



# THE DRUM

## From the Commander

Charlie Fausold, N-IN



Happy Birthday USPS! Yes, the United States Power Squadrons organization is celebrating its Centennial in 2014.

USPS traces its beginnings to a subgroup within the Boston Yacht Club formed to promote and protect the interests of boats powered by the new internal combustion engines. During World Wars I and II, USPS served the national defense effort by training people in navigation and boat-handling skills. In the post war era emphasis shifted to teaching general boating skills to the growing number of recreational boaters. Today, promoting safe enjoyment by families of boating activities of all types by is a major thrust of the organization. (See the Winter 2014 issue of *The Ensign* for a more complete USPS

history.)

In the early days, USPS squadrons emphasized naval-type drills and maneuvers. Although such activities soon grew out of favor, a growing number of our educational programs offer on-the-water components, an approach pioneered by our own Seneca Sail and Power Squadron, chartered in 1960.

Reading back over this history, one is struck by how USPS has evolved (sometimes belatedly - women were not admitted as general members until 1982!) in response to the changing needs of society. What will the future bring? Who knows? But we should take the opportunity to celebrate the present, and our Executive Committee is planning some fun and interesting activities for the coming season. Watch this space, our website, and our Facebook page for details.

Fair winds,

- Charlie

### MARCH 2014



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Visit our web site:

<http://www.SenecaPowerSquadron.US>

Or LIKE us on Facebook:



<http://facebook.com/SenecaPowerSquadron>



## Seneca Sail & Power Squadron Recognized

*By Tom Alley, S/V Tomfoolery*



Seneca Sail & Power Squadron received word this month that we have received two special awards from National:

**The 2013 Distinctive Communicator Award for Web Sites**

and,

**The 2013 Distinctive Communicator Award for Publications**

Many, many thanks to all of the people who have contributed articles and photographs to make both of these awards possible!

- Tom



## From the Executive Officer (XO)

*By Mark Erway, Executive Officer*

By the time you are reading this, we will be within 60 days of spring launch, and after a winter like we just had, it seems as though it couldn't come soon enough. We had numerous cold periods that were well below



zero, and that should make us stop and think about the power of water when it freezes, especially if that water is inside a bilge pump, a water line, an engine block, in drain piping, underneath seats, under hatch or porthole edging, into consoles, etc. If we didn't properly drain things last fall, or if snow and ice found its way inside our boat and formed an iceberg, it can easily break things apart as it expands during the freezing process. If that process cycles over and over we could have a very interesting launch day.

So it would be wise, especially after the many freeze-thaw cycles that we experienced this winter, to give things a very close look as we prepare for this next season. It would be easier to find things

before the ice melts, because it would still be lifted/pushed out of shape, but once it thaws, pipes and pumps might look pretty normal. Don't assume, give them a test. It'll save a lot of embarrassment.

United States Power Squadron is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary throughout 2014. In conjunction with that celebration, Seneca Sail and Power is now implementing the strategic plan that we worked on last year. We are looking forward to making more connections with people and businesses and organizations in our region and increasing our visibility. We hope to have a celebration and recognition event in June that will have lots of participants. Additionally we will be focusing on more activities and programs for young people, and hope to involve area high schools and organizations in some exciting challenges this coming season. It should prove to be a very exciting year.

Seneca Sail and Power Squadron - Safe, fun family 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

In order to keep warm this winter, the Educational Department of our squadron has been working overtime. There has been a lot of activity and we are queuing up a lot more, so I'll get right to it.

### *Operations Training*

This course is recommended for all USPS members and strongly suggested for members in leadership roles. The course serves as an orientation to the many facets of the organization and the procedures that have been developed over the last century for conducting USPS business.

- Prerequisites: None.
- When: 30 minutes of each of the next 3-4 Bridge meetings will be set aside to cover this material.
- Where: Bridge Meeting location.
- Lead Instructor: Charlie Fausold
- Registration Deadline: March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014
- Cost: FREE to USPS members.

