

LGPS

SOUNDINGS

July - August 2012



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

Commander Message

By Cmdr. George K. Williams, AP

Hello fellow squadron members - I hope you are all enjoying the summer and keeping cool in this unusual heat. It is the perfect time to begin thinking ahead to fall - we should start to plan now before other things intrude. We should plan to take a course - how about Operations Training or something fun like Cruise Planning? The Squadron Annual Educational Meeting/Buffer dinner Rendezvous will once again be held at Mallozzi Restaurant on Wednesday, August 22nd at 5:30pm. P/C Donna, our Squadron Educational Officer will provide class information to all the attendees. Please reference the announcement in this issue of Soundings and mail your reservation in ASAP. We also should be thinking about what to do to help the squadron with your service - how about helping teach a course or serving on a committee (or even the Bridge)? And, we should always be seeking out new members - talk it up, invite a friend to one of our rendezvous events. P/C Canestraro while out rafted up this past weekend on the lake performing Vessel Safety Checks landed two new members for the Squadron. It's that easy, you too can bring in new members!

We have already begun the process! Our new website has been launched offering many opportunities to both the public and the membership to view current Lake George weather information, a photo gallery of past events, electronic issues of past LGPS newsletters and a "Ships Store" where assorted monogrammed LGPS items and burgees may be securely ordered. Our chart program is well in hand as well, the website makes it an easy "one-stop-secure" place for vendors of our charts to place chart orders on-line using the new re-design (see website preview inside this issue). Our instructors have been teaching summer boating courses on Lake George. Armand has delivered the three fire pedestals the Squadron has gifted to the Town of Bolton Landing a month ago and just received notification from Supervisor Connover that they have all been installed and look terrific. A dockside dedication ceremony has been scheduled for Thursday, August 16th at Rogers Memorial Park docks at 6:00PM. I hope to see you all in Bolton Landing that evening for the Fire Pedestal dedication and to enjoy a beverage and dinner together at a local in-town restaurant together after the ceremony. This will get-together will also serve as our August Bridge meeting. For those wishing to arrive by water, we are hopeful the Town of Bolton will reserve the docks for our attending membership (this has yet to be confirmed) as did Lake George Village at last year's dedication. Ample parking is available at the park.

In closing, how about it... lets *ALL* pull together, we can make this work if we *ALL* try. I suggest our motto for this fall season be "*Let's Do It*" - with your help, I know we can.

**LAKE GEORGE POWER SQUADRON
BRIDGE – EXECUTIVE MEETING
Thursday, August 16th, 2012
Bolton Landing – Immediately following
the 6pm fire pedestal dedication ceremony at the
public docks – Rogers Memorial Park
(see last page of newsletter for details)**

Squadron Website Re-design Completed

The Lake George Power Squadron website (WWW.LGPS.ORG) has been re-designed and is now live for your review. After nearly a year in the re-design and software coding, our new website offers something to both members and the public. A inside look will show you just how our Squadron lives by the motto - *"Boating is fun... we will show you how!"*.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Lake George Power Squadron website. At the top, the logo reads "Lake George Power Squadron" in a large, serif font, with "Sail and Power Boating" and "A unit of United States Power Squadron®" in smaller text to the right. In the top right corner, there are links for "view cart | checkout" and "my account". Below the logo is the motto *"Boating is fun - we will show you how!"* in a red, italicized font. A left-hand navigation menu lists: Home, About the Squadron, Squadron Officers, Meetings and Events, Membership, Lake George Charts, Ship's Store, Newsletters, Vessel Safety Check, Photo Gallery, and Contact Us. Below the menu is a weather widget for Lake George, NY, showing "At 10:11 AM EST", "Overcast", "70°F", and "N 8 MPH", with the URL "www.weatherforyou.com". The main content area features a large image of an American flag on a boat's deck, with a white wake in the water and mountains in the background. To the right of the image, the text reads: "Welcome to the Lake George Power Squadron's website! The Lake George Power Squadron is a member of the United States Power Squadron, a private, non-profit, non-governmental, non-military organization of men, women and families who share a common love of recreational boating both on Lake George and other area lakes and waterways. The Squadron conducts a variety of educational programs and courses that are open to the public. Our courses range from the 'America's Boating Course' and 'PWC Certification' for beginners to lectures and seminars on 'weather', 'cruise planning' and 'celestial navigation'. We appreciate your visit today to our website - we hope you will consider taking a course with us and becoming a Squadron member in the near future. *Boating is fun - we will show you how!*"

