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# THE DRUM

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Volume 2004, Issue 4

September 2004

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE District 6 Fall Council and Conference

Labor Day weekend signals the change in schedule for many of us. A new school year and another fall season is about to begin and the boating season is about to end. The District activities start on 17-18 September with the Fall Council meeting at the Holiday Inn in Batavia, NY. The Council meeting serves a dual roll. First, its primary purpose is to set the agenda for the business meeting at the Fall Conference. Secondly, the latest news from the Governing Board Meeting is distributed during the afternoon Educational Department Seminar. This year's seminar agenda includes a session on the Instructor Certification process for all public boating course instructors beginning 1 January 2006 and a training session on the new 2004 Piloting Course instructors.

The Fall Conference will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Corning, NY on 5-7 November 2004. Seneca Squadron is the Host Squadron for the event. P/C Kathy Healy, P, P/C C.J. Miller, JN, Lt/C Bob McGilvrey, S, Lt/C Jerry Tinz, AP and Karen Sheen, S compose the Conference Committee.

Corning, NY is one of the favorite locations for D/6 Conferences thanks to the attractions on Market Street and the local museums. Many hands will make the task of sponsoring the event a fun filled and rewarding event. The Conference begins Friday evening with Squadron Hospitality suites stocked with liquid educational material and food. Attendees circulate between their home squadron and other squadron hospitality suites. It is fun and informal, and meeting friends, old and new, is the aim of the night. Saturday we have our meetings, the ship store is open and we end up with our dinner dance in the Radisson ballroom. The weekend will be fun and one the Seneca Power Squadron should be proud to sponsor. Let's all mark our calendars, support our squadron along those who have stepped forth to lead it and try to have a good attendance at our own conference.

### Admin Officer's "Words of Wisdom on how to have fun."

Lt/C Robert McGilvrey, S

There is a destination that should attract members of the power squadron and yet very few have been there. It is accessible by both water and by land. Another aspect that should stir curiosity is the fact that ghosts haunt this destination. Now is your chance to find and explore this worthwhile spot, on **Sept. 12, 2004** the Seneca power squadron has a reservation at **Miles Winery on Seneca Lake**. From **noon till 3:00PM** we will have the use of the dock and grounds as well as a **private tasting at 1:00 PM**.

This function is a combination of Summer Squadron Rendezvous, Annual Past Commanders Dinner and the annual picnic.



**Bring your own main dish, a dish to pass and your own beverages** and we can eliminate a bit of work for any one person and keep the cost down. There is a **fee of \$3.00/person** for the tasting but you get to keep the glass. All we have to do is let the folks at the winery know how to expect about 5 days before the event. If you want to join us at the only winery on Seneca Lake that can be reached by water, let Bob McGilvrey know by Sept. 7, 2004 by e-mail or phone (rmcgvrey@aol.com) 607-937-6176. If you would care to check out the web site: [www.mileswinecellars.com](http://www.mileswinecellars.com)

The haunted Greek revival home and tasting room is located **at 168 Randall Crossing Road, Himrod, NY**. For those coming by water, use your GPS to



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put the most heel on the boat. Squadron Treasurer Lt/C Jerry Tinz, AP, couldn't wipe the smile off his face as he put the rail in the water and had us going 10 knots, according to Ron Hines's hand held GPS. A great tragedy occurred when wine was spilled from a glass onto the wooden deck and a crewman had to wipe it up. He tried to have us own up to who had done it so they could be flogged but true to our Power Squadron unity we held tight our lips ...until he left and we could open more wine and eat more of Sharon Schillberger's ham roll ups or Margo McGilvrey's pate...delicious! During the last half hour we finally did get into a little rain but by that time we were well on our way back to port. Some members went below to escape the rain but there were those hardy soles that stayed topside to enjoy the last of the ride. The boat was in tiptop shape, very clean, highly varnished and sailable. Captain Hazlett told us of some adventures they had with it, bringing it from Seneca Lake down to the Chesapeake Bay for some races and regattas during the off-season. It sailed well down through the inter-coastal waterways and was a very seaworthy boat. We are fortunate to have a boat such as the Malabar X in our area and on our lake. It was a comfortable riding boat and a fun thing to go on an adventurous sail on an evening with friends up on the lake.

**The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of Seneca Power Squadron, District 6, or United States Power Squadrons. The "Drum" and the Squadron Roster are for private use of Seneca Squadron members and USPS members only. It is not to be distributed outside of USPS.**

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**A word, from the guy with the green eyeshades.**  
**Treasurer's Report**  
Lt/C Jerry Tinz, AP

The 2004 membership renewal process is history. Seneca has 78 Active Members, and 16 Additional Active members for a total of 94 members. Thanks to all who continued to their support of USPS and Seneca Squadron by renewing their membership.

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**2004 Seneca Squadron Schedule of Events**  
Subject to Change

08-12 September	Fall Governing Board Meeting	Jacksonville, FL
12 September	Carry In Dinner and Wine Tasting	Miles Winery 168 Randall Crossing Road, Himrod, NY
17-18 September	Fall Council Meeting and Educational Seminar	Holiday Inn, Batavia, NY
04 October	Monthly Dinner Meeting	TBD
05-07 November	Fall Conference Sponsored by Seneca Squadron	Radisson Hotel, Corning, NY

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**Educational Department**  
Lt/C Scott Satterlee, AP

The program to integrate electronic navigation techniques into the USPS is moving rapidly forward. The latest course announcements include:

**The Squadron Boating Course 2004 Edition with Electronic Navigation/GPS.** The 2004 edition of the Squadron Boating Course has been NASBLA recertified. The new edition contains NASBLA and Homeland Security updates and has many new graphics. This cornerstone USPS public course continues to provide a basic introduction to traditional seamanship and navigation. It also now includes a new section on *Digital Charting with GPS interface*. Each student manual is shipped with a Maptech Chart Navigator Training CD. The CD contains digital Bowditch Bay and 1210Tr charts, as well as over 100 charts, topographic maps, and contour charts. The electronic material was designed for maximum instructor flexibility. It can be presented using a computer and video projector along with the Maptech program for "live" plotting exercises; or, to go over the problems and Day's Cruise as a class exercise; or, to be assigned as self-study. There are no test questions covering the material, so it could also be

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presented as a “bonus” class session. The [“Boating Skills” Power Point CD](#), shipped to all squadrons in March 2004, contains the new Boating Course 2004 graphic material. It also contains a separate Microsoft PowerPoint presentation in the Boating Course section covering the Digital Charts material.

