

the Bilge Pump

BULLETIN OF THE HARTFORD POWER SQUADRON

A UNIT OF DISTRICT 1

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRON

Volume 86 Issue 7

March-April 2025

“A Beautiful Day in Nassau, Bahamas”

Schedule of Upcoming Squadron Activities		Page
11 March	Executive Committee Meeting – Olympia Diner 6pm	
25 March	Annual Meeting/Election of Officers- Olympia Diner Newington, CT 6:30pm	4
06 April	Change of Watch- Manor Inn 1636 Meriden-Wtby Tpke, Plantsville CT 4p-8p	5
03 May	Marine Swap Meet & Craft Show - West Marine parking lot Old Saybrook, CT	5
Schedule of Upcoming District 1 Activities		
15 March	District Spring Conference Change of Venue: The Middletown Elks Club 44 Maynard St Middletown, CT	
Also in this Issue		
	At the Helm – Cdr William Waseleski, AP	2
	Educational News- 1 Day ABC Classes and Advanced Marine Navigation	3
	February Member Meeting Highlights	6

At the Helm

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

Ahoy All,

March is finally here, daylight savings time starts on Sunday, March 9th, by the end of the month the sun doesn't set until 7:15PM. Lot's more time to get our boats ready for the 2025 season!

We have a lot going on this spring, most importantly our Boat Show Swap Meet on May 3rd at the West Marine parking lot in Old Saybrook. If you have anything to sell, get your spaces early, they're going to sell fast. No charge for Hartford Power Squadron members. Even if you don't have anything to sell, you should plan to attend. We will have a Rescue Boat used by Boat US on display. The Hartford Squadron will be selling Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, & Snacks. We will be drawing the winners for our All Cash Raffle (\$500, \$300, & \$150 prizes !!). It's going to be a great day to shop, see old acquaintances, and make friends. Go to our Hartford Power Squadron web site & sign up today! This year we will be donating the proceeds from the sale of swap meet spaces to the Connecticut River Conservancy to aid in their fight against the Hydrilla infestation on the Connecticut River.

Our Change of Watch Dinner is coming up on Sunday, April 6th, at the Manor Inn in Milldale. The festivities will begin at 4PM. Check out the great menu choices and details in this edition of the Bilge Pump.

Our Spring Conference is on March 15th at the **Middletown Elk's Club, Middletown, CT: A Change of Venue**. This is a District event, and all members are invited. Come learn what is going on in other squadrons & help in planning District events.

You can find the agenda & details to register for the Spring Conference in the Spring edition of the Sounds of 1.

We have Robert Campbell Herron of the Rocky Hill Historical Society coming to speak at our March 25th annual/member meeting at the Olympia Diner. He will do a presentation on Rocky Hill's Maritime History and navigating the Connecticut River. This will be an information packed event. Don't miss it!

That's all for now, hope to see you soon at one of our events.

May you have fair winds and following seas!

Cdr Bill Waseleski, AP



Education Department

Education Officer (SEO)
Asst Education Officer

Lt/C Patrick A. Pabouet, P
1st Lt Eric Lundin

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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.





Call to the Annual Meeting

Secretary, Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN
Cliff15.mckibbin@comcast.net

The Annual Meeting of the Hartford Power Squadron will be held Tuesday, 25 March, 2025, at the Olympia Diner in Newington. The meal will begin at 18:30 and the meeting will begin at 19:30. Please mark your calendars for this important meeting. Elections will be held for the new Bridge, to take office at the “Change of Watch” meeting on Sunday, 6 April 2025 at the Manor Inn, 1636 Meriden-Waterbury Turnpike, Plantsville, CT 06479. See below for details.

The report of the nomination committee is below. As a member, you can also nominate members to these positions by petition. To do this, please contact the Secretary 15 days prior to the Annual meeting (by 10 March 2025). We will then make the petition nomination available to the members 7 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Please call the Secretary if you are interested in becoming active in your Squadron and participating in committees or learning more about the organization of the squadron.

Date: Tuesday, 25 March 2025
Time: 6:30 for dinner, 7:15 for the Annual Meeting
Place: Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT
Program: Robert Campbell Herron, of the Rocky Hill Historical Society
Cost: \$20 to order off the menu. Includes tax and tip. Cash bar.
Reservations: Jim Salvatore at: jimsall@comcast.net

Hartford Power Squadron Report of the 2025–2026 Nominating Committee

Bridge

Commander: Cdr William J. Waseleski, P
Executive Officer: Lt/C Thomas H. Berlandy, AP
Education Officer: 1st/Lt Eric P. Lundin
Administrative Officer: Susan M. Chenard, P
Secretary/Treasurer: Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN

Bridge Assistants

Assistant Education Officer: Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN
Assistant Admin Officer: Lt/C Thomas H. Berlandy, AP
Assistant Secretary: Robert Goldstein, P

Executive Committee Members at Large

Elaine L. Cleary
D/C Patrick A. Pabouet, P
P/C Theodore J. Wurz, P
Lt/C James Salvatore, AP

Elected Committees

Nominating Chairman: Lt Timothy Tyler, SN
Nominating: Elaine L. Cleary
Nominating: P/Lt/C Frank Pascucci, Jr., AP
Auditing Chairman: P/C Theodore J. Wurz, P
Rules Chairman: Lt Timothy Tyler, SN

Respectfully Submitted, Lt Timothy Tyler, SN, Chair
Elaine L. Cleary
P/Lt/C Frank Pascucci, Jr., A

Change of Watch Dinner

This year's Change of Watch (COW) dinner will be on Sunday, 6 April 2025 at the Manor Inn, 1636 Meriden-Waterbury Turnpike, Plantsville, CT 06479.

