

Schedule of Upcoming Squ	nadron Activities	Page
10 January	Executive Committee Meeting – "Bridge and general membership welcome." – MDC	
24 January	Members' Meeting – "Scuba Diving, Then and Now" Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT	<u>6</u>
25 January – 29 January	New York Boat Show – Jacob Javits Convention Center, NY, NY	
9 February – 12 February	<u>Hartford Boat Show</u> – Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, CT	<u>3</u>
14 February	Executive Committee Meeting – "Bridge and general membership welcome." – MDC	
28 February	Members' Meeting – "History in our Midst - Combat in WWII" Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT	<u>5</u>
14 March	Executive Committee Meeting – "Bridge and general membership welcome." – MDC	
28 March	Annual Meeting – "Officer Reports and Election of Officers" Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT	
2 April	Change of Watch Dinner – "Awards and Recognitions" Casa Mia at the Hawthorne, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT	
11 April	Executive Committee Meeting – "Bridge and general membership welcome." – MDC	
29 April	Hartford Power Squadron 4th Annual Swap Meet and Cookout	4
9 May	Executive Committee Meeting – "Bridge and general membership welcome." – MDC	
23 May	Members' Meeting – "Big striped bass with light tackle and more" Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT	<u>5</u>
Schedule of Upcoming Dis	trict 1 Activities – For further details, see the current issue of Sounds of 1	
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 0632	
Also in this Issue		
	At the Helm – P/D/C Patrick A. Pabouet, P	<u>2</u>
	Education Department News	<u>2</u>
	Hartford Power Squadron Positions Available	<u>3</u>
	Safety Corner – "It's Winter"	4



At the Helm

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

I hope everyone enjoyed the Holidays and many of your wishes came true. A bigger boat may have been on many a Christmas list, but it is my guess few of us received one. Until the holidays roll around again, we stay grateful for the boats we do enjoy. There's always next year.

January is the start of a new year, and for our squadron, it is also the start of our spring classes. Roy Bergeron, our Education Officer, has set up our boating classes. If you have a friend who has a boat and is looking to get some boating education, please introduce that friend to HPS and our great classes. We also have some advanced classes starting. See Roy's article in this Bilge Pump. Our membership meetings also resume in January; some great speakers have been lined up, and I hope you will attend.

The Hartford Boat show will take place in February. Please consider helping to staff at the show as it is an excellent way to get involved.

Cdr Patrick 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 Roy at 860 841-8620 or e-mail him at roybergeron01@yahoo.com with your questions or to register.



Advanced Course:

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

\$75 Member

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



Elective Course:

Marine Electrical Systems will begin 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 22, 2017, at the 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 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.



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. As in the past, we are planning on offering several free educational and safety seminars to the public. 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

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

- Provides annual audit of the HPS books and transactions in the month of March. This audit generally takes about 2 hours and is intended to assure that the books properly reflect the changes to the checking and asset accounts. A degree in accounting or CPA is not required.
- Prepares a report to the "Annual Meeting" of HPS (4th Tuesday of March). This report has traditionally been a one-page synopsis of the audit findings. Report examples will be provided to the incumbent for reference.

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.

Safety Corner "It's Winter"

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 of the USPS.

The holidays are now behind us. Our boats are in hibernation. For most of us here in the Northeast, it will be three months before we can start thinking about getting back on the water. So, I am asking you to reflect on last summer's activities and think about the times where your boating knowledge may have come up short. Whether it be anchoring, docking, uncertainty with how to handle a passing situation, or any number of other conditions, please take some time to think about how knowing the correct course of action would have made your day more enjoyable. Sometimes we let our lack of knowledge severely curtail our enjoyment of the water. We may not take our boat out of its slip if the wind is forecasted to come from an unfavorable direction. We may stay put because we don't know the correct procedure for getting our boat back into its slip. Perhaps you have a problem backing a trailer, so you don't visit the launch ramp on busy days. Maybe you don't venture far from your home port because you have a problem reading charts or using your chart plotter. Any of these things can minimize the boating experience. If we do not grow our confidence through knowledge and practice, we may give up on cruising or sailing entirely. Consider increasing your knowledge and enjoyment of the water through our USPS offerings. Now is a great time enroll in classes. Contact our Education Officer, talk to him about your educational needs and see what he can offer. If the only course you've taken is the ABC course, please consider our Seamanship course. It gives a basic review of ABC and goes into many new topics priceless to a boater. When you have gained a bit of experience, Piloting and Advanced Piloting will make you a more confident boater and increase your enjoyment of our marine environment. If you have a chart plotter but are not using its full capabilities because you don't fully understand waypoints and courses, then take our Piloting course this Spring. It will give you a fuller explanation of "classical" course plotting methods and how they are implemented with modern electronics.

If you work on your boat during the winter, be especially careful of ice that may collect on surfaces you will be stepping on. Decks, ladders, swim platforms and even the ground may look safe, but they fool you. Be aware that the darker the day gets, the more the likelihood of ice forming on all of these surfaces resulting in you slipping and taking a nasty fall. Even when you are not on the water,

Stay safe.





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 Gunskirchen 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 is a reunion of both division members and survivors of the Gunskirchen 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.

May Members' Meeting Will Feature "Big striped bass with light tackle"

The May 23rd Members' Meeting will feature Captain Mike Roy of Reel Cast Charters. His presentation will focus on "Big striped bass with light tackle and more".

Captain Mike is the founder and operator of Reel Cast Charters, a full-time fishing charter based out of Old Saybrook, Connecticut. His angling pursuits have taken him across country, as well as internationally, fishing in both fresh and salt water from largemouth bass to giant bluefin tuna. An innovative angler, he is constantly applying new techniques, and his enthusiasm and passion for the sport are contagious. Captain Mike is a United States Coast Guard OUPV Licensed Captain and graduate of Southern Connecticut State University with a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Education. The seminar will feature a power point presentation.





Hartford Power Squadron

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January Members' Meeting Will Feature "Scuba Diving – Then and Now"

The January 24th Members' Meeting will feature John Langlois of Enfield Scuba and Watersports. John is a Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) Course Director with over 10,000 open water dives half of which were in New England. The other 5,000 plus dives took place on the East and West coasts of North America and in the Caribbean, Central America, Europe, the Red Sea, Micronesia, the Philippines, the Sardine Run in South Africa, the Maldives in the Indian Ocean and Australia. John has certified over 2,800 PADI Open Water students and over 200 PADI Dive Masters and Instructors.

The presentation will feature an evolution of diving from the earliest "twin-hose" open circuit design equipment familiar to Sea Hunt fans, to the modern most commonly used single-hose twin-stage design and Buoyancy Control Devices commonly referred to as BCDs.



Also featured will be pictures from various dive trips and diving mementos such as teeth from megalodon sharks. These behemoths could grow to almost 60 feet and have been extinct for over 2.6 million years.

There will be a raffle for free tuition to an Open Water Scuba Course to be taken at Enfield Scuba and Watersports. The raffle is free and open to all those who attend. One lucky winner will go home with free tuition valued at \$250.

If you, your children, or anyone else you know has an interest in scuba diving, this is a meeting you won't want to miss. As always, friends and family are welcome to attend. Seating is limited so if you don't want to be left out in the cold (literally), contact Jim Salvatore to make your reservations.

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 <u>jimsal1@comcast.net</u> or 860-346-0680.