The newly updated and totally rewritten **Piloting course** ready for the fall classes! A totally new approach to teaching piloting is ready for instruction to USPS classes. The new approach not only incorporates the latest information on GPS into the piloting process, but also uses up-to-date computer graphics to make both teaching and learning easier. The new course, along with its soon to be added companion **Advanced Piloting**, incorporates the use of GPS while retaining the traditional material on charting, dead reckoning, and a host of other piloting skills. The new courses also demonstrate new material on computer navigation and digital charting from the included digital charting CD, and provide a Student Guide with color graphics and a new 2004 text as a supporting reference. For those who have Internet connections and wish to preview the contents of these new courses, download the [PowerPoint presentation](#) (14.4 MB) provided to the DEOs at the 2004 Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL. Be aware that because of the file size, it could take an hour or more to download via a dial-up connection. To view the presentations, a copy of MS PowerPoint or MS PowerPoint Reader, available for download from the USPS website, installed on your computer.

The new courses provide the opportunity to use the GPS unit mounted on the bridge to expand you boating range and enjoyment. Contact SEO Scott for course schedule. For those who took previous editions of Piloting and Advanced Piloting, consider enrolling, or monitoring the new courses so experience how GPS has changed how we navigate on inland and near shore waters.

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**District Six Rendezvous**

**Bonnie Castle Resort  
Alexandria Bay, NY**

**Reflections upon the River Rat Rendezvous from a First Time Attendee**

**Karen Sheen**

Having been a local Squadron member for several years, I had never attended a District function, particularly such a wonderful undertaking as the Alexandria Bay trek. I wondered if I would be “sea worthy” as a first mate, never having gone through a lock, and never having traversed Lake Ontario.



I would like to thank all of the District 6 members who encouraged me and also thank all the hard work of all the members who put on such a wonderful Rendezvous. It was filled with fun activities, delicious food, and lots of opportunities to meet fellow District members. The location was perfect and the weather, while changeable, did not deter all of us from having a terrific time.

The District should be proud to have had such a successful meeting and so many different Squadrons represented. It was a delightful time on the dinner cruise, to have the chance to sit with strangers who quickly became friends.

Finally, I would like to thank the local Squadron members who pulled together to make the event a great Seneca representation so

many miles from home.

The photo was taken from the bridge of Karen and Ralph Sheen’s boat as they were transiting Lock 8 in Oswego.

Thanks to Ralph Sheen and Dave Schilberger, the editor has numerous photos of the Seneca Squadron “fleet” and their antics at the rendezvous. Photos and story will appear in the next issue of the Drum. Don’t want to make the down loads any slower with more photos in this edition.

# Reservation Form for Meals at the –Fall Conference 2004 Radisson Hotel, Corning, NY

## 5-7 November 2004

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Squadron Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Lunches @ \$12.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$13.00 at Conference)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Dinners @ \$23.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$28.00 after advance deadline)  
 Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Advance reservation deadline is 18 October 2004.  
 Cancellation for full refund deadline is 25 October 2004.**

Please send this form, a separate sheet noting any special diet meal requests, and your check for the “Total Amount” shown above, Payable to District 6 Fall Conference 2004 to:

P/C Creighton J. Miller, JN  
 4761 Mason Road  
 Burdett, NY 14818  
 Telephone at 607-546-9491, email at [millercc@empacc.net](mailto:millercc@empacc.net)

Questions may be addressed to **Bob McGilvrey** at [rmcgilvrey@aol.com](mailto:rmcgilvrey@aol.com) or  
 607-937-6176

**\*\*Lunch** will be a business buffet including daily soup, sliced baked ham, breast of turkey and roast beef, white albacore tuna salad, sliced cheeses, fresh lettuce, sliced tomato, sliced onion and pickle wedges, bread and roll assortment, mixed green salad, coffee, tea, and soft drinks

**\*\*Dinner** will be a boneless center cut pork chop loin slow roasted and served with apple stuffing and pan gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetables, mixed green salad, bread basket of crusted rolls and flat breads, French silk pie for dessert

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**Seneca Squadron  
Dish to Pass/Wine Tasting Combination Event  
12 September 2004  
[Summary of Events]**

**Where:** Miles Winery on Seneca Lake  
168 Randall Crossing Road, Himrod, NY. **L 42°37'08" N Lo 76°-55'-07" W**  
**Come by land or by water.**

**Time:** 1200 to 1500

**Wine Tasting:** 1300

**What to Bring:** Own main dish, a dish to pass and your own beverage.

**Cost:** \$3.00/Person

Reservations: Please let Bob McGilvrey know if you can attend by **Tuesday September 7**, 2004 at (607) 937-6176 or [rmcgilvrey@aol.com](mailto:rmcgilvrey@aol.com).

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**Dated Material Do Not Delay.**

**"The Drum"**  
C/O Merrill F. Sproul  
40 Antler Road  
Big Flats, NY 14814

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