



boats for use as a teaching platform for our students and Junior Sailors.

Our closing event for the year is the dinner meeting at Esperanza Mansion on November 17<sup>th</sup> (details elsewhere in this

issue), if you can attend, we will do our best to review the highlights of the year and celebrate the many contributions and achievements of our members.

With many thanks,

- Cmr. Mark

## From the Executive Officer

By Charlie Fausold, SN-IN



The Bridge and committees have been working hard for the past several years to revitalize the Seneca Sail and Power Squadron. Among the accomplishments are the following:

- A full curriculum of educational courses, many with on-the water components
- Award-winning newsletter and website
- Active social media presence

- Innovative Junior Sailing program
- Expanded public outreach
- Varied and interesting social activities

Where a model existed for what we wanted to do, we used it. When it didn't, we made our own.

Our progress has not gone unnoticed, as we have been formally recognized with an award from District 6, been profiled in articles in the *Deep 6* and the three most recent issues of *The Ensign*, including the cover story in the summer issue, and gave an invited presentation at the USPS National Conference in Jacksonville.

A vital ingredient of our success has been a regular influx of new members willing to step up to leadership positions. New folks not only bring fresh energy and ideas, they also make it possible for veteran leaders to step

aside and "take a breather," something even the most dedicated member needs to do every once in a while.

This is the time of year when the Nominating Committee is looking for members to get more involved with squadron activities. Some roles are more involved than others, but if you can contribute even a little time, please volunteer. Serving on a committee or as an officer is a commitment, but it is also a lot of fun and the future of our squadron and the important work we do depends on it.

Thank you!

- Charlie

## From the Administrative Officer

By Rebecca Lewis



Wow, how quickly time flies. It seems as if it was yesterday that I was attempting to plan out events for the 2015 season and here it is October and I am looking at winding down the season.

November 17, 2015 will be our final event. An invitation has been sent to the Junior Sailing members and their families to

thank them for a fun 2015 Sailing Season.

I have been in touch with the staff at Esperanza and they are looking forward to hosting our event. I ask that if you are planning on attending that you reply be sent by email or phone by November 10, as this will allow me to finalize details before the dinner. The cost for the buffet dinner is \$36 per person.

Cash or check may be used to make your payments, please make checks to out to Seneca Sail and

*Buffet Menu*

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**Prime Rib of Beef**  
Seasoned and slow roasted, served with a horseradish sauce or Au Jus

**Chicken Frangelico**  
Almond crusted chicken with a Frangelico cream sauce

**Grilled Vegetarian Ravioli**  
Ravioli stuffed with fresh vegetables and tossed with a light roasted garlic cream sauce

**Seasonal Dessert**  
Buffet to be served with a Mansion tossed salad and a choice of dressings; a seasoned medley of vegetables, roasted garlic mashed potatoes, fresh rolls and butter.  
Coffee, tea, and iced tea  
Cash Bar

\$36 per person

Power Squadron. You may mail your payment to me, Rebecca Lewis at 8825 Curtis Hollow Road, Campbell, New York 14821.

It has been a busy year and I hope you have enjoyed yourselves. I look forward to seeing you at Esperanza on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Take care,

- Rebecca

You may also choose to submit your payment to our Treasurer on the evening of the dinner.



You are invited to attend the  
**Seneca Sail and Power Squadron  
2015 Autumn Dinner Banquet**

Tuesday, November 17th, 2015  
at  
**ESPERANZA MANSION**  
3456 Route 54A  
Keuka Park, New York 14478

Time:  
Social at 6:30  
Dinner at 7:15  
Cost is \$36 per person  
Cash Bar

There will be a brief business meeting held at this dinner.

RSVP by November 10, 2015  
phone: 607-368-3367  
email: [ao@senecapowersquadron.us](mailto:ao@senecapowersquadron.us)

## From the Education Officer

By Tom Alley, SN



As mentioned in the last issue of *The Drum*, we will be offering a series of seminars this fall and early winter on boat maintenance. Our plans are beginning to firm up and

I'm happy to offer the following details at this time.

