

Schedule of Upcoming Squadron Activities		
12 May	Executive Committee Meeting – "Bridge and general membership are welcome." To be held via teleconference. Please contact the Secretary for details if you would like to attend.	
22 August	Executive Committee Meeting – "Ragged Rock Marina" 54 Ferry Rd, Old Saybrook, CT. Space for this meeting is extremely limited. Please contact Cdr Tyler before August 1 st if you wish to attend.	
22 September	Members' Meeting – "Whales are Back in New York Waters" Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT	<u>10</u>
Schedule of Upcon	ning District 1 Activities – For further details, see the current issue of "Sounds of 1"	
19 - 21 June	June Rendezvous – "Essex Island Marina" – 11 Ferry Street, Essex, CT	
20 June	District June Council – "Essex Island Marina" – 11 Ferry Street, Essex, CT	
11 July	District Sail Race – "Branford Yacht Club"	
TBD July	District Mini Cruise	
CANCELED	District Fishing Derby – Waterford	
TBD August	District Mini Cruise	
TBD September	Poker Run – "Hamburg Cove Yacht Club"	
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[&]quot;I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination."
- Jimmy Dean



At the Helm

Cdr Timothy F. Tyler, SN | (860) 561-0669 | timtyler@timtyler.us

In our last issue, I told you that the "At the Helm" article would be my last as your Commander. As it takes its toll in so many ways, a worldwide pandemic has also seen fit to alter that prediction. Man plans, God laughs. So here I am, still your Commander, trying to organize meetings and events for a social organization that is told, for good reasons, that it cannot be social.

This issue of *the Bilge Pump* would typically tell you about educational offerings, and report on our Annual Meeting. It would also tell you, through words and pictures, what a great time everyone had at the Commander's Ball, enlist your participation in the upcoming CoOp Charting venture, and invite you to an excellent presentation at our May Members' meeting. None of that is in this issue because it either has not happened or will not be happening this year. I was hoping we could hold a combined Members' Meeting, Annual Meeting, and COW in May. My feeling now is that even if things change enough that it will be allowed, it will most likely be too soon for most people to feel comfortable in a large social setting. What is reported in this issue are things that have already happened. Awards, Annual Reports of the bridge members, and the Annual Report of the Audit Committee are all included.

As far as what is happening with elected positions, the Executive Committee came up with a workaround that gave us the same results as what would have occurred at the Annual Meeting and Change of Watch without requiring members to gather together to vote. In our last Executive Committee Meeting, a motion to cancel the 2020 Annual Meeting and retain all the current elected positions for one year until the 2021 Annual Meeting was made, seconded and carried. People then resigned from some jobs and were temporarily placed in others by the committee to effectively give us the slate published in the last issue of *the Bilge Pump*. There was one exception. I had planned to step down, but Bill Waseleski, who was nominated to take my position, felt he could not do so at this time due to escalating business commitments caused by the pandemic. Also announced at that meeting was the appointment of Jeanne Waseleski as the new editor of *the Bilge Pump* beginning with the September 2020 issue. The new 2020-2021 Bridge Officer and Committee assignments immediately follow this message.

We received many inquiries asking if our much anticipated May Member's Meeting would be rescheduled. I'm happy to announce we were fortunate enough to get our speaker Lisa Piastuch to reschedule her presentation on "Whales are Back in New York Waters" to September. Details can be found on the last page of this issue.

I urge everyone to use common sense when leaving home and to stay safe during these trying times. I want to see you all at the September Meeting, happy and healthy!

Stay safe out there. Cdr Tim Tyler, SN

2020-2021 Bridge Officers and Committees Bridge

Commander: Cdr Timothy Tyler, SN

Executive Officer: Lt/C Thomas H. Berlandy, AP

Education Officer: Lt/C Patrick A. Pabouet, P

Administrative Officer: Lt/C James Salvatore, AP

Secretary: Lt/C William J. Waseleski, AP

Treasurer: D/Lt Clifford W. McKibbin, SN

Immediate Past Commander: P/C Michael J. Rinaldi, JN

Executive Committee Members at Large

Elaine L. Cleary Lt Frank Pascucci, Jr., AP P/C Michael J. Rinaldi, JN P/C Theodore J. Wurz, P

Elected Committees

Nominating: Chairman P/C Michael J. Rinaldi, JN Auditing: Chairman Lt/C William Waseleski, AP

Rules: Chairman P/D/Lt/C Kenneth W. Weeks, Jr., AP

Awards

"Every achievement is a servitude. It compels us to a higher achievement."