### *Instructor Development*

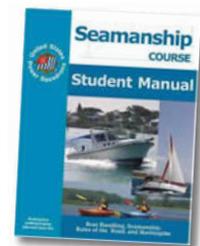
Unlike other USPS courses, the Instructor Development course is not designed to enhance boating skills. Rather, its emphasis is on enhancing presentation techniques and instructor skills. The course has been designed to demonstrate interactive teaching methods focused on adult learning and has been expanded from four to eight weeks in duration.

Students are required to prepare lesson plans and give three presentations to their peers utilizing a variety of teaching aids and presentation skills. The instructor may assign a topic for these presentations or you may use material and PowerPoint slides from existing USPS courses, and they may build on one another.

- Prerequisites:
  - Access to computer with Internet connection.
  - Access to presentation software (e.g., PowerPoint or Keynote)
- When: Fridays, beginning April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014
- Duration: 8 weeks
- Where: Big Flats Community Center
- Lead Instructor: Charlie Fausold
- Registration Deadline: March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014
- Cost: FREE to USPS members

### *Seamanship – Family Edition*

The Seamanship course is the next step after completing America's Boating Course (ABC), taking the knowledge and skills learned there and expanding and extending them with this newly updated edition. The course presents material applicable to both power and sail, covering such topics as the construction and functioning of a boat, the skipper's responsibilities, preparing the boat for use, handling



## Educational Updates (con'd)

and maneuvering a vessel under various conditions in close quarters and on the open water, rules of the road, anchoring, emergencies, and marlinspike/basic knots.

The Seneca Squadron is altering the presentation of this class slightly from prior years in order to make it more family-friendly and youth-oriented. (Course content remains unchanged.)

- Prerequisites: None.
- When: Fridays starting June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014
- Duration: 9 weeks
- Where: Big Flats Community Center & Watkins Glen Village Marina
- Lead Instructor: Tom Alley
- Registration Deadline: May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014
- Cost: \$90

### *Piloting*

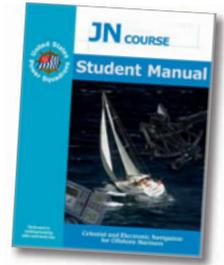
Piloting is the USPS introductory course to the art and science of navigation. This course takes a practical look at boat navigation in which GPS is the primary instrument used. The course will also teach you the traditional navigational skills needed for those cases when (not if) your boat electronics should suffer some "performance issues."

- Prerequisites: None
- When: Fall 2014
- Duration: 8 weeks
- Instructors: Jim McGinnis & Ray Margeson
- Registration Deadline: TBA
- Estimated Cost: \$95

### *Junior Navigation*

The first of two offshore navigation classes that will prepare you to cross oceans. While still utilizing GPS, this course 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.



For those of you who have endured the intense pace of some of the other Squadron courses to get here, you will be relieved to know that we tend to kick our heels back a bit and take our time with this one. The class will start in the fall, but only meet every other week (and take some time off for the Holidays), with a finish date some time in the spring. In addition, this schedule will allow the course to finish up as the weather begins to moderate, providing you with more (and better) opportunities to complete the field work required.

- Prerequisites: Advanced Piloting
- When: Fall 2014
- Duration: 12-16 weeks (meets every other week)
- Instructors: Tom Alley & Jim Morris
- Registration Deadline: TBA
- Estimated Cost: \$140-\$150

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

Don't see something that interests you? Let us know what and we'll look into offering it!

One more thing: We have family discount plans. Ask me about it when you register and we can discuss what is available.

- Tom

## *New!* SSPS Junior Sailing Program

*By Tom Alley, SEO*

The Seneca Sail & Power Squadron, in cooperation with the Finger Lakes Yacht Club, is launching a pilot program this summer to better engage our area youth and introduce them to boating that's not just responsible, but fun, too!

