

LGPS

SOUNDINGS

March – April 2013



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

Dear Squadron Members,

Have you been embarrassed - not for yourself but for the company you keep or for a situation which was awkward and you are there, helplessly watching?

Let me tell you about a situation that I endured. We were tied up at the marina at Burton Islands on Lake Champlain and decided to walk around the island. When we reached the side of the island opposite the mainland there could be seen a well marked narrow channel through a rocky shoal. Before us was a beautiful expanse of open water with gorgeous scenery looking toward the opposite shore. The chart clearly warned of a rocky shoal jutting out from each shore. Suddenly a lovely cruiser, ignoring the channel markers headed straight for the shoal. I waved frantically to warn him off, but he just waved merrily back at us and into and over the rocks he went, accompanied by the sounds of metal and rock scraping against the hull. As he emerged from the other side of the rocks, the skipper was having trouble steering and was now at a much slower speed. He must have had some serious damage to the propeller, rudder or both. I also noticed, as he pulled away, he was flying a USPS past commanders flag. I was not so much embarrassed for him as for the entire USPS. After all, he was representing me as a Squadron member as well as every other member of the USPS.

Please remember when you fly the USPS ensign, you are representing the entire membership of the USPS and practice safe boating and set an example for all to see. Your behavior and actions behind the helm tells everyone who sees you and that ensign what the USPS is all about.

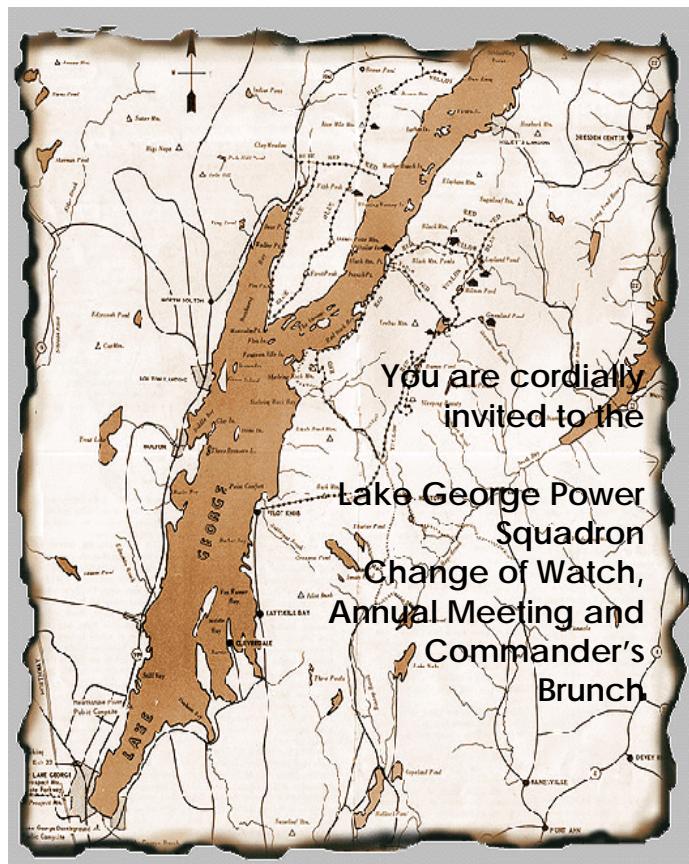
I look forward to seeing you all on April 21st at the Squadron Annual Meeting, Change of Watch and Commanders Brunch. This continues to be a **FREE** "Squadron Event" for all members. Guests are always invited to all our events and to attend this event is only \$30 per person. Come join us and share a terrific Edison Club buffet brunch, enjoyable conversation and meet new members and friends. What a terrific member benefit! Your invitation and RSVP instructions have been enclosed along with this issue of Soundings to save on postage costs – Please follow the directions on the invitation and RSVP with the form and your check not later than April 9th.

