

LGPS SOUNDINGS

November-December 2015



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

Commander Message

By Cmdr. Armand Canestraro, P

You must agree that was certainly one quick summer and fall season! As I sit and prepare this message the outdoor weather is sunny and the temperature just hit 70 degrees here in Glenville... Boy, what a perfect day to be out on the water I thought. Now that the boating season has come to a close, our vessels all covered and stored for the winter, our focus turns to winter projects. Suggestion – have you thought of a USPS course to refresh your skills and perhaps re-learn something you may have forgotten over the years? As we all know, USPS has many educational offerings available to our members and non-members alike. Perhaps re-taking the beginning boating course as a refresher with a neighborhood boater may also turn into an excellent recruiting effort for new memberships!

Some of the items in this issue that may be of interest include the official announcement of the Tri-Squadron Christmas (holiday) party hosted by Mohawk-Hudson; the Adirondack chill while enjoying the annual Shoreline Frostbite Cruise on Lake George New Year's Day; the draw of new boats and accessories at the annual New York National Boat show in New York City.

I trust everyone had an enjoyable and safe boating season and together with Donna, we wish each of you a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving and Christmas season. Hope to see you all soon!

WANTED

**Your help in serving on the
2015-16 Squadron Bridge!
Open positions are**

Administrative Officer

Member-at-Large

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

**Wednesday, November 18th
to be held at the
home of P/C George Williams 715
John Paul Court - Niskayuna
6:30pm**

**NO DECEMBER
MEETING**

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.

New York National Boat Show – January 6–10, 2016

Wednesday, January 6	12:00pm to 9:00pm
Thursday, January 7	12:00pm to 9:00pm
Friday, January 8	12:00pm to 9:00pm
Saturday, January 9	10:00am to 9:00pm
Sunday, January 10	10:00am to 5:00pm

Admission Prices:

Adults (16 and older): \$16.00
15 and younger: FREE when accompanied by an adult
Tickets go on sale on-line November 14th

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

Boating Simulator at NYC Boat Show

Test your Boating Skills at the USPS Booth

Take the helm of a virtual boat to practice basic boating maneuvers and improve your boating skills—without leaving dry land. The United States Power Squadrons® new Boating Skills Virtual Trainer (BSVT) makes learning fun! It features a steering wheel and a real Mercury throttle you use to “drive” a console boat on a lake with other powerboats, sailboats, navigation aids and a marina.

Training options include close quarters maneuvering, docking and more. Instructors can adjust current and wind direction and velocity, and day/night settings to vary the degree of difficulty and challenge you whatever your skill level.

Tri-Squadron Holiday Party

Come join fellow Squadron members and make new friends – Sunday, December 13th from 11am-2pm – Vista Restaurant at the Van Patten Golf Course – 924 Main Street – Jonesville. Cost - \$28 per person. Optional grab bag - bring a generic gift (must be wrapped) valued between \$10-20. RSVP - please send an e-mail to Lt/C Janice A. Bell, AP at jbelle10@nycap.rr.com or call 518-235-5911 before December 7th. Please mail your payment to Janice Bell - 371 Lansing Ave., Troy, NY 12182 – All checks to be made out to MHSPS.

Congratulations P/C George K. Williams, AP 50 Years with LGPS

Lake George Power Squadron member, George K. Williams, AP was honored at the recent District 2 fall conference held in Fishkill, NY. George achieved 50 years of membership with Lake George this past year and was presented a 50-year plaque to commemorate his accomplishment. Pictured to the right is George proudly displaying his 50-year plaque together with his wife Elizabeth and D/C Gino Bottino.



Photo courtesy of P/D/C Martin E. Feldberg, AP



FROSTBITE CRUISE

Start the year out right with a cool cruise on beautiful Lake George with delicious food & drinks, live entertainment, great friends and a spectacular setting that are sure to make this a New Year's you'll never forget. Cruises will be departing at: Noon & 2:30pm - \$40.00 per person – tickets available online at <http://lakegeorghoreline.com/cruises/tickets/>

Cold Weather Boating Requires Caution and Preparation

Source: U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Public 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.