



United States Power Squadrons®

Vol. 45 No 1 - Apr May June 2016

Oyster Bay Sail and Power Squadron



Gull Chatter



Commander's Report

by Ronald Nackman, JN

"A View from the Bridge"

Spring is fast approaching, the days, helped by day light saving time, are getting longer and we are thinking of the coming boating season, making plans, reservations, and all that goes with a boating.

How about thinking of the Power Squadron? What can you do to improve it and yourself? Could you participate more and thereby reap the rewards?

Perhaps, you were thinking about sharing some boating knowledge with newbie. Take the Instructor Certification course. What for flyers for when it will start. Oyster Bay Sail and Power Squadron is always looking for new teachers!

Unfortunately, the teaching burden is falling on the shoulders of just a few. Teaching is the best way to learn. If you teach you will learn so much and you will meet the nicest people. What a great way to network.

Come to meetings, find out what is going on, give us your input. Check the schedule and mark your calendar. We always have guest speakers or a program that you will enjoy. In fact, our next

meeting we will be presenting "Operations Training 3" Part1. This is hot off the presses from National. Perhaps, you took OT a long time ago. Well, now is the perfect time to re-certify in OT3. This is a new course which everyone will enjoy.

Volunteer for committees, or volunteer for the Bridge or Executive Committee position. We need you and you will find out, first hand, that it is fun. You'll reap the rewards of fellowship. Interested in arrange raft-up or summer event?

Now the time to look to the future...perhaps there is a Fall or Winter activity that you think may be of interest to the membership. Give me a call, I'd like to hear your ideas.

I will look forward to seeing you at meetings, the picnics and at Rendezvous East. If you phone Mitchell Marina they will call you back, some slips have already been booked. So, don't delay.

Ron Nackman, JN

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Ass't Secretary	position available	

Commanders Advisors:

P/C Ronald Ferina, JN P/C Thomas Peltier, SN P/C Ann Peltier, SN

Flag Lt: Robert Henken, AP

Chaplain: P/C Ann Peltier, SN

Executive Committee

P/C Ann Peltier, SN Richard Robson, AP
P/Lt/C Donald Lustig, AP Joan Cassano, S
Dave Craft

District Commander

Neil Phillips, JN
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Dolphins
2016-2017

Educational Report

by Thomas J Peltier, SN



Spring is here and it's time to paint your bottom! Not only your bottom but everything else that requires maintenance. On your boat, that's from the bridge down to the transducer. Remember, everything shouldn't be painted with the same substance. What you use on teak is not what you use on your bottom and what you use on your bottom is not what you use on your transducer. When using one product, everything may be color coordinated, but consequently, it will cause functional problems. This philosophy also applies to our squadron.

You're wondering what I'm talking about?? Well, I'm not saying that you need to paint yourself with transducer paint because that could be messy. But you can wear your United States Power Squadrons® pin, shirt, jacket and hat and allow others to see that you're part of the best boating educational organization in the world. Advertise who we are! We don't want to remain 'the best kept secret' in the boating education community.

When people say, "What's that logo?" Be prepared to talk about the power squadron and

find out a few facts (take the new Operations Training Course) that just might help you spark a conversation with your dock neighbors, friends and the many acquaintances you meet each day. And don't forget to tell them about the wonderful courses we provide, along with the friendships that members gain from being in the power squadron.

Think about it! Why did you join, anyway? **Education** or **Friends**? Probably both! So whether it was the educational opportunities or the friends you've gained, now's the time to prepare.

Spring is a renewing time. So renew your dedication to education: take a course, seminar or volunteer to proctor. Renew the joy of friendship: come to a general meeting (see the calendar), take a Co-Op charting cruise, come to the Spring Picnic. It's all about Spring!

Thomas

On the Water Portion of Course Begins now. Call Tom to set up time/location



Sail - Starting May 4th 2016 (Limited Enrollment Available)

**Location - 4 wks in the classes - Syosset Woodbury Community Center
4 wks On the Water**

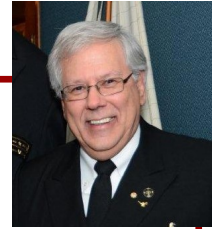
Seamanship— Starting April 28th 2016 (Register Now)

Location - 8 wks in class - Syosset-Woodbury Community Center

**Pre-Register: Call Thomas to ensure sufficient teaching materials are available.
516 987 9715 or TJP98@optonline.net**

Executive Officer

by Ronald Ferina, JN



Hope everyone is enjoying Spring and you've managed to get a few good days down at the boat.

