



the Bilge Pump

BULLETIN OF THE HARTFORD POWER SQUADRON
 A UNIT OF DISTRICT 1
 UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
 Volume 78, Issue 6 – February 2017

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17 February	February Council – Eversource Energy, 107 Selden St., Berlin, CT 06037	
18 March	Spring Conference – United States Coast Guard Academy 31 Mohegan Ave. Pkwy, New London, CT 06320	
23 June – 25 June	June Rendezvous – Essex Island Marina	
24 June	June Council – Essex Island Marina	
9 July	Sail Race – Branford Yacht Club	
21 July – 23 July	Mini Cruise – Greenport, LI	
29 July	Fishing Derby – Waterford	
11 August – 13 August	Mini Cruise – Milford	
17 September	High Speed Ferry to Block Island Trip	
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At the Helm

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

Our last members' meeting was great. John took us to the sea bottom, a place that boaters try to avoid. Along the way, he showed us the advancements of diving since the 60's. It was very interesting and very well received by all that attended. Our February meeting looks like it will be as interesting. Our own Don Watson will take us back to the Allied Normandy landing on June 4, 1944. Last summer Don attended a reenactment of the landing. He will share with us his personal memories of that day in 1944, and those of reuniting last summer with some of the guys that landed with him. I urge you to attend our February meeting; it is going to be great.

Meetings are just one way you can get involved. We have courses starting in February, and the boat show starts on February 9th. Stop by and try our boating skills simulator. If you would like free admission, Frank Pascucci is still looking for help staffing our HPS booth.

With this great weather that we been having, I am sure many of us are getting ready to get our boats back into the water. I'll see you on the water soon.

Cdr Patrick A. Pabouet, P

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 2017. Please call or e-mail Roy with your questions or to register.



Advanced Course:

Piloting will begin Thursday, February 16, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., St. James Church, 3 Mountain Road, Farmington, CT.

Cost:

\$75 Member

\$185 Non-Member (Includes 1-year membership to USPS/HPS and \$17 for piloting instruments)



Elective Course:

Marine Electrical Systems will begin Wednesday, February 22, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., MDC Training Center, 125 Maxim Road, Hartford, CT.

Cost:

\$54 Member

\$149 Non-Member (Includes 1-year membership to USPS/HPS)

Spring 2017 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, Personal Watercraft Endorsement, Safe Waterskiing Endorsement and Coastal Boater Endorsement qualifications. Our next course offering will be held at:



Simsbury: Thursday, February 16, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., Henry James Memorial School, Firetown Rd., Simsbury (Must register with Simsbury Continuing Education at 860-658-3870) Cost: \$69 plus a town imposed facility fee.



Farmington: Thursday, March 2, 2017, 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 pleased to report the following students passed our fall courses. Congratulations on a job well done!

Seamanship (S)

6 October 2016

There were no sign ups for this course.

Advanced Piloting (AP) – Instructor - Marty Abrams

17 October 2016 - 26 December 2016

James Monroe

Frank Ventrella

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 have to pay dues. The following members have been awarded merit marks for the calendar year 2016. 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, Don Watson and Ken Weeks.

Hartford Power Squadron Positions Available

Squadron Secretary

- ▶ Is a member of the Executive Committee (ExCom) and takes minutes at 10 Executive Committee meetings per year.
- ▶ The ExCom meets in Hartford at 1900 on the 2nd Tuesday of each month except June and July.
- ▶ Takes minutes at the Annual Meeting of HPS on the 4th Tuesday of March.
- ▶ Is supervisor over the Bilge Pump Editor, the Web Master, and the Historian.

Executive Committee “Member at Large”

- ▶ Is a member of the Executive Committee of HPS and attends 10 Executive Committee meetings per year.
- ▶ Provides input to the ExCom on any matter before it, including future meetings, financial matters, education matters, Boat Show, etc. and any member concerns.
- ▶ May volunteer for additional duties at all HPS events.
- ▶ The ExCom meets in Hartford at 1900 on the 2nd Tuesday of each month except June and July.

Auditor

- ▶ This position has been filled. At the last Executive Committee meeting, Bill Waseleski was elected Chairman of the Audit Committee. Thank you, Bill, for taking on this very important responsibility.

If you are interested in any of these positions, or any of those outlined in last month’s *the Bilge Pump*, please contact Pat Pabouet at (860) 528-7700 or argus06108@aol.com.



Executive Department

D/Lt/C Timothy Tyler, JN | (860) 561-0669 | timtyler@timtyler.us

Hartford Boat Show

The Hartford Power Squadron will once again be sponsoring a booth at the Hartford Boat Show now in its 48th year. The ever-popular Boating Skills Virtual Trainer (BSVT) will also be making a return visit to the show. This interactive simulation training tool is constantly being improved. Current lesson environments of the BSVT include:

- Departing the Dock
- Working with Spring Lines
- Fairways
- Pivot Turns
- Moorings
- Docking
- Slalom
- Crossing/Overtaking/Meeting
- Emergency Stop
- Training in heavy wind, strong current and day and night scenarios



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.