In closing - please become involved – no matter how small a commitment - This is **YOUR** Squadron. Until the next issue and Change of Watch – Stay Warm!

**Annual Meeting
Squadron Change of Watch
Commanders Brunch
April 21st 1:00PM
Edison Club – Edison Room
River Road – Rexford**

(See details and invitation to RSVP)

**LAKE GEORGE POWER
SQUADRON
BRIDGE – EXECUTIVE MEETING
Wednesday, May 15th, 2013
Route 50
Church of The Good Shepard
Burnt Hills
1830 Hours (6:30 PM)**



Buffet Brunch

Assorted Danish, Muffins, Bagels and Condiments

Fruit Salad, Tossed Salad, and Waffles with Strawberry Sauce
Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, and Home Fried Potatoes
Juices, Coffee and Teas

Baked Ziti Marinara and Stuffed Fillet of Sole

Dessert

Crispy Banana Crepes with Caramel Sauce & Vanilla Ice Cream

Join us for the Lake George Power Squadron Change of Watch, Annual Meeting and Commander's Brunch

on Sunday **April 21, 2013, 1 - 4 P.M.**
at the Edison Club
891 Riverview Road,
Rexford, NY

The Brunch is in honor of our LGPS members, so anyone with active LGPS membership status will be the Squadron's guest.

All guests and non-Lake George members will be asked to pay \$30.00 per person.

Please RSVP by completing the enclosed form and return it **not later than** Tuesday, April 9, 2013.

Sponsored by the Lake George Power Squadron

RSVP ~ LGPS Commander's Brunch/ COW/Annual Meeting

\$30.00 per LGPS Member To reserve your seat (this check will be returned to you the day of the event so please make this separate from guest checks.)

\$30.00 per Guest For all non LGPS Members / Guests

Member _____

LGPS Certificate #_____

Member _____

LGPS Certificate # _____

Non-member / Guest: _____

Non-member / Guest: _____

of Members _____

Amount in enclosed \$_____

of Non Members / Guest _____

Amount in enclosed \$_____

Makes checks payable to the *Lake George Power Squadron*
Mail RSVP card and check(s) by **April 9, 2013** to:

P/C Armand Canestraro, P
1680 Gower Road
Glenville, NY 12302
to reserve your seat

**Here are the answers to the last issues quiz on boat names...
How did you do?**

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1. Jolly Roger | 6. Fortuna | 11. Caine |
| 2. Pequod | 7. PT—73 | 12. USS Neptune |
| 3. Argo | 8. Ellen "B" | 13. Walrus and Eel |
| 4. Dawn Treader | 9. Enterprise | 14. Orca |
| 5. USS Tigerfish | 10. Tiki | 15. SS Poseidon |

Flashback... a look back to 1972-73 and our 25th year!



MEMBERS AND FAMILY
THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER

Safe Boating-PWC Class Scheduled April 20th

The Guan-Ho-Ha Fish and Game Club will again host a PWC and boating certification course. Learn the fundamentals of safe boat handling and operation in one comprehensive classroom course. This course meets state specific and National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) requirements for operator certification. The class which is offered in a single day and satisfies the NYS certification requirement for operators of Personal Water Craft and young boaters between the ages of 10 and 16. The class is open to everyone. Cost \$60 per person. Registration by calling Armand Canestraro at (518) 372-7220 prior to Friday, April 12th. **Class size is limited** – so call to reserve your seat today.

How Far Off is The Horizon?

Whenever we went "down the shore" to New Jersey, I would stand at the water's edge hoping I could see France. (Geography was not my favorite subject!) I never could see France from New Jersey, but often would see large ships on the horizon and wonder how far away they were. I didn't know at the time that there is a formula for figuring out just that.