Albert Camus - French philosopher

We are pleased to announce the following awards earned for individual accomplishment or outstanding service to the Squadron, District, or National USPS.

National Awards

Awards for 2019 Merit Mark and CoOperative Charting efforts were reported in previous issues of the Bilge Pump.

Awards for Excellence in Communication:

Publication - Sounds of 1
 Editor: D/Lt Clifford W. McKibbin, SN

• Publication - the Bilge Pump Editor: Lt Elaine L. Cleary

Publication - HPS Website
 Webmaster: Lt Frank Pascucci, Jr., AP

Life Member 25 Merit Marks:

Lt Frank Pascucci, Jr., AP

Contribution to the USPS Educational Fund

The United States Power Squadrons (USPS) has an Educational Fund whose purpose is to promote the development and the furtherance of educational programs. Also promoted are techniques in boating, seamanship, navigation, engine maintenance, marine electronic equipment, sailing, weather, boating safety, and other marine activities by issuing grants. Hartford Power Squadron has received an award for contributing to this fund for the **21st** year in a row.

District Awards

100% Histories Award

HPS received this District Award for its exceptional record-keeping efforts at the Squadron level. The Squadron Historian maintains genealogical records of the Squadron as well as a biographical record of all squadron officers, and their duties not only on a squadron level but also on district and national levels. Also recorded, among other things, are meetings, activities, awards, educational achievements, and Vessel Safety Checks.

Historian: D/Lt Clifford W. McKibbin, SN

Squadron Awards

Educator's Award

We thank our squadron instructors for dedicating their time and talents to our Squadron and its students with a squadron Educator's Award. Through their efforts, we can reach out to the public and provide them with exceptional educational opportunities. Not only do they provide students with the building blocks necessary to become good boaters, but they also enhance their skills with continuing education courses.

Lt/C Patrick Pabouet P P/C Lt/C Roy Bergeron, AP Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN

Audit Award

We thank our Audit Committee Chairman Lt/C William J. Waseleski, AP, for the outstanding work he has done in performing our audit.

Commander's Award

The Commander's Award started in 2018. This award is presented to an individual whose work performed on behalf of the Squadron is exemplary. Award recipients consistently go above and beyond in their efforts and are there when called upon by the Commander. The winner is someone the Squadron would find difficult, if not impossible, to replace. This year's winner has been chosen but will not be announced at this time. The award will instead be presented at the September Members' Meeting.



Annual Reports



Hartford Power Squadron Annual Report of the Commander 2019 - 2020

Overall, I would say we enjoyed a successful year at the Hartford Power Squadron. Our financial results for the year were positive, and our Members' Meetings were, for the most part, well attended.

We scheduled our third annual bus trip to the Mohegan Sun Casino but had to cancel it because we did not even get the number of sign-ups necessary to break even. We hope those of you that signed up drove down and enjoyed the show and everything the Mohegan Sun Casino has to offer.

Our Annual Swap Meet and Cookout was canceled last year (2018) due to a lack of interest and was canceled this year (2019) because of inclement weather. The 2020 Swap Meet could not even be considered due to the social distancing restrictions placed on everyone because of the COVID19 virus pandemic. Given its poor track record of late, the event will be canceled for the foreseeable future.

