

the Bilge Pump

**bulletin of the Hartford Power Squadron
A UNIT OF DISTRICT 1
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS
Volume 77, Issue 2 - October 2015**

Schedule of Upcoming Squadron Activities

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13 October	Executive Committee Meeting, MDC	
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Schedule of Upcoming District Activities

7 November	District 1 Fall Conference, Middlesex YC, Haddam	
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Ed. Because of the turnover of our Editor and our Commander, the May issue of the Bilge Pump was not published. We published the annual reports of the Commander and Education Officer in the September issue. Annual reports of the Administrative Officer, Secretary, and Treasurer appear in this issue.

September Member Meeting Featured “The Connecticut River from Sail to Steam”.



The September Member and Guest Meeting featured a talk by Brenda Milkofsky, curator emerita and currently a member of the Board of Trustees of the Connecticut River Museum in Essex. The talk described the early sailing history of the Connecticut River beginning with Adriaen Block in 1614 and early ship building activity on the river during the age of sail. The burning of Essex in 1814 by the British ended the age of sailing ship construction in Essex but Essex rebounded as a major port as transportation evolved to steam power. The museum is actually on the site of a major steamboat warehouse that serviced trade from New York and Boston to Essex and up the river to Middletown and Hartford from the 1850s to the 1930s.

From the Helm: P/D/C Patrick A. Pabouet, P

Writing this message from the rear deck of my boat looking at the leaves floating by, the end of boating season is near, meanwhile the squadron is going full speed.

In September we had a great members' meeting. Our guest from the Connecticut River Museum, talked about the river and it's transformation from sail to power for transporting goods from Saybrook to Hartford. Co-op charting had a successful trip on the Connecticut River to check on the aids to navigation. The education department started classes and the safety and the VSC department did some vessel checks and a flare demonstration at Chester Point Marina (see page 3 for more information).

October is shaping up to be just as busy, see what we have planned in this issue and get involved.

P/D/C Patrick Pabouet
Commander

Education Department News

Lt/C Roy Bergeron, AP, Education Officer
860 841-8620 roybergeron01@yahoo.com

Fall Education Schedule

We have a great line up of courses for this fall. If you are interested in one of these classes, please call or e-mail to talk about it and/or sign up. There is still time!

Seamanship (S) begins 8 October at 1900 at the Farmington St. James Episcopal Church (\$60, \$145 non member)

This course provides more detail on many of the subjects covered in our basic "ABC3" course including: rules of the road, navigation aids, using your VHF radio, boat handling under adverse conditions, anchoring, additional knots, and additional first aid and safety. If you have just finished "ABC3" please try to take this course. Those new members that took Piloting last spring are also encouraged to take this course. If you signed up as a new member last spring, you can take this course as a "member".

Advanced Piloting (AP) begins 19 October at the MDC in Hartford (\$55 member)

You must have passed the Piloting (P) course as a prerequisite. The course continues to build coastal and inland navigation skills, advanced positioning techniques (such as advancing a line of position, other electronics: radar, depth sounders, autopilots, chart plotters, laptop computer software, etc.), hazard avoidance techniques using electronics (e.g., "keep out" zones in GPS), collision avoidance using radar and GPS, working with tides (clearances, depth), effects of current, and piloting with wind and currents. If you are a sailor or operator of a slower vessel the "set and drift" calculations will allow you to maintain a course when beset with strong currents or wind.

Weather (W) begins 14 October at the Instructor's home in Bloomfield (\$60 member/\$135 New Member)

The course focuses on how weather systems form, behave, move, and interact with one another and reflects the availability of all sorts of weather reports and forecasts on the Internet. The student will learn how to use pressure measurements and cloud formations to predict future weather, how to estimate wind speeds using the Beaufort scale and take precautions for emergency situations such as the gale force winds accompanying thunderheads and the excessive wind speeds of hurricanes. Every mariner contemplating longer cruises should take this course.



Hartford Power Squadron Spends a Day at Chester Point Marina

On August 15th, Hartford Power Squadron members conducted an entire day of Vessel Safety Examinations at Chester Point Marina on the Connecticut River.