Some of the topics we will be covering include:

- Hull cleaning, fairing, and painting.
- Structural fiberglass work.
- Deck cleaning, restoration and painting (including non-skid application).
- Restoring tired woodwork.
- Re-rigging the sail plan.
- Proper techniques for installing deck fittings and access ports.

Other topics may be added as the project progresses, but I think this is a good start. As you can see, it will be a fairly comprehensive program!

Best of all, you won't have to "practice" on your own boat!

Seminar details are listed later in this newsletter. If you think you might be interested one or more of the sessions, please sign up ***now*** so we can hold a place for you.

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I am also most grateful to all of the volunteers that have been helping out with our youth programs – Seneca Junior Sailing and the Youth ABC classes. The energy and enthusiasm of our instructors is rubbing off on the students (and more than a couple of parents) and we have some pretty motivated young sailors amongst us now.

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Speaking of ABC, congratulations to our recent graduates!

- The Stewart Family: Bob, Karen, Jill & Sam
- The Michel Brothers: Zach & Sam
- Fred Seip

Also, a big hand to our ABC teaching team for third consecutive summer with a 100% passing rate! Great job Peter, Katie B., and Jim!

And we can't forget the very generous folks at the Watkins Glen Yacht Club for making their facilities available to us at no charge. THANK YOU!

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Another group that's been working hard all summer is our Seamanship class who recently completed the course and took the final exam. While results of the exam are still a couple weeks away, I want to applaud all of you on your hard work and dedication to the class.

As a side note, 75% of the Seamanship class was composed of youth members of our Squadron.

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Policy reminder: It has been our practice in the Seneca Squadron to offer scholarships to our outstanding students. If you receive a perfect score on the final exam of any of the Advanced Grade or Elective courses, the next course is on us! (In plain English: It's free. No charge. Gratis. Got it? Good! Now sign up for one of our classes!)

- Tom

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

# Youth Committee Report

By Katie Alley, P

## Season Wrap-Up

It is very hard to believe that *Tomfoolery* has gone into hibernation for the winter and that this is the last newsletter of 2015 – but Seneca Junior Sailing has certainly had a very busy and successful year! Plenty has happened even just since the last newsletter.



On Labor Day, four junior sailors – Rolf Lewis, Isaac Thomas, Maggie MacBlane, and myself – were able to learn the definition of “salvage” in a quite unique way when a large white truck rolled down the marina’s launch ramp into the lake. We had an interesting and educational form of entertainment over lunch when the fire department and two tow trucks showed up to rescue the totaled vehicle. There was also some hands-on diving for Captain Tom and Rolf.



Though the scheduled Geneva Barge Race was cancelled, Captain, Isaac, Maggie, and I still had an enjoyable cruise on Seneca Lake. *Tomfoolery*, traveling alongside *Seek Ye First*, was able to sail the entire length of Seneca Lake on one tack at hull-speed during one leg of the journey. To read more about our Geneva Cruise, see the latest issue of FLYC’s *Port Tacks*.



The boats crewed by the Junior Sailors were greatly victorious in FLYC’s Race #7, which provided “delightfully brisk winds”. *Seek Ye First* took first place, *Tomfoolery* took second, and *Tark* took

third. This is another new record for any of the boats that have happened to be named *Tark* in recorded history. This is pure evidence that our coaches have taught us well!



During Race #8, I gained another experience with malfunctioning sails on *Seek Ye First*. The winds were light at the start of the race, so skipper Mike Crouse and I decided a drifter would be the best choice for a headsail. We were correct, at first anyways, as we led the fleet towards the first mark. Suddenly, the wind gusted and picked up out of the north. Mike pulled the 42-year-old drifter in too tight causing it to tear right across the center of the sail. We were able to replace it with Mike’s usual headsail, but not before a large majority

of the fleet passed us. (Even *Tark* passed us.) Many of them told us as they sailed by that they could hear the ripping-sound from a distance away. We were able to catch up to the fleet during the remainder of the race, but *Toomfoolery* still managed to beat us across the finish line. (You're welcome Dad.)



