

# **LGPS**

## **SOUNDINGS**

*September-October 2016*



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

### ***Commander Message***

*By David J. Hawthorne*

I don't want to belabor the tragedy that took place on our namesake, so I'll try to keep it short. Boating safety cannot be forced on people by officers. It must be practiced by each individual through understanding of boating dangers and consequences. Over 60 officers were at work during the recent Log Bay Day and the worst possible tragedy still took place. 60 Officers!

The Mayor, the Sheriff, the Park Commission Director and other officials have spoken-out, saying the unregulated event has run its course and needs to end. (The local musician that started the first Log Bay Day has not attended in over 10 years because of the drunken behavior that takes place.)

I wish the greater majority of boaters took better advantage of the boater safety training offered by the USPS. Unfortunately, it's not mandatory (unless your birthday falls after May 1, 1996) so it's not good enough that we know the rules-of-the-road and practice safe vessel operation. The recent second boating collision on Lake George is a perfect example. Boat rental on the lake has been around forever and the collision of a rental boat (towing a tube) with a second boat, illustrates the problem of untrained boaters operating beyond their capabilities or safe speeds (both of those boaters had no training!). OK enough.

Here's hoping for an extended summer of good weather for all us good boaters. (with no more boating incidents). Boat Safe!

#### **WANTED**

Quality - high resolution digital photographs for the Squadron Website Photo Gallery Page

All photo's should be submitted in landscape - digital jpeg format

Mail a CD or e-mail your photo's to Armand at [lgpsinfo@nycap.rr.com](mailto:lgpsinfo@nycap.rr.com)

#### **LAKE GEORGE POWER SQUADRON BRIDGE/EDUCATIONAL MEETING**

**Wednesday, Sept. 21st**  
**Church of the Good Shepard**  
**Rt. 50 – Burnt Hills**  
**6:30pm (1830hrs)**



**Now Hear This...**

## **Welcome New Squadron Members**

The Officers and membership of the Lake George Power Squadron welcome new members Paul T. and Lynn Kotecki of Niskayuna.

## **From the Desk of the Squadron Administrative Officer**

*Lt/C Tina Russell*

**October 16<sup>th</sup>:** An informative and exciting LGPS October rendezvous is scheduled for 1:00pm on Sunday, October 16th at the Boathouse Restaurant located at 3210 Lake Shore Dr., Lake George. The location is accessible by boat or by automobile from Route 9-N. Our guest speaker will be from the Lake George Park Commission. Attendees will order off the menu, separate checks, each responsible for their own meal/beverages. Join us for an afternoon of conversation and relaxation overlooking the most beautiful lake in the United States. Mark your calendars now! Please RSVP not later than October 7<sup>th</sup> for a restaurant head count to: [jrusse1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jrusse1@nycap.rr.com) or call Tina directly at 877-8494. For more information on this exciting location, go to [lakegeorgeboathouse.com/lunch](http://lakegeorgeboathouse.com/lunch)

## **Upcoming District 2/Squadron Events**

Find more details at <http://www.usps.org/d2/d2event.html#District>

<p><b>The Big E – Springfield MA</b>  <b>Sept. 16th – Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup></b>  <b>Visit the USPS Kiosk</b>  <b>See information in this issue</b>  <b>to volunteer for booth duty</b></p>	<p><b>District 2 Fall Conference</b>  <b>Friday/Saturday 7-8 October 2016</b>  <b>Hosted by District 2</b>  <b>The Maron Hotel &amp; Suites</b>  <b>42 Lake Avenue Extension</b>  <b>Mill Plain Road, Danbury, CT 06811</b></p>
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## **Wear It! Campaign**

The Wear It! Campaign reminds boaters of the importance of boating safety, including always wearing a life jacket. The campaign is produced under a grant from the Sports Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Visit [SafeBoatingCampaign.com](http://SafeBoatingCampaign.com) for **free** resources and information that you can use for your own Wear It! outreach efforts.

## **Reminder: Bridge Meetings at the Church of the Good Shepard**

We have been reminded that on Squadron meeting nights, we cannot enter the Church meeting space area until 6:15pm. The church facility has a contract with the YMCA for after school child care and cannot have anyone in the building until the last child has been picked-up. Thank you for following this rule.

## **Governor Cuomo signs bill strengthening boating while intoxicated penalties**

Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Tuesday signed into law a new bill that requires courts to consider prior intoxicated and impaired driving convictions when sentencing someone for intoxicated or impaired boating. Under the new law, a judge would be required to consider prior DWIs or DWAls within a five-year period for any 30-day BWI sentence. A judge would be required to consider prior DWIs or DWAls within a 10-year period for any 180-day BWAI sentence. The idea is that a sentencing judge would be required to impose a higher sentence on repeat intoxicated machine operation offenders, Cuomo's office said. "Those who repeatedly violate intoxicated operation laws should not be given leniency because they have re-offended in a boat versus a car," the bill's justification memo states. Legislation remained stalled for nearly six sessions before an amended version was approved in June. The law takes effect Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

Dubbed Tiffany Heitkamp's Law in memory of the Syracuse-area woman killed during a 2006 boating while intoxicated accident, the enacting legislation was carried by Syracuse representatives Assemblyman William Magnarelli and state Senator John DeFrancisco. "Whether behind the wheel of a car or a boat, drunk drivers are a danger to themselves and a menace to others," Cuomo said in a statement. "This new law closes this loophole and will help keep these dangerous individuals off our roads and waterways, avoiding more senseless tragedies." The signing of the legislation comes weeks after a Log Bay Day boating accident on Lake George killed an 8-year-old girl and injured her mother. Authorities believe the defendants in that case were drinking before the accident. None of the defendants were hit with any type of boating while intoxicated or ability impaired charges. (Reprinted with permission – Times Union Capital Bureau)

