



Summer

2024

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Your 2024-2025 District 1 Bridge

1st Row: Executive Officer Charles L. Marino, P, Commander Pat Pabouet, P, Secretary Linda L. Lewis, AP

2nd Row: Treasurer Peter Jenkin, SN, Admin Officer William J. Waseleski, AP, Education Officer Arthur Andrea, AP

Photo, P/C Nancy Miller, SN

“From the Helm”

I want to wish a happy anniversary to the Meriden Squadron for their 70 years of service to Connecticut. The Hartford, Middletown, and New Britain Squadrons all celebrated with them, along with members from several other Squadrons. We then had a joint Change of Watch with our Chief Commander swearing in their new Commanders and Bridges.

It's time to get our boats ready for the season. While some of us are working on our boats, others are taking classes to get ready for the season. While you're at it, schedule a vessel safety check. Your squadron probably has one or more vessel examiners but if they don't, please contact me for a referral.

This year we have a change in the location of our June Rendezvous; the Middlesex Yacht Club in Chester, CT. Please see the article on page 3 for full details. Page 3 also details some of our other summer activities: the fishing tournament with the Norwich Squadron, the sail race, and the raft up with the New Haven Squadron. Please consider joining in these activities; they are always fun. I hope to see a lot of you at our summer events and on the water.

Patrick Pabouet, P, Commander, District 1

2024 Spring Conference (excerpts from the minutes of D/Lt/C Linda Lewis, AP)

Chief Commander's Message

The Chief Commander's representative, N/Fl/Lt Randy Stow, JN-IN introduced a video from our Chief Commander, Ralph A. Bernard, AP. The C/C spoke of some of the new initiatives National is making. These include new IT software which will support our Membership records, new branding for marketing USPS in the hopes of increasing membership, and continued changes and improvements in course materials. He would like us to get more involved in civic events. A new Executive Director for the Headquarters staff has been hired and will start in April.

Program: P/D/Lt/C Clifford McKibbin, SN introduced our guest speaker, Walter "Wally" Banzhaf, a retired Hartford professor and former Navy Underwater Sound Lab engineer. On January 5, 1969, Wally along with 11 other men boarded the *Sea Surveyor*, an Electric Boat research vessel, to test a new radio detection system for subs. They were supposed to rendezvous with the *USS Greenling*, 270 miles south of Nantucket. They soon encountered 25' waves and 50+ mph winds, air temperature in the 30s and water temperatures in the 40s. The *Sea Surveyor* apparently hit something around midnight on the 6th and the men were only saved by the quick action of the Captain who ordered 'Abandon Ship' within minutes. The radio man was only able to send a quick MAYDAY with, unfortunately, a longitude that was off by several degrees. The USCG could never find them. All 12 men were able to jump into a 15 man life raft. The gale force winds and wave action capsized their life raft throwing the men into the water but they were all able to get back inside. There was a light on top of the life raft and there was also a flash light as part of survival supplies that they used to try and attract the attention of passing vessels of which there were very few. Ultimately, their light was seen on January 8th at 2 a.m. by a Norwegian freighter carrying coal to Holland. Once aboard, the men were treated royally with clean and dry clothes, food, and drink as they traveled on to Rotterdam arriving on January 18. They flew to JFK on January 19 to be greeted by family and friends. These men certainly had many near death experiences and were very lucky to be alive. Wally was a great presenter combining a bit of humor along the way.

Education Presentation: D/Lt/C Arthur Andrea, AP gave a power point presentation on some of the new requirements for Vessel Safety Checks.

Approval of the audit and next year's budget. The Audit Report for 2023-24 was read and the Conference voted to approve it. D/Lt/C Peter Jenkin, SN then presented the draft budget for the fiscal year 2024-25 and the Conference voted to approve it.

Election of Officers. The slate of Officers for 2024-25 presented in the Spring *Sounds of 1* with the addition of P/D/Lt/C Barbara Huber, AP of the Springfield Squadron as Asst. Treasurer was read by the Nominating Chair. N/Fl/Lt Randy Stow, JN-IN then carried out the election and installation of the Bridge.



Join us for the 2024 June Rendezvous and Council
Non-Members are welcome! Bring your Boater Buddies!

Middlesex Yacht Club, Chester, CT

(Check out the new location!)

Date: Friday 31 May–Sunday 2 June
Hosts: The Saybrook and New Haven Squadrons
Dress: TEAM Casual – Polo Shirts with USPS or Squadron Affiliation



Saturday, 1 June

0900 -- Coffee and 'other' provided by the Saybrook Squadron
0930 -- District 1 Council Meeting hosted by the Saybrook Squadron
1030 -- Blessing of the Fleet
1100 -- Happy hour (Cash Bar)
1200 -- Lunch, cooking by the New Haven Squadron
1400 -- Raffle

This schedule and cookout will be similar to last year's June Rendezvous.

We are condensing the day so that members can enjoy the meeting, blessing of the fleet, and then move directly into our new picnic menu.

