



Susquenango Sail & Power Squadron



SeaChest

Monthly Publication



Happy
Father's
Day

June 18, 2017

June 2017

Volume 62 Issue 06

District 6



Executive Meeting

(all welcome)

and

Education Recognition

and

Merit Mark Appreciation Picnic



21 June 2017

6:00 PM

Grippen Park (on South Grippen Avenue), Endicott, NY
(free park admission)

The Squadron provides hamburgers, hotdogs and rolls.
Bring your favorite dish to pass and your own beverages. Bring your own place settings if you wish.

Bridge members provide the dessert.

Cost: \$3.00 per person

The \$3.00 is waived for members who took, taught, lectured or proctored a course
Or received a merit mark.

Please coordinate with Linda Rought, 607-760-6388 , what you are bringing to assure a complete menu.

Reservations required by 16 June
Linda Rought—607-760-6388

Wine and Cheese Trail



Save the date of October 21st for our wine and cheese trail trip along Cayuga Lake. Details to follow in an upcoming issue of the newsletter.



On the Horizon Susquenango Events

21 June
6:00 PM

Executive Mtg., Education
and Mark Picnic
Grippen Park
Endicott, NY

25 - 27 August

Susquenango Rendezvous
Alexandria Bay
Alexandria Bay ,NY

District Events

15 July

District Rendezvous
Kingston, Ontario Canada

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SeaChest



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Visit our web site at Susquenango.org

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Education Officer.....	Lt/C Leslie J. Smith, AP	(797-7391)		P/C David Olds, AP	(669-4482)
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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

Wow, our May General Membership meeting was great. We had twenty-seven in attendance for the chicken BBQ and meeting. All the table spaces were occupied and abuzz with conversation and fellowship. The meeting part went very well with lots of activity in the works by our Bridge and Committee members. You can see all that is happening by checking out the Meeting Minutes and the On the Horizon sections of the SeaChest.

One of the best parts of being Commander is the pleasure of giving out awards and recognition to our members and there were many awards to give this month. I was so happy to give Linda Daniels her award for earning 25 merit marks, which is no small task. Linda is always there to help with our meeting venues, setting up tables, making centerpieces, and donating crafts that make our meeting as nice as possible.

Congratulations Linda. Another twenty-five year award was given to Richard "Dick" Leavenworth. Dick came to the meeting per invitation by P/C Dave Olds and it was a pleasure to meet him. He has spent his time on the water using the knowledge he has obtained from his membership courses and has passed it on to others by helping them out on Oneida Lake. Congratulations Dick.

The 2016 Distinctive Communicator Award was given to P/D/Lt/C John Young and the Sea Chest staff as well as to P/C Dave Olds for the Squadron Website. P/C Dave was acknowledged for his 2016 D/6 Commanders Achievement Award to the delight of those Susquenago members present at the meeting.

We recently added four new members to the Squadron. They are Don Cook, Kim Cook, Nathan Shultz, and James Wolf and all took the last ABC boating course, joined the Squadron and are currently enrolled in the next Seamanship course being held soon. I want to welcome them to the Squadron and invite them and their families to join us at our 21 June Education Recognition & Merit Mark Picnic at Grippen Park in Endicott. This puts our membership at 69 and keeps us in good health as an organization.

On the educational front, SEO Les Smith, AP, has registered a JN class, with P/R/C Dave Daniels, SN, to instruct. P/D/C Bill Herrick, JN, is giving the AP course to two members and I plan on offering the Marine Electronics course this fall for any members interested.

I want to thank every one who offered best wishes and prayers for Peg. Her knee replacement surgery went very well and she is now doing her Physical Therapy and recovering well. Thank you again.

I heard a comment at our meeting which made me wonder. This member doesn't attend meetings very much and said "I don't have a fancy boat like most of the Squadron members". I hope something like this isn't what is holding our members back from attending our meetings and functions. Our Squadron runs the gamut of different boats from cruisers, party and pontoon boats to open bow day boats and small fishing boats plying the water on the Susquehanna River. A number of our members don't even have boats. Remember, it's not the size of the boat you float, but that you're floating a boat, any kind of boat that gives you experience and knowledge to share with all of us.

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In closing I want to wish everyone a safe and happy Memorial Day weekend. Enjoy your boats, your camps, your family and friends and I hope to see you at our next meeting on 21 June. Until we meet again, God Bless,
Cdr Mike

Highlights of the 17 May General Membership Meeting

Commander Michael Acciai, AP, called the meeting to order at 1901.

Lt Missy Olds, S, - distributed the minutes from the previous 11 March 2017 COW and 19 April 2017 meetings and they were accepted as submitted.

