

CHAMPLAIN SKIPPER



Commander	Hugh Connors	563-2711	lonessail@charter.net
Executive Officer	Gil Murray		gilmur@westelcom.com
Educational Officer	Dave Robertson		tropicstar82@hotmail.com
Administrative Office	Joe Dumar		dumarj@twcny.rr.com
Secretary	Chris Kreig		ckreig@charter.net
Treasurer	John Boule	561-4980	drboule@aol.com

Commander's Message

Members,

As we settle into summer and continue to hope for dry weather the Champlain Sail and Power Squadron continues to plan events and courses. There will be our Annual Clam Bake and Chicken Barbecue on Saturday July 18 at Treadwell Bay Marina. We held a successful Spring Conference back In March and a big thanks to all who helped out. We need to plan more events for our members and would like to have some input on what to do or where you want to go. There will be a monthly meeting at Gander Mountain on Tuesday July 14. Plan on coming and give us your input. Have a safe summer and remember to boat Smart! Don't forget it is never to late for a Vessel Safety Check.

Cdr. Hugh

Educational Report

We re in the progress of holding our Basic Boating Course at Gander Mountain, Bob Shivokevich is the instructor. We need to get more people qualified to teach so we can rotate out members in giving instructions. I would like to hold a Instructor's Development Course., let me know if you are interested. We tried to hold a GPS Seminar at Gander Mountain but the turn out was poor only a couple members showed up!! e will try again in the near future and hope for a better turn out. If you know of any organization or group who would like a one Safe Boating course please contact me so we can set it up.

Have a safe summer.

Dave E-Mail tropicstar82@hotmail.com.

BOATING OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

With the Boat Operator's Certification Program, USPS will certify USPS members at various levels of recreational boating proficiency. We expect that these certifications will be recognized across the boating community, both domestically and internationally. In the United States, The United States Coast Guard (USCG) has asked congress to authorize the Transportation Secretary to establish requirements for standards of proficiency for recreational boaters. We intend to have USPS certification accepted as the above proof and be accepted as the national certificate for the USA.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SQUADRON MONTHLY MEETING

The next monthly meeting for the Champlain Sail & Power Squadron will be on Tuesday July 14th starting at 7:00 at Gander Mountain Lodge, located in the back of the store in Plattsburgh NY. Hope to see you there. There is a lot to attend to!!

SQUADRON ANNUAL CLAM BAKE/CHICKEN BARBECUE

The Annual Squadron picnic will be on Saturday July 18th at Treadwell Bay Marina. This is our premier event and the Cost is still only \$5.00 per person!! see the attached flyer for all the details!!

Safety Flares And More

Flares, life jackets and fire extinguishers will be the subject of a special three-hour boating safety demonstration Saturday morning, July 18, at Treadwell Bay Marina.

Boating on Lake Champlain is a popular summer activity, but like any other recreational sport there can be dangers. This class is free and open to the public and will demonstrate the proper use of safety equipment in the event of an emergency on Lake Champlain or other waterway.

Boats can become disabled and the use of up-to-date safety flares can be important for rescue. Fires in the engine compartment and galley are rare but they sometimes occur. The wearing of life jackets by adults and especially children is important in preventing accidental drownings.

Free instruction and demonstrations in the use of flares, life jackets and fire extinguishers will be provided by trained members of the Champlain Sail & Power Squadron and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 15-08, Plattsburgh. Officers from the Clinton County Sheriff's Department and Vermont State Police boat patrols will also be on hand to answer any legal questions about boating on Lake Champlain.

This event is free and open to the public and will be held at the gazebo near the swimming pool from 9 AM to Noon, rain or shine. To get to Treadwell Bay Marina, take Route 9 North from Plattsburgh two miles and turn right onto the Calkins Road and then turn right onto Bouchard Drive.

After the Demonstration Members are Invited to stay and participate in the Squadron Picnic on site!!
REMEMBER YOU ARE USPS!

DAVE ROBERTSON'S DID YOU KNOW??

DID YOU KNOW? One of nature's cruel jokes. A shipwrecked sailor floating on the high seas on a hot day, surrounded by water in every direction. It's salty, but why isn't it drinkable? According to Dr. Walter Dzik, Co-director of Massachusetts General Hospital's Blood Transfusion Service, when we lose "free water"-water that contains less salt than our blood-through sweating, breathing and other body processes, we need to replace it by drinking or eating substances that are less salty than our blood. The average salinity of salt water (35 parts per thousand), however, is almost four times greater than the salinity of human blood (9 ppt.). So, if our shipwrecked mate takes a sip, he can expect to accelerate his dehydration and worse.

Source: Sail Magazine.

FRANK'S SAFETY CORNER

A Simple Mistake

Knowing a basic skill could have saved three lives.

A simple boating safety course probably would have saved the lives of the three football players who died in February after their boat capsized. That was the conclusion of investigators from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, which released its report on the tragedy in late March. The boat apparently capsized during an ill conceived attempt to free a stuck anchor. "It's probably a mistake made every day, [but] maybe not with the results that occurred," investigator James Manson told reporters. "Certainly if you take some type of boater-education class, they're going to go over anchoring, and that would have been covered."

