

# THE DRUM

## From the Commander

*Charlie Fausold, N-IN*



### The Value of USPS

A hot topic in organizational management circles these days is called the Value Proposition. Simply put, does the customer/client/member perceive that the value of the product/service/benefit is worth the cost?

Most of us join USPS because we see a personal value in doing so. We need a certificate to operate a personal watercraft, or we want to augment our general boating skill and knowledge. Perhaps we are intellectually curious about celestial navigation, even though we may never venture beyond sight of our own dock or marina. The prospect of discounts on marine products or services may be appealing.

After we have belonged to USPS for a while we come to appreciate the camaraderie of

others who share our enjoyment of the wonderful pastime of boating.

Initially then, the value proposition of our USPS membership is clearly positive. But what about later on, after we have taken all the courses we are interested in? Perhaps we get older, or develop new interests, and aren't as active in boating as we used to be. Maybe it gets harder to justify the cost of those annual dues.

That's when the public value of USPS becomes important. Public value refers to the benefit that our programs and activities have for the public at large - those who haven't taken our courses, aren't members, and may have never even heard of the organization.

For example, when USPS programs result in safer waterways, everyone benefits from the reduced risk to lives and property. Insurance premiums are lowered, and first responders aren't put in harm's way as often. If new boaters develop confidence on the water, they are more likely to stay active, and more active boaters (and voter/taxpayers) means greater support for the

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<http://www.SenecaPowerSquadron.US>

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<http://facebook.com/SenecaPowerSquadron>

programs and infrastructure that support boating, which benefits everyone.

So even if the personal value of USPS membership becomes less important over time, the public value of our support for the organization remains.

Having enjoyed the direct benefits of belonging to the organization, we also have an obligation to give back as we are able, minimally through our dues, but hopefully also through involvement as instructors and volunteers.

## From the Commander (con'd)

I encourage all of our members to keep these concepts in mind when considering the value proposition of USPS membership.

Fair winds,

- Charlie

## From the Executive Officer (XO)

By Mark Erway, Executive Officer

It's hard to believe the phrase "back-to-school" is being used already!! This was a very short summer for Anne and myself as we had purchased our Hunter 28.5 in the middle of June and did not get it into Seneca until the middle of July, and then we found precious few times that we could come up and get to know *A Fresh Breeze*. But the times that we did make it to the lake, it was reassuring to know that the boating community at the Village Marina, whether affiliated with Seneca Sail and Power or Finger Lakes Yacht Club or just free lance, whether power or sail, that community is an incredibly friendly bunch and always ready to help. From our first year we were on Pier 1, the second year on Pier 2 and this year on Pier 3 and we've always been received well, made friends and had a good time just stopping and chatting along the way.



days on beautiful Seneca Lake and all the color that paints the hills. We also have to start thinking about haul-out and winter preparation. Keep an eye on the dates stamped on your safety equipment and make a plan to replace them over the winter. Take a close look at the running rigging, for chafing in places that may have been hidden or out of sight all summer long. And check the standing rigging closely where it comes through the deck. Are there any leaks apparent, or stress fractures that weren't there earlier? Are there any fish-hooks in the rig? Also look for any signs of wear or tearing where the shrouds attach to the mast or the spreader arms. Have any cleats worked loose, because they become a source of leaks as the holes elongate. How about motor mounts, especially in older boats, and look for unusual signs of wear around engine compartments, or on transoms. It's a good time to take stock of the physical condition of our boats. Our safety depends on it, for all of us.

Looking forward to fall boating!!!

*SAFE BOATING!*

- Mark, SV *A Fresh Breeze*

## From the Treasurer

By Dawn Dowdle, Squadron Treasurer

Seneca Sail and Power Squadron continues to be solvent.

- Dawn, SV *Irish Wake*



# Educational Updates

By Tom Alley, Education Officer

We're starting a new school year both in our respective school districts and in the Squadron as well. If you want to sign up for a class, please contact me immediately by e-mail at:



- Cost: \$70 (\$32 add'l)

[SEO@SenecaPowerSquadron.US](mailto:SEO@SenecaPowerSquadron.US).

## *Piloting*

The first course in a series of four dedicated to the art and science of navigation. Piloting is the introductory course to inland and near-coastal navigation. The assumption is that GPS will be the primary tool used, but completion of this course will also provide you with a working knowledge of traditional navigational techniques that will get you home if (when) your electronics fail.

