



Susquenago
SeaChest



Monthly Publication



July 2024

Volume 69 Issue 7

District 6

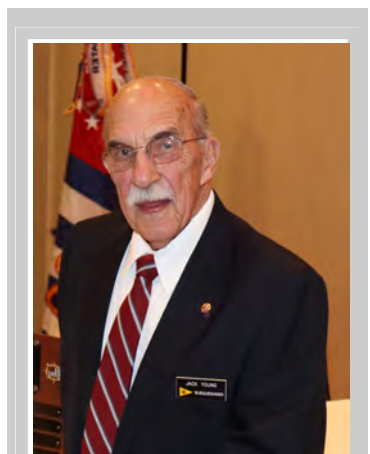
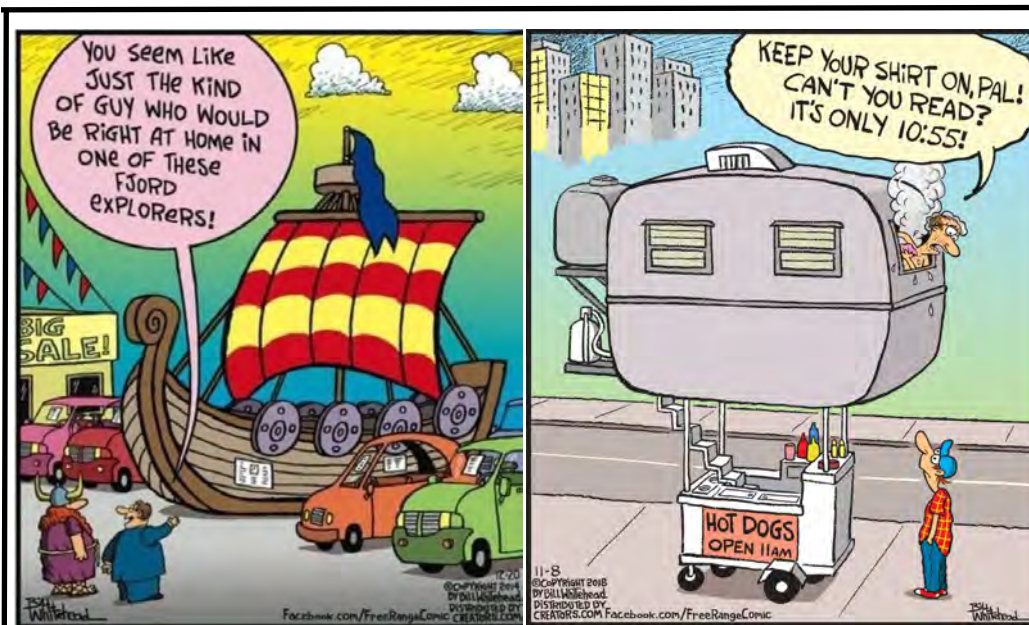
Susquenago Happenings

On the Horizon

D/6 2024 Rendezvous, August 1 – 4, 2024 at The Cove at Sylvan Beach.
See page 6 for complete schedule of activities.

Susquenago Mini Rendezvous—Skaneateles Mail Boat—TBD

Bosco's Friends Helping Friends, October 22, 2024, 9am to 9pm



P/D/Lt/C John Young, AP
Editor Emeritus



SeaChest

Published Monthly by
Susquenango Sail & Power Squadron Inc. a unit of the United States Power Squadrons



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Address communications to **The Editors, 3801 Country Club Rd. Endwell, NY 13760-2510, (607)296-3482, e-mail - acciaim@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 Comments



What a wonderful time we all had at our annual recognition picnic on 19 June at D/Lt/C Mike AP and D/1st Lt. Peg Acciai's P home in Endwell. Mike and Peg are the perfect hosts. With the intense heat, we thought we might have to move inside, but the shade of their lovely gazebo and a slight breeze made it a perfect night to be outside. It was so nice to have District 6 Cmdr. Karen Green and Ken join us.