If you are not familiar with the COW, it is an annual time-honored formal event preserved by a rich naval tradition heritage. The COW allows squadron members to witness the transfer of responsibility of bridge assignments and recognize both outgoing officers' and squadron members' accomplishments. Members elected at the Annual Members' Meeting held in March are also sworn in.

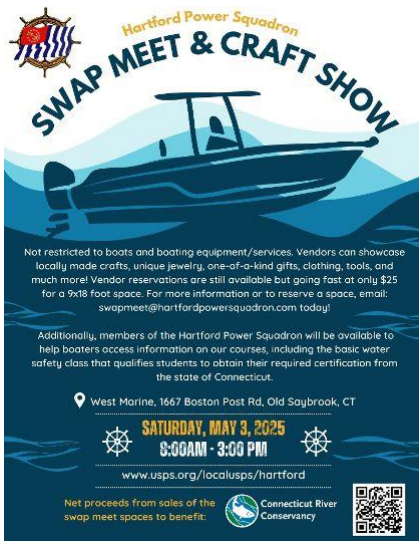


All squadron members are encouraged to attend this event to show appreciation to those who do so much to keep the squadron viable and to meet other members, make friends, and, most importantly, have an enjoyable time.

If you are only able to attend one event all year, this should be the one! The Change of Watch dinner is always memorable, so why not make your reservations now and join us at what is sure to be another fun-filled event.

Event Details

- Time:** 6 April 2025 at 4:00 p.m.
Place: Manor Inn, 1636 Meriden-Waterbury Turnpike, Plantsville, CT 06479
Menu: A cash bar will be available.
Hors d'oeuvres of cheese pepperoni and crackers, stuffed mushrooms, veggies and dip
Soup; tossed green salad with vinaigrette dressing; penne a-la vodka
Entree choice of prime rib, broiled scrod, or chicken Francese; served with a baked potato and a vegetable du jour
spumoni with strawberry sauce; coffee, tea, or soda.
Cost: \$30 per person, including tax and tip. The squadron is subsidizing this meal to encourage more members to attend.
Dress: Uniform A, with a bow tie, or equally suitable civilian attire.
Reservations: Reservations are required and must be made by 29 March 2025. To make your reservations, please visit the Ticket Tailor app at <https://buytickets.at/hartfordpowersquadron/1591282/share/2f2704d4f45bbfce5ff206bcb56119f3>



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, 03 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!



United States Power Squadrons



Hartford Power Squadron

c/o 44 Copplesstone Rd., Avon, CT 06001

Commander	Cdr William J. Waseleski, AP	(860) 212-2636
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Asst Ed Officer	1 st Lt Eric Lundin	(203) 215-0903
Admin. Officer	Lt/C James Salvatore, AP	(860) 346-0680
Secretary	Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN	(860) 655-4623
Asst Secretary	1st Lt Rob Goldstein	(860) 930-5499
Treasurer	Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN	(860) 655-4623

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February Member Meeting Presentation



Jennifer Carlson, CIC, CPRIA and Kelly Townsend, AIA, CPIA of Starkweather & Shepley Insurance Brokerage gave an excellent presentation at the 25 February Member Meeting.

The Marine Insurance Market. They explained how their firm had access to over 20 major insurance carriers, which gives them a fairly unique ability to match an insurer to the needs of the insured.

Why Get Insurance. They reported that there were 17 million recreational boats in the U.S. with 4 million of them un-insured. While Connecticut does not require boat insurance (unlike auto), it is important that boaters know some of the risks of not insuring their boats. They said claims were up due to increasing losses from lithium-ion battery fires, irresponsible use, inflation, and increasing intensity of storms. As a result, premiums are up, but not as high as general inflation. Finally, they said the best time to buy insurance is not in hurricane season.

Premiums and Coverage. They explained the many factors in setting premiums and coverage. These included: boat value, deductibles, horsepower, how the boat is used (general use, water sports, live aboard, commercial exposure), where it is operated and moored (premiums are higher in the south), any international use, previous loss history, protective devices installed, off season storage (in-water or out), and whether there was a paid captain/crew. They did say there was usually credit given for Power Squadron courses. They strongly suggested that any 'boat for hire' use of the boat will not be covered if it is not built into the policy.

Coverage Recommendations. They suggested that good coverage might include all or most of the following: hull coverage, personal affects, dingy, hurricane haul-out/wreckage removal, towing to include water and road, and liability. The hull coverage can be based on 'Actual' which is usually reduced by depreciation, 'Agreed' which is a set amount agreed upon, or 'replacement' which can allow for replacing the boat with a higher cost version. The 'replacement' option is usually reserved for boats less than 3-4 years old. They also strongly suggested that boaters have umbrellas on their home/auto policies to give additional liability protection.

