



the Bilge Pump

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

Volume 86 Issue 2

"Quiet, Comfortable Evening on Lake George"

September 2023

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At the Helm

Cdr. William Waseleski | (860) 212-2636 | wwaseleski@centuryspringmfg.com

Ahoy All,

I hope you all had very good summer of boating. Despite lots of rain, we can't complain about the temperatures we had compared to the triple digit temps the folks down south had to endure.

Our CoOp Charting outing on June 10th was a success. CoOp Chairman Cliff McKibbin reported that our Squadron ranked 5th in the country as of June 30. This may change as additional Squadrons report. CoOp Charting is a joint program with the USCG to confirm the location and quality of Aids To Navigation (ATONs).

Our Squadron will be entering a Float in the Bristol Mum Parade once again. The parade is on Sunday, September 24th, kicks off at 1:30PM. The Parade theme this year is "Mumma Mia, here we grow again". Our float/boat will be decorated with Mums & we will have a Bride, pretending to throw a bouquet of Mums to the crowd. We will play the Momma Mia music on the float & we will be promoting the Safe Boating classes we teach at the Bristol Public Library. Come out & cheer us on at the parade. We may win an award!

Speaking of classes, we have a new instructor in our Squadron, Rich Fortunato. Rich will be teaching the Boat Handling Course. We are offering the course starting 20 September for 7 weeks at the Bristol Library; 6:30 to 8:30 pm. This is the first time in several years that we will be offering in person, advanced courses. We all welcome Rich to our crew!

Our first ABC class of the fall season will be held on Saturday, October 21st, at the Bristol Public Library. It's a first-rate class which includes a manual, coffee, lunch, & snacks for only \$60! It's also a great review for experienced boaters. Tell your friends to register early, we're already getting sign-ups.

Our 1st Member meeting will be on September 26th, at the Olympia Diner, 6:30PM. NBC 30 meteorologist Darren Sweeney will be doing a presentation on weather. Learn about the warning signs of inclement weather as it relates to boating safety.

There will be a Hartford Boat Show this year. It's on January 18-21, 2024, at the Mohegan Sun. Our Squadron will have a booth at the show.

We will be doing our 3rd Hartford Power Squadron Swap Meet in 2024; however we are making some very important changes. We're changing the location. West Marine in Old Saybrook has generously offered us use of their parking lot for the meet. Also, we're no longer promoting it as a Boat Show. It's going to be a Swap Meet, however small boats on trailers are welcome. We'll be doing the Swap Meet a little later too, with a tentative date of May 18th. Last year the weather was horrible, and turnout was a bust. Holding the meet a month later increases the probability of good weather. Our 2024 show will be bigger & better. We're starting the promotion early so you can put aside that excess equipment you want to sell & start making that list of equipment you need to buy!

May you have fair winds and following seas!

Cdr Bill Waseleski, AP





Education Department

Education Officer (SEO)	Lt/C Patrick A. Pabouet, P	860-781-7106	Argus06108@aol.com
Asst Education Officer	Dave Pero	860-680-8880	dpmusic58@msn.com

ABC classes. Our Spring ABC classes were very successful with 11 students passing in March and 9 in May.

We are excited to announce our 2023 Fall course schedule that includes both ABC and Boat Handling (formerly Seamanship). All of our recent ABC students (especially new members) will want to sign up for this course taught by one of our new members, Rich Fortunato. Rich is a highly experienced boater who holds a USCG 50-ton master license with towing. Rich runs Tour-boats for 2 companies as well as private charters. He also provides individual on-the-water instruction. Rich's wealth of experience will add a lot to the new course.

Boat Handling-7-week course at the Bristol Public Library, 5 High St, Bristol, Ct 06010 [860-584-7787](tel:860-584-7787)

Begins Wednesday, 20 September at 6:30 pm

Members: \$70 for the Class, Manual and materials.

Non-members: \$150 for the Class, Manual, materials & one-year membership

\$190 for the Class, Manual, materials & one-year Family membership

You must be a Member to take our advanced courses.

The 6 units of this course include basic rules of the road, boat handling skills including docking, anchoring and maneuvering, emergencies and knots & lines.

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

Saturday: 10/21/2023 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Cost: \$60 includes Manual/Coffee/lunch

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 Power Squadron August ExCom Meeting at Ragged Rock Marina

The Executive Committee had its August Meeting at the Ragged Rock Marina in Saybrook, hosted by Tim Tyler and Elaine Cleary. The August meeting is important as it finalizes a lot of the plans for the new year, including: The education schedule and the first few Member meetings of the year. This year, it also finalized the plans for the Hartford Boat Show and the Swap Meet, both to be held in the winter and spring.

