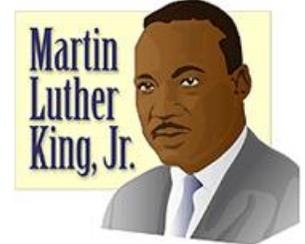




Susquenago Sail & Power Squadron

# SeaChest

Monthly Publication



January 16, 2017

January 2017

Volume 62 Issue 01

District 6

**18 January 2017**

**General Membership Meeting  
&**

**All You Can Eat  
Pizza, Wings and Salad  
Coffee, Tea and Soft Drinks  
\$13.00 Inc. tax & tip**

**Brothers 2  
Endwell, NY**

**6:00 Pm Dinner  
7:00 PM Meeting**



**Change of Watch**

**Reserve this date  
11 March 2017**

**More details to follow in  
later issues.**

## Merit Mark Recipients for 2016

A merit mark is awarded by the Chief Commander to a member for substantial effort in personally furthering the interests, programs and objectives of USPS, its districts and squadrons. It is the only official recognition a member receives for his/her efforts. Only one merit mark per member may be awarded in a year, no matter how extensive the contribution.

Recommendation for a merit mark is made by one's superiors. A member who earns 25 merit marks is awarded lifetime membership without the need to pay membership dues.

This year's merit mark recipients are:

Bieber, Ron  
Bieber, Nancy  
Boll, Ken  
Daniels, David  
Daniels, Linda  
Gould, Donna  
Gould, Bob  
Herrick, William  
Herz, Carol  
Kucharek, Bob  
Kucharek, Mary  
Lenzo, Denise

**Thank You  
for your  
efforts**

Lenzo, Tony  
Oakley, Karl  
Oakley, Vonda  
Olds, Dave  
Olds, Missy  
Park, Justin  
Rought, Linda  
Smith, Anna  
Smith, Les  
Young, Katie  
Young, Jack

**Brain-Storming Session on new member recruitment  
at December meeting**



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<b>Commander</b> .....	Cdr David L. Olds, AP	(669-4482)	P/Lt/C Donna M. Gould	(258-0023)
<b>Executive Officer</b> .....	P/C Michael Acciai, AP	(296-3482)	P/Lt/C Kenneth W. Boll, P	(757-0072)
<b>Education Officer</b> ....	Lt/C Leslie J. Smith, AP	(797-7391)	D/Lt/C Nancy Bieber, P	(775-4952)
<b>Adm. Officer</b> .....	Lt/C Linda G. Rought, P	(687-3506)	P/Lt/C Anna M. Smith, S	(707-7391)
<b>Secretary</b> .....	Lt/C Mary Kucharek, P	(722-5136)	<b>Editor</b>	P/D/Lt/C John J. Young, AP
<b>Treasurer</b> .....	P/D/Lt/C John J. Young, AP	(729-4205)	<b>Assistant Editor</b>	Lt Karl W. Oakley, P
<b>Executive Comm.</b>	Lt Karl W. Oakley, P	(775-0950)	<b>Business Manager</b>	Lt Vonda Oakley
	Lt Ronald Bieber, S,	(775-4952)	<b>Staff</b>	Lt Catherine E. Young, S
	P/C Robert E. Gould, AP	(258-0023)		P/Lt/C Donna M. Gould
	D/C William A. Herrick, JN	(723-4818)		(278-0023)
	P/C Anthony J. Lenzo, P	(754-0975)		

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Address communications to **The Editor, 8 Schiller St. Binghamton, NY 13905-3931, (607)729-4205, e-mail - jyoung6@stny.rr.com.** Material for a particular issue must be received before the fifteenth day of the prior month.

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## Commander's Column

As we greet the New Year, I am excited with how our squadron is looking for the future. A year ago I was not so optimistic, but our situation has improved dramatically. The Squadron is fortunate to have gained some new members with the potential for more this year. The Nominating Committee has been very active and has nearly finished, with only the Secretary's position left to fill. I expect we will have a full Bridge, something we have not had in the last several years.

On 14 December, we had a special Past Commanders get-together to share thoughts and ideas that could help move our squadron forward. Nine people attended and we discussed our Squadron's outlook, goals, education programs, increasing

membership, squadron promotion, Bridge and Executive Committee status. It was a very productive meeting. From that, it was suggested we continue our 'increasing membership' part of the session with the members attending the following week's executive meeting. We need membership input because we likely will be committing squadron resources in order to accomplish our goals. We need everyone in the boat and pulling on the oars to move us forward.

The results of that exercise were very positive in identifying four primary areas of focus: 1) Promoting our Squadron through regional marine dealers and marinas by offering boating education and reduced membership cost to new/used boat buyers. 2) Forming a Squadron Speakers Bureau to bring awareness of our education programs and mission by offering to speak to other groups in our community. 3) Increase our exposure by offering evening classes or seminars through BOCES or BCC which would receive wide-reaching promotion through their catalog listings. 4) Expand the use of Social Media and other low-cost outlets to advertise our Squadron's membership benefits.

Our next step, in the coming weeks, will be to organize the necessary committees to bring these great ideas to fruition.

I think it's outstanding how we can have such a successful squadron, despite not being on a lake or major body of water that is typically necessary to attract USPS members. It's also to our credit that we have devoted and dedicated members who all work together so well to accomplish our mission.

Please join us on 18 January 2017 for our next Membership Meeting and Pizza & Wings Dinner at Brothers 2, Endwell, NY

I wish you all a very happy, healthy and safe New Year.