In addition to the safety examinations, instruction was given in the proper use, handling and disposal of visual distress signals (V.D.S.). Special attention was given to pyrotechnic devices. The following devices were demonstrated:

- Red Hand-held Flare (day and night)
- Parachute Flare (day and night)
- Red Meteor (day and night)
- Orange Hand-held Smoke Signal (day only)

Additionally the proper use and handling of the ubiquitous B-1 dry chemical fire extinguisher was demonstrated. Those wishing to participate were able to experience their hands on use.



Special thanks go to Commanders Pabouet and Bergeron , and to Marvin Goldberg for organizing and participating in this event.

District Holiday Party

The District is hosting a holiday party on Saturday December 12th. The Hartford Squadron has agreed to attend the District party instead of hosting its own.

CAMPAGNA'S RESTAURANT
151 MARLBOROUGH STREET, PORTLAND, CT

Cocktails –1800 – Cash bar
Buffet Dinner – 1900
Dancing to the music of DJ Al Bower
Raffle prizes

Please bring a toy for “TOYS FOR TOTS”

See your Squadron Commander for tickets: \$35.00 per person



Win a prize for the Ugliest Holiday sweater; one for the ladies and one for gentlemen.

2014-15 Annual Report of the Administrative Officer

The Hartford Power Squadron had another great year of activities.

- We had our Change of Watch dinner on April 13th of last year. The event was held at the Marco Polo restaurant in East Hartford.
- During the 2014 September Members' Meeting a guest speaker from the CT River Museum held an interesting talk about the British raid on Essex.

- The annual canoe ride along the Farmington River was held in October. We finished the ride with a cookout at Curtis Park.
- Also in the month of October, Mathew Goldman – who writes under the name Constant Waterman – discussed his work, “*The Journals of Constant Waterman*” at our member’s meeting.
- Our January, 2015 meeting was canceled due to inclement weather.
- The presenter for our February meeting was photographer Jeff Feldmann. Mr. Feldmann exhibited his beautiful prints of various landscapes and landmarks along the CT River.

During our upcoming member’s meeting to be held on 24 March, we will elect new officers for the coming year. We will also be hearing a presentation by Captain Curt Michaels on the "ins and outs" of obtaining a Captain’s license. On 26 May we will be hearing from Captain Jim Cranston (Sea Tow) about preparedness and emergencies at sea. We will also be having our annual swap-meet and cookout in May.

The 2015 Change of Watch will be held on 29 March at the Marco Polo restaurant in East Hartford. The Change of watch is always an excellent opportunity to socialize and enjoy a fantastic dinner. We will be holding an awards ceremony, during which various members will be recognized for their efforts and achievements throughout the past year. This important event is when our new Bridge will be officially handed the reins. It is well worth your time to attend and the Hartford Power Squadron greatly appreciates your continued support.

Lt/C Jim Salvatore, AP
 Administrative Officer
 Hartford Power Squadron

2014-15 Annual Report of the Secretary

The Secretary Department operated efficiently this year.

Staff

The staff for the year was:

Brooke Martin, Secretary

Diana Manner, Editor, Bilge Pump

Paul Silversmith, Membership Director

Frank Pascucci, Webmaster

Cliff McKibbin, Historian

Membership

Paul Silversmith did an excellent job maintaining and reporting on the squadron’s membership list. The list changes during the year, and the breakdown by grades is as follows:

Year	Members	S	P	AP	JN	N	SN
Oct, 2003	252	47	50	53	13	6	6
Oct, 2004	231	36	51	46	12	6	6
Oct, 2005	202	31	48	42	12	4	5
Oct, 2006	189	32	37	42	10	4	4
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

Bilge Pump

The Bilge Pump continued to be our primary means of communicating with our membership. Editor Diana Manner published seven issues from March 2014 to February 2015. The Bilge Pump includes the schedule of upcoming activities, reports from department heads and articles of general interest.

Diana Manner was once again honored for The Bilge Pump, receiving the "Distinctive Communicator Award." The Bilge Pump is now published online in PDF format to those with e-mail addresses in DB 2000.

Squadron Web Site

We want to thank Frank Pascucci for maintaining our squadron website at www.hartfordpowersquadron.org. Frank was awarded the "Distinctive Communicator Award" for the website in 2014. The website includes up-to-date information on upcoming activities, classes, officers and contacts. Frank now publishes copies of the Bilge Pump on the website in PDF format.