Jim Salvatore, Cliff McKibbin, Elaine Cleary, Tim Tyler, Pat Pabouet, Bill Waseleski, and Frank Pascucci.

photo by Karen Sherman

Hartford Squadron CoOp Charting Outing

The Hartford Squadron made its annual CoOp Charting trip on the Connecticut River on 10 June. They added a boat and two more members to the team this year as well as checking Hamburg and North Coves.

They found 122 ATONs with no discrepancies and 27 with missing numbers, needing paint, and even some obscured by foliage. The discrepancies were all reported to the USCG.

The three boats met at Haddam Meadows State Park before returning to the East Hartford ramp and the Saybrook ‘under bridge’ ramp respectively.



This year’s team was (front row) Lt/C Pat Pabouet, Nancy Berlandy, Paula Berlandy, Carrie Letendre, Sarah Berlandy; (Back row) Ken Letendre, P/D/Lt/C Tim Tyler, Lt/C Jim Salvatore, Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, Lt/C Tom Berlandy, 1st Lt. Ted Wurz, Cdr Bill Waseleski, Pete Berlandy. Photo by David Waseleski



Cdr. Bill Waseleski presenting P/C Mike Rinaldi with a certificate of appreciation at the Change of Watch on 16 April, 2023.

Past Commander Michael J. Rinaldi, JN

We are sorry to report that our Past Commander Mike Rinaldi passed away suddenly on Saturday, 13 May, 2023.

Mike was a valued member of the Executive Committee, having served on the Committee since he was Commander of the Squadron for the two years 2013-15. Mike hardly ever missed a member or Executive Committee meeting. Mike had 17 Merit Marks, showing his exceptional activity in the Hartford Squadron every year since he joined in 2005.

As noted in his obituary, Mike was a valuable member of the Hartford area as well. He founded the Cardiac Catheterization lab at Hartford Hospital and served as its Chair for many years. His pictures and accomplishments are on the ‘Hall of Fame’ wall in the lobby of Hartford Hospital.

A full obituary can be found at:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/hartfordcourant/name/michael-rinaldi-obituary?id=51926289>

23-25 June District 1 June Rendezvous, Safe Harbor Essex Island Marina

Despite the rainy weather, turnout was excellent. Members pitched in with cooking. Clams and corn on the cob were a big hit, along with hot dogs, burgers, and salads. Desserts were brought by members. Raffle with prizes were donated by each Squadron.



D/C Pat Pabouet top

May Meeting Featured: Sailing Her Home to Connecticut By: Paula and Rob Goldstein

Paula and Rob entertained us at our May Meeting with the adventures and practicalities of the 'Boat Transfer' of their 'new' 45' Hunter sailboat from Punta Gorda, FL to Connecticut.

They hired a licensed Captain to accompany them, who planned out the trip in great detail, including miles per day, dock/re-provision days that included fuel, water, holding tank empties, food and miscellaneous supplies. They even had emergency beacons for each person and updated a family member regularly on their float plan.

They set out from Punta Gorda the first day and only made it halfway to their first waypoint. The problem turned out to be that the 'Captain' had figured the speed based on the max allowable RPM for their vessel, which they did not run at. This calculation error plagued them the whole way with a typical day running significantly over the 'plan'.

They knew they wouldn't be able to go through the 'cross Florida' canal through Lake Okeechobee because their mast was too high. They had to go all the way around the bottom of Florida and the keys. In fact, their 65' mast proved to cause delays at a times as they had to wait for bridge openings.

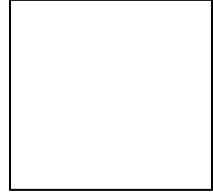
Adding to these problems, they found that they could not sail nearly as much as they had planned because they spent a significant time in the Inter Coastal Waterway (ICW) which helped to avoid some problematic inlets and the time coming in from the ocean and going back out each day. As a consequence of travelling the ICW it added additional days to their transit due to the many twists and turns and the associated added miles to their trip.

When they tried overnight runs, they found their crew of 3 to be too few to offer adequate sleep. Coming into unfamiliar harbors in the dark proved to be quite difficult, between the lack of lighted markers, unmarked shoaling and difficulty in finding adequate depth and location for setting the anchor in many locations.

All this being said, they were happy to get their boat 'home'. The engine and generator worked well and the boat performed well when under sail for the whole trip and they made it back in 25 days, June 14-July 8



United States Power Squadrons



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26 September 2023 HPS Member and Guest Meeting

Place: Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT

Cost: \$20 for dinner with a cash bar at 6:30p.

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



DARREN SWEENEY

Meteorologist Darren Sweeney of NBC 30 is our 26 September Members Meeting Speaker. Darren delivers the forecast every weekend morning. He has experience forecasting severe weather and chasing hurricanes. He has been recognized by the American Meteorological Society (AMS), and the

National Weather Association (NWA).

Darren is an Associate Professor of Journalism at CCSU, volunteering his time at many events. This includes raising money and awareness for different types of cancer research. Darren also helps homeless animals find good homes.

Welcome Darren Sweeney!