

LGPS

SOUNDINGS

July-August 2023



Commander Message

By George K. Williams, AP

I am proof of my life-long commitment to LGPS. This year I was honored by being presented at my home by D/C Susan Darcy a pin and plaque commemorating my achieving the 50th Merit Mark. With reaching such a milestone, I was granted USPS Governing Board Emeritus Status.

Consider getting involved - it only takes a few moments of your time. I know, everyone is busy and can't spare even a minute! A few moments of time spent helping to keep the Squadron and USPS alive and vibrant is not much to ask and certainly painless. Think about becoming active, even if it's just spreading the word about the Squadron. Tell people you are a member, let them know what collectively we do to keep our lakes, rivers and waterways safe through our educational programs and community involvement.

In closing, please enjoy the summer everyone, practice boating safety on the water and stay safe!

Commander Williams Presented with 50th Merit Mark Plaque



D/C Susan Darcy presented LGPS Commander George K. Williams, AP with his 50th Merit Mark plaque at his home on June 19th.



Now Hear This...

Our Condolences

The Lake George Power Squadron sadly reports the passing of lifetime member and Squadron Treasurer Max H. Gollmer who passed away on Saturday, June 10, 2023 after a brief illness. He and his wife Arlene were both active members of the Squadron for many-many years. Max served his country in the US Air Force and retired after 40-years of service with General Electric.



Rest in Peace Max!



The Lake George Power Squadron received notice from the family of Woman Certificate Holder, Sarah Jane Story, who passed away on Tuesday, July 4, 2022 (over a year ago) at age 90. Jane, as she was known to many of us, was a longtime member of the Lake George Power Squadron.

Rest in Peace Jane!

Chart Rolling Assistance Needed



Did you notice the empty chair in the photo to the left? What's missing in that picture? You are!

Volunteer and earn a USPS Merit Mark for 2023! The Squadron is in need of members interested in volunteering to roll our Squadron navigation charts. Volunteering and earning a merit mark doesn't get any better! Contact Armand at (518) 372-7220 for details on how you too can get involved.

Remember - we cannot supply our vendors if we don't have charts rolled and ready for sale.

Educational Opportunities Abound – Sign-up Today!

August usually brings about the annual Squadron Educational Meeting. Once again, due to COVID-19 and the variants again on the increase, we will remain safe and distanced by **NOT** meeting in person. For a list of the available courses visit the Squadron website or National USPS website and request course materials from the Squadron Educational Officer, SEO Donna S. Canestraro, S at (518) 372-7220.

THE BIG THREE

FOR A SAFE AND FUN BOATING EXPERIENCE...

BOAT SOBER.

Never boat under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or medication. Alcohol use is the leading contributing factor in fatal boating accidents.



WEAR A LIFE JACKET.

86% of people who drowned in a recreational boating accident were not wearing a life jacket. Always wear your life jacket!



TAKE A BOATING SAFETY COURSE.

In accidents where the operator's instruction was known, 70% of fatalities occurred on boats where the operator had not received any boating safety instruction.



Be Courteous To Others On The Water

Stay mindful of other boaters and swimmers, and keep a safe distance. Follow the directions posted on signs and observe the boating rules established by the local authorities or property owners. Keep your wake low when near other boats, swimmers, or the shore.

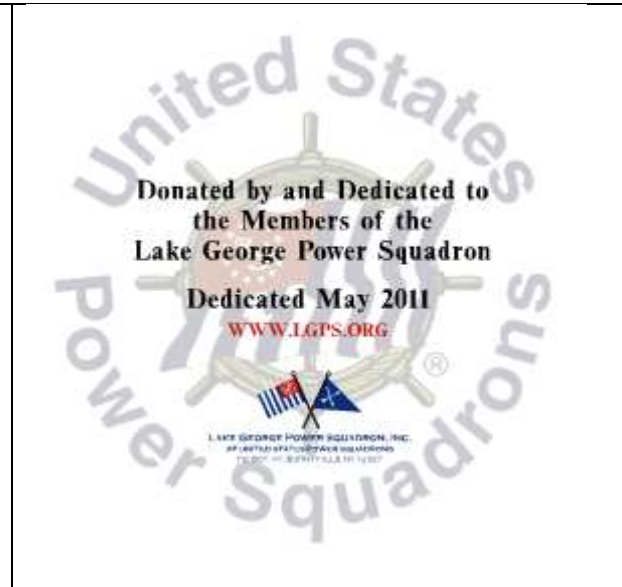
Know What to Do If Someone Goes Overboard.

If the boat capsizes or someone falls overboard, follow these boating safety tips:

- **Turn off the motor and propellers.** If someone is still on the boat, have them turn them off. If everyone has gone overboard and the motor or propellers are still on, your first priority should be to get everyone away from the boat.
- **Remain calm.** If you're wearing a life jacket, float without using too much energy and check to make sure everyone else is safe. If you're not wearing a life jacket, look for a life jacket or other floating safety device. Don't try to remove clothing or footwear. Air trapped in clothing can provide additional floatation. If you're wearing a life jacket, keep it on. Float on your back and paddle slowly and calmly to help others to safety.

Keeping these best practices in mind will make for a serene sail. Remember: safety first, relaxation second!

Lake George Village Fire Pedestals Removed



Think back to July 11th, 2011 when several members of the Lake George Power Squadron together with Lake George Village Mayor Blais and Village Board members gathered along the Beach Road in the Village of Lake George for a dedication ceremony. The Village of Lake George Public Works Department had just completed the installation of the Squadrons gift of 6 Dock-Boxes Ltd. Fire Pedestals in time for National Safe Boating week and the beginning of the summer boating season. Our initial donation was for 4 units, after a lengthy discussion with Mayor Blais, it was agreed 6 would be ordered and delivered by the Squadron to the Village. Our partnership was for the Village to provide all future upkeep and maintenance of the 6 donated fire pedestals and their contents.

In a recent trip to the Village, it was noticed that these 6 gifted fire pedestal donations were nowhere to be found. A telephone inquiry was made to the Mayor's office. We learned several days later from a return telephone call received from Denise Snyder, secretary to the Mayor, that all 6 pedestals, due to ongoing vandalism, and because most boats have fire extinguishers onboard, they "the village" did not feel the pedestals were no longer needed and ordered them all removed. We did not learn whether the decision to remove them came from the Mayor's Office, the Village Board or the Public Works Department. We received no indication as to the whereabouts of the units other than their being ordered removed by someone. What we do know - there had been no attempt to contact the Squadron prior to our call of the decision to remove them, after all, the attached plaque contained the Squadron website address. At a cost of nearly \$1,500 each, each donated pedestal came equipped with a 10-pound ABC extinguisher, an alarm strobe light and siren that was hard wired at the concrete lake-wall to assist in thwarting vandalism. Affixed to each in recognition of the Squadron gift was a weather resistant plaque honoring the ongoing dedication of Squadron members of keeping the lake and the boating public safe. While the Village public docks sustained significant damage during Hurricane Irene, the 6 pedestal donations stood strong and unaffected – so we are unsure of what effect vandalism played as these were powder coated stainless steel units, each anchor bolted into the concrete. What has been done, has been done – but where are these pedestal units now? Perhaps a call to voice your dismay to the Mayor's Office at (518) 668-5771 (press 0) as a Squadron member cannot hurt.