



Susquenango
SeaChest



Monthly Publication



November 2021

Volume 66 Issue 11

District 6

Susquenango November Happenings

17 November 2021

**General Membership Meeting and annual Turkey Dinner
Kirkwood Elks Club**

6 PM Thanksgiving Dinner

Menu consists of Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Squash and Dessert
Call Lt/C Linda Rought at (607) 760-3506 by November 10th to make reservations

Price per Person—\$16.00

(Face Masks and social distancing are required)

7 PM Meeting

Friday Evening at Kopernik Observatory Science, 698 Underwood Rd, Vestal, NY 13850
See Page 4 for details



On the Horizon:

December 11th 2021-Holiday Party at Grande's, 1250 Front St, Binghamton, NY 13901

December 15, 2021—Executive Meeting TBD

Attention All Members: Please Note that Merit Mark submissions are due to National by Nov 15th. Please submit your Work Description and Hours to our Merit Officer P/D/Lt/C John Young, AP at jyoung6@stny.rr.com no later than November 9th.





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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



Commander
Michael Acciai, AP

Our 20 October 21 meeting at 3801 Country Club Road was a huge success. The City Chicken and Cheesy Au gratin potatoes by Park Bench Catering was a hit, and Lt/C Linda Rought provided a large salad to supplement the main course. Chocolate brownies for desert satisfied everyone's sweet tooth afterward. The evening was so warm we were able to sit out in the gazebo until 6:45 while the sterno brought the meal up to temperature. No hurry, we all sat in the kitchen and shared our meal and conversation.

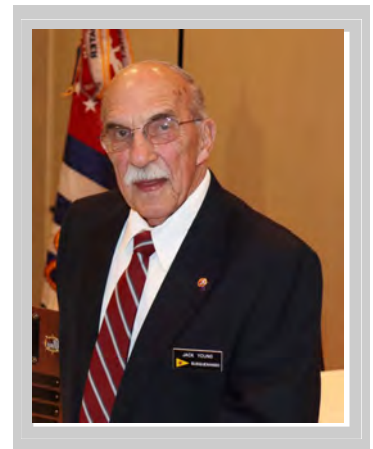
The meeting was calm and we discussed the bridge reports and the way Susquenago would vote on business during the D/6 conference being held 29-31 October in Rochester.

Susquenago also committed to host the D/6 Spring conference in April at the Holiday Inn in Binghamton.

Peg and I would like to thank all our Susquenago friends for the cards, notes and prayers sent to her during the knee replacement surgery performed on the 26th. Due to Covid-19 uptick in Broome County all elective surgery had to be outpatient or cancelled. So far everything is going well with home care.

In closing, I would like to wish all our members a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. Enjoy the time with family and friends while giving thanks for all our blessings.

And remember the sage advice of Yogi Berra when it comes to Covid-19
"It ain't over till it's over."



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





Executive Officer's Comments
P/C Mary Kucharek, P

Thanks everyone for supporting the Boscov's event yesterday. We were able to donate a substantial amount towards our educational funds. My special thanks to P/D/C Nancy Bieber for helping at the table. It was a great day.

Great District 6 Conference Experience by P/C Mary Kucharek, P

From 29-31 October, Bob and I had the opportunity to attend the District 6 Fall Conference which was held at the Courtyard by Marriott Downtown in Rochester, NY. The conference began with the Council Meeting led by D/C Rick Hibbs SN where issues to be brought to the Conference meeting were discussed. D/Lt/C Tom Alley SN-IN reported that he is working on a new webpage for the district which will be up and running by Thanksgiving. If you have any information that should be included on the website, please contact Tom.

The Town Hall Meeting was also held on Friday evening with our special guest, N/A/O V/C Ralph Bernard AP, who answered questions about the USPS proposed change from districts to regions. He reiterated that nothing is cut in stone and any and all comments/suggestions concerning this issue should be sent to D/C Rick who will then compile them and send on to him.

The Fall Conference Meeting was held on Saturday morning. As the meeting started, a prayer was offered at which time members of various squadrons who had passed away this year were remembered. We were pleased that two of our Past Commanders, Anthony Lenzo and John Salt were honored, N/A/O Bernard then gave Mary Paige Abbott's Chief Commander's message. Two new member benefits have been added: My Medic 25% off on an AED and a discount for shipping with UPS. The 2022 Budget was presented and approved and other officer and committee reports were presented. We were so proud to be the recipient of the Shumway Award for third place in education – good job Lt/C Les Smith JN. P/R/C Dave Daniels SN was recognized for his 50 years of membership and Lt. Bob Kucharek P-IN, was recognized for his Governing Board Emeritus status.

