



Susquenago SeaChest



Monthly Publication



August 2025

Volume 70 Issue 8

District 6

Susquenago Happenings

Summer Break—Next Squadron Meeting 17 Sept 2025-TBD

**Saturday, August 23, 2025, Susquenago Sail & Power Squadron Summer Rendezvous
Camillus Erie Canal Park**

Did You Know?



NAUTICAL FACT OF THE DAY

Mind your p's and q's

When in port, sailors would get credit at the taverns until they were paid. The barman would keep a record of their drinks on a chalkboard behind the bar. A mark was made under "p" for pint or "q" for quart. On payday, a sailor was liable for each mark next to his name and forced to "mind his p's and q's." Today the term means to remain well behaved.



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



SeaChest

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Commander's Comments

Well, the summer is sure going fast even though it took its time to get started. July was H O T and August is turning out to be delightful! I hope everyone is enjoying their time on the water or whatever way you like to spend your time.

Treman Marina Day went on as scheduled on 28 June and we all had a good time. My thanks to those who assisted in anyway...D/Lt/C Mike Acciai, our shopper, Lt. Frank Broderick, our BBQ chef, Lt. Cris Broderick, P/Lt/C Ann & D/Lt/C Les Smith (thanks Ann for doing the flyers), P/C Bob Gould our Vessel Safety Inspector, Lt. Bob Kucharek, Ithaca Commander Tim Reilly and our friends of the Ithaca Coast Guard Auxiliary. Also, Mark from Finger Lakes Marine had information on safety equipment. It was such a nice day and we didn't even need the canopy!

Don't forget our Mini Rendezvous on 23 August on the Erie Canal in Camillus. Contact Nancy Bieber to see if room is still available.

We are still making plans for our 17 September meeting and hoping to have a speaker do a program for us. More details will be forthcoming in a separate email or in the September SeaChest, Stay tuned!

A big thank you to Carol Herz who has been our Supply Officer for Several years but since downsizing her home she can no longer continue in this capacity. Carol dropped of a few boxes of Squadron goodies....hats, shirts, Ensigns, pennants and the like to my house. I am putting out a plea for someone to step up and take on this position. See more information in the "Want Ad" in this newsletter.

Hope to see you at the rendezvous and/or at our September meeting. Enjoy the rest of the summer and remember....



"Home is Where the Anchor Drops".



Commander

Mary Kucharek, P



John J. Young Jr.
July 5, 2025
Rest In Peace

John Joseph Young, Jr. was a man who led a quiet life and enjoyed simple pleasures. There were 2 things that interested him above all else – family and food. Little Venice, local diners including the Broadway, and the infamous Tony's Texas Hots where John once ate seven chili dogs in one sitting. In addition to chili dogs John was a connoisseur of meatloaf, Rigatoni with meat logs or really anything Italian and most especially Thanksgiving-style Turkey dinners with all the fixings. One of my favorite memories of John was his excitement over the pure decadence of being able to order not one but two slices of apple pie alamode for dessert while cruising. On the same cruise he kept Dan up at the casino until about 11:30 PM and then insisted they hit the café for a bite before bed.

Family:

When John was born, his Dad was serving in the Army in Alaska – a fact John liked to share. He may have been born in a cold place, but his home with his Mom and Dad was warm with their love for him. Although it was clear that John had some challenges, they refused to allow him to be labeled, instead wanting him to have a normal life which he did. John lived independently in his own apartment for a time, he drove and impeccably maintained cars that he purchased with the wages he earned while working at Perkins Pancakes, Anitec and Maines among others.

John created wonderful memories with his siblings. With Dan at Tioga Downs for dinner and testing their luck against the one-armed bandits. Debbie recalls him having much better luck at many things than most people. During lightning and thunderstorms John reveled in scaring his siblings. Debbie was so frustrated by his frightening her that she screamed twice. Once at being scared and then a second time in annoyance at him for scaring her. John was a fan of Frank Zappa's music. So much so that Tom dubbed him Zappa which remained his lifelong nickname.

