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### America's Boating Club. Oyster Bay Sail and Power Squadron

By Boaters...For Boaters<sup>TM</sup>

**Gull Chatter** 

Commander's Report



by Ron Ferina, JN

"A View from the Bridge"

As the boating season draws to a close, I like to take a moment to gather my thoughts, memories, and photos of the past six months enabling me to re-live those beautiful days during the "off" season.

Although I miss my actual boating activities, this collection of memories provides me with that special feeling of "instant vacation" from the day-to-day business of my busy lives and helps me get ready for my next boating season.



However, there is another antidote for those 'winter blues.' It involves our squadron, which keeps me "in the season"... or at least close to it...all year long. Our educational programs start in late September and continue through the winter into early spring. What better time to take a class and advance your knowledge and keep you in the season.

During these non-boating months, it is also a great time to think about planning those repairs, maintenance chores, or upgrades your boat may need before pre-launch next year. Your fellow squadron members are an excellent resource for such topics and are more than willing to share and help with ideas and information.

We all like to share our experiences at our meetings. There is always something to share, to learn from, spur ideas or lend insight for the next season. Join our meeting, this is our club, and we are only as good and strong as our members. The Oyster Bay Sail and Power Squadron: the antidote for the "off-season" blues.

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Ass't Ed Officer	position available if you'd like to be part of the team		
Ass't Exec Officer	position available if you'd like to be part of the team		
Ass't Secretary	position available if you'd like to be part of the team		
P/D/C Ann Peltier, SN <b>Flag Lt:</b> Patricia Feri	•	P/C Ron Nackman, JN <b>ain:</b> Patricia Ferina, P	

#### **Executive Committee**

Douglas Durfee, SN Jennifer Nackman, JN Ann Peltier, SN Peter Manning Ronald Nackman, JN Dennis Puccio, S

### It's the Law! Born on or after January 1st 1993 you will need an approved NY State Safe Boating Course this year.



District Commander George Hoffman, SN 8 Morton Street Farmingdale, NY 11735 pcgeorge70@yahoo.com



The opinions expressed in this newsletter may not be those of the United States Power Squadrons®.

### **Educational Report**

#### by Thomas J Peltier, SN

#### What's New in Education

Fall is here and that means the Oyster Bay Teaching teams are ready to start with 2 sessions of the ABC Basic Course in conjunction with our 2 local HS

Adult Ed Programs: Syosset and Roslyn. Syosset has decided that all classes will be via their Zoom-Classroom connection. Roslyn, also, has noted that all Adult Education classes will be held Virtually. Book distribution will be arranged individually. We plan to maintain a safe environment for our students and our instructors.

Last year, we had great success with our 'At Home Program' and many of our students enjoyed the carefree style of learning from home or the office. Furthermore, we will continue to teach <u>all aspects</u> of the ABC curriculum including Knots and Plotting using alternate educational opportunities: handouts, videos and detailed live demonstrations. Although there are many challenges...we will continue to develop new teaching strategies.

As you know, NY State requires all power boaters to obtain a Safe Boating Certificate by 2025. That is only four years away. As stated in the 2019 NYS Recreational Boating Report, there are 440,381 registered power boaters and a countless number of paddle craft boaters in the state. Unfortunately, most still have not taken a Safe Boating course. As a member, you have an opportunity to join us for one of our educational offerings and pass the word to friends and family—that our Teaching Teams are ready.

I hope you had a wonderful Summer and you will join us for one of our Fall/Winter courses or one of our popular seminars.

Thomas

#### <u>2021 Fall / Winter Schedule</u>— Sign up NOW Classes are planned both In-Person and Virtual

Piloting – 10 week Course will begin September 22nd America's Boating Course 5 wks with Complete Review Syosset - begins October 6th plus 2 free weeks 'Plotting' Roslyn - begins October 19th

We continue to look towards a Blended Learning Criteria for our future classes.