Following lunch, we were treated to an outstanding presentation by Lt/C Tom Alley SN-IN and the crew of the "Tomfoolery" on their journey to Connecticut to participate in The 69th Sam Wetherill Trophy Race organized by the Exxex Yacht Club overnight - May 21-22. The original plan was to participate in the Marion-Bermuda race which was cancelled. Oh, the adventures they had! Next it was off to the Strassenburgh Planetarium for a presentation on the night sky. The speaker was very knowledgeable and we thoroughly enjoyed the show.

The final event was a lovely dinner at which time Finger Lakes Chapter Cmd. Jim McGinnis SN-IN was awarded the Chapman award for excellence in education.

I represented Susquenango at the Commander's Meeting on Sunday morning, due to Cmd. Mike's absence. Of course, one of the highlights of the weekend was having time to meet people from other squadrons and share stories and concerns in the hospitality room. Congratulations to Lt. Bridgett Arieno JN and the Rochester Squadron for a job well done! These conferences are for all Squadron members – not just the officers! Plan to attend when Susquenango hosts the Spring Conference next April.

Attention all Squadron Members

Attention All Members: Please Note that Merit Mark submissions are due to National by Nov 15th. Please submit your Work Description and Hours to our Merit Officer P/D/Lt/C John Young, AP at young6@stny.rr.com no later than November 9th.

Friday Evening at Kopernik Observatory Science, 698 Underwood Rd, Vestal, NY 13850

Fossils & Rocks of Central New York Friday November 5 at 8:00 PM

Prof. Bruce Oldfield, Adjunct SUNY-Broome

What do the different types of fossils and rocks in our area tell us about our geologic history? During the Late Devonian Period some 365 million years ago, South Central New York was on a tropical peninsula thirteen degrees below the equator with the ancestral Appalachians to the southeast and the Catskill Sea to the north and west. Bring your own rocks and fossils to be identified! If clear see Jupiter, Saturn and a variety of deep-sky objects.

This is an onsite presentation, but we will also stream it on Kopernik's YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/KopernikObservatory>

A Preview of the James Webb Telescope - Fri, November 12, 8pm – 9pm at Kopernik Observatory Science, 698 Underwood Rd, Vestal, NY 13850, USA (map) Description Tish Bresee, NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador The James Webb Telescope, scheduled to be launched in December, will be an orbiting infrared observatory that will complement and extend the discoveries of the Hubble Space Telescope, with longer wavelength coverage and greatly improved sensitivity. It will reach out 6 times further to the formation of the first galaxies, as well as to look inside nebulae where stars and planetary systems are forming today. Come learn about this newest window into the Universe. This is an on-site presentation, but we will also stream it live on Kopernik's YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/user/KopernikObservatory> The program will start at 8 pm, but at 7 pm families are invited for family friendly activities (see below): 7-8pm JWT Activities: -Star Formation: NISE net kit - Pack a Space Telescope: NISE net kit - Super Novas- tennis & ping pong balls - Galaxies -Black Holes- Spandex universe -Seeing the invisible with filtered light JWT paper models available to take home 8-9pm JWT NASA presentation Tish Bresee

Black Holes on Black Friday - Fri, November 26, 8pm – 9pm at Kopernik Observatory Science, 698 Underwood Rd, Vestal, NY 13850, USA (map) Description Roy Williams, Kopernik Educator After a day of frantic discount shopping and huge crowds, head up to the peaceful surroundings of Kopernik and enjoy a program on the universal harbinger of death: Black Holes. See a hands-on demonstration of how black holes work. Also, see the latest evidence that black holes are real including the first image of a real black hole! If clear, see Uranus, the Orion Nebula and other Deep-Sky objects through our telescopes. This is an on-site presentation, but we will also stream it live on Kopernik's YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/user/KopernikObservatory>

Public Admission for all events:

\$6.00 adults

\$4.00 seniors/students

\$20.00 family maximum

Group rate (10 or more): \$4 adult, \$3 senior/student

Kopernik / ASTC Passport Members: Free

Susquenango October Meeting







Got a tape measure and a piece of string? You can use them to find out how far away you are from, say, a lighthouse.



In this example, I know from my chart that the height of the center of the light is 100 feet above sea level. So holding a vertical ruler 60 cm from my eye, I measure from the center of the light to sea level, which is 20 mm. Using the formula below, I multiply that by 10 for a total of 200. Then I divide 100 (the height of the light) by 200, which equals 0.5. That means I'm about half a mile from the light.

Distance off by vertical sextant angle is an old navigation technique used for keeping a safe distance from an object of known height, such as a lighthouse, the height of which is shown on a chart. With modern GPS, there's no longer need to know how to calculate this, but it's a fun trick to show the kids, and it's a useful backup if you're ever forced to use basic navigation techniques. But as many of us don't carry a sextant, or a set of tables, we can copy what the ancients had been doing for centuries before the sextant was invented. They simply exploited their knowledge that the ratio of 60:1 is equal to an angle of 1 degree. To find this distance, simply measure the angle of the center of the light above sea level and look up the "distance off" in a set of tables, such as those found in a nautical almanac, or use a simple calculation (below). The center of the light itself, not the height of the top of the tower, is used because that's the height marked on the chart. Usually we can forget any tidal height allowance, as less tide will put us farther off in safer water.