District 3's Memorial Service will be on held on April 3rd, 2016. The service will held at the United Methodist Church of Port Washington, 35 Middle Neck Road, Port Washington. This year's service will be honoring 38 members of District 3 who made their final voyage to the last horizon. Among those who have past is our own, P/C Richard Lampitok, JN; P/C Fredrick (Fred) Mink, AP; and Edward T Pierce, SN a Fifty Year Member of the USPS. After the service there will be light refreshments served in the Friendship Hall. Please join us as we celebrate their life and honor their memory, together.

May 15th is the Spring Picnic but it is also a great opportunity to do our Early-Spring Vessel Safety Check at Tappen. Want to be a Vessel Examiner, contact me for more details. It's not difficult and a very rewarding part of the United States Power Squadrons activity.

April we will be starting to gather names for our Spring/Summer Co-Operative Charting Cruise. Again, please contact me for more details.

Our Blessing of the Fleet is scheduled for Sunday June 5th. As we did last year, more information will be sent out as the date gets closer. Arrangements are being made to use the Sagamore Marina Dock. Clergy are saving the date and we hope that you will join us by boat or by land for this great event.

Ron

Admin Report

by Jennifer Nackman, JN



Hi to all,

Lots of things are happening in the next few months. Take a look at the calendar there has been some changes!

The April and May Executive Meeting dates have been re-scheduled for April 5th and May 3rd. Both will be held at the Haypath Community Center and will start at 7:30pm. As always, coffee and cookies will be provided.

The Oyster Bay Change of Watch is scheduled for April 18th. Social time will begin at 7:30pm and the Bar will be opened. As in the past, it is a 'Cash Bar' but they only take credit cards and not American Express. Sounds a little crazy, but it works! The meeting will start promptly at 8:00pm. It will be a fun evening. Please come and celebrate with Cdr Ron and his new Bridge.

The month of May has two special events: The Multi-Squadron Spring Picnic and the General Meeting. The Spring Picnic, a bring 'enough to share' event, but the squadron will be providing

Coffee, Cake and charcoal if you need to grill. We have made reservations at the Tappen Marina Park Pavilion and we're all hoping it will be as beautiful as last year.

The General Meeting on May 16th will have the last half of the OT3. If you missed the first half...no problem. We plan on redoing it again in the Fall. The new Operations Training 3 is a brand new seminar that has been slimmed down. If you haven't taken OT in the last 5 years, this will be great opportunity to renew OT and learn about the workings of the power squadron.

The June 20th General Meeting still has not had all the kinks worked out. But keep an eye out for the June Meeting Flyer. Until then...hope to see you on the water.

Jennifer Nackman, JN

Member Articles

Submitted by the XO Ronald Ferina, JN



The Vessel Safety Check and the Boarding Officer

As the Coast Guard and other Law Enforcement Groups step up their on-the-water equipment checks having the proper safety equipment becomes more important to prevent being cited for improper equipment. Knowing that your boat meets the proper State and Federal safety equipment rules is a great feeling if a Law Enforcement Vessel approaches, it's also a great way to tell your crew you care about their safety.

A current **Vessel Safety Check** (VSC) sticker tells anyone that approaches your boat that on at least one day this year your boat met the applicable State and Federal safety standards. A VSC is another set of eyes taking a look at your boat from a safety standards view point.

A Vessel Safety Check is **FREE** and is preformed by specially trained US Coast Guard Auxiliary and United States Power Squadron Members. Boats that are eligible for a VSC are under 65 feet in length and are generally recreational type vessels. The VSC must be requested by the owner and the owner (or owners') representative must be present during the VSC.

A commonly ask question is: *"If I have a Vessel Safety Check sticker on my boat, will that stop the Coast Guard from boarding us or our boat being checked at the launch ramp?"* Answer: No, however if you are boarded having the sticker will go a long ways to making any boarding a "catch and release" event. This is where the boarding officer or officers at a boat launch ramp do an abbreviated check on a few items, proper lifejackets, vessel not overloaded, proper fire extinguishers, sober driver, no hazardous conditions and a few other items.