Additional Courses Scheduled: Piloting (Oct ) / Adv Piloting ( Feb) / Jr Navigation (9/21) / Navigation (9/23)

All Classes must Pre-Register to ensure that books and materials are available. Contact Thomas (TJP98@optonline.net)



### **Executive Officer**

Dear Oyster Bay Squadron Members,

It's that time of year again where the season ends, but you do not have to stop your interest in boating. As the season whines down, you can occupy your fall and winter months by shopping for clearance items. Life jackets are currently on sale,

and it's a great time to replace any worn or non-compliant PFDs. If you are looking for expensive electronics, don't forget about **Black Friday** sales. In addition, there are great local deals on boats. Craigslist is a wonderful place to snag a decent end-of-the-season deal. Make sure to do your due diligence and inspect the boats with a marine examiner.

You can also maintain regency with skills required for boating by keeping up with your knot-tying skills. Or you could review past course material you may have taken through the USPS educational programs. Also, consider continuing education by taking new USPS classes that can really increase your ability to navigate on the water and make the most of your boating experience.

In the fall and winter months, it is a wonderful time to explore ways to manage the cost of boating. Unless you are an OPB (other people boats) boater, learning ways to do your own maintenance work will help you save some dollars while using the saved time to gain additional revenue streams, temporary or long-term. The combination of both will help significantly in reducing the possibility of the need to replace worn parts i.e., propulsion or vital equipment onboard your vessel while providing you the budget to do so.

Lastly, now could be the time to connect with other boaters and boating-related organizations. You can share your sea stories and tell them how the knowledge you obtained from being in the USPS helped you have the confidence to do long-distance or offshore boating. You might encourage them to look into joining a local squadron or taking some of the classes offered by the USPS/America's Boating Club. I hope you enjoyed the season and wish everyone an enjoyable and safe fall season! Kevin Kuo,

### **Admin Report**

Fred Doulton, AP

Dear Members, We have many activities planned for this up-and-coming season—October / November / December.

Unfortunately, we were forced to postponed our 50th Anniversary Celebration until Spring 2022. Our plan is to celebrate at the April Change of Watch. More information will be coming your way.

In the past, we have observed Octoberfest by enjoying dinner at one of the various German Cuisines in our area. This year, again, we have made arrangements with **The Village Lanterne** (Lindenhurst.) Of course with the COVID restrictions we have limits. So please let us know if you will (and when your available) to join us this year. We are planning for dates between Oct 19 to 21 or between Oct 26 to 28.

We need your input.

Please watch for emails and flyers. Let us know if you have a special event or activity that we'd like us to host at one of meetings. This is your Club and we want to provide you with events that will bring a smile to your face.

#### by Kevin Kuo, AP





### Member's Article - I was thinking—'What if...?' By Ann

Here's is today's question...*What if* a boater wanted to pass me while I'm cruising on the sound? Lots of things flashed through my mind concerning this simple question. However, since this is such a technological society, I thought "What would Google say?" So I Googled her. To my surprise, there were over 47,800 attempts by individuals to learn about similar "boat safety" related topics like this one. Try it—you'll be surprised to see what are some of the most frequently asked questions concerning safe boating.

For example, **Boat-ed** posted their 10 most commonly asked boating questions: #1 - dealt with teenage boaters; #6 - related to how many life jackets should be on a boat if I have passengers aboard; and #10 - was concerned if he/she really needed a boat safety course after boating for over 25 years. In fact, the actual statement was "What...reason would I have to take a boating safety course?" Now that could turned into a '*What if'* question to think about.

Anyway, two questions that were part of **Discover Boating's** 'Top 5' were: #1 "Do you need a license to drive a boat?" and #3 "What are the Rules of the Road all about?"

Furthermore, I was bombarded by

thousands of safety diagrams, photos, and videos some as far away as Oregon. In fact, **USPS / America's Boating Club's** "Test Your Knowledge" quiz popped up. This was originally posted back in 2001 — <u>https://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nsbt/test.cgi</u>). Of course, you know, I had to take the quiz. I just couldn't help myself. Whoosh! So glad it got them right.