D/Lt/C Nancy Bieber, P, - distributed the Treasurer's Report which was accepted as presented.

Lt/C Mary Kucharek, P, - at Cdr Acciai's request Mary Kucharek contacted Senator Fred Akshar and asked him to speak at a future squadron meeting. Senator Akshar's office reported that he would not be available because the NYS Senate would be in session. Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo was contacted, but she has not yet replied.

Mary Kucharek and Vonda Oakley attended a meeting for the *Boscov's Friends Helping Friends* event. The meeting was very successful and the event is still planned for 17 October 2017. Coupons are available now from Mary or Vonda.

Lt/C Linda Rought, P, thanked Mary Kucharek for providing brownies for dessert at the chicken BBQ dinner.

Lt/C Les Smith, AP, reported that the Spring ABC classes have finished and eight people passed. Four are now set to take Seamanship. Four new members were obtained from the courses this spring. Two AP students are scheduled to take the exam after Memorial Day. P/C Dave Daniels has tentatively offered to teach JN this year.

Lt/C Ann Smith, S, reported arrangements were made for a table at Dick's Vestal store on Sunday, 21 May, in coordination with their annual boat sale and *Safe Boating Week*. The purpose is to bring public awareness of our Squadron and programs to their customers by handing out brochures and offering Vessel Safety Checks. Contact Ann if you are interested in helping at the table.

Membership: P/C David Olds, AP, reported that membership is at 65 people. Four new membership applications were received by Les & Ann Smith from people joining after completing the ABC course and wanting to take the Seamanship course.

P/D/Lt/C John Young, AP, thanked members for submitting articles for publication in the SeaChest

P/C Tony Lenzo, P, reported that one VSC was done and another is pending.

Lt Linda Rought, P, reported that the next meeting will be the Education Recognition-Merit/Mark Picnic on 21 June 2017 at Grippen Park, Endicott, NY, at 6:00PM. Details are on the front cover.

D/Lt/C Nancy Bieber, P, has free tickets available to Binghamton Rumble Ponies baseball game on 27 July. Contact Donna Gould if interested. (Thank you Donna and Sarafini/Nisan.) A Syracuse/D-6 booth, promoting USPS and safe boating programs, is being considered at the NYS State Fair. Our squadron has been invited to participate.

Nancy presented Information on the D/6 Summer Rendezvous. Full details will be in the Deep 6 newsletter. An Erie Canal trip is being considered for September.

Rendezvous Committee: Linda Rought reported that our Squadron rendezvous date needed to be changed from late Sept to 25-27 August due to the marriage of the Commander's daughter. There is no formal rendezvous committee; however, there are several members willing to help. Linda will act as committee chairperson for now.

Marina Outreach Committee: Chairman P/C Dave Olds stated the project is now underway and has visited several marine dealers. The program is well accepted by the dealers. There were two requests for a Vessel Safety Check program to be run at the dealer's location. The committee will be meet again soon to work on the next steps of the program.

Speakers Bureau Committee: Cdr Acciai reported that he talked with R/C Paul Mermelstein, SN-IN, the National representative at the D/6 Spring Conference,. He stated he picked up a lot of information on how to prepare our Speaker Bureau presentation, and marketing our Squadron in general.

Cdr Acciai, AP, presented the following awards and acknowledgements:

Lt Linda Daniels – Life Member - 25 Merit Mark Award.

Richard Leavenworth – 25 year membership Pin and Certificate of Appreciation

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Cdr Acciai read an excerpt of an email note from Richard expressing his appreciation of the knowledge he had gained from the USPS courses, and the help he was able to render to fellow boaters as a result of what he had learned.

Cdr Acciai read the names of all the members receiving their 25 Year Membership Award: Daniel Sargent, Richard Leavenworth, John Fletcher and Catherine Young. Those not present will have the award delivered or mailed to them.

2016 Distinctive Communicator Award given to P/D/Lt/C John Young, AP and to the SeaChest Staff

2016 Distinctive Communicator Award for Squadron Website to P/C Dave Olds, AP

2016 D/6 Commander of the Year Award - Plaque and Trophy to P/C David Olds, AP, awarded at 2017 Spring Conference P/C Olds thanked all those who contributed to the letter writing campaign that led to his nomination for this award.

USPS Educational Fund Certificate of Merit (23rd Award)

Thank you notes were received from the family of Richard Hobart and from Good Shepard Communities for our donation in his name.

Commander's Comments: Cdr Acciai thanked all for coming and was gratified by the large attendance. He said the D-6 Spring Conference and COW was a great success. The venue was nice, the programs were excellent and the membership meetings were informative and interesting. Many Squadron issues were aired to our national representative R/C Paul Mermelstein, SN-IN. His input on remaking and marketing the USPS were to the point. The COW dinner was enjoyable and our new Bridge is dedicated to our continued success. Check out the Deep Six publication on our website.