- Prerequisites: None.
- When: Thursday's, beginning Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Duration: 9 weeks
- Where: TBA
- Instructors: Charlie Fausold and Terry Stewart
- Cost: \$95 (\$42 add'l)

## *Advanced Piloting*

The second course in a series of four dedicated to the art and science of navigation. Advanced Piloting builds upon the topics covered in Piloting and builds them to where the student can navigate with confidence in coastal and tidal waters. As before, GPS is assumed to be the primary tools but traditional navigational skills are honed to meet the demands of coastal environments.

- Prerequisites: Piloting. (Credit will not be awarded until student has also completed Seamanship.)
- When: Thursday's, beginning in January 2014
- Duration: 9 weeks
- Where: TBA
- Instructors: Charlie Fausold and Terry Stewart

## *Seamanship*

A course which takes subjects mentioned in the ABC class and covers them in greater detail along with providing practical, hands-on, on-the-water instruction and experience.

- Prerequisites: None.
- When: Fridays during May-June 2014
- Duration: 9 weeks
- Where: Big Flats Community Center & Watkins Glen Village Marina
- Instructors: Tom Alley & Others
- Cost: \$90 (\$46 add'l)

## *Junior Navigation*

The third of four navigation classes. This class will prepare you to cross oceans. While still utilizing GPS, the JN class provides the fundamentals of celestial navigation and shows you how to obtain your position utilizing the sun.

This course requires classroom work as well as fieldwork during which you will collect celestial observations needed to complete the course. The squadron will provide sextants if you do not have one.

- Prerequisites: Advanced Piloting
- When: Fall 2014
- Duration: 10-12 weeks
- Instructor: Tom Alley

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Information about all of our courses is available on the squadron web site or by contacting me by e-mail at [seo@SenecaPowerSquadron.US](mailto:seo@SenecaPowerSquadron.US) or by calling me at 607-377-6262.

- Tom, SV Tomfoolery

## Marine Electronics – The Digital Frontier

*Laptops, smart phones and tablets have saturated our lives to the point of becoming ubiquitous and as common as a wristwatch. (In fact, many people carry a cell/smart phone instead of a wristwatch!) These ultra-portable devices offer capabilities not even dreamed of a decade ago and are finding an increasing number of applications in all facets of our lives, including boating.*

*We want to make this column a regular one in this newsletter. To do so, we need your help. So, what's your favorite app? Tell us about it! - Ed.*

### Intellicast

The Intellicast website now offers real-time weather overlaid on NOAA nautical charts. Scroll and zoom to the area of interest: <http://www.intellicast.com/Marine/Boating.aspx>

### Remote Desktop

During the Squadron's recent GPS on-the-water event, I was testing a newly commissioned GPS that interfaced with my laptop and the navigation software I have installed on it. While everything worked great, it was apparent that I really needed something in the cockpit that I could refer to while underway. I was also somewhat reluctant to mount my laptop where the elements could get to it. Fortunately, there is a solution!

Since I also have an iPad, it is possible to get an app that will allow the iPad to be used as a remote desktop for the laptop. There are multiple apps available to do this for both Windows and Macintosh, as well as apps that run

on iOS and Android tables or phones.

The result, my laptop is safe in the cabin from sun, spray, stray feet or flying winch handles while I can still see the navigation chart on my iPad while at the helm.

One note: The iPad has some magnets in it, so don't mount it too close to your compass or autopilot!

### Knots 3D

Choose from 87 different knots and see how they're tied in incredible detail. Watch the knot draw itself and pause the animation to see where the virtual rope goes in and out and around. (Something about a rabbit and a hole and a tree right?) Zoom in on the knot to get a closer look or flip it around for another perspective. Can your old school knot app do that?!



Each 3D knot has detailed information including tying pointers, strength and reliability, structural info, and Ashley reference numbers (ABoK) and occasionally the history behind the knot. Knots are listed with their common synonyms or localized equivalents.