A VSC is intended to inspect for compliance to applicable State and Federal rules and general seaworthiness of a vessel. A VSC is also a chance for a boat owner to ask questions about boating safety, the VSC is a mix of checking for compliance to the rules and education of the vessel's owner.

A few notes on what a VSC is **NOT**, it is not an enforcement action, if your vessel does not pass the VSC, you will be advised on why but no record will be kept or any Law Enforcement organization be notified. A VSC is not a Marine Survey. A VSC is not intended to ferret out spots of dry rot not readily apparent to the eye. A Vessel Examiner **WILL** check for problems that are readily apparent to the eye such as deteriorated fittings, wasted fittings, defective hoses, deteriorated connections, loosened planking or cracked ribs. The Vessel Examiner (VE) is not trained as a Marine Surveyor and will not disassemble a vessel or tap for rot so it is possible for a vessel to have deficiencies that fall outside the ability of the VE to detect them.

Continue page 13

Oyster Bay Sail and Power Squadron Annual Meeting



Happy Smiles on New Members



SAFETY Report

by Ann Peltier, SN

This App was made to Help!

“What’s *apt* to help?” you ask. “Not *APT to help* but *APP could help!*”

There’s a new U.S. Coast Guard Mobil App that easy to use and ready to help you navigate local waters. In fact, after inputting your profile data—that is, entering such things as your specific boat, including size, type, home port and registration—you would have access to a range of data and services that will make you a smarter and safer boater.

This new U.S. Coast Guard Mobil App is easy to use and ready to help you navigate local waters. Available for both IOS (Apple) and Android devices alike.

As the nation's recreational boating safety coordinator, the U.S. Coast Guard works with many different organizations to minimize loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and environmental harm.



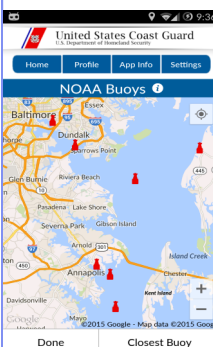
Since their boating safety program focuses on public education programs, regulation of boat design and construction, approval of boating safety equipment, and vessel safety checks for compliance with federal and state safety requirements. It is only appropriate that they turned their attention to help develop a Coast Guard Mobile App which supports these missions.

The new APP provides essential services and information most commonly requested by boaters. There are many features of the APP including:

- Listing of state boating information;
- A safety equipment checklist;

- Free boating safety check requests;
- Basic navigation rules;
- Ability to file a float plan;

and ability for reporting pollution or suspicious activity. Perhaps its most important feature is its ability to help you request emergency assistance when location services are enabled. When initiated this device can even call the closest Coast Guard command center with latitude and longitude displaced.



When location services are enabled, users can receive the latest weather reports from the closest National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather buoys as well as report the location of a hazard on the water and locations of buoys within your local area.

The *Boating Safety Mobile*

APP was not designed to replace a boater's marine VHF radio, which the Coast Guard strongly recommends all boaters have aboard their vessels. Nor to replace charts, compass and other important navigational tools. Moreover, the APP was mainly designed to provide additional boating safety resources for mobile device users.

The APP is self-contained, so personal information is stored on your phone and is not sent to the Coast Guard unless the user chooses to send it. The Coast Guard will NOT track a user's location, and the APP does not track a user's location unless the APP is being used. With everyone carrying cell phone this is *apt* to really pay off for today's boaters.

Ann

OBSPS NEWS BLAST

Spring Calendar Updates

	Exec Meeting	General Meeting and Events
April	5th New Date / 7:30pm Haypath Comm Ctr	18th Change of Watch
May	3rd New Date / 7:30pm Haypath Comm Ctr	15th Spring Picnic—Tappen Marina 16th General Meeting
June	6th	5th Blessing of the Fleet 20th General Meeting



“The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experiences to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience.”

Eleanor Roosevelt



Boater's Terms ?

Crew - This term refers to the people working on your boat. They are usually friends or acquaintances that do not find out about the "work" part of the ride until you are away from the dock. Crews have a high turnover rate, they normally will never want to see you again, let alone set foot on your boat.