In the FLYC's 2015 Season Race Scores, *Tomfoolery* took fourth place, *Seek Ye First* took eighth, and *Tark* took ninth. The Junior Sailors' perseverance is shown in these scores. We definitely did an excellent job crewing for and competing against experienced sailors! We owe some of that success to our terrific coaches, who provided us with everything we needed to know.

2015 was an outstanding year full of accomplishments, particularly for our youth program. Our youth program was

featured in the Winter, Summer, and Fall issues of the *Ensign* this year.

In January, our squadron received special recognition at a national level, when Rolf, Captain and I traveled to the National Conference in Jacksonville, FL to present the Seneca Junior Sailing program. Soon afterwards, we established a Youth Committee (and this regular section of the newsletter!).

In May, Seneca Junior Sailing was featured in a *Star Gazette* article. Many people in the local area read about our squadron and what we're about.

We had eight junior sailors this year, three of which were returnees. We also had one parent join – and she is now our Squadron Public Relations Officer! We had six coaches - three of which were new to Junior Sailing this season – and one new boat. Surely everyone involved has been talking about how amazing their experience was, so that we can recruit even more people next season! (Right guys?)

Two families joined the squadron because of Junior Sailing, another joined because of our ABC class – totaling in eleven new members.

One Junior Sailor completed Piloting this year (myself) and another completed Seamanship (Maggie). Seven students,

four of whom were youth, completed ABC.

Junior Sailing was promoted at St. Mary Our Mother's Community Fair twice this year and once at the Big Flats Community Center Fair.

And for the second year in a row, Seneca Junior Sailing will be recognized at the D6 Fall Conference.

What a year of growth – and there's already more in the works to come in 2016. The 2016 D6 Rendezvous Planning Committee has two youth members, Rolf and myself, to incorporate youth-orientated activities into the agenda. At the monthly bridge meetings, new ways of advertising are always being brainstormed. Also, the seminars the squadron is offering this winter on boat maintenance will be open to the youth. (See the Education Officer's Report)

Thank you to everyone for your support as we've continued to expand and develop Seneca Junior Sailing. Stay tuned for more soon. Hoping the winter winds aren't any stronger than the light air we encountered this season!

- Katie

## Upcoming Classes and Seminars

By Seneca Squadron Education Department

### Boat Maintenance Seminar Series

If you've wanted to take your boat maintenance skills to the next level, or even just get some basic skills established, we have a series of seminars for you! While the details are still being worked out, we are opening up registration so that we can get an idea of how many people might be interested. If you even *think* you might want to attend one or more of these sessions, please register now. (This registration is non-binding. We'll ask for confirmation later.)

Class details are as follows:

- When: October-January
- Where: Kennedy Family Barn, Horseheads, NY
- Lead Instructors: Mike Crouse, John Read, Tom Alley, and others.
- Cost: TBA (but reasonable!)

Seminar fees will be used to offset the cost of materials used to refurbish our class boat.

Topics to be covered:

- Structural fiberglass repair.
- Hull painting.
- Deck repair/painting (including non-skid application).
- Proper deck fitting installation.

- Brightwork repair, restoration & refinishing.
- Sailboat re-rigging.

Other topics will be added as needed.

Registration: Contact Tom Alley, [SEO@SenecaPowerSquadron.US](mailto:SEO@SenecaPowerSquadron.US).

Registration Deadline: Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, but don't wait!

### NY Boating Course Available Online

New York State's online boating safety course is up and running at <https://www.boat-ed.com/newyork>. It is

endorsed by NASBLA, the United States Coast Guard, and New York State Parks. There is no cost for the course; you pay \$29.50 when you pass the test. After passing the course, there is the option through the New York's Adventure License, <http://licensecenter.ny.gov/nys-adventure-license>, to have your certification noted as an anchor icon on

your New York driver's license and you won't need to carry a separate boating safety certificate with you while boating.

taking, please contact Tom Alley, the Squadron Education Officer, with your request:

### *Fall Courses*

Courses for the "non-boating" portion of the year are being planned. If there is a particular course you are interested in

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

## Software Releases, Updates, and Recommendations

### *SailFlow App*

Sailflow ([Sailflow.com](http://Sailflow.com)) is a neat website that lets you enter a general location and then zoom in on local weather stations showing historical, real-time and forecast data.

