

the Bilge Pump

BULLETIN OF THE HARTFORD POWER SQUADRON

A UNIT OF DISTRICT 1

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRON

Volume 86 Issue 6

February 2025

“Heading Into the Sunset...”

Schedule of Upcoming Squadron Activities		Page
11 February	Executive Committee Meeting – Olympia Diner 6pm	3
25 February	Members Meeting- Olympia Diner Newington, CT 6:30pm	
06 April	Change of Watch- Manor Inn 1636 Meriden-Wtby Tpke, Plantsville CT 4p-8p	4
03 May	Marine Swap Meet & Craft Show - West Marine parking lot Old Saybrook, CT	
Schedule of Upcoming District 1 Activities		
15 March	District Spring Conference Campana Restaurant Portland, CT	
02-09 February	USPS Annual Meeting Rosen Plaza Hotel Orlando, FL	
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	Educational News- 1 Day ABC Classes and Advanced Marine Navigation	3
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At the Helm



Cdr. William Waseleski | (860) 212-2636 | wjwaseleski@gmail.com

Ahoy All,

I'd like to thank everyone who helped work and set up our booth at the Hartford Boat Show January 16-19th at the Mohegan Sun Casino. The list includes Jim Salvatore, Mike Salvatore, Henry Mikucki, Eric Lundin, Capt. Rich Fortunato, Frank Pascucci & Karin Sherman, Sue Chenard, Dave Pero, John Seifert, & Jeanne Waseleski. We also had help from the Connecticut River Conservancy from Alix Kaplan, Amanda Major, & Brett Morrison. We set up the Boating Simulator at our booth this year & it attracted a lot of attention. We had many visitors & invited them to our Swap Meet in May, to take our ABC classes, and the new Marine Navigation Class. We're on course to have an outstanding year!!

Capt. Mark Walsh spoke at our January 28th member meeting at the Olympia Diner about the new US Coast Guard Museum being built in New London, CT. It is scheduled to open in the spring of 2026 and will feature a real US Coast Guard helicopter suspended from the ceiling. Our Squadron has agreed to donate a Commemorative Paver to the museum, a legacy for the Hartford Power Squadron.

Kelly Townsend, from Starkweather & Shepley Insurance, will be our presenter at our February 25th Member Meeting. She will tell us about insurance coverage that we should have for our boats; exactly what is covered, and those we may not need. This will be a very informative meeting, especially amid skyrocketing insurance costs due to the recent bouts of severe weather & wildfires.

Our Marine Swap Meet & Craft Show is on May 3rd in the West Marine parking lot in Old Saybrook and is moving full steam ahead. Get your space now before they are sold out. Just Google "Hartford Power Squadron" & click on <https://usps.org/localusps/hartford/> to buy a space.

Tickets for our "All Cash Raffle" are now on sale. First prize is \$500 cash. You can purchase tickets from any ExCom member or contact our raffle chairman, Tim Tyler at otimtyler@gmail.com.

Mark your calendars, the District Spring Conference will be held on March 15th at Campagna's Restaurant in Portland, CT. See the Sounds of 1 for more information & to register.

We are updating our website & will start making regular postings to our Hartford Power Squadron Facebook page. Please visit these sites & share them with your friends.

The District is planning activities for 2025, let me know any ideas you have. We need your input to make our squadron better!

Remember "Life Is Better On the Boat"

May you have fair winds and following seas!

Cdr Bill Waseleski, AP

Education Department

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We are excited to announce our 2025 Spring course schedule that includes both ABC and Advanced Marine Navigation (formerly Advanced Piloting).

Advanced Marine Navigation (Two Saturday Course)

Architectural Building Systems, 136 Rockwell Road Newington, CT 06111

We want to thank Architectural Building Systems for the generous use of their office.

Begins Saturday 4/19 9:00 to 3:00

Cost includes one manual

Members: \$95, Second family member \$20

Prerequisite: Marine Navigation

You must be a member to take our advanced courses.

One Year Membership: \$80

One Year Family Membership: \$120

ABC-Bristol Public Library (one day course) 5 High St. Bristol, CT 06010 [860-584-7787](tel:860-584-7787)

Saturdays: Offered 4/12/2024 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Cost: \$60 includes Manual/Coffee/lunch

This is an 8-hour course meeting the requirements of the State of Connecticut DEEP for its Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operations.

The final exam will be given at the end of the day and after passing the exam the student will receive the Hartford Power Squadron's Certificate attesting to the passing of the NASBLA test which can be used in any State to apply for a License or Certificate to operate a power boat.

The Connecticut student will then be able to apply on-line for the State of Connecticut DEEP Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operations.

Please email Cliff McKibbin at cliff99.mckibbin@comcast.net to register or to get more information.

Would you like to teach one of our courses? If you have taken a course and would like to teach it, please contact Pat Pabouet.



HARTFORD BOAT SHOW AT MOHEGAN SUN

From Thursday January 16th to Sunday January 19th the Hartford Power Squadron and the Connecticut River Conservancy-CRC- were well represented.



(It to rt) Cdr Bill Waseleski, AP



Capt. Rich Fortunato, Lt/C David E. Pero, Lt/C Susan Chenard, CRC Brett Morrison



Capt. Rich Fortunato, Lt/C David E. Pero, Lt/C Susan Chenard, Lt/C Eric Lundin

Others working and helping out included: Jim Salvatore, Mike Salvatore, Henry Mikucki, Frank Pascucci & Karin Sherman, John Seifert, and Jeanne Waseleski.

From the Connecticut River Conservancy: Alix Kaplan, Amanda Major, & Brett Morrison. Thank you to everyone.

Hartford Power Squadron's 8th Annual Swap Meet and Craft Show

The Hartford Power Squadron will be hosting its annual boat show and swap meet at West Marine, 1667 Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook, CT on Saturday, 3 May 2025.

This family-friendly event will feature cookout-style food as well as items for sale. Not restricted to boats and boating equipment/services. Vendors can showcase locally made crafts, unique jewelry, one-of-a-kind gifts, clothing, tools, and much more!

Vendor reservations are available at only \$25 for a 9x18-foot space. For more information or to reserve a space, email: swapmeet@hartfordpowersquadron.com today!

Member Meeting Highlights

01-28-2025

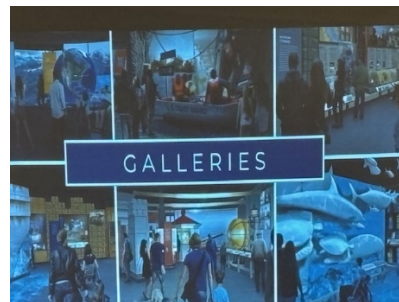
Capt Mark Walsh USCG (Ret.)

THE NEW NATIONAL COAST GUARD MUSEUM

New London, CT

Capt Walsh presented an exciting program detailing highlights of The New Coast Guard Museum.

Cdr Bill Waseleski, AP announced the Hartford Power Squadron will be purchasing a Commemorative Paver at the Museum.





Hartford Power Squadron

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United States Power Squadrons



Address Service Requested

02-25-25 HPS Member Meeting

PLEASE JOIN US!

Kelly Townsend is an associate at Starkweather and Shepley. She will be giving a Personal Watercraft Insurance presentation, including personal insurance and marine coverage.

The Olympia Diner Newington, CT
Cost: \$20 for Dinner with a Cash Bar at 6:30p.

Reservations: Contact **Jim Salvatore** at jimsal1@comcast.net