Well our Treman Marina Day scheduled for 22 June from was postponed due to inclement weather and, as of this writing, it looks like we will not be able to have it on 29 June either. The weather just won't cooperate with us this year.

We are also planning a Mini Rendezvous late September with a tour on Skaneateles Lake. We did this several years ago and it was a big hit. P/D/C Nancy Bieber is coordinating this. More info in future SeaChests.

Look for more information on the D/6 Rendezvous to be held 1-4 August at The Cove at Sylvan Beach. Sounds like a fun time.

Please keep in mind the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends event which will be held on Tuesday, 22 October. Twenty five percent off shopping passes are available now. Please contact me to get yours. Remember for each pass sold, the squadron receives \$5.00. It's an easy way to boost our coffers – everyone loves to shop! This year online shopping will be available that day.

This month is very special to Bob and me as we will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary on 13 July. We have been blessed with a wonderful family and great friends over the years and look forward to more happy times. Many of the friends we have made through this squadron.

Enjoy and remember.... *"Home is Where the Anchor Drops"*.

Commander Mary



Susquenago Sail and Power Squadron Member Recognition Picnic

2024 Merit Mark Recipients

Margaret Acciai
Michael Acciai
Nancy Bieber
Ronald Bieber
Chis Broderick
Frank Broderick
Robert Gould
William Herrick
Mary Kuchark
Robert Kucharek
David Olds
Margaret Olds
JoAnn Rhode
Linda Rought
Anna Smith
Les Smith

2024 Certificate of Appreciation Recipients

Lt/C Linda Rought, P
Administrative Officer

Lt Ann Smith, P
Public Relations Officer



Congratulations
Linda and Ann

25 Year Membership Pin Recipients

Lt Jane Park, S Lt Justin Park, SN P/Lt/C Sue Dunlap



Relaxing at the Recognition Picnic





D/6 2024 Rendezvous Announcement

D/Lt/C Bridgett Arieno,

We are very excited about our upcoming summer rendezvous! We hope you can join us August 1 – 4, 2024 at The Cove at Sylvan Beach. If you can't make it for the entire weekend, you are welcome to join in for whatever time you have available. Plans are coming together for a fun and exciting weekend!

As you know, some of us have rented apartments at The Cove, so not only do we have beautiful accommodations, but we also have a pontoon boat that comes with each apartment!

On Thursday evening, we are having a welcome party with pizza, wings and salads.

On Friday, we are planning an on-the-water contest to challenge your navigation skills. Teams of at least 3 on each boat can run the course with a driver, navigator and observer. Whoever comes closest to the expected result wins! Friday night dinner will be a cookout at the apartments so we can relax and enjoy the evening.

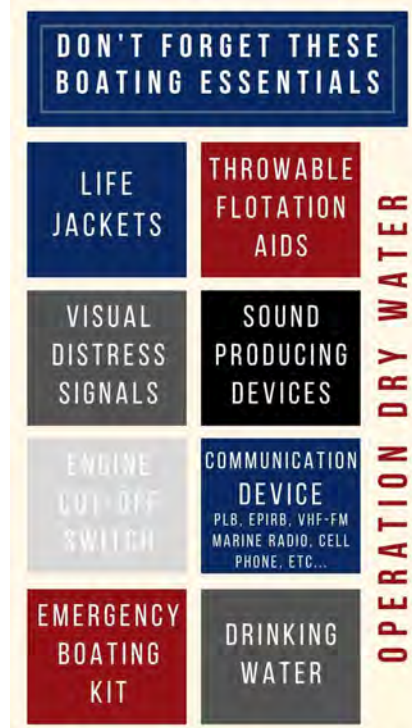
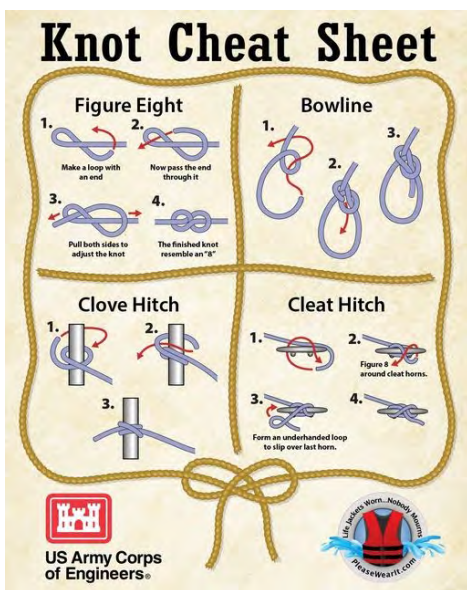
On Saturday, we are planning to have a raft-up with lunch out on the water. We know we have at least 4 pontoon boats that can take 8 passengers, so even if you come by land on Saturday, you can join in the fun! Saturday night will be our night out at a local restaurant.