As his siblings got married, John accepted each spouse into the family warmly and without reservation and we returned his friendship. John couldn't get enough of Carol's

cooking. Kevin and John shared a love of cars and would occasionally attend car shows. As John's mobility diminished Kevin quietly took on the task of procuring newspapers from Scranton and other places for him. I got to share my hobby of travel with John, going to DisneyWorld, San Francisco and on a Canadian cruise.

His nieces and nephews remember how John made them feel special because of the way he would light up when any of them arrived. He had a special place in his heart for them and they knew it and returned his affection.

When it was your birthday and John gave you a card you looked forward to reading it because you knew that he was willing to stand in front of the card rack at the store and read virtually every card until he found the one that was absolutely right for you.

John treasured time with the whole family. From holidays, and time at the lake, to simply playing his favorite card game, International Rummy, John looked forward to our times together – so long as no one was cheating at cards! While food and family were the top 2 things in his life, there was a third thing he was passionate about. Christmas! We would say that he lived for it. He amassed quite the collection of Christmas decorations over the years and thoroughly enjoyed displaying them. When John lived in his own apartment, it was traditional for everyone, Mom and Dad and each of his siblings and their families to visit separately during the holidays. He went all out on Christmas decor and couldn't wait for us to see his setup as well as share dessert together in his home. Even when he moved back in with his parents, he decorated the bay window, his rooms and even the bathroom for Christmas.

John was a man of routine. He was a regular at Thursday Wii bowling at the Sr. Ctr. Saturday afternoons were for 4:00 Mass and Lawrence Welk on TV. On Sunday morning he would alternate between Take a Break or Pete's Legacy Diner for breakfast and then spend a few hours shopping – he was always on the lookout for things to add to his Christmas collection.

John was always stoic, even after he received his terminal cancer diagnosis. Throughout the hours of chemotherapy he never complained about the physical discomforts, but he did find it frustrating to repeatedly be asked to recite his name and birthdate.

It would be wrong to think that John's life was defined by his limitations. John had an easy nature that drew people to him. Perhaps it was best summed up by his family doctor, John Perry, who said, "If you were someone who didn't like John, then you probably were a jerk." I don't imagine many people are excited to move into hospice care at Mercy House, but he delighted the staff by saying how much he liked his room because it was decorated in his favorite colors, brown and green. Deana, the coordinator of the Broome West Senior Center told us how much John touched the lives of the friends he made there.

John taught us that life's greatest gifts come from simple pleasures—sharing a meal, laughing through a game night, decorating for Christmas, and cherishing family traditions. As we honor him today, let us embrace his routines, savor delicious moments, and choose kindness in every interaction. In doing so, we keep his memory alive and ensure that his gentle spirit continues with us.

New York State's Brianna's Law, requires all operators of motorized watercraft to complete a state-approved, 8 hour boating safety course and obtain their boating safety certificate by January 1, 2025.

Boating Safety Course

taught by a certified instructor from



America's Boating Course **September 8th–October 6th, 2025**

- **5 Monday Nights, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.** (final exam on the last night)
- **\$50.00/person**
- **Certificate is recognized by all states and satisfies New York State's Brianna's Law requirement.**
- America's Boating Course provides you with basic boating knowledge including types of boats and their uses, boating laws (both federal and state), safety equipment (both required and recommended), navigation rules, adverse conditions, communications, trailering, knots and lines and water sport topics.

**Classes held at Johnson City High School,
666 Reynolds Rd., Johnson City, NY**

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER:



GO TO www.susquenango.org

OR

CALL Les Smith at 607-797-7391

HELP WANTED

Susquenango Supply Officer

Officer would inventory a small amount of items...hats, shirts, Ensign Flags, pennants, etc. and sell items to members when requested. Items would be stored by the officer.

Please contact Cmd. Mary for more information and/or to volunteer for the position.



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 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!