In its simplest form, you'll use something that measures 60 units from your eye attached to a vertical ruler marked in the same units. (Using a metric rule to do this exercise makes your math calculation simpler because you can work in whole numbers instead of fractions.) **Continued on Page 9**

It's a rough-and-ready technique, but one day it might save you being set in too close to a nasty reef or rocks.

Hold a piece of string 60 cm (about 2 feet) in front of your eye. (I find a loop of string of the correct length around my neck more comfortable than holding a knot in my teeth.) Sight across the ruler and measure the height of the center of the light above sea level, in millimeters. Then use the formula below.

The calculation for this is written as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Height of charted object in feet}}{\text{Height of measured object in mm} \times 10} = \text{distance off in nautical miles}$$

* 1 nautical mile = 1.15 miles

P/R/C Dave Daniels SN was recognized for his 50 years of membership and Lt. Bob Kucharek P-IN, was recognized for his Governing Board Emeritus status by National Administrative Officer Ralph Bernard. Congratulations Dave and Bob!

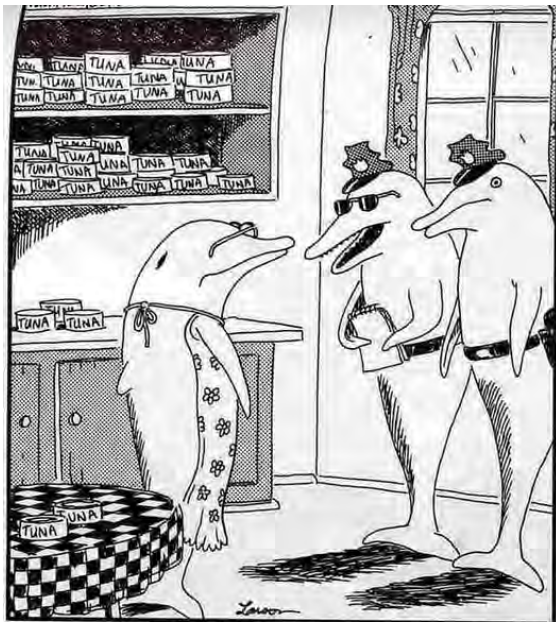


SEO Les Smith, JN receiving the Shumway Award for third place in education from DEO Tom Alley, SN-IN
Congratulations Les!

Some Boating and Holiday Humor



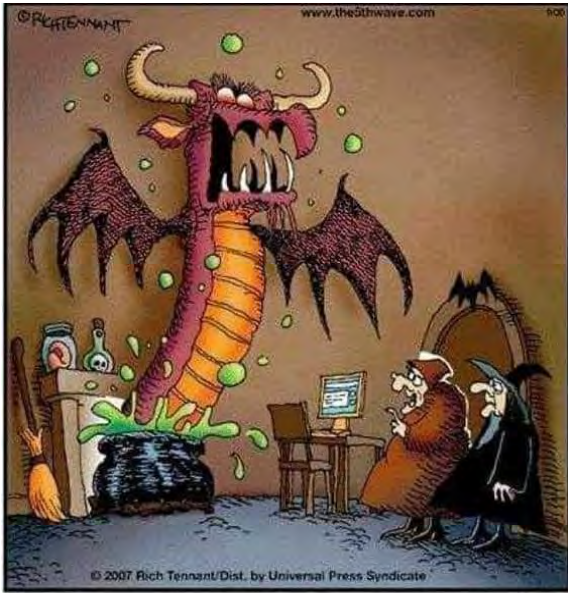
"The good news is my book of the boating mistakes I made paid for my boat. The bad news is I made enough mistakes to write an entire book."



"Sorry, ma'am, but your neighbors have reported not seeing your husband in weeks. We just have a few questions, and then you can get back to your canning."



"You put a round thing on a spinning plate with a needle and then you play with buttons and knobs ... only old people know how to do it!"



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"It was supposed to be a simple sleep potion. That's why you can't always trust the information you get off of 'Wiccapedia.'"



HORSEPOWER IS HOW HARD YOU HIT THE DOCK



TORQUE IS HOW FAR YOU DRAG THE DOCK WITH YOU

Irish Wedding

Recently, at an Irish wedding reception, someone yelled.....

"All the married men please stand next to the one person who has made your life worth living."

The bartender was nearly crushed to death.

BOATING SEASON IS OVER



GUESS I SHOULD CUT THE GRASS

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