Now's the time to Get Involved!



The Vessel Safety Check Program was developed to serve the recreational boating public. The Oyster Bay Sail and Power Squadron is proud to announce that our Vessel Safety Examiners are ready to visit your boat.

These examiners, recommend the proper safety equipment needed to help keep the boat owner and his crew safe. When all items (on their detailed check list) are found to be in good working order, a decal is awarded and attached to the boat.

Yes, some boaters do fail the check list! All non-compiling issues are discussed with the boat owner and suggestions are given to help correct problems including repairs or replacements. A follow-up examine will be scheduled when the vessel is in compliance. Since the USPS is not a law enforcement agency and the report is not shared

with anyone outside our organization, boat owners feel a sense of confidence. Schedule a Vessel Safety Exam at your leisure to determine if your vessel is in compliance with current regulations.

Contact: Ron Ferina at rfarina@optonline.net or call 516 935-0475

DISTRICT 3 & USPS NEWS

**LOTS OF THINGS HAPPENING IN DISTRICT THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.
MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY TO RECEIVE A SPECIAL DISCOUNT!**



District 3 Council Meeting

June - Melville Marriott
Social Time 1830 (6:30pm)
Dinner 1915 (7:15pm)
Meeting: 2000 (8:00pm)

Registration Form is available
on the District Website
under the event date

Rendezvous East Greenport

29 July to 30 July

*Marina Reservations must be made
in advance no later than May 15th*

Contact the marina at

631-477-2200

www.villageofgreenport.org

Minimum 2 night stay

Book 3 nights and receive 4th night

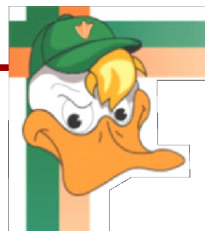
FREE

*Activity flyers will be available on
the District 3 website under the
event dates*

Don't wait

Place your slip reservation

NOW



District 3 Duck's Game June 4th

All You Can Eat Bar-B-Q

Adults \$31 / Children \$25

Game ONLY

Adults / Children \$11

Stadium Photo Op—5:45pm

For more information contact

Fred Smith—631 298-1930

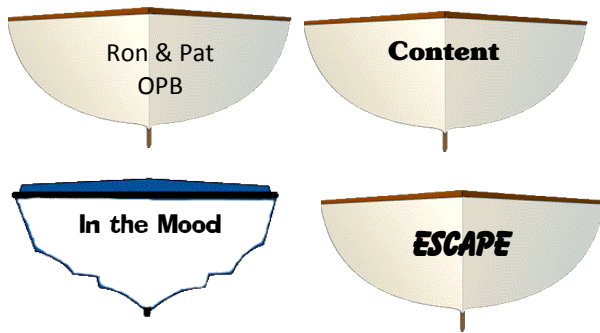
fbsmithtapman@aol.com

District 3 - Memorial Service

The United Methodist Church

35 Middle Neck Road, Port Washington, NY 11050

Honoring USPS members who have made their final voyage.



**Join the Oyster Bay Sail and Power Squadron
"Gull Chatter Fleet"**

Help us keep the **Gull Chatter** going with your contribution. Just submit your request, along with a \$20.00
 Check Payable to: **Oyster Bay Power Squadron**
 Mailed to: Lt/C Thomas Cassano, AP
 2173 Maple Street
 Wantagh, NY 11793
 for a 1 year subscription. Please remember to write "Joining the Fleet" on your check

Want to be listed as a supporter?
 Send your check to Tom Cassano today. Try the Gull by email! Forward us your email address and you'll have the Gull electronically mailed directly to your computer.
Join the Oyster Bay Sail and Power Squadron Fleet TODAY!

GOOD AND WELFARE

Congratulations Laura Cassano
Successful completion of her Master's Degree!

NEW MEMBERS

Barbara Panariello, Jeffery Panariello,
Manolo & Manana Panariello
Anthony Addeo & Antoinette Addeo

WELCOME ABOARD!