## **Eastern States Exhibition (BIG-E) Springfield needs your help!**

This is your "**Invitation to Participate**" in the largest New England Fair that runs daily from Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> thru Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>. We need **Volunteers** to cover the 17 days of the Big E. We need 2 volunteers for each time slot. Times are from 10-2, 2-6 and 6-10 each day. You can choose as many time slots as you would like. In exchange for your time, you receive free admission, free parking and free shuttle into the site. We need to give the names to the Big E ASAP. They need to make name tags for each volunteer. So please, volunteer and enjoy the day! Contact: Joyce Bonney at 860-794-8055 - [jcbonney@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jcbonney@sbcglobal.net) or Ed Orwat at 413-739-0524 - [eorwat@gmail.com](mailto:eorwat@gmail.com) to volunteer!

## **Educational Meeting held August 17<sup>th</sup> – Rusty Anchor Bar and Restaurant**

The following was provided all those attending the annual Educational Meeting of the Squadron. Many members and their guests attended this all important annual event. SEO Donna Canestraro and ASEO Kevin McCarthy presented information on the many course and seminar offerings available through the USPS Education Department. If you were unable to attend, and would like more information, please contact either SEO Canestraro at (518) 372-7220 or ASEO McCarthy at (518) 465-6706.

**America's Boating Course III- [ABC-3]:** This course is open to the public - The America's Boating Course is designed to familiarize the student with the fundamentals of safe boating and qualifies for certification in most states that require a boating education before operating a boat or personal watercraft. The course is structured for one night a week at two hours each session or over a weekend. A course study guide and supporting materials are available. Subjects covered include - Boat handling under normal conditions, Types of boats and boating terminology, Required and recommended equipment, Boating regulations and navigation rules, Lines and knots, Adverse conditions and emergencies, Weather, Charts and aids to navigation, Regional boating, Piloting techniques, Engine troubleshooting, Fundamentals of sailing, Marine radiotelephone usage, Trailer boating and PWC Operation.

**Seamanship [S]:** Building on the basics taught in the ABC Boating course, Seamanship is the recommended first course for new members, both power boaters and sailors. The student learns practical marlinespike, navigation rules, hull design and performance, responsibilities of the skipper, boat care, operating a boat under normal and abnormal conditions, what to do in various emergencies and weather conditions, nautical customs and common courtesies on the water. This course provides an introduction to the USPS educational program and a strong foundation for the other Advanced Grades courses listed on the reverse side of this handout.

**Piloting [P]:** Piloting introduces the fundamentals of piloting and positioning – the study of marine charts, aids to navigation, adjustment and use of the mariner's compass, dead reckoning, planning and plotting courses, and taking bearings to determine on-the- water position.

**Advanced Piloting [AP]:** Advanced Piloting builds on the knowledge gained in Piloting to teach how to navigate safely in coastal waters predict tides and tidal currents and their impact on boat position, advanced positioning techniques, and the use of electronic navigation systems for positioning and course planning.

**Junior Navigation [JN]:** Junior Navigation begins the study of offshore (open-ocean) navigation-integrated electronic positioning systems, sight taking with a mariner's sextant on the sun, moon, planets, and stars, how to reduce sights using the nautical almanac to determine position, and passage planning with special open ocean charts.

**Navigation [N]:** Navigation further develops the understanding of celestial navigation theory and the skills in sight taking and reduction-- additional sight reduction techniques and the orderly methods of carrying on the day's work of a navigator at sea. Of particular interest and importance is the study of offshore navigation using minimal data and/or equipment, such as when on a disabled vessel or lifeboat.

**Elective Courses:** Several elective courses are also available including Cruise Planning, Engine Maintenance, Instructor Development, Marine Electronics, Sail, and Weather. If you are interested in any of these elective courses – contact the Squadron Educational Officer.

## USPS University – Seminar Series

USPS University is here with new programs targeted to a range of boaters and types of boating. The hallmark of this concept is the *Seminar Series*. These short seminars are targeted to specific topics and needs, and include valuable take-away guides. Each seminar provides credits toward the *Boat Operator Certification* program, and credit toward elective courses.



These seminars are available now.

- **[Advanced Powerboat Handling](#)**
- **[Anchoring](#)**
- **[Basic Coastal Navigation](#)**
- **[Basic Weather and Forecasting](#)**
- **[Boat Handling under Power](#)**
- **[Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes](#)**
- **[Crossing Borders](#)**
- **[Emergencies on Board](#)**
- **[Fuel and Boating](#)**
- **[How to Use a Chart](#)**
- **[Hurricane Preparation for Boaters](#)**
- **[Knots, Bends and Hitches](#)**
- **[Man Overboard](#)**
- **[Marine RADAR](#)**
- **[Mariner's Compass](#)**
- **[Mastering the Rules of the Road](#)**
- **[Paddle Smart](#)**
- **[Partner in Command](#)**
- **[Practical On The Water Training](#)**
- **[Sail Trim and Rig Tuning](#)**
- **[Tides and Currents](#)**
- **[Trailing Your Boat](#)**
- **[Using GPS](#)**
- **[Using VHF & VHF/DSC Marine Radio](#)**

Several more seminars are nearing completion and will be available soon, such as *Knots for Mariners*, *Using Digital Charts*, and *Heavy Weather Sailing*.