Picnic Menu. All of the food will be **provided by District 1**. We will have cherrystone and steamer clams to start, hot dogs, hamburgers, coleslaw, potato salad, macaroni salad, tossed salad, corn on the cob, soda water, and coffee.

Dessert. Each Squadron is asked to bring a dessert for 8-10 people.

Tickets for USPS members and their families: \$15 for adults, \$10 for age 5-12, no charge for children.
Non-Members: \$20 for adults, \$15 for age 5-12, no charge for children.

Send your check made to "USPS-D1" to Peter Jenkin, 26 Essex Glen Dr, Essex, CT 06426-1563 or use the link below to pay on-line. You can donate to the website we are using or enter '0' for 'none'. Please send your check or pay on-line by 24 May 2024. <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/d8f484f5-a77c-4185-a996-32a3c94f602e>

Teacup Auction: Each Squadron is asked to bring an item to be auctioned off in a 'Tea Cup' auction. There will be both a 50/50 raffle and members can purchase additional tickets for the Tea Cup Auction.

Fun for kids and adults. A 'Corn Hole' contest as well as the pool will be available all day.

Contact: D/Lt/C Bill Waseleski, AP, at wwaseleski@centuryspringmfg.com for further questions.

Dockage: The dockage fee is \$40/night. Contact Jesse Scott at jscottnbg@yahoo.com to reserve your space.

Directions to drive: Take Rt. 9 to exit 10 onto Rt 82. Turn right onto Rt. 154S for 1.2 miles to 276 Middlesex Turnpike, Chester, CT 06412.

Raft Up at 3 Mile Harbor with the New Haven Sail and Power Squadron

The New Haven Sail and Power Squadron has invited District 1 along on their 'Raft Up' at 3 Mile Harbor in East Hampton, NY on June 20-23. Activities will include dinghy trips to the beach as well as happy hour on board the Commander's boat. Of course, swimming and relaxing are always available activities with additional events to be planned over the next few months.

Marinas are available close by for those who prefer a slip and have reciprocal privileges. To facilitate planning for rafting, anchoring or mooring, contact Pete DePascale at (203) 671-2420 or email bathworksinc@gmail.com ahead of this date. Information such as cell phone numbers and/or a channel number for communicating with the group will be exchanged.

Date: 20-23 June 2024

Place: 3 Mile Harbor, East Hampton, NY

Getting There: Slack tide at Plum Gut is at 1012, favorable for passage to Gardiner's Bay on Thursday.

Sunday to return home: slack is at 0636 at Plum Gut, for a favorable current heading west in Long Island Sound.

13 July: District Sail Race with the Branford Yacht Club

We are joining with the Branford Yacht Club to take advantage of their "Branford Invitational" which is part of the ECSA (Eastern Connecticut Sailing Association) racing schedule. If you are already a member of the ECSA, you can take part and earn ECSA points as well as credit for your squadron. Trophies will be given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each class.

Dockage: If you are not in the Branford area, you can sail over Friday and racers can use their dockage free of charge and make a weekend of it.

Entry fee: \$35.00 per boat (\$30.00 for USSA members) plus \$12 prepaid per person attending the awards party/ \$15 when paid at the party. Non-racers can come and enjoy the day and join in the party.

Contact: Art Andrea for the race entry form and for help with the PHRF-ECSA rating certificate and any other details. arthurandrea@sbcglobal.net or 203-641-0954.



"Tre Scooch"
File photo by Kelly Fryer of Branford, CT

District Fishing Derby with the Norwich Squadron

District 1 is invited to join Norwich Power Squadron's 23rd annual fishing derby/picnic. The date will be set depending on the tides and notification will go out at a later date. Fishing begins in Long Island Sound at 0800 until 1400. Social hour follows at 1600 with a picnic at 1730 at the Lewis Cottage, 25 Nichols Lane, Waterford, CT 06385.

For more fishing information please contact Cdr Gene Lewis at 860-442-4740. You don't have to fish to come to the picnic. Please RSVP who will be coming to Linda Lewis at 860-442-4740 or linleew1@comcast.net. The cost is \$5 plus a side dish. Come and enjoy a wonderful time.



File photo by Lt/C Brenda Keefe, P

Meriden Power Squadron's 70th Celebration And Joint Change of Watch

The Meriden, Hartford, Middletown, and New Britain Squadrons met at the Westbrook Elk's Club on 20 April to celebrate Meriden's 70th Anniversary as well as celebrate the joint Changes of Watch. Meriden celebration chair, P/D/C Herb (Bud) Greenbacker, SN, introduced USPS Chief Commander Ralph Bernard, AP and his wife, Nancy, who were on hand to officiate the Change of Watch. Members enjoyed a buffet dinner followed by dancing to DJ Aaron DeMarest of Pryme-Tyme Entertainment. Meriden's Commander, John Thomas, JN, couldn't make the celebration and will be installed at a later date.