It was a particularly sad year for deaths within our ranks. Although we were fortunate enough only to lose one member, that member was one that was loved and respected by all that knew him and was one that left a void that cannot be filled. The person I am referring to is P/Lt/C Donald Gates Watson, AP. Don passed away peacefully on 24 July 2019. Don joined the Hartford Power Squadron in 1949 and became a lifelong member. He taught boating safety and navigation, and over the years, he held several executive positions. Don was a Past Lieutenant Commander and an Advanced Pilot, holding 38 merit marks for leadership. When he passed, Don was serving the Squadron as a Member at Large on the Executive Committee. My condolences go out to his family. Don is already sorely missed.

Now for some good news. Our Executive Department's CoOperative Charting efforts did not go unnoticed by National. Our Squadron was ranked sixth in the country, and seven of our members received individual awards for their efforts. Great job, guys.

Our Educational Department provided us with a successful educational program which resulted in one new Pilot, a better-educated boating community, and two new members.

Our Administrative Department once again gave us a year full of very successful Members' Meetings, which drew in not only our members but also many attendees from other District 1 squadrons.

The Secretary's Department received awards for all our publications, provided accurate and timely meeting minutes, and once again kept our histories 100% up to date.

The Treasurer's Department performed all of its responsibilities in a timely fashion, arranged for our (successful) yearly audit, and ended the year with a net gain of over \$600.

Finally, I would like to thank our Instructors, all our members that volunteer when help is needed, and the Executive Committee for the continuing support they have given our Squadron and me. Without all of you, there would be no Squadron.

Respectfully submitted, Timothy F. Tyler, SN, Commander



Hartford Power Squadron Annual Report of the Executive Officer 2019 - 2020

I hope everyone is doing well and staying safe while getting their boats ready for social distancing on the water. Last year was a busy one for the Executive Department. As you know, the Executive Department has under its umbrella, the Safety Department, the Coop Charting Department, and the Boat Show.

Under the Safety Department, we scheduled flare demonstrations and conducted 35 vessel safety inspections. We had a successful Coop Charting year. We organized two trips on the Connecticut River to record any irregularities on the river, checking aids to navigation, hazards on the river, and new structures not appearing on the charts. The results were great.

National Awards for Coop Charting	Nationwide Rankings
Hartford Power Squadron	Honor Roll, ranked 6 th
Lt/C Pat Pabouet, P	Honor Roll, ranked 22 nd
Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN	Honor Roll, ranked 23 rd
Lt/C Roy Bergeron, AP	Honor Roll, ranked 47 th
Lt/C Bill Waseleski, AP	Honor Roll, ranked 48 th
Jon Emerson, JN	Honor Roll, ranked 51 st
P/Lt/C Tom Berlandy, AP	Honor Roll, ranked 52 nd
Ken Letendre, AP	Honor Roll, ranked 53 rd
District 1	Honor Roll, ranked 5 th (because of our efforts)

The Boat show was at Mohegan Sun Casino, members of Hartford Power Squadron help with setting up. My thanks go to all the members of the Executive Department. Without their help, my job would be a lot harder and time consuming.

I leave the Executive Department next year to become HPS Educational Officer. I will need help, and I invite any member that would like to teach or help me run the Educational Department to let me know.

Respectfully Submitted, Lt/C Patrick Pabouet, P Executive Officer



Hartford Power Squadron Annual Report of the Squadron Educational Officer 2019 - 2020

Public Boating Course attendance was good with new ground being broken in the number of 8 hour (one day) courses given. We will be using this approach more in the upcoming year.

I want to thank those who served the Education Department this past year: our outgoing SEO, Roy Bergeron, AP; our ABC Chairman, P/D/C Pat Pabouet, P; and all of our instructors who are so dedicated to our educational mission. Five members of the Education Department received merit marks this year.



For 2019-20, we had the following course completions:

Course		<u>Instructor</u>	Passed	New Members
ABC	Farmington	Sean Connor	2	0
		Dave Sinder		
ABC	Hamburg Cove YC	Pat Pabouet	8	0
		Cliff McKibbin		
ABC	Bantam Lake YC	Pat Pabouet	6	0
		Dave Sinder		
P	St. James Church	Roy Bergeron	6	2
Total all Courses			22	2

Respectively submitted

Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN Asst. Educational Officer



Hartford Power Squadron Annual Report of the Administrative Officer 2019 - 2020

Hartford Power Squadron had a great year of fun and events.