By the time you read this, SSPS will already be reaching out to various schools in our area to see if we can find a few students interested in forming a sail racing team to represent their school. Each school will be assigned a coach from among SSPS's pool of on-the-water instructors. The instructors will use their boats both as a classroom and as a race boat.

We'll start the summer out slowly with each coach introducing his or her crew to their boat and instructing them on the basics of boat handling, sailing, and of course, safety. By mid-summer we should be ready to start some practice races between crews and, since there is some school pride involved, there is the hope for some good-natured rivalries to be formed!

Crews and teams will then compete in four scored races during August and September alongside the FLYC fleet during their regular Summer Series. The intent is to have the students actually run the boats under the watchful eye of their coach and mentor.

Along the way, students will be given the opportunity to get their NYS Boater Safety certification

and/or enroll in the Seamanship class as well.

All students enrolled in the program will be USPS Junior Members with full access to all of the USPS educational opportunities and member benefits.

Parents will be invited to join in as well, as this program will be integrated into the FLYC social programs so that students (and parents) can mingle with one another after the races. Of course, they'll also be getting an introduction to the Power Squadrons and all that we represent.

This year will be a pilot program to test its feasibility and effectiveness along with Seneca's ability to sustain this activity.

If you are interested in possibly participating as a coach, instructor, or mentor to the students, please contact me right away so that we can talk about it!

- Tom

## SENECA SQUADRON NEWS

### Dates to Remember

March 28-30: D6 Spring Conference, Batavia

### Welcome Boychuck Family!

The Seneca Squadron extends a warm welcome to the Boychuck Family, Bill, Cheryl, William and Alex, our latest membership additions!

### Congratulations Kingston!

Please join the members of the Bridge in wishing the Kingston Power & Sail Squadron a happy 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary!



## Seneca Change of Watch

*By Charlie Fausold, SV Morning Star*

At the annual Change of Watch ceremony on January 19<sup>th</sup>, D/Lt/C Bill Herrick, JN, representing District Commander Judy Swanson, installed the Bridge Officers and Executive Committee for the Seneca Sail and Power Squadron for the coming year. The 2014 Bridge consists of:

Commander Charlie Fausold, N-IN

Executive Officer Mark Erway, P

Administrative Officer Ray Margeson, P

Treasurer Dawn Dowdle, P

Secretary Jim Morris, JN

Educational Officer Tom Alley, SN

Assistant Educational Officer Jim McGinnis, P

Denis Kingsley, S, Tom Taylor, P, Jerry Tinz, JN, Terry Stewart, JN, and Pat Jackson, AP were elected to the Executive Committee. Many thanks to all for agreeing to serve.

- Charlie



## Around the District

By Charlie Fausold, Squadron Commander

In an effort to ease the budget and in recognition of the way many of us access information these days the USPS District 6 newsletter is now available in electronic format only. To view the current issue, just click on this link:

<http://uspsd6.org/Documents/Publications/SpringDeep62014.pdf>

On March 1, Cdr Charlie Fausold, XO Mark Erway and PRO Barry Lewis attended the D6 Spring

Council. The meeting minutes may be found in the File Cabinet section of the D6 Group on Sailangle.

Finally, in 2015 Executive Officer Bill Herrick, JN, will take over as Commander. Bill has proposed that the 2015 D6 Rendezvous be a Finger Lakes Odyssey beginning in Watkins Glen, heading up Seneca Lake, through the canal, and ending in Ithaca on Cayuga Lake. Sounds like a lot fun and something our squadron will want to participate in.

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## More of Who's Who in the Seneca Squadron

Most people are not aware of the many ways to get involved in the Power Squadrons. Many of these ways actually come with a recognized office and title as defined in the Squadron Charter and/or the Operations Manual. Below is the slate of nominees and volunteers who were appointed by the Bridge at their February meeting to take up the listed positions and duties within our squadron.

