boating safety instruction. Only 14% percent of deaths occurred on vessels where the operator had received a nationally-approved boating safety education certificate.
- There were 172 accidents in which at least one person was struck by a propeller. Collectively, these accidents resulted in 31 deaths and 162 injuries.
- Operator inattention, improper lookout, operator inexperience, machinery failure, and alcohol use 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 (46%), personal watercraft (18%), and cabin motorboats (16%).
- Where data was known, the vessel types with the highest percentage of deaths were open motorboats (47%), kayaks (15%), and personal watercraft (7%).
- The 11,961,568 recreational vessels registered by the states in 2017 represent a 0.84% increase from last year when 11,861,811 recreational vessels were registered.



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## February Members' Meeting "A Discussion on Connecticut's Boating Industry" by Don MacKenzie



The February 26<sup>th</sup> Members' Meeting will feature a talk by Don MacKenzie, Vice President and General Manager of Boats Incorporated a boat dealership and marina located in picturesque Niantic Connecticut. Boats Incorporated is one of the few dealerships in Connecticut to be Marine Certified, and a Top 100 Dealer since the inception of both programs. It has been a Grady-White Admiral's Circle Member for 15 consecutive years, a Yamaha Best in Class Dealer in the Northeast for 11 consecutive years, one of the Yamaha Dealer Council Members, and last but not least, a Parker Marine Customer Service Award Winner for the past three years.

Don's talk will mostly revolve around Hartford and politics and how large our industry is and how much revenue the industry brings into the state. Hartford often treats our industry as nothing but rich guys and think we all have yachts and can afford to pay any taxes they put upon us. They don't realize the average size boat in our state is only 22'. Don plans on discussing how much of an effect people in the industry have in meeting one on one with a representative from their district.

Don will also discuss the job market. The boating industry is losing good technicians by simple attrition. The industry is screaming for good mechanics and with Dealer Certification. The good dealerships in the state are paying great wages, medical, 401k with matching funds, personal days, etc. It is a good paying job in a great working atmosphere. The kids today don't understand jobs are waiting for them. If you or someone you know is looking for a career working with boats, please do not miss this presentation.

The last thing he will discuss is the challenge of bringing new and younger boaters into boating. The list of boaters in their thirties is dwindling. We must find a way to get the youth into boating. The manufacturers have discovered they make the most money on the larger boats and we need an entry level boat that is affordable for the younger generation to get their feet wet. Boating is one of the ONLY activities that families can still do together.

Please don't miss what is sure to be a lively and informative discussion on a topic we all love. Bring your friends and family too.

**Date:** February 26, 2019

**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](mailto:jimsall@comcast.net) or 860-346-0680.