P/C Olds showed a short PowerPoint and video presentation presented at Spring Conference from our Chief Commander on the State of USPS.

Respectfully submitted, *Margaret E. Olds* Lt Margaret E. Olds, S, Asst. Secretary

The following article was received from USPS national.

**United States Coast Guard Headquarters
Inspections and Compliance Directorate
Washington, DC
May 12, 2017
Safety Alert 04-17**

**Whether at Work or at Play Remember it's a Shared Waterway.
Know the Navigation Rules and enjoy your day!**

This Safety Alert reminds all operators of power-driven, sail, and human propelled vessels of the importance of maintaining a sharp look-out while on a shared waterway and recommends that all recreational boaters carry a DSC-VHF marine radio in order to communicate with other vessels.

Recently a catamaran type passenger ferry collided with a group of kayakers on a busy metropolitan waterway. The incident occurred during late afternoon while the sun was low on the horizon with an angle of about 15 degrees and the ferry was heading westerly into the sun's glare. The ferry had just begun its voyage and was operating at about 20 knots across the waterway while a group of kayakers was ahead of the ferry and heading south. The low angle of the sun created significant glare on the water, obstructing the ferry operator's view of the kayakers who were within the reflected light. The kayakers did not have a DSC-VHF marine radio with them and they were unable to hail the ferry. The ferry subsequently collided with multiple kayaks resulting in two serious injuries.

It is critical that all mariners, including recreational boaters, have a good working knowledge of the Navigation Rules before venturing out into a shared waterway. Commercial and recreational vessel operators need to know their responsibilities including the Steering and Sailing Rules, Conduct of Vessels in Sight of One Another, and Conduct of Vessels in Restricted Visibility. They also need to recognize the nautical lights and shapes and understand the sound and light signals that may be encountered in order to take appropriate actions to prevent collisions.

It is also critical that recreational boaters are able to communicate with all other vessels. If unsure of another vessel's intentions boaters need the ability to contact the other vessel on the radio in order to indicate their location and ask such questions as "Do you see me?" and "What are your intentions?"

For more information on navigation rules and maritime communications please visit the USCG Navigation Center Website.

Operators of marinas and rental facilities are encouraged to develop guidelines for safety briefings, required safety equipment and for outfitting guides and renters with maritime communication devices.

For more information please visit RentalBoatSafety.com.

There are many safety topics important to paddle-sport enthusiasts. Depending upon where you plan to paddle, the required skill sets may be minimal or they can be highly technical in nature. Persons new to paddle-sports will benefit from taking a paddle-sports safety course and the knowledge gained will increase their enjoyment on the water. An example of a free online course is located at boaterexam.com. Training is also available from the American Canoe Association (ACA) and United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The Coast Guard strongly recommends that all paddle-sport enthusiasts participate in boating safety education as well as taking paddle-craft specific skills training. Additionally, the following best practices should be considered every time before going out on the water:

- Always wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket
- Make yourself be seen (bright / contrasting clothing)
- Carry a sound producing device such as a whistle
- Carry a DCS-VHF radio
- Know your paddling limits
- Know the area where you will be operating
- Avoid paddling in main channels of busy waterways when possible
- Dress appropriately for the water temperature and forecasted weather
- Don't paddle alone
- Tell a friend where you are going and when you will return - file a float plan.
- If you plan to be out after dark, you will be required to exhibit an all round light or have a flashlight readily available
- Don't drink alcohol and operate a boat or paddle-craft.

The free Coast Guard Mobile App includes many resources including a function to file a float plan.

Online information on Shared Waterways is available at TheSafeHarbors.us

This Safety Alert is provided for informational purposes only and does not relieve any domestic or international safety, operational or material requirement. Developed by the Office of Boating Safety and distributed by the Office of Investigations and Casualty Analysis, Washington DC. Questions may be sent to HQS-PF-fldr-CG-INV@uscg.mil.

Watch for these upcoming Squadron events.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game

27 July 2017

How lucky we are to live in such a progressive community. With our sporting events, entertainment locals and events and cultural contributions from the university we are blessed indeed.

Hey, now it's baseball season so we're calling all Rumble Ponies. Even if you're not an ardent fan, come enjoy a night of baseball with your squadron friends. Thanks to Donna Gould (and Sarafini/Nisan) for getting us tickets for the July 27th game, which is also a "Thirsty Thursday." Let Donna know by June 7th if you would like to attend and she will bring your tickets to the June picnic meeting. Contact Donna at 607/258-0023 or dgould63@stny.rr.com

Submitted by Nancy Bieber



New York State Fair

25 August - 4 September 2017

We have been invited to work at a United States Power Squadron booth at the New York State Fair that features several tents filled with boat displays. If you can you work a two, three, or four-hour shift you will receive free admission to the fair with special on-site parking. You can choose any date that works for you from 23 August to 4 September.