Currently one station in Hector provides data relevant to the south end of Seneca Lake. The data is provided courtesy of a private station via Weather Underground. Mobile apps are available for Apple and Android platforms.

Basic features are free, with additional features available through a tiered pricing system.

### *Celestial Tools V4.9.2 Now Available*

A useful tool for your smart phone or tablet. To get the latest version, visit <http://www.usps.org/national/eddept/n/tols.htm>. V4.9.2 corrects a few minor bugs.

Email: [Stan Klein](mailto:Stan.Klein)

### *Elvestrøm Sail Timer*

For those of you who enjoy sailboat racing, this is a very useful stopwatch optimized for getting you to the starting line at the perfect moment. Utilizing the GPS in your smartphone, it will not just count down the seconds until the start, but it will also tell you how far away you are from the starting line and will estimate how long it will take for you to get there. The app also provides audio feedback at each minute during the countdown, then at more frequent intervals during the last seconds for the starting sequence.

For iOS devices, search the App Store for "Elvstrom".

By the way, the app is free!

### *Sight Reduction Excel Spreadsheet*

Mark Seeley of the Dallas Squadron has made available to Seneca Sail & Power Squadron his Excel spreadsheet for doing sextant sight reductions. The spreadsheet mimicks the USPS sight reduction form for both the law of cosines and nautical almanac sight reduction (NASR) methods. The

spreadsheet will also handle meridian transit (a.k.a., noon) sun sights.

Students in the current JN class have been using this spreadsheet and have verified its usefulness. It's a very well written spreadsheet and will run on both Windows and Macintosh versions of Microsoft Excel.

You can download this fantastic tool from the Seneca web site under the JN classroom pages. (<http://www.SenecaPowerSquadron.US>)

### *New Courses From The Offshore Navigation Committee*

Junior Navigation (JN) has been updated to JN 2014, and Navigation (N) has been updated with new software to Navigation 2015. Both courses have new student and instructor manuals. Squadron educational officers designing their fall course schedules should remember to order the newer course versions.

Email: [Victor B. Schwartz](mailto:Victor.B.Schwartz)

# Boat Show Etiquette & Tips

By Tim Finkle, RCR Yachts

*[As the boating season ends and the boat show season begins, it would do well for us to review some common-sense manners if you plan to attend one of the boat shows in our region. The following article appeared in a recent newsletter published by RCR Yachts of Buffalo, NY. –Ed.]*

As we come up on boatshows, it seems appropriate to mention some etiquette for those who may be new to this. Most of these may seem obvious, but you would be amazed at what we see at shows. Keep in mind that every boat on display at a show either already belongs to a customer or will soon, and must be treated with care to minimize wear and tear.

- Shoes should have soft non-marking soles and be able to be removed quickly and easily. Most boats are “please remove shoes”, some have slip-on booties to go over your

shoes, and a few will allow you to keep your shoes on if they are the proper type.

- Do not carry items on your belt that can mar the finish as you rub against it, such things as uncovered cell phones and PDAs are frowned upon, same goes for big heavy belt buckles.
- Camera bags, purses and other carry-ons should be left above deck or at the very least should be free of any metal clasps that could scratch
- Heavy dangly jewelry such as big metal bracelets are to be avoided
- Wait above deck until the crowd below thins out to the point that people can comfortably move about the interior
- No food or drink aboard
- If you are wet from standing in the rain be careful where you sit below
- Unless you are seriously interested in the boat you are looking at,

refrain from opening every single locker and door on the boat. This not only results in excess wear, it also takes time and clogs traffic flow.

- Study the weather before going to the show. Normally the morning is cool and it gets hot later, so dress so you can adjust accordingly.
- Please control your children! Kids jumping on cushions, slamming doors or running around the deck don't impress others with your parenting.
- If you have a real interest in a boat you will find out much more by telling the salesperson on board of your interest. 99% of the people going through any boat are just lookers, and if you want to learn more you should say so.