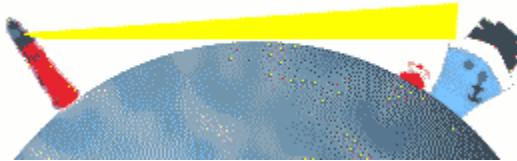
It's simple, really. If you want to know the distance to the horizon you simply have to know your height of eye. That is the distance that your eyes are off the surface of the water. If you're in a jon boat, that would probably be about three feet (if you are sitting like you should be in a jon boat). If you were standing at the water's edge, your height of eye is the distance from your eye to your feet. Once you know your height of eye you simply plug that into the following formula:

1.17 times the square root of your height of eye = Distance to the horizon in nautical miles

For example, let's say you are on the water in a friend's sport fishing boat and your height of eye is 9 feet above the surface of the water. The formula to calculate distance to the horizon is:

1.17 times the square root of 9 = Distance to the horizon in nautical miles.

$$1.17 * 3 = 3.51 \text{ nautical miles}$$



If you want to calculate the distance at which an object becomes visible, you must know your height of eye and the height of the object. You then do the same calculation for your distance to the horizon and the object's distance to the horizon and add the distances together. For example:

You have the same height of eye of 9 feet so your distance to the horizon is still 3.51 nautical miles. You're approaching a port that has a lighthouse that is shown on your chart to have a height of 81 feet. Using the same formula you would find that **1.17 times the square root of 81 ($1.17 * 9$) = 10.53 nautical miles (the lighthouse can be seen 10.53 nautical miles over the horizon)**

By adding the two together: **$3.51 + 10.53 = 14.04 \text{ nautical miles}$** , you should be able to see the lighthouse when you are 14.04 nautical miles away.

As you can see from the illustration, because of the curvature of the earth, the higher your height of eye the farther you can see, and vice versa.

Seminars to be held in Albany area

The following public USPS University Seminars are being offered in conjunction with ***The Brunswick Dealer Advantage Program***. Contact **Denise Terry** by e-mail at sacandaga@nycap.rr.com or telephone (518) 842-1102 for more information.

April 27, 2013 - Trailering Seminar at Yankee Boat Center, 2022 Central Avenue, Albany NY 12205 - Registration begins at 9:00am course runs 9:30-11:30am. Cost is \$65 non-member; \$35 member. Pre-registration encouraged.

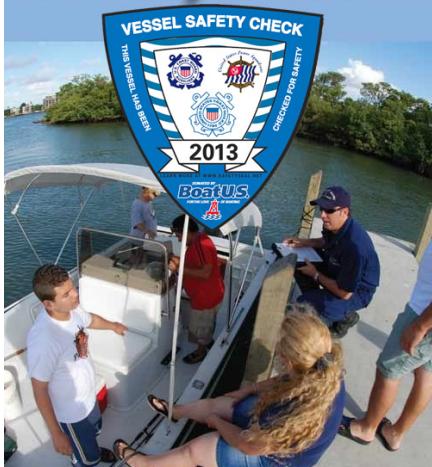
May 11, 2013 - Using GPS Seminar at Yankee Boat Center, 2022 Central Avenue, Albany NY 12205 - Registration begins at 9:00am course runs 9:30-11:30am. Cost is \$65 non-member; \$35 member. Pre-registration encouraged.

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Even Experienced Boaters Need a Vessel Safety Check

Even the most cautious boaters can sometimes experience unexpected

**Have you had
your Vessel
Safety Check?**



problems on the water. That's why the U.S. Coast Guard recommends that all recreational boaters, including personal watercraft and paddle sport users, take advantage of the free Vessel Safety Check program offered each year by the Lake George Power Squadron.

The courtesy Vessel Safety Check (VSC) is performed at your boat – whether in a slip, at the launch ramp, or in your driveway – by a certified Vessel Examiner, at a mutually-convenient time, and usually takes 30 to 45 minutes, depending upon the size of your boat.

Call Armand at (518) 372-7220 to arrange a time to conduct a 2013 Vessel Safety Check on your boat.