Sunday morning will start with Breakfast on the “Beach” before everyone heads on to their next adventure.

Sylvan Beach is located on Oneida Lake, which is about a 2-hour drive from Rochester, 40 minutes from Syracuse, and less than 2 hours from Binghamton. If you are coming by boat, please make your own arrangements with a local marina. We hope that you can find some time to join us!

Registration and additional details will be coming soon!

Warm regards from your rendezvous committee: Karen Green, Bridgett Arieno, Rick Hibbs and Steve Heffron.



Key takeaways from the 2023 Recreational Boating Statistics

With boating season in full swing, the U.S. Coast Guard's 2023 Recreational Boating Statistics reveal that injuries and fatalities decreased last year. As boaters, we can do more to prevent accidents and save lives.

What the numbers show

There is good news in the recent [report](#). The fatality rate was 4.9 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels, a 9.3% decrease from the 2022 rate of 5.4 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. Compared to 2022, the overall number of accidents decreased 4.9%, deaths decreased 11.3%, and injuries decreased 4.3%.

The top five contributing factors in accidents continue to be operator inattention, improper lookout, operator inexperience, excessive speed, and machinery failure. Also unchanged, alcohol use remains the top contributing cause of fatal accidents. And it's no surprise that an overwhelming majority (87% in 2023 vs. 85% in 2022) of drowning death victims were not wearing [life jackets](#).

Also of note, where instruction was known, 75% of deaths (vs. 74% in 2022) occurred on boats where the operator did not receive boating safety instruction. Only 15% percent of deaths occurred on vessels where the operator had received a nationally approved boating safety education certificate. This clearly shows that boater education works.

What we can do

As the weather changes, our boats become hubs of social activity—from raft-ups to cruises. Now is the perfect time to boost our boating skills with on-the-water training. One of the best educational tools United States Power Squadrons, America's Boating Club, offers is [on-the-water training](#) at a local club. Free to members, on-the-water training teaches boaters how to perform basic maneuvers that could help reduce or prevent boating accidents and deaths.

Consider getting a [vessel safety check](#) to uncover any gear or vessel deficiencies that could contribute to an accident. There's no penalty for failing a vessel safety check, and the benefit is knowing that your boat is prepared for an emergency. With July 4th just around the corner, the importance of safe boating has never been greater. Take a [safe boating class](#) today. —Chuck Wells, *America's Boating Compass*

The keys to better boating decision-making

Good boater judgment, or boating decision-making, is critical to the safe operation of recreational boats as well as accident avoidance.

Despite the advancements to boating safety, it's the human factor that often leads to error. The most frequent causes of accidents include operators who lack boating safety knowledge, operate in heavy weather, use alcohol, overload the boat, are inattentive, don't provide a proper lookout, and disregard the navigation rules.

Boating decision-making provides a systematic approach to risk assessment and stress management. To understand boating decision-making is to understand how personal attitudes can influence decision making and how those attitudes can be modified to enhance safety in all aspects of boating.

The VEEP checklist

One way to mitigate risk is to perceive hazards. By incorporating the VEEP checklist into pre-cruise planning, the boater divides the risks into four categories: vessel, environment, external pressures and person in command.