LGPS.ORG Homepage

With something for everyone, available are member features that include a "Ship's Store", "Past Newsletters" and a "Photo Gallery" to name a few. Lake George Chart vendors now enjoy secure, one-stop chart ordering and payment with next day delivery of their orders. The boating public can now learn about our meetings and events while the easy-to-use chart vendor locator will tell them where they can purchase our chart. Membership is easy too - using the available membership application form, potential members can now join with a few clicks of their mouse. We encourage you to go to the website and have a look around.

LG groups voice some concerns about boat wash station projects

By David Cederstrom
Chronicle Staff Writer

Following up on last week's interview with Lake George Park Commission executive director Dave Wick about the Commission's new boat washing station, The Chronicle sought the views of some of the other interested parties on Lake George. The Commission is now operating the boat washing station on a free and voluntary trial basis at the town boat launch in Hague as part of efforts to prevent invasive species from getting into the lake. Phil Farbaniec, board president of the not-for-profit Norowal Marina in Bolton, said it's not accurate that the board rejected the Park Commission's proposal to locate the boat washing station at Norowal. "For whatever reason, I don't think it ever got out of committee...I think the communications broke down, and we certainly would be happy to reestablish those communications with Dave [Wick]," Mr. Farbaniec said. "I would welcome the opportunity to have him sit down with our board." Mr. Wick said last week he hoped the washing station could be moved to Norowal in August, as well as spend time at the Mossy Point boat launch.

Norowal's concern: Liability

Mr. Farbaniec said Norowal's main concern is liability, as to whether the washing, using hot water, could damage the paint or engine impellers of boats if done improperly. Mr. Farbaniec added that Norowal policy gives the marina's management the authority to deny launching to any boat that they feel is contaminated by invasives. Bill Kendall, president of the Lake George Fishing Alliance, said, "We're okay with boat washing, we're okay with doing whatever has to be done, more or less, to keep the invasive species out of Lake George or being transported from one lake to another, [but] we're really against restricted access." Mr. Kendall pointed out that there are some 49 invasive species in Lake Champlain and more in the Hudson River, some for many years, but only four invasives in Lake George. He maintained that this indicates anglers are already doing a good job of cleaning their boats before launching in Lake George.

Fisherman's issue: After-hours access

Mr. Kendall said the Alliance, which he said has about 50 dues-paying members, is concerned because "there's been conversation of not permitting boats to enter the lake except when there's somebody to inspect the boat," and possibly locking the gates to ramps when there is no inspector. "That's a great concern to fishermen," some of whom fish year-round, at all hours, he said. Lake stewards won't be at ramps to inspect boats in the middle of the night or at 4 or 5 a.m., when some fishermen go out, he said. Hopefully, said Mr. Kendall, it won't come to that, but "I don't know that they've thought it through completely." He

(continued on next page)

said there has been some discussion with the Park Commission about following the lead of some states by instituting an angler certification program in which boaters could take an educational course about cleaning invasives off their boats and agree to follow the procedures, and then be exempt from inspection requirements. "That would be fine," but it doesn't solve the after-hours access problem if the gates are locked, Mr. Kendall said. "There's things to be discussed on that." He also expressed concerns about the cost of boat washing stations, which he said runs about \$200,000-\$250,000 each. Contacted for comment, Mr. Wick said that's the price range for the permanent stations out at Lake Tahoe. He said the temporary wash station the Park Commission is using costs \$20,000-\$25,000. Mr. Wick said the Commission was interviewing two consultant firms on Wednesday for the job of developing an invasive species strategic plan for Lake George over the next six months. Citing the cost of permanent wash stations, the Fishing Alliance's Mr. Kendall asks, "Who's going to pay for that? Is it going to be on the back of the angler, the sportsman?" He noted that fishing and hunting license fees support many wildlife conservation programs. The Alliance is involved in stocking salmon in the lake, and would lobby against stocking if access to the lake is restricted, Mr. Kendall said. "If we can't get access to it, we don't want our money spent to stock."