**Dave**  
Cdr David Olds, AP



## On the Horizon Susquenago Events

18 January Dinner 6:00 PM Meeting 7:00 PM	General Membership Meeting Pizza, Salad & Wings Brothers 2 Endwell, NY
11 March	Change of Watch Jonathan's Endwell, NY

## Highlights of the 21 December 2016 Executive Meeting

**Commander David Olds, AP**, called the meeting to order at 1905 p.m.

**Lt/C Mary Kucharek, P**, reported that there was a quorum present. The minutes from the 16 November 2016 meeting were accepted as distributed.

**P/D/Lt/C Jack Young, AP**, reviewed the Treasurer's Report which was accepted as presented.

**P/C Michael Acciai, AP**, suggested that we invite political leaders from our area to a meeting to present to them an overview of USPS and explain the importance of boating education. He also recommended that we present to the BOCES Board the possibility of setting up an adult (and or student) course.

**Lt/C Linda Rought, P**, thanked all who helped to make the Holiday Party a success: Linda Daniels for the decorations, Ron Bieber for the idea of a homemade ornament and Dave & Missy Olds for the games.

**Lt/C Ann Smith, S**, reported that she is working on PR for the upcoming ABC classes, updating flyers and posters.

**P/C Bob Gould, AP**, reported that membership remains at 65.

**P/D/Lt/C John Young, AP**, - reported that all is well with the SeaChest and he can always use articles. Cdr Dave said that since he posted the SeaChest on our Facebook page the number of viewers has doubled.

**Lt Linda Rought, P**, reported that the next meeting will be 18 January 2017 at Brother's II with pizza and wings being served. Please call Linda Rought (607-687-3506) for reservations.

**Lt/C Nancy Bieber, P**, reported that there are no events planned at this time. She will put in an order for Squadron shirts soon. If interested, contact Nancy.

**P/C David Daniels, SN**, reported that the Nominating Committee has filled all Bridge positions except Secretary.

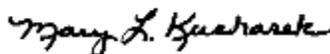
**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Commander's Comments:** Please see 'Commanders Column' on page 2

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.** Motion: Lt/C Nancy Bieber, P, seconded by Linda Rought, S.

Respectfully submitted,



Lt/C Mary L. Kucharek, P, Secretary



### Keep Those Batteries Charged

Funny thing about wet cell batteries—when they are discharged the sulpheric acid separates from the water and the water can freeze and crack the battery case.

So what does that mean to you? Well, if you're storing your boat in an unheated area and your battery discharges over time it can freeze when the temperatures fall below freezing. Oh! I forgot to mention, batteries will discharge to the air even without a load.

I know not everyone can get to their boat in the winter, but if you can, a few hours of charge will help keep the battery from freezing.

It is always good practice to store your boat with fully charged batteries.

### Susquenago Sail & Power Squadron Winter 2017 Class Schedule

Course	Start Date	Number of Sessions	Person Responsible/Phone
<b>ABC<sup>3</sup> Public Safe Boating</b> Must attend all sessions	27 February 6:30 to 9:00 PM 1st Night 7 to 9 PM Successive Nights	5 Successive Monday nights Last night is final exam	Les Smith 797-7391 Ken Boll 757-0072
<b>ABC<sup>3</sup> Public Safe Boating</b> Must attend all sessions	24 April 7 to 9 PM 29 April 8 AM to 4 PM 01 May 7 to 9 PM	Monday Saturday Monday (Final Exam)	Les Smith 797-7391 Ken Boll 757-0072

**All classes are held at the Johnson City High School Main Cafeteria**

### A Thank You from the SeaChest Staff

The Staff of the SeaChest wishes to thank all those who extended Holiday Greetings to fellow members by placing their names on the cover or on cards within the Holiday issue. Thanks to your generosity the Squadron will be able to continue publishing the SeaChest.

The SeaChest is a self-supporting activity. Financial needs are met by donations, fund-raising activities and sponsors, whose business ads are published in each issue. Please remember to support our sponsors and mention seeing their ad in our SeaChest.

A special 'Thank You' to Ken and Laurie Boll for their generous gift to the SeaChest.

### Be Careful Who You Allow to Drive Your Boat

A Tonawanda man was convicted of criminally negligent homicide stemming from a boating accident that took the life of a teenage girl last year.

He owned a boat that he allowed a 17-year-teenager to drive. The teenager was high on drugs and alcohol and drove at a high rate of speed. A teenage girl passenger stood up and was struck in the head by a footbridge. She later died.

The boat driver pleaded guilty to criminally negligent homicide and vehicular manslaughter.

**Please note that the boat owner was not driving the boat, yet was found guilty of a serious crime.**



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### Best Wishes

Our good friend and long-time member Dr. Richard Hobart is recuperating from an illness at the Good Shephard Fairview Home

Please extend your wishes for a speedy recovery to Dr. Hobart at:

Good Shephard Fairview Home  
89 Fairview Ave.  
Binghamton, NY 13904.

I'm sure he will be happy to hear from you.

### Nominations Thank You

Our nominating committee did a great job filling our bridge. Except for a Secretary we have a full slate of officers for our next bridge year.

Thank you to all the squadron members who have volunteered to serve. Without your generosity of effort we could not continue as a robust Squadron.

There are always additional positions, especially secretary, that need filling, so don't feel left out. Contact Lt/C Les Smith at 607/797-7391 (lsmith84@stny.rr.com) and tell him you want to help out the squadron. Les will be happy to tell you what positions are still open and discuss the position requirements.

Our squadron provides a valuable service to our community. Be part of our team. Volunteer. It's the popular American way to be of service.

### Good Grief!

I decided to change calling the bathroom the John and renamed it the Jim. I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.



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*2016 Christmas Party at the Red Roof Inn, Owego, NY*



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