- Requires: iOS or Android device.
- Version 3.2.4
- <http://nynix.com/knots-3d/>
- Available online for \$1.99

## SENECA SQUADRON NEWS

### USPS Membership Benefits

Membership in USPS brings multiple benefits such as the opportunity to increase our boating knowledge, promote public safety, and social camaraderie. However, it also offers the chance to save real money on marine-related products and services as the result of special group discounts arranged by USPS National. The list is quite impressive, and is constantly expanded. Take a look - you may be surprised. Visit the following link on the web:

[http://www.usps.org/national/admin\\_dept/membenefits.htm](http://www.usps.org/national/admin_dept/membenefits.htm)

## Seneca Sail & Power Squadron Hosts a GPS Event

*By Jim McGinnis, SV Brewster*

The GPS Coordinates Event was held on Saturday 8/24/13 on Seneca Lake and was hosted as a Seneca Sail and Power Squadron social activity.

Eight (8) sailboats and crew participated in the event on a beautiful day on the lake. The course was planned as a learning event and not a competition. Each Boat was assigned three sets of latitude and longitude coordinates between Firtree Point to the north and Magee Point to the south. The event was set up like a scavenger hunt and each boat was given an answer sheet and a small chart of the lake without any coordinates showing. It took each of the boats about 2 and a half hours to complete the course. At the end we had we had a social hour and discussed the

answers. Peter Knott related a story about getting to Block Island by GPS a few years ago. It was requested that next time we add a few more points and make it a longer event traveling further north. Many thanks to Peter and Joette Knott, Ray and Mary Margeson, and Lynne and Jim McGinnis.




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## Seneca Squadron Pilots Youth ABC Class

*Tom Alley, Education Officer*

Seneca's Education Department recently completed a pilot of a youth-focused ABC class combining classroom and on-the-water components. Six happy and proud students, aged 10-14, all received their NYS safe boating card after successfully completing the final exam on August 31<sup>st</sup>. In addition, one of the parents attending the course also jumped in and passed the test as well.

The on-the-water component of the class was designed to provide basic exposure to things discussed in class by providing some "seat time" aboard a sailboat, power boat, and PWC (jet ski). Needless to say, the PWC was the most popular attraction with this younger crowd!

Many thanks to the MacBlane family for use of their powerboat and to the Barrett family for the use of their jet ski in this class.

Congratulations to our newest safe boaters!

*Katie Alley  
Rolf Lewis  
Maggie MacBlane*

*Michael MacBlane  
Andre Wigley  
Ben Wigley*



*SeaDoo PWC used by the ABC Class*

## Member Profile: Ray Margeson

Next up in the profile series is our Squadron Administrative Officer, Ray Margeson

### Tell us a bit about yourself?

Ray was born in Elmira over 72 years ago, graduated from the Horseheads School District, and then joined the Navy in 1960. After being accepted, he got even with them by sticking around until 1986. Half way to retirement, he met Mary at Corning Community College and married her in 1972.

Ray's exposure to sailing was limited to a couple of Navy tours in Guam and Australia until about four years ago when he and Mary happened to see a small Helms 25 sailboat for sale on Route 14. About a year later they decided it was too small to camp on and they moved on to their current boat, a Hunter 31.

### What type of boating do you like to do?

Ray's and Mary's idea of an ideal day on the lake doesn't include some of the drama that many sail boaters relish. They get a kick out of a long easy sail up the lake and a long leisurely sail back to the marina. Racing is probably something they won't likely get into, but cruising is a possibility. Says Ray, "Sailing is the nicest way to get there - quiet, peaceful and economical on a per mile basis."

### What is your most memorable "sea story"?

Ray's most memorable "sea story" involves a Laser, a WWII-era iron sea wall in Guam and winds from totally the wrong direction. Spoiler alert: The story ends with Ray sailing back with a hand full of sail in tatters.

### How long have you been involved with USPS?

After taking the ABC class in 2009, Terry Stewart, the Squadron Commander at the time, greeted each person who completed the course. He quickly convinced Ray that he should consider joining the Seneca Sail and Power Squadron to continue the education he had just completed. As a result, Ray has taken or instructed or assisted in instructing seven Power Squadron courses and firmly believes that education is the key to safe and pleasurable boating.

### Why do you belong to USPS?

Says Ray, "Why do I belong to the USPS? There are two reasons that I am primarily a member - education and fellowship. The education is top notch and the members of the Squadron are a great bunch of folks."