Squadron History

Cliff McKibbin, SN, completed the 2013-2014 history in a timely manner and we have submitted 100% of our histories. Cliff also served as the district historian.

Respectively submitted,
Lt/C Brooke Martin, Secretary

Annual Report of the Treasurer

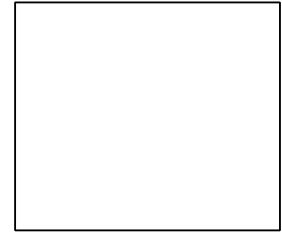
During the past fiscal year the Treasurer's Department performed the following duties:

- Received, deposited and accounted for all cash receipts for membership dues, educational courses, the ship's store and membership functions.
- Paid and accounted for all bills, invoices and reimbursement requests.
- Prepared and filed required financial information with USPS National Office.
- File State and Federal tax required documents and payments.
- Prepared and presented monthly reports for Executive Committee meetings.
- Prepared and presented a budget for the fiscal year ending February 28, 2014 for approval by the Executive Committee and the general membership.
- Managed the investments accounts of the HPS according to HPS bylaws.
- Cooperated with the Internal Auditor in his annual review.

Although we would have preferred to have a net zero budget, this goal proved unrealistic as interest earned on the squadron's \$35,000 maintained in CDs have been nearly cut in half every year since 2009 falling from \$1,700 to \$139. Record low rates of 0.40% have been broken. It was hoped that the rate would improve as the CDs continue to roll but the opposite has occurred as they have begun to roll at a new low of 0.20%. While the CD situation is mostly out of our hands and will eventually recover, a more alarming trend lurks in the shadow, significant drop in dues income. Down 25% from last year at this time. While we began to address this issue by raising our dues by \$2/year we will need to address waning membership over the next 2 years through greater membership solicitation.

This being my last year as treasurer, I would like to thank you all for the privilege of serving you as treasurer for the past 2 years.

Respectfully Submitted
Lt/C Kevin R. Vibert, AP, Treasurer



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

Commander	P/D/C Patrick A. Pabouet, P	860-528-7700
Executive Officer	Lt/C Thomas H. Berlandy, AP	860-678-1069
Educational Officer	Lt/C Roy L. Bergeron, AP	860-841-8620
Admin. Officer	Lt/C James Salvatore, AP	860-346-0680
Secretary	D/Lt/C Richard C. Carlson, SN	860-242-8187
Treasurer	P/D/Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN	860-673-1584

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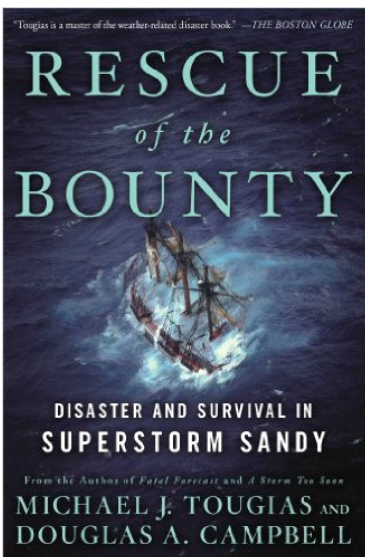
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October Member Meeting will feature **RESCUE of the BOUNTY**

DISASTER AND SURVIVAL IN SUPERSTORM SANDY, by Michael J. Tougias **AND** Douglas A. Campbell



Save the 27th of October on your calendar for this excellent presentation. Co-author Douglas Campbell will present the harrowing tale of the loss of the famous three-master constructed for *Mutiny on the Bounty* that killed one crew member and the captain. The captain sailed from New London even though he knew hurricane Sandy was coming, feeling that “The boat’s safer being out at sea than being buckled up at a dock somewhere”. The authors devote a thrilling portion of their narrative to the courageous Coast Guard rescue and the almost incredible efforts of the pilots, hoist crews and swimmers who headed straight into Hurricane Sandy.

Bring your friends and family to this exciting presentation on Tuesday, October 27th, at the Olympia Diner.

Time: 1830

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

Cost: \$15 for dinner with cash bar - or just come at 1930 for the presentation. For reservations contact Jim Salvatore at jimsall@comcast.net or 860-346-0680.