July 15, 2025

Mid-season maintenance

COMPASS

With boating season in full swing, you should regularly inspect your boat's systems. These mid-season maintenance checks will help ensure summertime outings remain smooth and trouble-free.

Engine venting

Let the engine exhaust blowers run for 20 to 45 minutes as you pack up to leave the boat after a weekend on the water. Removing excess heat from the engine compartment will help prevent equipment damage.

Hose inspection

Squeeze your hoses, feeling for soft, bulging or cracked spots. Check the clamps for corrosion as many stainless steel clamps have screws made of inferior grade stainless steel that will corrode. Using only 316 stainless steel hose clamps is recommended.

Pad placement

Place oil absorption pads under your engine and transmission. Leaks will be easier to see, giving you an early warning of trouble. Absorbent pads also make keeping the engine room clean much easier.

AC tune-up

Clean or replace air conditioner filters monthly and clean drain pans and remove debris that could clog the drain line. Watch for changes in water flow. Check sea strainers biweekly and clean as needed. Backflush raw water lines yearly according to manufacturer specifications.

Electrical look-see

Depending on your battery type, check fluid weekly and replenish as needed. Also check battery chargers each week. Once a month, examine battery terminals for corrosion and tighten loose connections.

Bilge inspection

Check the bilge for excess water on a daily basis. Remove oil using an oil absorber or sock. Each week, make sure bilge pump and float switches work as expected. Wash the bilge annually. —Larry Byrd



America's Boating Club | United States Power Squadrons is launching a new seminar on marine batteries. [Introduction to Marine Batteries](#) is designed to help boaters of all experience levels understand batteries and basic DC circuit concepts, ensuring they can maintain reliable power while on the water. From selecting the right battery to battery installation and long-term care, this seminar provides essential knowledge to keep a boat's marine electrical systems running smoothly.

Whether you're looking to enhance your knowledge for weekend boating or want to gain confidence in the DC system on your power or sail boat, this seminar will provide the tools needed to keep your vessel powered and efficient.

What to expect from the marine battery seminar

This seminar provides a practical understanding of marine batteries and how they fit into a boat's marine electrical systems. The knowledge gained will help prevent power failures, extend battery life, and improve overall efficiency. Expert-led instruction, hands-on demonstrations, and troubleshooting exercises will ensure attendees leave with essential skills related to their marine batteries. Marine batteries are one of the most overlooked yet essential components of a boat.

Many boaters are familiar with fueling and [engine maintenance](#) but may not fully understand the intricacies of their vessel's marine electrical systems. A failing or improperly maintained battery can lead to unexpected power loss, affecting everything from engine startups to emergency communications.

This seminar was created to address these challenges and provide boaters with hands-on training in marine battery maintenance. By attending, participants will gain expert insight into battery selection, charging techniques, and proper marine battery installation to maximize performance and longevity.

- **Understanding different marine batteries' chemistries:** Learn the key differences between lead-acid, AGM, and lithium-ion batteries and determine which best suits your vessel's needs.
- **Battery lifespan and replacement:** Recognize when it's time for a new battery, the factors that shorten battery life, and how to test battery health before issues arise.
- **Proper charging and marine battery maintenance:** Discover best practices for charging marine batteries, how to avoid overcharging or undercharging, and strategies to extend battery life.
- **Marine battery installation and troubleshooting:** Gain insights into secure battery installation, proper wiring techniques, and how to diagnose and resolve common electrical issues.
- **Real-world scenarios and expert Q&A:** Participate in troubleshooting exercises and interactive discussions with industry experts to address specific concerns about your boat's marine electrical system. By the end of this [marine battery seminar](#), boaters will have the confidence and technical knowledge to properly maintain their marine batteries, ensuring smooth, reliable, and worry-free boating experiences. –

Mitch Anderson

From Soundings Dispatches
August 5th, 2025



Wild Orcas are Feeding Boaters! Why?

As whales offer fish to crews, scientists say it's a form of connection.