- 1. 7 April, the Hartford Power Squadron held its annual Change of Watch at the Manor Inn Restaurant in Southington Ct. Members were recognized for achievements, and the new bridge was sworn in by district commander Charles Greenbacker.
- 2. 4 May, Annual Swap Meet & Cookout at Portland Riverside Marina was canceled due to inclement weather.
- 3. 22 May, we had CPR training at the East Farms fire department in Farmington.
- 4. 28 May, member meeting. Ferry Tales by Bill Fournier, the history of Connecticut river ferries.
- 5. 5 June, we had our co-op charting outing the lower half of the Connecticut River. Tom Berlandy in his boat with. Ken Letendre, and Jon Emerson.
- 6. 24 August, ExCom meeting and cookout on commander Tim Tyler's boat in Hamburg cove.
- 7. 15 September, we had our co-op charting outing the upper half of the Connecticut River. Roy Bergeron in his boat with, Pat Pabouet, and William Waseleski.
- 8. 24 September, Celestial Navigation by Brian Koehler, the supervisor at the planetarium Mystic Seaport.
- 9. 22 October, member meeting. We had captain Thomas Heinssen from sea tow give a presentation on emergencies at sea.
- 10. 18 January, bus trip to Mohegan canceled.
- 11. 28 January, member meeting. The Connecticut river from the air with Jerry Roberts. Jerry took us four hundred miles from the mouth of the river to the Canadian border.
- 12. 25 February, member meeting. Presenter Cliff McKibbin gave us a talk on the water world of Amsterdam that covered the canals of Amsterdam and the Houseboats on it, the Keukenhof Gardens, and a trip to Enkhuizen to the Zuiderzee Museum and much more. Also, at our meeting, we awarded Brooke Martin a canvas print of her photo of Nantucket Pond for winning the photo contest.
- 13. 24 March, member meeting canceled
- 14. 4 April, Change of Watch canceled.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt/C James Salvatore, AP, Admin Officer

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## Hartford Power Squadron Annual Report of the Secretary 2019 - 2020

11 March 2020

The Secretary Department operated efficiently this year.

### Staff

The staff for the year was: Lt/C William Waseleski, AP, Secretary Lt Elaine L. Cleary, editor, Bilge Pump Lt Frank Pascucci, AP, Webmaster Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN, Historian

### Membership

The breakdown of our membership by grade is as follows:

| Year      | Members | S  | P  | AP | JN | N | SN |
|-----------|---------|----|----|----|----|---|----|
| Oct, 2007 | 194     | 29 | 35 | 42 | 10 | 4 | 3  |
| Oct, 2008 | 182     | 26 | 37 | 34 | 14 | 2 | 3  |
| Oct, 2009 | 160     | 28 | 31 | 35 | 13 | 2 | 3  |
| Oct, 2010 | 172     | 25 | 27 | 35 | 13 | 2 | 1  |
| Oct, 2011 | 171     | 24 | 25 | 35 | 12 | 3 | 2  |
| Oct, 2012 | 168     | 24 | 29 | 31 | 14 | 3 | 2  |
| Feb, 2014 | 160     | 20 | 31 | 34 | 13 | 2 | 2  |
| Feb, 2015 | 153     | 19 | 29 | 31 | 10 | 3 | 2  |
| Feb, 2016 | 147     | 21 | 23 | 29 | 11 | 3 | 2  |
| Feb, 2017 | 142     | 17 | 31 | 30 | 11 | 3 | 1  |
| Feb, 2018 | 115     | 13 | 25 | 26 | 7  | 3 | 2  |
| Feb, 2019 | 104     | 14 | 22 | 7  | 2  | 2 | 2  |
| Feb, 2020 | 96      | 11 | 24 | 20 | 7  | 2 | 2  |

### Bilge Pump

The Bilge Pump continued to be our primary means of communicating with our membership. Editor 1st Elaine 1. Cleary published seven issues from March 2019 to February 2020. The Bilge Pump includes the schedule of upcoming activities, reports from department heads, and articles of general interest. Elaine Cleary was once again honored for The Bilge Pump, receiving the "Distinctive Communicator Award" for 2019.