-Tim

## 8 Boaters Rescued in the Lower Niagara River

YOUNGSTOWN — The U.S. Coast Guard and several good Samaritans rescued eight people out of the water at the mouth of the Niagara River Sunday afternoon, October 4<sup>th</sup>.

The names of the people rescued are not being released and there are no photos or video associated with this case.

Just before 3 p.m., watchstanders at the [Coast Guard Sector Buffalo](#), New York, command center were notified of a capsized 43-foot sail boat at the mouth of the Niagara River with multiple people in the water.

Sector Buffalo directed the launch of a rescue crew from [Coast Guard Station Niagara](#), in Youngstown, New York, aboard a [45-foot response boat](#) and issued an urgent marine information broadcast to inform mariners of the situation and ask them to assist if able.

An aircrew from [Coast Guard Air Station Detroit](#) aboard a [Dolphin helicopter](#) was also dispatched.

It was reported that while the vessel was entering the Niagara River, it ran aground and tore off the vessel's keel, causing it to capsize.

Four good Samaritans responded to the broadcast and rescued three people from the water. The Station Niagara crew arrived on scene and rescued five people from the water.

It was confirmed with the sail boat's master that all persons had been accounted for.

"Safe navigation starts before leaving the dock," said Mike Baron, the recreational boating safety specialist for the [Coast Guard 9th District](#) in Cleveland.

"Conditions can change, so be sure to

have the latest navigation updates for your charts."

The sail boat was reported to have less than five gallons of gasoline aboard, but no pollution was reported.

The vessel is still adrift in Canadian waters and the boat's master is making plans to salvage the boat. Sector Buffalo has issued a special marine information broadcast via VHF-FM Ch 16 for the vessel to advise mariners to be on the lookout.

# Blue-green algae: An unwelcome bloom on Seneca Lake

By Julie Sherwood, Messenger Post Media



Blue-green algae can be observed at Kime Beach on Seneca Lake, south of Geneva in Seneca County, in this August 2015 photo. COURTESY OF SENECA LAKE PURE WATERS ASSOCIATION

Originally published August 26, 2015.

Seneca Lake, the largest and deepest of the Finger Lakes, has its first official case of blue-green algae. Confirmation last week of the noxious substance raises a red flag, say local watershed protection experts.

According to the state Department of Environmental Conservation, algae blooms most frequently occur in nutrient-rich waters, particularly during hot, calm weather.

“The appearance of a bloom confirms that the condition of Seneca Lake is deteriorating,” stated Mary Anne Kowalski, president of Seneca Lake Pure Waters Inc. “It is a warning that the problem of nutrients in the lake must be addressed,” Kowalski warned on the organization’s website.

The DEC confirmed the algae bloom after testing a water sample submitted through a hotline created by the

Seneca Sail & Power Squadron

volunteer-run Seneca Lake Pure Waters. Now the nasty substance, first confirmed last week along the northeast shore near Kime Beach, south of Geneva in Seneca County, is spreading.

“We are getting more reports, from the west side of the lake,” Kowalski said Tuesday.

“Blue-green algae, also known as cyanobacteria, are of special concern because of their potential impacts on drinking, and recreational waters,” according to Kowalski. “Blue-green algae can form ‘blooms’ that discolor the water and produce floating rafts or scums on the surface of the water. These can cause risks to people and animals when they are exposed to them.”

Scott Kishbaugh, a water quality expert with the DEC, issued a warning: “Lake residents, visitors and pets should avoid contact with any surface scums or heavily discolored water, and they

should seek medical assistance and contact the local health department if they experience any symptoms from blue-green algae exposure.” Symptoms can include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, skin or throat irritation, allergic reactions or breathing troubles, he said.

People in Ontario County are familiar with algae blooms, as they have traditionally raised havoc over the years on Honeoye Lake.

The U.S Environmental Protection Agency says a rising number of harmful algal blooms are happening in the United States and worldwide. Satellite photographs of Lake Erie and the Baltic Sea during the summer of 2014 showed large cyanobacteria blooms from space, according to the August 2015 newsletter from the Ontario County Soil and Water District.