D/Lt/C Timothy Tyler, JN
Squadron Executive Officer

Call to the Annual Meeting 28 March

Secretary's Desk

The Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 28, 2017. Elections will be held for the new Bridge that will take office at the "Change of Watch Dinner" on April 2, 2017. 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 18, 2017). 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.

January Members' Meeting Featured

"Scuba Diving – Then and Now"



Wesley Moulton of the Manchester Squadron (right) models vintage SCUBA diving equipment.

The January Members' Meeting featured John Langlois of Enfield Scuba and Watersports. The meeting was well attended for a cold, wet, winter night. John's presentation gave a high-level history of scuba diving including its start as a "hunting" activity with crude homemade equipment, the original Aqua-Lung open circuit Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus (SCUBA) invented by Émile Gagnan and Jacques Cousteau, early dive gear, and modern dive equipment. The presentation also included a short travelogue on diving in the Philippines and a "show and tell" of megalodon shark teeth and whale bone fossils.

The door prize of free tuition to an Open Water Scuba Course to be taken at Enfield Scuba and Watersports, valued at \$250, was won by David Waseleski. Congratulations David!

Safety Corner

"Safety Awareness"

The article is written by D/Lt/C Tim Tyler, JN. The opinions are his and do not necessarily reflect the views of the HPS or the USPS.

"He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp posts...for support rather than illumination."
 Scottish poet - Andrew Lang

Deciding to include a Safety Corner in this publication seemed like a good idea. My original thought was to identify topics with lesser known or hidden dangers, research the topic and share my findings with our boating community.

We own our decisions, and all decisions have consequences. My aim is to help with decisions by providing you with the information you may not know to help develop both a general "safety awareness" and a topic specific "situational awareness." The problem I have been having lately is that boating safety is a subject that has the potential of scaring people. I've been told by some "you need to scare them straight." While this technique may work for some, there is always the risk of alienating others, and the message gets lost. The things we don't know is what puts us in harm's way. Knowing the consequences of the uninformed decisions of others can help us weigh our decisions. So, where do I draw the line? Case in point; I have been researching Propeller Strikes and how to avoid them. Knowing the consequences of a propeller strike is critical; knowing how to avoid them is even more important and this will be featured in an upcoming issue. First-hand accounts provided by accident victims are sobering. If victims survive, their lives are changed forever. The stories are shocking and difficult to read, but we must do all we can to ensure this doesn't happen to us.

Accidents by definition cannot be prevented. An accident is an *unforeseen* and unplanned event or circumstance. You can't prevent something which is unforeseen. By gaining the knowledge needed to make them *foreseeable*, we avoid these accidents. I learn a great deal about things I would never have thought of had I not been writing about them. That knowledge helps me be more aware of my boating environment, makes me a safer skipper and increases boating enjoyment for myself, my guests and my crew. I hope that in some small measure these articles accomplish that for you too.

Stay safe.



HARTFORD POWER SQUADRON
4th ANNUAL MARINE
SWAP MEET AND COOKOUT

Come Find Your Treasure!
 Sign up for a space and free yourself of no longer needed treasures. Searching for treasure? Stop by and find what you've been looking for at a great bargain.

April 29, 2017
 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Rain Date April 30, 2017

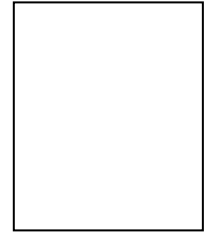
Portland Riverside Marina
 37 Riverview St, Portland, CT 06480

Call Tim Tyler at (860) 561-0669
 Email swapmeet@hartfordpowersquadron.com
 Additional Information: hartfordpowersquadron.com/swapmeet



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c/o 12 South Pond Road, Bloomfield, CT 06002-5007

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Secretary	Open	
Treasurer	D/Lt Clifford W. McKibbin, SN	860-673-1584



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February Members' Meeting Will Feature "History in our Midst"



The February 28th Members' Meeting will feature Hartford Power Squadron's own Don Watson, a Life Member of the United States Power Squadrons with 35 Merit Marks and 69 years of service.

Don's presentation will start with a brief history of the combat experiences of the United States Army's 71st Infantry Division. The 71st fought its way across France, Belgium, Germany, and Austria ousting a crumbling German Army from these countries and liberating their citizens on its way. Don will recount some of the Division's experiences from its landing in Le Havre, France, to its eventual liberation of prisoners from the Guns kirchen Lager concentration camp in Austria.

Don will then share his experiences at the most recent reunion of the WW II 71st Division held in Erie, PA. This reunion consists of both division members and survivors of the Guns kirchen death camp. These survivors and their families attend the reunion in gratitude each year because they understand that without Don and the 71st Division, there would not have been any survivors. Don's presentation will also cover his side trip to the D-Day Conneaut, an annual recreation of the amphibious Allied landings upon the beaches of Normandy, France held on the grounds of Conneaut Township Park, Conneaut, Ohio since 1999.

Also being presented will be pictures from a Reuters news photographer of war-ravaged areas at the time of the war and how these sites have since been rebuilt.

- 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 jimsal1@comcast.net or 860-346-0680.