Squadron: Encompass all views

Armand Canestraro, executive officer of the Lake George Power Squadron boating organization, said, "As to the issue of 'boat washing stations' there clearly will be a need for more than the one wash site....These stations will need to be widespread at public and private boat launch sites along with educational materials as to why they are important." Mr. Canestraro said the Squadron "certainly supports the effort of the Warren County Board of Supervisors and, for that matter, any organization which promotes banning the introduction of invasive species into the pristine waters of Lake George." However, he said, "Additional restrictions being imposed will not be the solution....Education is the key to any program's success." Mr. Canestraro said the Squadron's primary concern, as an active leader in boater education, "is focused on the lack of boater education when it comes to invasive species and how not to aid in their spread." "The viewpoints of everyone involved, property owners, transient pleasure boaters and sportsmen who utilize this tremendous natural resource" need to be taken into consideration, Mr. Canestraro said.

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Northern New York's Leading Newspaper
Glens Falls, NY 12801

**AUGUST 22, 2012 – 5:30 PM
EDUCATIONAL MEETING – RENDEZVOUS**



Join the Lake George Power Squadron on Wednesday, August 22nd at 5:30 PM for a spectacular dinner buffet at Mallozzi's Restaurant located at 1930 Curry Road – Schenectady (Rotterdam). Don't miss this exciting outing - sign-up **NOW!** Mail your reservation and check payable to LGPS not later than **Wednesday, August 15th** to:

**Lake George Power Squadron
c/o P/C Armand Canestraro, P
1680 Gower Road
Glenville, NY 12302**

_____ Adult buffet dinner @ **\$26.00 per adult*** _____
Tickets Total remittance

_____ Child buffet dinner @ **\$20.00 per child*** _____
Tickets (children age 10 and younger) Total remittance

**RSVP required – THIS IS AN RSVP, PAID IN ADVANCE ONLY EVENT
NO WALK-INS WILL BE PERMITTED**

*** Listed price includes non-alcoholic beverages and gratuity.**

How About That Moon!

A Brief Explanation of the Moon Phases

The phases of the moon are caused by the relative positions of the earth, sun, and moon. The moon goes around the earth in 27.3 days, or 27 days 7 hours 43 minutes, on average. This measurement is relative to the stars and is called the sidereal period or orbital period. However, because of the earth's motion around the sun, a complete moon cycle (New Moon to New Moon) appears to earthbound observers to take a couple of days longer: 29.5305882 days to be exact. This number is called the synodic period or "lunation", and is relative to the sun.

The sun always illuminates the half of the moon facing the sun (except during lunar eclipses, when the moon passes through the earth's shadow). When the sun and moon are on opposite sides of the earth, the moon appears "full" to us, a bright, round disk. When the moon is between the earth and the sun, it appears dark, a "new" moon. In between, the moon's illuminated surface appears to grow (wax) to full, then decreases (waning) to the next new moon. The edge of the shadow (the terminator) is always curved, being an oblique view of a circle, giving the moon its familiar crescent shape.

(some of above information courtesy of NASA <http://liftoff.msfc.nasa.gov>)



FIRE PEDESTAL DEDICATION DATE SET THURSDAY, AUGUST 16th at 6:00PM

The dedication ceremony of this years Squadron gift of three Fire Extinguisher Pedestals has been scheduled for Thursday, August 16th at 6:00 PM at the Town of Bolton public docks. Rogers Memorial Park Beach is located in Bolton Landing along Route 9N (Main Street / Lakeshore Drive) about ten miles north of Lake George Village. The docks where the pedestals have been mounted are located at Rogers Memorial Park along the waterfront. Supervisor Connover will be joining our Squadron members to dedicate this invaluable gift of safety to the Town and the boating public that evening. Following the ceremony, we hope you will join us for a beverage and dinner together at an in-town restaurant. We have yet to confirm whether the public docks will be reserved for members wishing to arrive by boat. There is plenty of available parking both in town and at the park. If you are planning on attending, please contact Armand at 372-7220 so he may make a reservation to accommodate our group for dinner at Cate's Italian Garden Restaurant.