Check the fair's website at nysfair.ny.gov for the schedule of entertainment, activities, and competitions to help you decide which date you would like to work. A convenient time would be Friday, 25 August or Sunday 27 August on your way to or from Susquenango's rendezvous. What a great way to get our name before the public and show our offerings of upcoming courses.

Let me know if you are interested and I will make the arrangements. My home phone is disconnected for the summer, but you can reach me at 518-813-7888 or by e-mail at nancybieber@twc.com. Hope to see you there.





Susquenago Rendezvous

25-27 August 2017



Friday—Wine & cheese party followed by cookout.

Saturday - 11:00 AM meet at Rock Island Lighthouse for lunch and tour

Saturday - 6:30 PM Uncle Sam's Dinner Cruise

Sunday - 9:00 AM Breakfast at local restaurant.

Details in next SeaChest



Friends Helping Friends

17 October 2017



Again this year, our Squadron will be participating in the **Boscov's Department Store "Friends Helping Friends" Day on Tuesday, October 17 at the Binghamton store (13-23 Court St.)**. Our organization will sell 25% discount passes at \$5 each that are good for purchases made on that date. In addition, shoppers will be eligible to win fabulous *register to win prizes* including shopping sprees and more!

The best part is Susquenago keeps the entire \$5 from every shopping pass sold. What a great way to help our squadron and save money for yourself!

If you would like to purchase a pass or are interested in selling passes, please contact Mary Kucharek 607-722-5136 or marykuch47@gmail.com. Passes will be available at our June picnic and September meeting. Just think if every one of our members sold just one pass the squadron would make over \$300. What an easy way to keep us afloat. (Pun intended)

Boat Trailing Check List

Items you need to pack before you trailer your boat on a long trip:

- Spare tire
- Lug wrench
- Wheel chocks
- 12 Volt Air compressor
- Spare bearings (outer & inner) with dust cap or a spare complete hub assembly
- Grease gun w/marine wheel bearing grease
- 12 volt spare lightbulbs—size needed
- Extra tie-down straps



Always check recommended air pressure and all lights, tow vehicle and trailer, before going on a trip.

When arriving at the boat ramp disconnect the trailer wiring connection before launching. This will keep the lightbulbs from possibly blowing out.

Remember to reconnect the wiring harness after the boat & trailer are out of the water.

Trailer wire codes for 4 wire connector:

- White – ground to frame. Do not count on the trailer ball
- Brown – taillights, license & side markers
- Yellow – left turn & stop
- Green – right turn & stop

Use dielectric grease on the connector and on the bases of light bulbs.

Hope this gives you a happy trailering experience!

Submitted by **G. Robert Kucharek, P**

Erie Canal Lunch Cruise

15 September 2017

A *Dinosaur Bar-B-Que* Lunch Cruise along the Erie Canal is being planned for this summer. The *Dinosaur Bar-B-Que* cruise features selections from that landmark Syracuse eatery. Mid Lake Navigation only does the lunch cruises on Friday so we cannot do a Saturday trip. Tentatively I have chosen September 15th for our cruise. The ride is two hours long and we depart from Dutchman's Landing near Baldwinsville, NY at 11:00 AM. Plan to be at the dock by 10:30 AM. The dock is located at 7439 Hillside Rd, Baldwinsville, NY 13027. Total cost is \$37.00 per person.

Please let me know as soon as possible, but no later than September 1st, if you plan to attend so I can make reservations. My home phone is disconnected for the summer, but you can reach me at 518-813-7888 or e-mail me at nancybieber@twc.com.



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General Membership Meeting and BBQ Chicken Dinner



Dave Olds is presented with the District Six Commander's Achievement Award.



Richard Leavenworth receives his 25 year award and Certificate of appreciation.



Commander Acciai presents Linda Daniels with her 25merit mark and life membership award.



The staff of the SeaChest was again presented with the Distinctive Communicators award for the 2016 year.



District 6 Change of Watch

Our own Nancy Bieber being sworn in as District Executive Officer



Susquenago Sail & Power Squadron - Spring 2017 Class Schedule

Course	Start Date	Number of Sessions	Person Responsible/Phone
Seamanship	16 May 7 to 9 PM	5 Successive Tuesdays	Les Smith 797-7391

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

SUSQUENANGO SAIL & POWER SQUADRON
C/O JOHN YOUNG
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