Edith Davey, conservation educator with Ontario County Soil and Water, said Tuesday that local government leaders around Seneca Lake — involving five counties and 43 municipalities — are pulling together to protect and improve the lake. An organization in the process of forming would act similarly to the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council, which consists of government leaders whose communities rely on Canandaigua Lake as a drinking water source and make decisions based on watershed protection.

Blue-green algae had been suspected before on Seneca Lake, with lab tests now confirming it, said Davey, whose work with Ontario County Soil and Water involves participating with Seneca Lake Pure Waters.

Canandaigua Lake is not on the DEC list of waterways in the state with suspected or confirmed blue-green algae, though the DEC site says there “may be other water bodies with blue-green algae blooms that have not been reported to the DEC.”

Canandaigua Lake Watershed Program Manager Kevin Olvany did not immediately respond Tuesday to questions about the status of the lake regarding algae.

On Seneca Lake, samples for suspected algae were sent to the DEC last summer, though the samples were not tested, according to Kowalski. Along with a confirmation this year of blue-green algae, the current mass is of “an entirely different color” and covering a greater area, she said.

“Some of these scums are huge,” Kowalski said. “It is much worse this year.”

As for reasons for the bloom, Kowalski said stream monitoring is underway to pinpoint where and why nutrients are running into the lake.

“We are trying to identify the source and get remedial action,” she said.

Lakeside septic systems can be trouble for water quality and regulations for those systems are currently inconsistent around the lake, Kowalski said. One project involves mapping septic systems to determine which ones need to be upgraded or otherwise addressed so they don’t pollute the lake, she said.

Davey said this year presented a perfect storm for algae, particularly on Seneca Lake. Intense rainfall in May sent a lot of sediment into the lake, she said. Heavy rains hit after farmers had tilled, and there was much more erosion than usual.

“It was very unfortunate, an abomination of events,” Davey said.

Because Seneca Lake was particularly cold after the severe winter, the sediment plumes rode on top of the water, she said.

On Honeoye Lake, one of the smallest, shallowest and warmest of the Finger Lakes — making it hospitable to algae — this year has been one of the best, said Terry Gronwall, chairman of the Honeoye Lake Watershed Task Force. Gronwall takes routine samples of the lake, which are sent out for algae testing.

“It is an extraordinarily good year for Honeoye Lake,” Gronwall said. While the lake has not been algae-free, the prevalence of algae has been much less than in previous years, he said.

Davey added good things are happening around Honeoye to promote lake health.

She mentioned the Honeoye Lake Yard Waste Composting 2015 Pilot Project, which scored a success during the spring events in May and June and will continue in the fall. The project aims to combat pollution by keeping yard waste out of the lake. The program offers free mulching service and brush pits for depositing debris.

Participation is open to all residents in the Honeoye Lake Watershed, which includes those in the hamlet of Honeoye and towns of Richmond and Canadice, as well as areas of Bristol, South Bristol and Naples. Cooperating in the plan are members of the Honeoye Lake Watershed Task Force, Ontario County Planning Office, Honeoye Valley Association, the highway departments of Richmond and Canadice, and the Ontario County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Some residents responded to a survey when they dropped off materials in the spring. The majority of respondents indicated they lived within 500 feet of the lake. Their responses revealed that 1,470 gallons of yard waste arrived in bags; and 11 pickup loads and 9 trailer loads got deposited, along with other

means of deposit. According to the survey, people participated out of a desire to avoid adding nutrients to Honeoye Lake and because of the ease of disposing of yard waste, along with wanting to support community projects.

“Raking or blowing leaves or grass clippings into Honeoye Lake or any other fresh water body directly feeds algae and water weed growth by adding nutrients to the water,” stated Davey. “One pound of phosphorus entering Honeoye Lake (or any other Finger Lake for that matter) will support the growth of 500 pounds of algae or water plants. Mulching woody debris and composting leaves and grass clippings on land keeps these nutrients from entering the lake and produces a useful soil additive.”