- Jacqueline Bass
- Clifford Chabina
- Michael Conroy
- Gerald DiCunzolo
- Fred Doulton
- Li Ma
- Sabrina Margetic
- Joseph Musso
- Sabrina Navaretta
- Alice Sorenson
- Norman Sorenson
- Irwin Tantleff



- Shirley Durfee
- Steven Ender
- Patricia Feroma
- Jim Frisia
- Robert Henken
- Ronald Nackman
- Elliot Rosensweet
- Robert Tatem, JR
- Bruce Woodruff



- Stephan Akseizer
- Jonathan Bass
- Eric Dochter
- June Frey
- John Gangone
- Leonard Hecht
- David Kessler
- Lilly Margetic

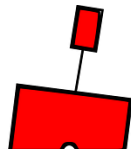


- Andrew Navaretta
- Thomas Peltier
- John Sossi
- Harvey Stern
- Dorothy Titus

Meeting Schedule

	Exec Meeting	General Meeting and Events
	3rd D3 Memorial Service	
April	5th New Date / 7:30pm Haypath Comm Ctr	18th Change of Watch
	3rd New Date / 7:30pm Haypath Comm Ctr	15th Spring Picnic—Tappen Marina 16th General Meeting
May		5th Blessing of the Fleet 20th General Meeting
June	6th	

Print this Page and Put it on the Refrigerator So you don't forget about these special events



OYSTER BAY SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON
Change of Watch—April 18th 2016
Sagamore Yacht Club
2000
Welcome and Celebrate the new Bridge

May 16th
Sagamore Yacht Club
Did You Miss Part 1? It! No Problem!
Special Presentation
Direct from the
National Meeting
Operations Training 3
OT3 (new & improved)
Every USPS member should
reinstate their OT
every 5 years.
Missed the April OT3 session,
no problem—take part 2 and
catch-up with Part 1 in the Fall.
It's a fun way to learn about
what's new with USPS

June 20th, 2016
Sagamore Yacht Club
2000
 Preparing for the summer cruise and time on the boat.
 Join us for our Pre-Summer Round Table

Get that boat in the water before
June 5th - Blessing of the Fleet
Watch for informative flyers with
details on time, tide and locations.
Fun get-together after the Blessing.
Contact: P/C Larry Weiss

To learn more about these and other activities offered by the OBSPS just go to the website at www.boatoysterbay.org or contact: Cdr Elena Budkina

Support those that Support Oyster Bay

**Frank Albano
and
Greg Ferguson**
Senior Financial Advisor

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John Hickey 516 922 6488

Continued from page 5

A few common reasons boats fail a Vessel Safety Check:

- Outdated Flares
- Lights, Burned out, improper display, etc.
- Non-Standard PFD's (Lifejackets),
- No Coast Guard certification number (missing or worn off)
- Improper placement and style (color) of the State Registration Numbers,
- Unsecured head valves

A couple of tales from the trenches:

The boat owner had plenty of life jackets for the boat size, all properly stored. He'd gotten a hell of a good price at the boat store for them, too. Only problem – not a single one had a USCG approval number – the boat store was across the border somewhere in Canada and the life jackets were all Canadian.

Second interesting reason :

*The boat was immaculate, the owner had a well thumbed copy of the Federal Reqs (and a copy of the VE inspection form) and had done the inspection himself before he called me. It was an easy quick VE until I checked the registration against the WN numbers on the side of the boat. **NO MATCH.** He had bought the boat a couple of years back and kept the older numbers. The state changed the numbers when they sent him the new registration. A week later, after he had new numbers on the side, we had one of the shortest VEs on record resulting in a sticker.*

Thanks to Garry B. for the trench tales.

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Schedule a Vessel Safety Exam at your leisure to determine if your vessel is in compliance with current regulations.

Contact: Ron Ferina at rferina@optonline.net or call 516 935-0475

**This is the perfect time to become a Vessel Safety Examiner.
Contact P/C Ron Ferina for more information**

Executive Meeting:

1st Monday of each Month from January to December

General Membership Meetings:

3rd Monday of each Month from January to May and from September to November

Always check Call to Meeting flyers and the website (boatosterbay.org)
for more detail information: Dates—Times—Place of meeting

**Spring is the Perfect Time for a
Vessel Safety Check because....**



Safe Boating is Fun Boating!

Oyster Bay Sail and Power Squadron

America's Boating Club
PO Box 13
Oyster Bay, NY 11771

The Gull Chatter
April May June
2016