Seasoned mariners understand that life at sea always holds the potential for surprise. But even veteran boaters may be astonished by findings recently reported in *The Seattle Times* by environmental journalist Lynda V. Mapes: Wild orcas of many types, in at least 30 documented instances in four oceans, have approached boats and presented people with freshly caught fish—seemingly as a deliberate gesture.

Mapes references a study published in the *Journal of Comparative Psychology*, that tracked these events over the past two decades in four different oceans. In each case, an orca swam close—within its own body length—to a vessel, then dropped a live or recently killed fish in front of the humans aboard, often hovering afterward as if awaiting a response. Researchers suggest these moments aren't random or opportunistic but instead reflect a pattern of behavior that may be social in nature.

Food sharing is common within pods, especially from mother to calf and between close relatives. Extending that behavior toward humans could indicate a deeper cognitive connection or even a form of interspecies curiosity.

For those lucky enough to witness such an event, it's essential to appreciate it from a respectful distance. Accepting fish or attempting to reciprocate might interfere with natural behaviors and violate marine wildlife protections. The best course, according to researchers, is passive observation—recording, not engaging.

The implications of this behavior prompt several compelling questions. Among them: Will this behavior spread? Orcas are known to pass along learned behaviors within and across pods, so it's possible this type of prey-sharing with humans could become more common in certain regions.

And then there's the question of risk: If orcas begin to expect a response or some kind of interaction, what happens when people don't reciprocate?

As this behavior becomes more widely observed, boaters should follow a few basic principles. Keep a respectful distance. Refrain from touching or feeding the animals. Use the opportunity to observe quietly, document the event with photos or notes, and report details to marine mammal researchers or conservation groups. Noting time, location, species, and fish type can help build a fuller picture of what may be unfolding.

By Soundings Staff

Libation Of the Month

Recipe Haven



🍑 Velvet Peach Cream Shot 🍒

(A creamy, fruity dessert cocktail – perfect for sipping or serving as a decadent shot)



Ingredients

0.5 oz vodka
0.5 oz peach schnapps
2 oz heavy whipping cream
1 splash raspberry liqueur (like Chambord or a raspberry schnapps)
Whipped cream (for topping)
Maraschino cherry (for garnish)
Ice



Instructions



1 Shake It Up

In a cocktail shaker filled with ice, add vodka, peach schnapps, heavy cream, and a splash of raspberry liqueur.



2 Shake Well

Shake vigorously for 10–15 seconds until well chilled and creamy.



3 Strain & Pour

Strain into a rocks glass over fresh ice.



4 Top It Off

Add a generous swirl of whipped cream on top.



5 Garnish

Place a cherry on top for that classic dessert finish

From:

by land
or by sea

Cuisine of
the United
States
Power
Squadrons

Corn-Potato-Crab Chowder

½ pound finely chopped onions	1 tablespoon Old Bay seasoning
3 tablespoons butter	Dash of salt and pepper
¼ cup all-purpose flour	1 (16-ounce) can whole kernel corn
4 medium potatoes, finely diced	1 pound crabmeat
1½ quarts half & half	⅓ cup sherry
1 bay leaf	

Sauté onion in butter until tender. Add flour to make a roux. Cook 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Stir in potatoes. Add half & half, bay leaf, seasoning, salt and pepper. Simmer 20 minutes. Stir in corn, crabmeat and sherry. Remove bay leaf before serving.

Yield: 4 servings

Margi Zimmerman • Lancaster Power Squadron • Pennsylvania

August

TOONS

Man who kept his boat beside his house was ordered by the city to put up a fence to hide the boat from view.



HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE YMCA

(Please check one)

Television	Online
Radio	Drove By
Ad in paper	Family/Friend
Postcard	Other <i>Δ village People</i>
Return Member	Insurance
Email	Billboard

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

EFT INFORMATION

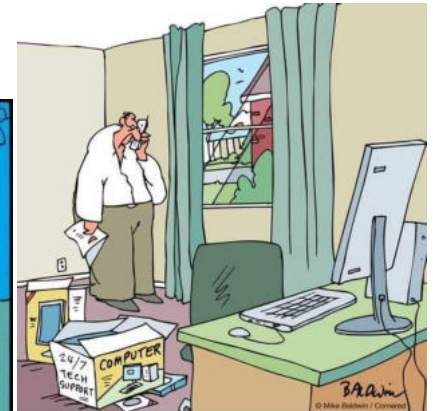
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"I think it gives off the wrong vibe."