Anyway, back to my 'What if..' question. Many boaters have told me that they are reluctant to boat on the weekends because of the many **new** boaters out there today who just



don't know the Rule of the Road nor have taken any safety classes; not in-person-not online.

So how can we turn my '*What if*..' scenario into a positive thought? As conscientious boaters, we should encourage all boaters we meet to take a boat class. Whether we're at the dock, at the marine store, or just generally talking with friends about our great boating activities, you could throw in the questions..."When was the last time you took a boating course?" Or, perhaps remind them that "USPS/America's Boating Club has many revised courses and NEW seminars" that suit all types of boaters.

Consequently, throughout our day (both on the water or on dry land) we have many opportunities to 'sell' safe boating. And let's not exclude **by example.** Think about sharing your boating experiences with others and contact your marina or yacht club manager about having one of our 'certified instructors' host a course or seminar at their location.

> Knowing 'what to do,' 'how to do it' and 'when to do it' is so important for all boaters. What if the fairways or channel is narrow or crowded. What if you encounter a massive wake that could easily throw a passenger and crew member off balance.

What about distractions (music, loud talking, and yelling) while driving can equally be dangerous for the captain and crew. Knowing when it Stand-on and when to Give-way is paramount to ensure a safe voyage. And **What if** a boat wants to pass me. There are lots of questions and our safe boating courses may have the answers to some important questions and help with the *What if* questions that plague today's boater.

## Photo Gallery.... Virtual Meeting Pictures Page 6



The day started and ended just perfectly! We were able to enjoy a wonderful Summer Day at Greenport as our District joined together for the 2021 Rendezvous.

After the Flag raising, squadrons gather to enjoy a special day together. We had music and song from our favorite band—Joe and Madonna. Some of us danced the night away. Oyster Bay and Port Washington, again, supplied delicious watermelon and a special treat, for the over 21, watermelon martinis.



Birthday



This Rendezvous we also

celebrated Cdr Ron's Birthday.

On **'Demo Day'** Oyster Bay members (Ann & Tom) joined with Bayside PS at Capri West in Manhasset Bay to display the many different types of safe boating equipment boaters should have on board. Sharon, Carol and Ann took a minute to pose with some life jackets. It was a great day. We are planning another **'Demo Day'** for Hempstead Harbor watch for flyers and announcement



September boat ride to Port Jefferson, thank you Cdr Gil Allen, it was a sweet ride for many reason.

### GOOD AND WELFARE

Our District Commander George Hoffman, P/D/C Richard Frenz and Jones Beach Commander Bob Natoli, have all tested positive for COVID after attending the USPS Governing Board in Raleigh, NC. Although, our D/C is still in the hospital and in isolation, he sound perky. Rich and Bob are definitely on the road to recovery. D/C George reminds us 'to wear your mask 'and make healthy choices. Please kept them, and all those who are battling this new variant, in your thoughts and prayers.

Covid may have stopped some but our Club enjoyed some spectacular and safe events:

- 10 members participate in Cooperative Charting Cruises and
- 5 members went on the **Geodetic Treasure Hunt—**which was a blast.
- 20 plus VC Exams were done during some of the hottest days of the summer.

Remember to keep in contact through social media - including Facebook and our website. However, if you need information or want to talk...the Bridge and Executive Committee is always available.

Keep a steady eye peeled for changes in dates, and locations for events, activities and meetings. With Covid restrictions changing daily, we will take special care to keep you informed with emails and updates to our website (www.boatoysterbay.org) and

Facebook (www.facebook.com/oysterbay.powersquadron).



Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!