Why is he the Admin Officer? Carrie Sproul urged him to give it a try - and so far it has been sometimes a challenge, but always a satisfying feeling when folks have a great time at one of our many social and business events.



## Seneca Squadron Calendar

*By the Seneca Squadron Executive Committee*

### January 2013

- 15 Bridge Meeting (Kingsley's, Horseheads)  
20 Change of Watch (Holiday Inn, Elmira)

### February

- 12 Bridge Meeting (Kingsley's, Horseheads)  
15-16 D6 Spring Council (Ramada Inn, Geneva)  
23 Deadline for Drum Articles

### March

- 03 Mall Boat Show Setup (Arnot Mall)  
04-11 Mall Boat Show (Arnot Mall)  
11 Tear Down Boat Show Booth (Arnot Mall)  
12 Bridge Meeting (TBD)  
22 *First Session Boating Class (Big Flats Community Center, Tentative)*

### April

- 5-7 Spring Conference (Ramada Inn, Ithaca)  
9 Bridge Meeting (TBD)  
13 Spring Launch Party (Fulkerson's Winery)  
13 *Second Session Boating Course (Big Flats Community Center)*  
24 Deadline for Drum Articles

### May

- 6 Dinner Meeting (Tag's, Big Flats)  
14 Bridge Meeting (Kingsley's)  
18-24 Safe Boating Week  
24 File Historian Report

### June

- 11 Bridge Meeting (Kingsley's)  
24 Deadline for Drum Articles  
29 Partner in Command Seminar (TBD)

### July

- 13 *Flare Up! (TBD)*  
16 Bridge Meeting (Fausold's, Valois)  
23-26 District 6 Rendezvous (Bonnie Castle Resort, Alexandria Bay)

### August

- 20 August Bridge Meeting (TBD)  
26 Deadline for Drum Articles

### September

- 03-08 USPS Fall Governing Board (San Antonio, TX)  
9 Monthly Dinner Meeting (TBD)  
17 Bridge Meeting (Kingsley Residence)  
??-?? D/6 Fall Council (TBD)

### October

- 15 Bridge Meeting (TBD)  
??-?? Nominating Committee (TBD)  
28 Deadline for Drum Articles  
19 Oktoberfest (Fulkerson's Winery *tentative*)

### November

- 05 Monthly Dinner Meeting (TBD)  
??-?? D/6 Fall Conference (TBD)  
19 Bridge Meeting (TBD)

### December

- 03 Nominating Committee (TBD)  
17 Bridge/COW Planning (TBD)  
(One week early)  
20 Deadline for Drum Articles

### January 2014

- 15 Bridge Meeting (TBD)  
?? Audit Books (TBD)  
19 *Change of Watch (TBD tentative)*

### February 2014

- 2 USPS Annual Meeting (Jacksonville, FL)  
21 Deadline for Drum Articles

*Calendars tend to be "living documents." For the latest information on squadron activities, please check our web site:*

<http://www.SenecaPowerSquadron.US>

or our Facebook page:

<http://facebook.com/SenecaPowerSquadron>

for any last-minute changes.

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## Seneca Squadron – Who's Who?

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Not sure who to contact with questions or suggestions for *your* squadron? Well, here's a list to get you started!

**Commander:** Charlie Fausold  
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 607-535-4641

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**Administrative Officer:** Ray Margeson  
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 607-732-0579

**Education Officer:** Tom Alley  
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 607-562-3909

**Assistant Education Officer:** Tom Taylor  
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 607-725-0373

**Secretary:** Jim McGinnis  
[secretary@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:secretary@senecapowersquadron.us)  
 607-358-4409

**Treasurer:** Dawn Dowdle  
[treasurer@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:treasurer@senecapowersquadron.us)  
 607-769-8604

**Membership Chair:** Carrie Sproul  
[info@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:info@senecapowersquadron.us)  
 607-562-3334

**Public Relations Officer:** (Volunteer needed!)

**Executive Committee Members:**  
 Dennis Kingsley      Terry Stewart  
 Pat Jackson            Jerry Tinz

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*The Seneca Sail & Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons, is an organization dedicated to the advancement of responsible and safe boating through continuing education and social interaction.*

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## THE DRUM

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Attn: Editor  
 38 Woodland Drive  
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Seneca Sail & Power Squadron Members