**Assistant Treasurer:** Marcia Taylor. This position is usually only used in larger squadrons to allow spreading of the responsibilities and dividing the workload of the Treasurer. Marcia graciously stepped up when our Treasurer suffered an illness earlier this year. (Update: Look to see our Treasurer back on her feet again, soon!)

**Public Relations Officer:** Barry Lewis. The job of the PRO is to help get the word out about the things the Seneca Squadron has to offer. Helping Barry with this task is Mark Erway. Please contact Barry if you'd like to help.

**Flag Lieutenant:** Merrill Sproul. As a past commander and officer on the District 6 Bridge, Merrill has contributed to the Power Squadrons in many ways over many, many years. He continues to do so as the Squadron's Flag Lieutenant where he can advise and coach the rest of us in the many nautical traditions that the USPS strives to honor.

**Squadron Historian** - You? *Position vacant. We need a volunteer!* The duty of the Historian is to maintain a record of significant events in the Squadron's history along with some responsibilities for maintaining archives of official Squadron documents.

**Membership Chair:** Sue Morris.

**Young Mariners Committee:** *Know an interested teenager or two? We need volunteers to staff this.* This team will represent youth interests and advise the Bridge of such.

**Social Activities Committee:** Reporting to the Administrative Officer, this committee organizes social activities for the Squadron. This committee is currently composed of Carrie Sproul, Rebecca Lewis, and Ray Margeson.

**Vessel Safety Check Chair:** Don Kloeber. This position coordinates complimentary vessel safety checks for our local area.

**Nominating Committee:** Chair to be elected at the annual meeting. This committee recommends candidates to fill offices of the Squadron.

**Auditing Committee:** Chair to be elected at the annual meeting. This committee performs audits of the Squadron finances as directed by District and National policy.

**Squadron Chaplain:** Mark Erway. Mark is an ordained minister and has volunteered to fill this role.

**IT Contact, Roster Contact, Newsletter Editor, and Webmaster:** Tom Alley.

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Find out what opportunities exist for you to get involved. Sign up for Operations Training (see page 4) and learn all about the various positions and committees that are available!

# Seneca Squadron 2014 Calendar

By the Seneca Squadron Executive Committee

## January 2014

- 19 Change of Watch  
*Holiday Inn, Elmira*
- 26-2/2 USPS Annual Meeting  
*Jacksonville, FL*

## February

- 18 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*Kingsley's, Horseheads*
- 21 Deadline for Drum Articles

## March

- 01 D6 Spring Council  
*American Legion, Newark*
- 18 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*Big Flats Community Center Conference Room*
- 28-30 D6 Spring Conference  
*Batavia, NY*

## April

- 5-7 Spring Conference  
*Ramada Inn, Ithaca*
- 15 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*Location TBD*
- 25 Deadline for Drum Articles

## May

- 5 Dinner Meeting  
*Location TBD*
- 20 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*Location TBD*
- 18-24 Safe Boating Week

## June

- 17 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*Location TBD*
- 27 Deadline for Drum Articles

## July

- 15 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*Fausolds, Valois*

## August

- 19 August Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*Location TBD*
- 29 Deadline for Drum Articles

## September

- 03-08 USPS Fall Governing Board  
*San Antonio, TX*
- 9 Monthly Dinner Meeting  
*Location TBD*
- 16 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*Location TBD*
- ??-?? D/6 Fall Council  
*Location TBD*

## October

- 21 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*Location TBD*
- ??-?? Nominating Committee  
*Location TBD*
- 24 Deadline for Drum Articles

## November

- 03 Monthly Dinner Meeting  
*Location TBD*
- ??-?? D/6 Fall Conference  
*Date and Location TBD*
- 18 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*Location TBD*

## December

- 03 Nominating Committee  
*Location TBD*
- 16 Bridge/COW Planning (1900)  
*Location TBD*
- 19 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  
[cmdr@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:cmdr@senecapowersquadron.us)  
607-535-4641