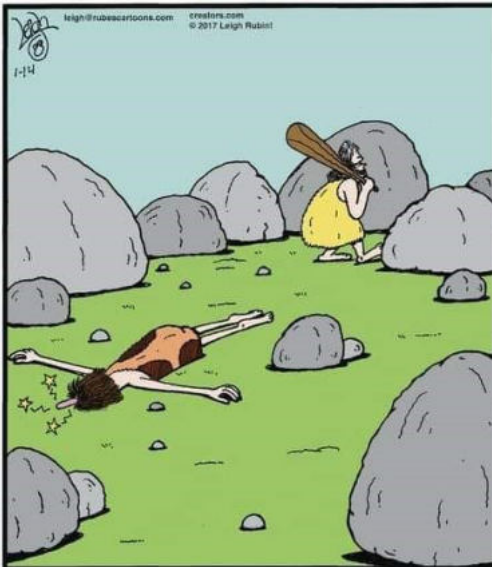


"No doubt about it, captain ... it's definitely an Italian sub."

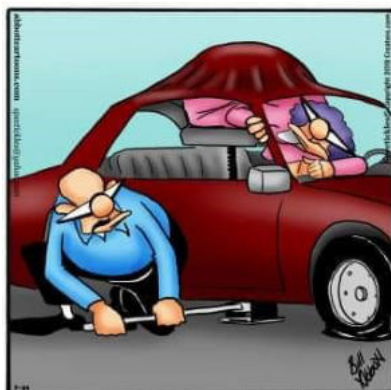


"I closed the window, but still nothing. Should I try closing the drapes?"

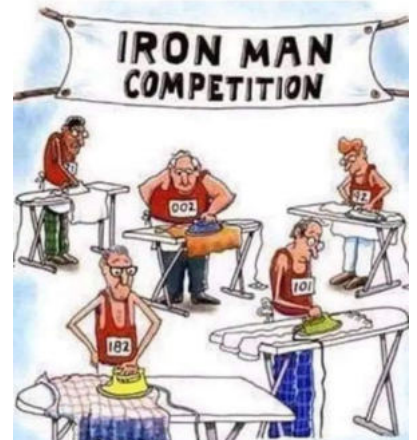
When you want a bow thruster but you're on a budget...

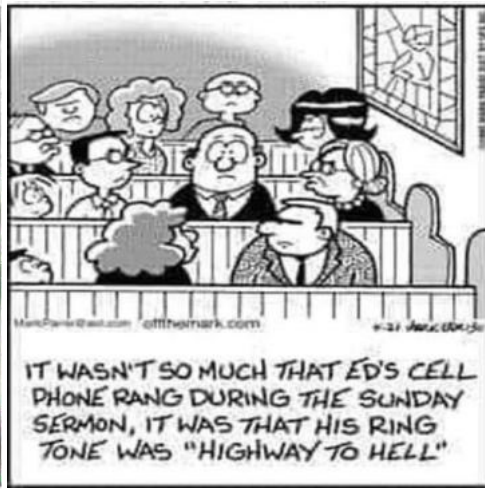


Unfriending -- the early years

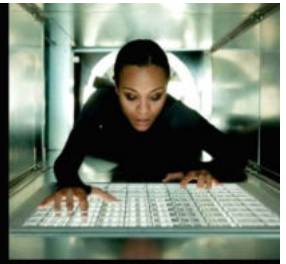


"All your yelling won't get this thing jacked up any faster."





Air vents
in movies



Air vents
in real life



When doctors get shipwrecked.

I'm confused
how a
cemetery can
raise its funeral
prices and
blame it on the
cost of living



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