Diane Beecher Thomas Cassano. Nancy Fein Nicolle Navaretta Richard Robson Larry Weiss



Ada Ackerman Diane Akseizer Laura Cassano John Navaretta Michael Skupp Norman St. George



00

Lewis Bass Edward Fasano Luke Kuba Marco A Rojas Henry Tiska Rosemarie Zavatsky

2019

5.2 deaths

per 10,000 boats

1971

TT

20.6 deaths

per 10,000 boats

### Safety Article NYS 2019 Recreational Boating Report

After reading Thomas' Educational report, I was curious to learn more about the NYS publication he noted. If you are familiar with the report, you know that it is filled with charts, grafts, and tables. If not, here's the link. Hope you found it as interesting as I did.

According to the report, recreational boating is big business (as we know) amassing \$8 billion a year from NYS residents and her visitors. Statistics show that in 2019 the 'registered recreational boaters' number was 435,213; reporting only 5 reported fatalities the lowest in NY since 2006 and *that's still too many*!

Conversely, New York boaters saw a remarkable increase from 108 to 135 reported boating injuries in 2019. The report also stated: "2019 marks a significant year in the prevention of Recreational boating accidents and fatalities with the signing of Brianna's Law" which requires power besters to obtain a sofe besting of

signing of Brianna's Law" which requires power boaters to obtain a safe boating certificate.

NY noted other key factors that may have contributed to this decrease in deaths while still recording a significate increase in boating accidents. In 1971, the federal government created a detailed standard for boat manufacturers with the Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971. Based on statistics comparing 1971 to 2019 there is a significate reduction in deaths per every 10,000 boats.

Furthermore, improvements in technology, such as cell phones

allowed for faster response times and increased communication among boaters. Previous reports noted that from 2005 to 2019 92% of all water victims were **not** wearing PFDs. Since industry-wide manufacturers have developed and improved PFDs that are far more comfortable to wear causing many boaters now darn their PFDs more often. Furthermore, today's life jackets have been developed to maximize safety for specific activities on the water i.e., riding a PWC, skiing, wakeboarding, canoeing and kayaking. With these new and improved PFD and the fact that more boaters are wearing PFDs, it is impossible to tell just how many people have been saved over the years.

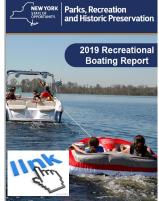
Let's further examine some cultural changes in the boating world. For instance:

- 1) the effects of local government to strengthened BWI laws;
- 2) the idea that drinking alcohol while on the water is NOT cool
- 3) expansion of mandatory safe boater education requirements first for youths now for everyone (as stated in the Brianna Law)
- 4) the convenience of online education classes and seminars that help to educate the boater
- 5) availability of new and improved technical equipment (GPS, Radar, etc)

In 2020, boating become a new way to maintain social distance and consumer demand for new boats surged across the country. The <u>National Marine Manufacturers Association</u> (NMMA), representing North American recreational boat, engine, and marine accessory manufacturers, reports that retail unit sales of new powerboats in the U.S. increased last year by an estimated 12 percent compared to 2019. More than 310,000 new powerboats were sold in 2020, levels the recreational boating industry has not seen since before the Great Recession in 2008. However, we have not seen an educational increase that compares to this increase in boaters.

Maybe by 2025, we will see even fewer deaths and fewer accidents. We should strongly think about how we can bring comprehensive classes and boater education to these new outdoor recreational enthusiasts who have turned towards boating. We need to think about Safety and we need to think about Education.

### by P/C Ann



# DISTRICT 3 & USPS NEWS

LOTS OF THINGS HAPPENING IN DISTRICT THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY TO RECEIVE A SPECIAL DISCOUNT!



Due to Coronavirus—District Activities may be cancelled or re-scheduled depending on COVID restrictions and/or government regulations. Watch for Up-Dates on our Website, Social Media and emails.

### <u>District 3 Meetings</u> If your part of Oyster Bay, you're part of District 3 Showing our support keeps our Club Strong

Up and coming Meetings All events are planned for In-Person at this time. Location: Marriott-Melville

- October 1st Fall Council Meeting—presentation of D3 Bridge Reports - Budget, Planning, and Governing Board Report, plus more.
- November 6th Click date to learn more
  - D3 Fall Educational Conference DEO Bob Bernstein has planned an exciting day filled with new educational and informative presentations. Teaching Aid competition. Lunch option with friends.