**Executive Officer:** Mark Erway  
[xo@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:xo@senecapowersquadron.us)  
607-215-1624

**Administrative Officer:** Ray Margeson  
[ao@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:ao@senecapowersquadron.us)  
607-732-0579

**Education Officer:** Tom Alley  
[seo@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:seo@senecapowersquadron.us)  
607-562-3909

**Assistant Education Officer:** Jim McGinnis  
[aseo@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:aseo@senecapowersquadron.us)  
607-358-4409

**Secretary:** Jim Morris  
[secretary@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:secretary@senecapowersquadron.us)

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

**Membership Chair:** Sue Morris  
[info@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:info@senecapowersquadron.us)

**Public Relations Officer:** Barry Lewis  
[pro@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:pro@senecapowersquadron.us)

**Executive Committee Members:**

Dennis Kingsley	Terry Stewart
Pat Jackson	Tom Taylor
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  
Big Flats, NY 14814

Seneca Sail & Power Squadron Members

**Room Reservation Process for Spring Conference 2014**

***P/D/C Michael Kelly, AP — Conference Planning Committee Chairman***

We will continue to use the e-mail process and thereby take advantage of our tax-exempt status by making group reservations by Squadron under the Squadron’s tax-exempt number. Meal reservations will continue to be made through the host squadron (Rochester Sail and Power Squadron) and are covered under the District 6 tax-exempt number. **Deadline for room reservations is 28 Feb 2014 and meal reservations deadline is 21 March 2014.**

**SQUADRON MEMBERS:** Please send your reservation form below to your Commander.

**COMMANDERS:** Clarion Hotel, Batavia, NY, welcomes the squadron reservations by e-mail. The process remains simple. An e-mail form letter was sent to the squadron commanders explaining the process and what rooms are available for hospitality use. Just fill in the blanks to include the squadron tax-exempt number, room requests and the commander’s name and credit card number. Then e-mail the form to the hotel at the address shown on the form. Revisions, such as add-ons, are acceptable and can be forwarded to the hotel using the same form. Upon checkout rooms have to be paid for by cash, squadron credit card or squadron check. Note: those members wishing to by-pass the tax-exempt process and take advantage of credit card perks etc. can register in the same manner by stating they will pay their entire bill by credit card at checkout.

We have 47 sleeping rooms available for our Spring Conference at a rate of \$89.00 per night, single or double occupancy (LIMITED KING BED ROOMS AVAILABE AT SAME PRICE). Clarion Hotel will assign the rooms on a first received basis.

**DISTRICT 6 BRIDGE, P/D/C’S, AND CPS** attendees and members from other Districts will continue to make their room reservations through the Conference Planning Committee (CPC). For Spring Conference 2014 reservations should be sent to P/D/C Michael Kelly, at 38 Preston Circle, Rochester, NY 14626-1157, PAYABLE TO ROCHESTER SAIL and POWER SQUADRON and or email at: [mkelly@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mkelly@rochester.rr.com)

Have a great conference.

**United States Power Squadrons®  
District 6 Spring Conference 2014**

*28 March to 30 March 2014*

**Clarion Hotel**

8250 Park Road, Batavia, NY, 14020  
Telephone: (585) 344-2100 X 7625  
Fax: (585) 344-0238

Sue Mondt at [susan@claironbatavia.com](mailto:susan@claironbatavia.com)

**Room Reservations**

Room Rate is \$89.00 per night for single or double occupancy,  
(Limited king bed rooms available at same price) Deadline: 28 Feb. 2014.

Send completed Hotel Reservation Form to YOUR squadron commander.

**2014 Spring Conference Hotel Reservation Form**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Mate: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Nights Staying: Friday, 28 March 2014 \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday, 29 March 2014 \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodations: Double \_\_\_\_\_ King \_\_\_\_\_

Total @ \$89.00 per night = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