With the VEEP checklist, boaters can easily remember the categories they should examine for risk before each cruise. Once the operator or person in command identifies the risk factors, that person must decide whether the risks can be managed safely and successfully. If not, the operator can decide to cancel the cruise.

Continued Page 8

If the person in command decides to continue the cruise, he or she should develop strategies to mitigate the risks. One way a boater can control risks is to set personal minimums for items in each risk category. These limits are unique to the boater's current experience and proficiency.

One of the most important concepts that safe captains understand is the difference between what is "legal" in terms of the regulations and what is "smart" or "safe" in terms of boater experience and proficiency.

Vessel

What limitations will the vessel impose upon the trip? Ask the following questions:

- Is this the right boat for the cruise?
- Am I familiar with this type of boat?
- Is this boat equipped for the cruise? Are the instruments, lights, and communication and navigation equipment adequate?
- Can this boat use the available marinas, and do they provide pump-out stations and fuel supplies needed for the cruise?
- Can this boat carry the necessary supplies?
- Does this boat have sufficient fuel capacity with reserves for planned cruise legs?

Does the fuel quantity delivered match the fuel quantity ordered?

Environment

With weather being a major environmental consideration, boaters should set personal environmental minimums, especially when it comes to weather. While evaluating the weather for a particular cruise, the operator should consider the conditions for the entire transit, including current predictions (coastal and ocean), near-term and long-range weather predictions from weather services, safe havens and foul weather anchorages, and alternate destinations.

Additionally, the operator should answer several questions:

- What navigation aids can you expect to see during the cruise? What are their shapes, lights and sound characteristics? List all known characteristics for reference. Plot all known hazards on a properly scaled chart.

Does the clothing locker contain appropriate foul weather gear for the voyage?

External pressures

External pressure, or influences external to the cruise, create a sense of urgency to complete a voyage, often at the expense of safety. This category often causes the person in command to ignore all other risk factors, which makes managing external pressure key to risk management.

You can manage external pressures by using personal standard operating procedures, such as allowing time for an extra fuel stop and having alternate plans for a late arrival. The key is to be ready for and accept delays. Remember that travel delays happen whether you're traveling by boat, plane, car or bus. As the person in command, your goal is to manage risk, not create hazards.

Person in command

One of the risk factors on a cruise, the person in command must ask, "Am I ready for this trip?" in terms of experience and physical and emotional condition. A successful person in command can successfully concentrate, manage workloads and perform several simultaneous tasks.

Historically, the term operator error has been used to describe a boating accident in which an action or decision made by the person in command caused or was a contributing factor in an accident. This definition also includes the person in command's failure to make a correct decision or take proper action. A single decision or event does not lead to an accident, but a series of events and decisions can form a chain of events leading to a poor outcome.

America's Boating Compass

Boscov's Friends Helping Friends

Once again this year we will be participating in Boscov's Friends Helping Friends which will be held on **22 October**. Twenty five percent off shopping passes are available please contact Cmd. Mary to get your passes or pick them up at our June picnic or the Sept. meeting. Remember for each pass sold, the squadron receives \$5.00. It's an easy way to boost our coffers – everyone loves to shop and you can even shop online this year!

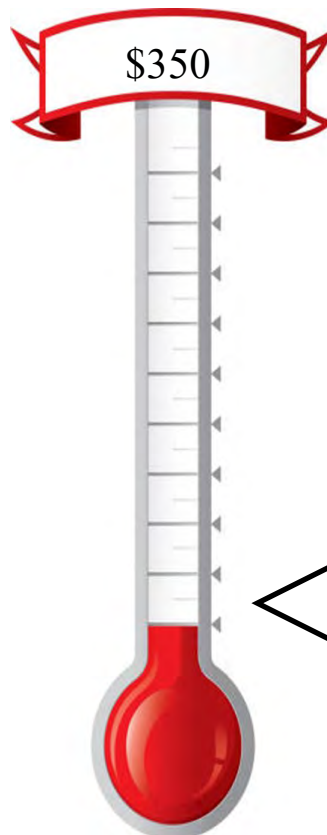
Can we save Commander Mary's Squadron Bell from a Watery Grave?

