

LGPS

SOUNDINGS

November-December 2021



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

Commander Message

By Cmdr. David Hawthorne

I hope those of you who lay-up your vessels late in the season had an opportunity to view the Northeast's colorful foliage from the water. This season, I don't think it lasted as long as it has in other years. Everything depends on the weather, pleasure boating, especially!

We have submitted our eligible members to receive a Merit Marks for all their volunteer efforts to the Squadron during 2021 – see inside this edition for details. Also included in the issue is a copy of a message I recently received from National Headquarters where they reported on a survey of about 250 member attendees to the 2021 Governing Board meeting who got Covid-19. USPS National Medical Officer Gino Bottino MD compiled a very detailed list I thought might be an interesting “read” as it wasn't sent to all USPS members.

I'll end this message by wishing you and your families an enjoyable Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season. Stay warm and well and I'll message you again in January.

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

LAKE GEORGE POWER
SQUADRON
BRIDGE/EXECUTIVE
MEETINGS

**CANCELED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

Social distancing is the best way to stay safe.

SEA TOW



Now Hear This...

Squadron Members Earn 2021 Merit Marks

The Chief Commander awards annually a “merit mark” to a member for substantial effort in personally furthering the interests, programs and objectives of USPS, its districts and squadrons. It is a coveted award, and is by and large the only “official” recognition a member receives for his/her efforts. Only one merit mark may be awarded in a year, no matter how extensive the contribution. A certificate is issued and a special insignia may be worn on the USPS uniform. Active, additional active and family members are all eligible. The Squadron Commander based on actual personal service performed by an LGPS member has made a recommendation for a merit mark this year for each of the following LGPS members:

Armand Canestraro	Donna Canestraro	Max Gollmer
Don Puckett	David Stafford	John Wainwright
David Wilkinson	George Williams	Katie Williams

Winter Months Fast Approaching - Stay at Home Activity

Several elective courses are available at a nominal cost through headquarters for self-study including Cruise Planning, Engine Maintenance, Instructor Development, Marine Electronics, Sail, and Weather. If you are interested in any of these elective courses – contact Squadron Educational Officer P/C Donna Canestraro at (518) 372-7220 to arrange an order of the necessary textbooks.

2021 Fall Conference and Governing Board Meeting Post-Meeting COVID Survey Results Facts:

479 sent questionnaire - 245 respondents

21 Positive cases: Infection rate for meeting was 8.5%

16 had risk factors = 76% of the 21 positive cases

3 were *Hospitalized*; 14% of cases; 1% of attendees

5 had *No Symptoms*; 22%

2 people developed symptoms after a week and may not have contracted COVID at the meeting

Self-tested 60% (i.e. 60% did not see a doctor)

All were vaccinated. 46 % were vaccinated more than 6 months prior to the meeting

National positive rates that week ranged from 28 per 100 to 2 per 100; an average of about 16 per 100 people (16%).

So we are coming in about *half of the national average*.

North Carolina was at 10%

2021 Fall Conference and Governing Board Meeting Post-Meeting COVID-19 Analysis:

1. Our meeting doesn't qualify as a super spreader event.
(Cleveland Clinic's opinion is that a super spreader is 20% or more)
2. The rate of illness was less than what could have been expected for that area.
3. No one died
4. Only 1% of attendees needed hospitalization - and they were never in ICU
5. The majority of people had minimal symptoms as evidenced by most just self-testing
6. All of our members were vaccinated that took the survey
7. This shows that the vaccines did work and did their job as no one was very sick
 - a. This is despite 76% having risk factors.
 - b. 56% of cases were very high risk (more than 1 risk factor)
8. If you do not count the cases presenting after a week, the numbers are even better.
9. About half had been vaccinated over 6 months prior to coming.
10. No one had a booster shot. This could have halved the number of cases.

Overall COVID19 was not a significant medical factor for those that attended the meeting.

Report date: 04 October 2021 and submitted by Stf/C Gino Bottino, MD National Medical Officer

Nomination Committee

Shortly, the Squadron Nomination Committee will be seeking LGPS members interested in serving on the upcoming 2022-23 Bridge/Executive Committee. If you are interested, please call P/C George Williams at (518) 393-6414 to discuss your participation and interest.

New York National Boat Show – January 26–30, 2022

Show Dates:

Wednesday, January 26	12:00pm to 9:00pm
Thursday, January 27	12:00pm to 9:00pm
Friday, January 28	12:00pm to 9:00pm
Saturday, January 29	10:00am to 9:00pm
Sunday, January 30	10:00am to 6:00pm

Admission Prices:

Adults (16 and older): \$16.00
12 and younger: FREE when accompanied by an adult paid admission
Save \$2.00 with advance on-line ticket purchase

Location:

Jacob K. Javits Convention Center
655 West 34th Street, New York, NY 10001.
Main Entrance: Eleventh Avenue at 35th Street.
Telephone: 212- 216-2000

Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee has examined the financial records of the Lake George Power Squadron. In our opinion, they contain no substantive errors and fairly represent the overall financial position of the organization. Submitted by: P/C George Williams, AP; Lt. Charles Puckett, S; P/Lt/C David Strafford, AP

Cold Weather Boating Requires Caution and Preparation

Public Source: U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Affairs

WASHINGTON – While many boaters in colder parts of the country have winterized their boats or put them into storage until spring, many still use their vessels for hunting, fishing or transportation. Unfortunately, the risk of a deadly accident is increased with cold weather. Extra caution and preparation should be taken before heading out on the water in winter.

The importance of wearing a life jacket becomes even more critical when the danger for hypothermia is added to other concerns. Sudden immersion in cold water can have severe physiological consequences, including cardiac arrest, quick loss of body heat (the body loses heat 25 times faster in cold water than in cold air) and involuntary inhalation of water (gaspings) that results in drowning. Wearing a life jacket can keep the boaters head above water, keep the person warm, and provide a chance for rescue.

Wearing the right clothing also contributes to more enjoyable and safer cold weather boating. Consider layering clothing, and including a wet suit or dry suit, to help ward off hypothermia.

Here are some additional tips for safe winter boating:

- 1) Assess the risks – think what can go wrong and be fully equipped and prepared.
- 2) Leave a float plan with a responsible individual who knows your intentions, location, and who to call if you fail to return as scheduled.
- 3) Carry a VHF radio and an EPIRB (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon), signal flares and other means to draw attention to your location.
- 4) Be aware of and prepared for the shock of sudden immersion and incapacitating effects of cold water – dress to get wet and carry a change of clothing in a waterproof container.
- 5) Be aware of activity around your vessel and potential for fast-changing weather.
- 6) Boat safe and sober – save the alcohol for when you've safely returned.
- 7) Be sure your vessel is in good operating condition and has the necessary safety equipment on board before you leave the dock.
- 8) Refresh your seamanship skills - take a boating safety course offered by your local Coast Guard Auxiliary flotilla.