### Squadron Web Site

We want to thank Lt Frank Pascucci, AP, for maintaining our squadron website at *www.hartfordpowersquadron.org* Frank was awarded the "Distinctive Communicator Award" for the website for 2019. The website includes up to date information on upcoming activities, classes, officers, and contacts.

### **Squadron History**

Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN, completed the 2018-19 history in a timely manner, and we have submitted 100% of our histories.

Respectively submitted,

Lt/C William Waseleski, AP, Secretary



## Hartford Power Squadron Annual Report of the Treasurer Fiscal Year Ended 29 February 2020



This year we continued all the policies instituted in the last two years for the accounting and finances of the Hartford Power Squadron. Among these, we:

- 1. Continued to roll over our Fidelity CD ladder. Interest rates have cooled, however, and we should not expect much increase if any, this year.
- 2. Contributed to the National Education Fund for the 21st year.
- 3. Prepared a draft budget for the Executive Committee at the January and February meetings and submitted for approval to the Annual Meeting on 24 March 2020.
- 4. Paid our State of CT sales tax for course manual sales in a timely manner.
- 5. Filed the CT Secretary of State Annual Report in a timely manner.
- 6. Filed the IRS 990-N for non-profits in a timely manner.
- 7. Met with our auditor, William J. Waseleski, AP. His report is attached.

The results for this year were positive with a net gain for the year of \$602.66 on income of \$4,112.47 and expenses of \$3,509.70.

I would like to thank the Executive Committee for its support of my efforts and thank Bill Waseleski for his efforts as our auditor.

The end of year Financial Statement and Balance sheet has been submitted to the Executive Committee and are available to any member wanting to review them.

Respectfully Submitted Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN, Treasurer

## Hartford Power Squadron Annual Report of the Audit Committee Fiscal Year Ended 29 February 2020

March 05, 2020

To the Members of the Hartford Power Squadron

At the request of the Commander, the internal audit committee completed an internal audit of the financial statements and controls of the Hartford Power Squadron for the year ended February 29, 2020.

The audit concluded that receipts and expenditures were properly accounted for, cash accounts were properly reconciled, and that the financial statements reflect the results as presented. We also found that federal and state filings were up to date and that accounts with National are regularly balanced and accounted for.

We note that the Squadron operated at a small profit this year of \$602.77. Donations to our Squadron on the passing of P/Lt/C Donald G. Watson, AP, and member donations at meetings were the primary source of the profit. The Squadron did an excellent job of keeping operating expenses to a minimum as budgeted. We recommend that efforts continue to look for opportunities to continue on a break-even/profit basis year to year.

The Treasurer, Cliff McKibbin, has done an outstanding job of handling and expanding the records since assuming office and should be commended.

It has been an honor to serve on the internal audit committee this year.

William Waseleski, AP Chairman, Audit Committee

## It's Dues Season

By now, you should have received your dues notice via email or "snail mail," and many of you have already sent in your payment. For those who are procrastinating, why not send it in now and cross it off your to-do list? That way, you will continue to enjoy the benefits of membership in our 100-plus-year-old organization. There may be benefits you haven't discovered yet. Browse through the list of activities, partners, and discounts offered at <a href="http://usps.org/index.php/memberbenefits2">http://usps.org/index.php/memberbenefits2</a>.

## **Amazon Smile**

With millions of customers, Amazon is the leading e-retailer in the United States. **If you buy from Amazon, here is your chance to help your Squadron at no cost to you**. Instead of shopping at <a href="http://smile.amazon.com/">http://smile.amazon.com/</a>. You will need to complete a one-time registration naming the Hartford Power Squadron as your charity of choice. From then on, 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases will be donated to our organization. The critical thing to remember is to shop using the <a href="http://smile.amazon.com/">http://smile.amazon.com/</a> address; otherwise, your purchases will not get credited.