**District 3 -** Sister Squadrons are planning fall/winter events. Watch Facebook, D3 Website and D3 Emails for more detailed information. That's the best part of being a member of D3/ USPS... friendships that extends from shore to shore.

America's Boating Club®

**Annual Meeting 2022** 

Ponte Vedra, FL Feb 19-Feb 27 2022



### **Oyster Bay - Calendar**

#### 2021–2022 General Meeting and Events

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, Oyster Bay's Activities and Meetings may be held by Virtual Media. Always check the website or contact the Commander or a Bridge Member to learn more about an event

2021	Exec Mtg	Gen Mtg	Whether Virtual or In-Person we hope you can attend!	
Jun	7th	18th	6th Blessing of the Fleet OB - General Meeting / Commander's Cocktail Hour	
Jul	5th	NO	16th OB - Scavenger Hunt	
Aug	2rd	NO	8th OB - Raft-Up and Overnight at Stamford, Riverside	
Sept	9th	NO	50th Anniversary Canceled until April 2022	
Oct	4th	18th	18thOB - Bermuda Race (Game Night) & Photo ContestTBAOB - Oktoberfest Meeting - mid-October	
Nov	1 st	8th	8th OB - Veteran's Day–Speaker Michael Riccardi & Dessert	
Dec	7th	NO	12th OB - Holiday Party Haypath Comm Center	
2022				
Jan	3rd	10th	10thOB - Special Family & Friends Night Meeting21stD3 - Orientation Meeting	
Feb	7th	NO	TBA OB - Annual Non-Snow Bird Brunch / Meeting	
Mar	7th	14th	14th OB - Annual Meeting—Time to Vote	
Apr	4th	11 th	11th OB - Change of Watch Meeting	

### **Member Benefits**

### **Road Scholar**



### For more information Contact: https://www.roadscholar.org/





Print this Page and Put it on the Refrigerator So you don't forget about these special events

Due to the Coronavirus, Club Activities May be Postponed or Rescheduled Watch for Up-Dates on our Website, Social Media and emails. When in doubt Call.



## October 18th / 7:30pm

We have 4 Bermuda sailboat ready to for the Annual Bermuda Race all they need is crew. Join us at the <u>Syosset Woodbury Community</u> Center for our Annual Bermuda Race. Great fun, Great Friends

Social Time 7:30PM - Meeting 8:00PM - Race 8:30PM

**Plus...Photo Contest** — Bring your Summer Photo and share your summer stories about boating, family, and friends. Contest winners will be exhibited at the <u>Plainview Library</u> in <u>March</u>



Planning for In-Person Meeting for our October / November / December Meetings





Watch for your invitation email for the 1 October Council Meeting





### DISTRICT 3 UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS

Sail and Power Boating

# AMERICA'S BRATING CLUB

Good Morning D3,

The District 3 Council Meeting scheduled for 1 October has been changed to be a Virtual Meeting via Zoom.

The meeting link will be sent out via e-mail on the morning of the meeting.

Additionally, the start time for the meeting has been moved up one hour and will now begin 1900hrs (7pm).

District 3

This report is hot off the press from USPS/America's Boating Club<sup>®</sup>



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 29, 2021 Andrew Golden Principal Rushton Gregory Communications 617-413-6521 agolden@rushtongregory.com

#### AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB® LAUNCHES BOAT WITH CONFIDENCE CAMPAIGN

The Nation's Largest Volunteer Recreational Boating Safety Nonprofit Partners with Marine Manufacturers to Champion Boating Safety and Boater Education

Raleigh, N.C. – With Americans taking to the water in record numbers to enjoy the socially distanced fun and relaxation that boating provides, boating accidents, injuries and fatalities increased by approximately 25 percent\* from 2019 to 2020, according to the U.S. Coast Guard's 2020 Recreational Boating Statistics.

