

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS/ABC



THE

JIB SHEET

A Publication of the Middletown Power Squadron

SEPT-DEC 2024

VOL 68

NUM 1-4

SEO REPORT

As we bring in Fall and the cooler temperatures settle in we can look back to the nice weather we enjoyed just a few months ago. The Middletown Power squadron is entering it's 94th year of operation, albeit on a thinner group of members than in the past. The Bridge's intention is to keep the squadron operating. Please be an advocate for our squadron so we can reach out to prospective new members. We welcome new blood for roles in our squadron management and teaching opportunities. By teaching USPS boating classes it also reinforces our own knowledge thereby making you a more knowledgeable boater. Since response to a Fall boating Course offering did not occur, we did not hold a course. If there is interest in the Spring we will holding a Boating Course.

Guest speaker at the District 1 Fall Conference will be Bob Petzold of Petzold's Marine located in Portland, CT. This is guaranteed to be a very interesting program. The conference will be held 16



A lone canoe at dock on the Connecticut River on a Fall day after most other vessels reside on the hard.

November at the Filomena's in Waterford, CT. I hope to see you there. Details follow in this edition of *The Jib Sheet*.

The United States Power Squadron teaches and promotes boating safety through education. Take a Class!

George M Gilbert III
SEO



District 1 / National News

United States Power Squadron
Sail and Power Boating



2024-25 DISTRICT 1 ACTIVITIES

16 November	District 1 Fall Conference, (information on Page 3)
15 December	D1 Holiday Party
16-19 January	Hartford Boat Show

DISTRICT HOLIDAY PARTY

Dennis Nardella Music & D1 Yankee Swap

District 1 is hosting a holiday party on Sunday, 15 December at the Middletown Elks Lodge, 44 Maynard St, Middletown, CT

The party will start at 2:00 pm with a Cash Bar and a cheese and cracker platter. We will have a fantastic buffet spread with Chicken Marsala, Penne marinara with shredded parmigiana, Kara homemade meatballs in marinara, Roasted Garlic mashed potatoes, Sautéed mixed vegetables medley, salad of mixed greens, grape tomatoes, red onion, shaved carrot & cucumber, balsamic vinaigrette, assorted toasted dinner rolls and butter, dessert and coffee/tea.

For fun we have planned a Yankee Swap. Bring a wrapped gift \$10. value for the Yankee Swap. Be the next member to bring a "Hot Gift". This is very cutthroat event. Dennis Nardella of "Nardella's Music" will entertain us with holiday and a wide selection of music. He will be taking requests throughout the party and will be sure to get you up dancing.

We will be collecting gifts for "Toys for Tots" Don't miss out on this party. The cost is \$36.00 per person. Book early as there are only 65 tickets.

Please send your check for \$36.00 pp made out to "USPS D-1. to Peter Jenkin, 26 Essex Glen Drive , Essex, CT 06426 by 6 December 2024.

HARTFORD BOAT SHOW BOOTH

The Hartford Squadron has signed up to sponsor a booth at the **2025 Hartford Boat Show**. It will be held at the Mohegan Sun in Uncasville, CT Thursday January 16th through Sunday, January 19th, 2025.

Booth participants get in free. Consider signing up for a 3-4 hour time slot, for questions regarding the show, please contact Hartford Cdr Bill Waseleski at commander@hartfordpowersquadron.com .

For more detail on the D1 Activities refer to the "Sounds of 1"



SQUADRON NEWS

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING

Meeting of 25 June 2024

The June meeting was held at the Middlesex Yacht Club in Chester, CT Four members were present. Bob Borden reported that the OD-2 was submitted to national by the end of May. Jim Olsen agreed to stay on as Secretary and take over as Treasurer. George Gilbert volunteered to be the Squadron Education Officer (SEO) and Editor and Publisher for the *Jib Sheet*. We decided due to the high cost and low usage not to renew the Portland Post Office Box. George Gilbert reported the 2023-2024 treasury audit has been completed.

The squadron is looking for content for the *Jib Sheet*. Anyone wanting to write an article can contact George Gilbert.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Olsen
Sec/Treasurer

+++ NOTICE OF MEETING +++

The Middletown Power Squadron Bridge has not been meeting regularly. We will be scheduling a meeting in the near future to plan our educational offerings.

Please take note of the District 1 meetings and activities and come out and join us.

JIB SHEET 2024-2025

The Middletown Power Squadron is entering it's 93rd year of operation, and my 31st year as Editor. That is before I had white hair and when I had a lot more energy. At the same time the *Jib Sheet* will be entering our 67th year of continual publication. I hope that you, our members, enjoy reading our squadron publication *The Jib Sheet*. I remind everyone who may have an article of interest for our membership to submit it to me so I can publish it so many more minds can benefit from your experiences and/or interests.