The link you need for registration is <a href="https://smile.amazon.com/ch/06-6055634">https://smile.amazon.com/ch/06-6055634</a>, or scan the QR code to the right using your smartphone.

## **Safety Corner**

"Spontaneous Combustion"

It has been a while since there has been a Safety Corner article, but a recent near calamitous event that happened to one of our members has prompted me to get the word out. Getting up early one morning following a day spent working on the boat, she opened the basement door and was presented with a basement full of smoke! A frantic search for the smoke's source finally led to the laundry room and a box full of smoldering rags that were brought home for disposal. Carefully moving the box outside took care of the problem. But the story could have ended quite differently. Sleeping in that morning could have resulted in a home burned to the ground, or worse yet, lives lost.

What caused the smoke? The answer…linseed oil! This seemingly innocuous substance is found in hardware stores, box stores, and chandleries around the world. It is in a lot of woodworker's shops and is the main ingredient of many Teak oils, something a lot of us use in place of varnish to keep our precious teak looking great. Unfortunately, what a lot of us are unaware of is that rags soaked in linseed oil can spontaneously combust. Yes, spontaneous combustion is a real thing and given the right conditions that box of rags you used to oil that beautiful teak swim platform can catch fire without an external ignition source. That is right, no spark, match, or lighter is needed. Just leave those bunched up rags by themselves in a warm house (or boat), and eventually, you will have a fire.

So why do rags soaked in linseed oil spontaneously combust and not rags soaked in paint or varnish? The answer lies in the way they dry. Paints and varnishes dry through the evaporation of solvents or water. Oils dry through oxidation! You may remember from one of those science classes you took a long time ago that oxidation generates fire. A box of oily rags sits there and oxidizes as it dries. Because there are a lot of rags near one another, they insulate each other and allow the oxidizing linseed oil to get hot enough to smolder. Rapid oxidation causes burning and left alone awhile longer; the rags can get hot enough to ignite. If the conditions are right, it does not even have to be a lot of rags; one can do it.

The moral of the story is not less teak as some would have you believe, or even letting the teak turn a natural gray. The answer is to store correctly, and dispose of correctly, used oil-soaked rags. Place the oily rags in a metal container, fill it with water, and tightly seal the container until you can dispose of the rags. You can also hang them outdoors to dry in a well-ventilated area that is out of the sun or spread them out on a noncombustible surface for a couple days or more until they are completely dry. Once dry, dispose of the rags by following guidelines set by your local garbage disposal service.

Please give linseed oil the respect it is due and do not become a victim of spontaneous combustion.

Stay safe out there!

Hartford Power Squadron

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

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## May 26th Members' Meeting

"Whales are Back in New York Waters"

by Lisa Piastuch

## "Meeting rescheduled to September 22nd due to Corona Virus."

After many years of absence, the whales are back in New York waters! Species such as the seasonally migrating Humpback and North Atlantic Right Whales, as well as the Fin Whale, are frequent visitors to the New York Bight. Using a variety of scientific tools, scientists are setting out to gain a better understanding of the distribution and abundance of these large whales and sea turtles in the Bight. Join North American Marine Environment Protection Association's (NAMEPA) Education and Outreach Director, Lisa Piastuch, to learn more about the New York Bight Whale Monitoring Program, methodologies employed, basic facts about marine mammals and the results of the data collected as part of their work to protect the global oceans, lakes and river resources.

Lisa has a Master of Science degree in Environmental Science and Management from Sacred Heart University, where her research focused on coastal ecosystems restoration. Before joining NAMEPA, Lisa was an Adjunct Professor at the University of Bridgeport, teaching environmental conservation and ecology. In



Address Service Requested

addition, Lisa has over ten years of professional experience in the non-profit sector, forming partnerships and fostering collaborations with various organizations. She continues to inspire and educate all ages on environmental stewardship.

Date: September 22, 2020

**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 <a href="mailto:jimsal1@comcast.net">jimsal1@comcast.net</a> o (860) 346-0680.