To help reverse this alarming trend, the Nation's largest and oldest volunteer recreational boating safety nonprofit, United States Power Squadrons<sup>®</sup>, America's Boating Club<sup>®</sup> created the *Boat With Confidence Campaign*, a nonprofit-corporate partnership with boat and other marine manufacturers to champion boating safety and boater education. Funds raised through the campaign will allow America's Boating Club to provide recreational boaters with an extensive suite of in-person, online and on-the-water training opportunities that nurture safe boating practices.

Verne Gifford, Chief, U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division, said that America's Boating Club's educational mission has become even more important given the pandemic-fueled increase in boating activity. "With more new and inexperienced boaters on the water, educational partnerships like the one led by America's Boating Club are critical at a time like this."

During its 2021 Governing Board Meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina, on September 4, the organization launched the campaign and welcomed its first *Boat With Confidence Champion*, Grady White Boats.

"As the Nation's largest group of volunteer boating safety instructors and advocates, America's Boating Club is honored to welcome Grady White Boats as our first campaign Champion," said Mary Paige Abbott, Chief Commander, America's Boating Club. "One of the world's most respected boatbuilders, Grady White has a reputation for excellence and integrity, and we are pleased to have them onboard as we work to make our waterways safer for all recreational boaters."

Shelley Tubaugh, Vice President of Marketing for Grady White Boats said stepping up as the first campaign Champion was a no-brainer. "From the very beginning, our owner, Eddie Smith, established safety as a top priority for our team members and for our customers, so partnering with an organization that has been teaching boating safety for over 100 years is a

#### AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB® LAUNCHES BOAT WITH CONFIDENCE CAMPAIGN

Page 2

natural fit for us," Tubaugh said. "We hope more marine industry companies join this campaign to help keep our waters safe through boater education."

To support this critical boater safety initiative, leading marine publisher Bonnier Corporation will provide an added incentive to marine manufacturers joining the campaign. "Bonnier has generously agreed to provide one free ad\*\* in any of its publications to *Boat With Confidence Champions*," said Tammy Brown, America's Boating Club Marketing Director. "Thanks to the support of Bonnier, Grady White and other campaign Champions, America's Boating Club can continue its work of ensuring that boaters receive the education, skills training and safety resources they need to boat with confidence."

For more information or to join the Boat With Confidence Campaign, contact Tammy Brown at <u>brownt@hq.usps.org</u>. To learn more about America's Boating Club and its mission, visit <u>americasboatingclub.org</u>.

\*From 2019 to 2020, boating accidents across the U.S. increased 26.3%, non-fatal injuries increased 24.7%, and fatalities increased 25.1%. Source: <u>2020 U.S. Coast Guard</u> <u>Recreational Boating Statistics</u>.

\*\*Free ads must be new, incremental ads, not already committed ads.

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For imagery and other editorial requests, please contact:

Andrew Golden Rushton Gregory Communications 617-413-6521 agolden@rushtongregory.com

About America's Boating Club®:

America's Boating Club® is a registered trademark of United States Power Squadrons®, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to boating safety and education. Our members are boaters and boating families who boat together, learn together, and contribute to their communities by promoting safe boating through education. America's Boating Club has over 20,000 members organized into more than 300 squadrons across the country.

Oyster Bay Sail and Power Squadron

From **November 1st until May 1st** all kayakers, canoeists, and all persons aboard any vessel under 21 feet must wear Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices while enjoying New York's coastal



Executive Meeting: Ist Monday of each Month from January to December (Virtual ONLY)

General Membership Meetings: 2nd Monday of each Month from (Virtual Meetings at this time) Always check Call to Meeting flyers and the website (boatoysterbay.org ) For more detail information: Dates—Times—Place of meeting

The Gull Chatter October / November / December 2021

**Oyster Bay Sail and Power Squadron** America's Boating Club PO Box 13 Oyster Bay, NY 11771 *Celebrating 50 years—Teaching Safe Boating*