

LGPS

SOUNDINGS

March-April 2024



LAKE GEORGE POWER SQUADRON, INC.
OF UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS
PO Box 411, BURNT HILLS, NY 12027

Commander Message

By George K. Williams, AP

In our last edition of our Squadron newsletter, I discussed the need for members to join in and assist with the day-to-day operation of “your” Squadron. The Squadron Nomination Committee has not received any calls as of this writing from you wishing to provide some of your free time in support of the Squadron missions. Your volunteer support for filling a position on the 2024-25 Bridge is urgent. The Squadron currently is seeking LGPS members interested in serving on the upcoming Bridge/Executive Committee. If interested, please call P/C Armand Canestraro at (518) 372-7220 or me at (518) 393-6414 to discuss your interest. Without you – there is NO Squadron! Help is needed NOW!

Our membership numbers continues to dwindle especially considering last year’s passing of several long-time active members and women certificate holders. Whether you might be out on the water this coming season or simply enjoying a light lunch or dinner with your boating friends, talk to them about the many benefits of our Squadron offers. Discuss the educational opportunities that exist and the ability to meet new friends of similar interest, whether it be day boating, cruise planning, taking the weather course together or enjoying a PWC adventure. Recruiting new members has always been and now more than ever an essential part of LGPS.

In closing, Spring is almost here, beginning on March 19th, Most of all, consider taking a USPS course.

Stay safe.

Vessel Safety Check Decals Have Arrived for 2024

It’s never too early to begin thinking about having your vessel examination completed for 2024. For details on the requirements please contact VSE P/C Armand Canestraro at (518) 372-7220. Before you know, it will be spring and the perfect time to schedule your 2024 VSE.





Now Hear This...

Life Jackets Save Lives

Statistics to Live By



81% - Recreational boating related fatalities in 2023 that resulted from falling overboard and drowning.



400 Recreational boating related drowning victims in 2023 alone who might still be alive today if they were wearing a life jacket



27% Average increase in overall life jacket wear between 1999 and 2023 (excluding PWC's)



42% Relative increase in number of adults observed wearing life jackets in open motorboats since 1999 (Most people fell overboard and drowned were riding in open motorboats)



37.1% Number of adults aboard sailboats observed wearing life jackets in 2023



173% Increase in life jacket wearing adults aboard sailboats since 1999

*Statistics from US Coast Guard Recreational Boating Statistics Report and the Observation Life Jacket Study (uscgboating.org)

Where it All Began



Are you old enough to remember this early PWC?

Much like some use the term "Kleenex" when referring to a generic tissue, many refer to personal watercraft as "Jet Skis". That is because Kawasaki (kawasaki.com) introduced this strange little water scooters to American waters back in 1973 under the trademark name "Jet Ski". So fun was the little 6-foot 10-inch, 220-pound Jet Ski stand-up watercraft that it provided the backbone for Kawasaki's development of the Personal Watercraft (PWC) market. As an innovator in the field of PWC's, Kawasaki celebrated 50 years of the Jet Ski in 2023. While early models were used primarily for research and racing, mass production soon followed with the launch of the JS range of solo stand-up skis. For its 400 to 550 series of machines, Kawasaki developed and refined its own twin-cylinder water cooled engine packages, which all relied on carburetors and achieved propulsion via an impeller inboard of the machine. Essentially, Kawasaki helped refine the basis for all PWC's with water entering via a hull-mounted grate and then water being forced out rearward by the engine acting as a high-pressure pump via an integrated impeller propelling the craft along. The rest is history.

*Content provided by kawasaki.com and cycleworld.com