George M Gilbert, JN
editor

The "Jib Sheet" is a monthly publication of the Middletown Power Squadron. Articles for the "Jib Sheet" are welcome and encouraged by the general membership on any topic of interest. The deadline for an article to enter the following publication is to be submitted by the beginning of the last full week of the month. Articles may be faxed to George Gilbert at 860-832-8499, or E-mailed at geomgilb@aol.com,



Navigate Bridges Safely

To navigate bridges safely, particularly on the Intracoastal Waterway, boaters should be aware of a few safety and protocol basics.

Do you know the vertical clearance your boat needs to pass safely under a bridge? If not, find out before you go.

Know the clearance. When approaching each bridge, you'll need to check your charts and cruising guides to find the minimal vertical clearance at mean high water. Don't forget to check the clearance boards posted on the bridges. They show the vertical clearance as you approach. You may need to take down your VHF antenna and outriggers to clear a bridge. According to U.S. Coast Guard regulations, boats that don't lower these items could face a penalty for unnecessary bridge openings.

Check the channel. Check your cruising guide to find out which [VHF channel](#) the bridge tender monitors. Also, as you approach a drawbridge, look for a blue sign with a telephone receiver and a lightning bolt through it; this shows you what channel to call on. If you think you'll need an opening, you'd be wise to find out the bridge's opening schedule and whether it opens on demand ahead of time. A little homework and planning will make your travels more enjoyable.

Remain alert. Having to wait for an opening can be nerve-racking. While waiting and doing the circling dance, you'll need to be aware of your position and the wind and current to make sure your boat isn't being carried close to the bridge or shallows.

Follow protocol. When passing through after the bridge opens, the boats on the side with the current usually proceed first, as the boats on the other side have better steering and control heading into the current. Proceed at a slow speed and look for posted speed limit signs.

Once through, thank the bridge tender and resume normal speed.

*Beth Schwab,
Reprinted from Compass*

CALL AND AGENDA FOR 2024 FALL CONFERENCE

DATE: Saturday, 16 November 2024
 HOST: Norwich Power Squadron
 TIME: 0900
 PLACE: Filomena's Restaurant,
 262 Boston Post Road, Waterford, CT
 DRESS: Uniform F or other appropriate attire

Schedule

0800 Registration, Coffee, Raffle Tickets
 Insignia/uniform swap
 0900 Color Guard/Pledge of Allegiance
 Invocation
 Introduction of Past Commanders
 Introductions of Guests/Head Table
 Welcome to Conference
 Conference Role Call
 0915 Message from Chief Commander
 0930 Action on Minutes of Spring Conference

Reports of the District 1 Officers

District Commander	D/C Pat Pabouet, P
Executive Officer	D/Lt/C Charles Marino
Educational Officer	D/Lt/C Art Andrea < AP
Administrative Officer	D/Lt/C Bill Waseleski, AP
Secretary	D/Lt/C Linda Lewis, AP
Treasurer	D/Lt/C Peter Jenkin, SN

Report of General and Standing Committees

Audit	P/D/C George Gilbert, JN
Rules	Betsy Tyrell, S
Planning	C Eugene H Lewis Jr, N
Nominating	P/D/C Cliff W McKibbin, SN
Law	P.C Theodore J Wurz, P

1030 **Program:** Boating Trends and retaining
 Customers/ Members Bob Petzold, Petzold's Inc
 1130 Attitude Adjustment- Insignia Swap
 1200 **Luncheon***-House Salad, Penne Vodka Pasta,
 Parmesan Encrusted Chicken Dessert Coffee, Tea
 Awards presentation by D/C Pat Pabouet
 Raffle

1330 **Reconvene the Conference**
Departmental Workshops
 Commander's Meeting
 Educational Workshop

* Please send in check made out for \$30 made out to "USPS D-1" by 8 November to: Peter Jenkin, 26 Essex Glen Dr, Essex, CT 06426. Please make reservations since walk-ins may not have a meal served to them.

Raffle - Bridge Officers and each Squadron are requested to bring a raffle item. **Thank you!**



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

16	Nov	Sat	District 1 Fall Conference	Filomena's Restaurant 262 Boston Post Rd, Waterford,
15	Dec	Sun	D1 Holiday Party	Elk's Club 44 Maynard St, Middletown, CT
16-19	Jan	Th-Su	Hartford Boat Show	Mohegan Sun Uncasville, CT