Cdr Randy Guilmette, P, Middletown; Cdr Paul Bialecki, P, New Britain; and Cdr Bill Waseleski, AP, Hartford being sworn in by C/C Bernard.

National Awards *The following awards were presented by USPS for the year 2023-24.*

Life Membership - 25 Merit Marks

Theodore Simmons, S Norwich

50 Year Membership

Richard Rylander, S Manchester

2023 “Distinctive Communicator Award” for Publications

District 1	Sounds of 1
Hartford	The Bilge Pump
Middleton	The Jib Sheet
New Haven	Bulletin
Norwich	The Compass Rose
Springfield	The Flying Bridge
Waterbury	Pharos Beacon

2023 “Distinctive Communicator Award” for Websites

District 1
Hartford Power Squadron
New Haven Power Squadron
Waterbury Power Squadron

2023 CoOp Charting Awards

District 1 8th in USPS
Hartford Power Squadron, Honor Roll 9th in USPS

Annual awards for contributions to the National Education Fund for 2023 with a 100% contribution

Hartford	25 th Year
Middletown	10 th Year
New Britain	29 th Year
Norwich	23 rd Year
Springfield	21 st Year

Are You Missing Our Emails!

76 of our District 1 members do not have an email address on file. This means the only communications you get are paper publications. You may be missing out on last minute announcements of squadron activities, cancellation of events, and other important communications from your Squadron, District, and National.

If you are getting this issue via paper copy, you can send us your email and we will update DB 2000 so you can get it via email. If you still want a paper copy, you can let us know and we will send it via both email and paper copy.

District Awards *The following awards were presented by District 1 for the year 2023-24.*

District VSC Awards for most VSCs in 2023

P/D/C Walter Wiegert, Jr., SN	Saybrook	1 st (60)
Lt/C Eric Burdett, SN	Waterbury	2 nd (19)
P/C Joyce Bonney, S	Manchester	3 rd (18)
Lt/C Ken Bell, Jr., AP	Meriden	4 th (13)

Squadron Awards

Saybrook	1 st (60)
Manchester	2 nd (23)
Waterbury	3 rd (19)
Hartford	4 th (15)

Historian’s Award

100% of squadron histories through 2022-23

Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN	Hartford
P/C Joyce Bonney, S	Manchester
P/C Ken Bell, Sr., AP	Meriden
Cdr Paul Bialecki, P	New Britain
D/Lt/C Linda L. Lewis, AP	Norwich
Susan Mucciacciaro, P	Waterbury
D/Lt/C Linda L. Lewis, AP	District 1

Remembering our Fallen Comrades

We want to honor and remember the members we lost in the past year. They were so important to our Squadrons and District and we will always remember each of them.

Hartford
Wilson Bacon
P/C Michael J. Rinaldi, JN
P/C Ken Weeks, Jr., AP

Meriden
P/D/C Ralph Boriello, AP

Middletown
Donald Tyrseck
P/C James Swindal, JN
P/C William Houghtby, SN

New Haven
Albert Acampora, AP
Richard Cobb

Norwich
P/C Giacomo "Jack" Guarnaccia, Jr., N





Address Service Requested

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c/o 44 Copplesstone Rd., Avon, CT 06001

Commander	Cdr Patrick Pabouet, P	860-781-7106
Executive Officer	D/Lt/C Charles L. Marino, P	203-212-1277
Education Officer	D/Lt/C Arthur Andrea, AP	203-468-1210
Admin Officer	D/Lt/C William J. Waseleski, AP	860-212-2636
Secretary	D/Lt/C Linda L. Lewis, AP	860-908-3877
Treasurer	D/Lt/C Peter Jenkin, SN	860-662-4860

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Photos: Cdr Bill Bonney, AP

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2022 U.S. Coast Guard Boating Statistics

- The fatality rate was 5.4 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels based on 4,040 accidents involving 636 deaths and 2,222 injuries. This rate represents a 1.8% decrease from the 2021 fatality rate.
- Property damage totaled more than \$63 million.
- Alcohol use is the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents; where the primary cause was known, it was listed as the leading factor in 16% of deaths.
- Where cause of death was known, 75% of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 85% were not wearing a life jacket.
- Where length was known, three out of every four boaters who drowned were using vessels less than 21 feet in length.
- Where instruction was known, 74% of deaths occurred on boats where the operator did not receive boating safety instruction.
- There were 173 accidents in which at least one person was struck by a propeller. Collectively, these accidents resulted in 41 deaths and 182 injuries.
- Operator inattention, operator inexperience, improper lookout, excessive speed, and machinery failure rank as the top five primary contributing factors in accidents.
- The most common vessel types involved in reported accidents were open motorboats (47%), personal watercraft (18%), and cabin motorboats (14%). Where data was known, the vessel types with the highest percentage of deaths were open motorboats (47%), kayaks (14%), and personal watercraft and pontoons at 9% each.