Watch this spot for upcoming Susquenango Sail and Power Squadron Fund raising events!



Ransom Note For Commanders Bell Received

RequIre \$350 By
sePTembeR or
the bell wll go
to sleep wth the
fishies at the
CoNfIuENce of
The susquehANNA
And cheNango
RiveRS!



July Toons 



"First, you forgot to put in the drain plug, then you failed to check your fuel lines in over 8 months. To make matters worse, you exaggerated the size of boat you own to your friends."



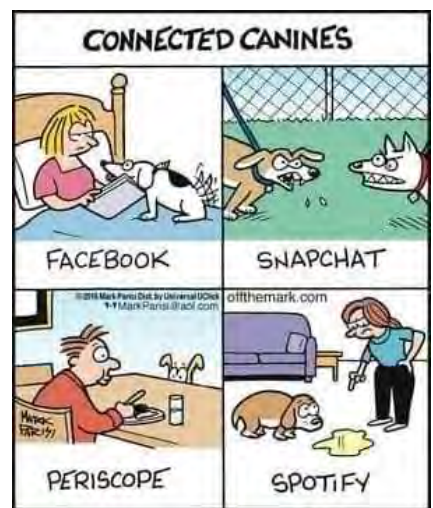
Some tourists stopped for lunch in a Welsh town.
"Before we order," they said to the waiter, "could you very slowly say where we are?"



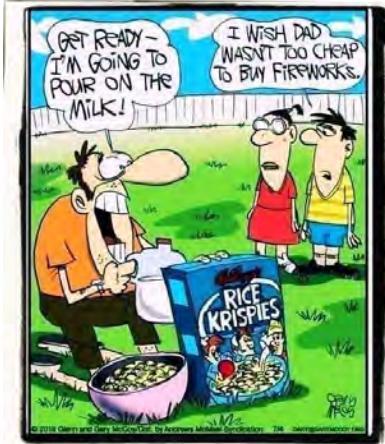
The waiter answered, "Burr...gerrr Kiiing."
 Kind Humor (Kind Humour)



THE BLUE 2004



Did you hear about the new corduroy pillowcases? They're making headlines.





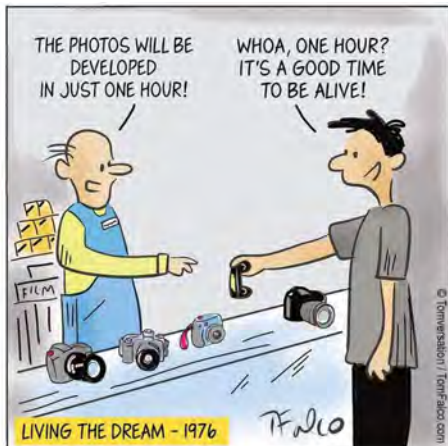
"What else did you fix today?"

I bet that was exciting.

My dream job ...



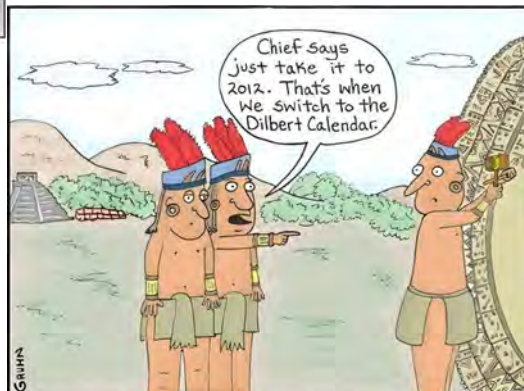
This is what happens when you don't click your tongs twice before grilling



Just my luck, 250 million year old salt, and it expired 2 years ago



"Once we finish with your blood pressure, we need to find out why your arm is purple."



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