### *Learn more*

Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association Inc.: <http://senecalake.org/2015/08/blue-green-algae-found-on-seneca-lake/>

Blue-green algal bloom notices, state Department of Environmental Conservation: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/83310.html>

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*This article was reprinted with the permission of the author, who can be contacted at:*

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(585) 337-4263

*Many thanks to Julie for allowing us to reprint this article in the Drum!*

# The Last Word

By Tom Alley, SN



It's interesting being the editor of multiple newsletters. You get exposed to all sorts of different ideas and mindsets, even when

these publications all deal with the same subject matter.

Since taking on the role of the editor for the District 6 newsletter, I've had the chance to see newsletters from squadrons throughout our region. If newsletters are any indicator of a squadron's activity level, then Seneca is one of the more active/energetic of the squadrons in the district.

We have a very active youth program with our ABC and Junior Sailing programs. We have a social committee (can one person be a committee?) that delivers a wide variety of activities and venues for our membership to enjoy. Our team of volunteer instructors has offered

a solid lineup of classes on a regular basis. Our squadron finances are on a firm footing.

In other words, compared to many squadrons we are in a good place. Our obligation as members is to keep ourselves there. But how do we do this?

Simple. As members, we have to be active. This means participating.

Note that I didn't say "organizing" or "volunteering" or "leading". Just "participating". Come to a dinner meeting. Take a class or attend a seminar. Yes, it would be great if everyone volunteered to take on the various tasks to run a squadron, but that's not realistic nor is it even necessary.

Woody Allen once said that 60% of life was simply showing up, and this is truer than most people realize. Ultimately it's attendance is what motivates our volunteers to keep on doing what they do.

Don't see anything interesting? Please tell us! The hardest part of making any of the squadron activities happen is coming up with new and fresh ideas. If

there is something you'd like to see us do that would interest you, please let any of the squadron officers know. And don't fall into the trap of thinking that an idea is "too big" or "too silly". It's not. You would be surprised what we've done with "dumb" ideas in the past!

But first things first. Come to an event, a meeting, or one of the many squadron activities. Get to know some like-minded boaters and enjoy our mutual interest. Our boats may be put away for the winter, but that doesn't mean we have to stop thinking about boating or stop doing boating-related activities.

Come and participate. See you at our next event!

- Tom

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As always, send your thoughts about this newsletter to:

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

# Calendar of Events

## November 2015

- 1 D/6 Fall Conference (starts 10/30)  
*Auburn Holiday Inn, Auburn,, NY*
- 16 Merit Mark Nominations Due
- 17 Squadron Dinner/Member Recongition/  
Bridge Meeting (1830)  
*Esperanza Mansion, Keuka Park, NY*

## December

- \*\*\* *No Bridge Meeting in December*
- 01 Nominating Committee  
*Location TBD*
- 18 Deadline for Drum Articles

## January 2016

- 17 Change of Watch  
*Location TBD*
- 19 Bridge Meeting  
*Location TBD*

## February

- 14-21 USPS Annual Meeting  
*Orlando, FL*
- 16 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*TBD*
- 22 Deadline for Drum Articles

## March

- 15 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*TBD*
- TBD D/6 Spring Conference  
*TBD*

## April

- TBD D/6 Sprint Council  
*TBD*
- 19 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*TBD*
- 22 Deadline for Drum Articles

## May

- TBD Junior Sailing Organizational/Kick-Off Meeting  
*Village Marina, Watkins Glen*
- 17 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*TBD*

## June

- TBD Watkins Glen Waterfront Festival  
*Watkins Glen Village Marina & Waterfront*
- 21 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*TBD*
- 24 Deadline for Drum Articles

## July

- 12 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*TBD*
- 15-19 D/6 2016 Rendezvous  
*Watkins Glen, Geneva, Cayuga, Ithaca*

## August

- 16 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*TBD*
- 25 Deadline for Drum Articles

## September

- 16-18 Seneca Barge Race  
*Seneca Yacht Club, Geneva, NY*
- 20 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*TBD*

## October

- 18 Bridge Meeting (1900)  
*TBD*
- 24 Deadline for Drum Articles

*Calendars are "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.*