The accident claimed the lives of NFL players Corey Smith, 29, and Victor "Marquis" Cooper, 26; plus a former football player for the University of South Florida, William Bleakley, 25. The sole survivor was Nick Schuyler, 24, who was found 42 hours after the accident, on the top of the capsized 21-footer. Cooper, the boat's owner and operator, had never taken a boating safety course. Moreover, he and two of the passengers had reportedly been drinking

According to investigators the four men had ventured about 50 miles offshore from St. Petersburg for a day of fishing in somewhat stormy conditions. At about 5:30 p.m., as they prepared to head home, they discovered their anchor was stuck in 128 feet of water. Bleakley suggested someone tie the anchor line to the transom and try to pry the anchor loose using engine power. When Cooper gunned the 200-hp outboard, the transom plunged underwater and the boat capsized, throwing everyone into the frigid water.

Manson says the correct way to free a stuck anchor is to circle the boat with the line tied properly to the bow. Or simply cut the line and replace the anchor later. "They'd have been able to head right back in," he observed.

T

he men-three of whom were wearing PFDs while the other held on to a throwable flotation device tried to right the boat, and when they could not, clung to the upturned hull. They had no VHF, their flares were wet, and they couldn't reach their cellphones, which were stowed in waterproof bags.

Water temperatures were estimated to be in the 50s. Investigators determined that the three victims each quickly succumbed to hypothermia after drifting away from the boat one by one.

Source: PMY From Power & Motoryacht June 2009

IMPORTANT NOTICE

THE FOLLOWING IS PENDING LEGISTRATION IN THE NYS SENATE

SPONSOR Galef
COSPNSR Paulin, Spano, Jaffee, Eddington
BILL NUMBER:A5889A

TITLE OF BILL: An act to amend the navigation law, in relation to requiring all persons operating a mechanically propelled vessel to be a holder of a boating safety certificate.

PURPOSE OR GENERAL IDEA OF BILL: To mandate boating safety certification requirements for the operation of vessels mechanically operated on navigable waters in New York State.

SUMMARY OF SPECIFIC PROVISIONS: Subdivisions 1, 3, and 7 of Section 49 of the Navigation Law, subdivisions 1 and 3 as amended by Chapter 805 of the Laws of 1992, and subdivision 7 as amended by Chapter 138 of the Laws of 1998, are amended to read as follows:

*

No person shall operate a mechanically propelled vessel on the navigable waters of the State or any tidewaters bordering on or lying within the boundaries of Nassau and Suffolk counties unless such person holds a Boating Safety Certificate issued to him or her by the commissioner, United States Power Squadrons or the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

* No owner of a mechanically propelled vessel shall knowingly authorize or permit the operation of his or her vessel in the navigable waters of the State or any tidewaters bordering on or lying within the boundaries of Nassau and Suffolk counties unless the operator possesses a Boating Safety Certificate issued by the appropriate commissioner, United States Power Squadron, or Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Please note that this bill is only a proposal at this time. Please contact the appropriate legislator and voice your opinion, as a private citizen

Tips on Drilling a Hole in Fiberglass

At some point in time, you may have a need to drill a hole in the fiberglass of your boat. Drilling a hole in fiberglass can be tricky so take care to avoid cracking or chipping in the fiberglass when you attempt this.

First, be sure you know what is underneath the fiberglass where you plan to drill.

Second, drill a small pilot hole. Then carefully enlarge it to the size that you want. Drill only deep enough for the fastener being used.

Always counter sink the hole you drilled. Then fill in the counter sink hole with a marine adhesive sealant before inserting your fastener into the hole. The sealant is a very important step to restrict water migration into the fiberglass. The old adage of "measure twice, cut once" is doubly important here. You do not want any water coming into your boat later on through the hole you drilled!

By Charlie Kees Member of Mohawk Hudson Power Squadron

**CHAMPLAIN SAIL & POWER SQUADRON'S
ANNUAL CHICKEN BARBECUE AND CLAM BAKE!!!**

WHEN: SATURDAY JULY 18, 2009 FROM 1:00 - 6:00

**WHERE: TREADWELL BAY MARINA, COME BY CAR OR
BOAT!**

**COST: \$5.00 PER PERSON PLUS A SIDE DISH TO
SHARE!**

**WHY: FOR FUN AND GREAT FOOD AND A CHANCE TO
MEET YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS AGAIN! TO GO
SWIMMING!! THE POOL WILL BE OPEN!**

**THE SQUADRON WILL SUPPLY THE HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS,
STEAM CLAMS, AND THE BEST CHICKEN AROUND, THERE WILL
ALSO BE SODA & ICE TEA. YOU BRING NICE DISH TO SHARE
AND EVERYONE WILL HAVE A GREAT TIME. IF YOU WANT A
FAVORITE BEVERAGE, OTHER THAN SODA/ICE TEA, PLEASE
BRING YOUR OWN, AND ONE FOR THE DISTRICT COMMANDER!!**

SEE YOU THERE !!!!

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM D/2 COMMANDER

As many of you now know I was sworn in as District 2 Commander back in March 2009 in Plattsburgh NY We held the Spring Conference at The Holiday Inn. I considered it a big success, and I owe many thanks for all the help that I received from the squadron members to help make it a success. In lieu of forgetting somebody's name I am putting out a big THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!!!

In my speech I asked everyone to REDISCOVER USPS. We are a very fine organization, one in which you can be proud of. As part of being District Commander I get the chance to meet some of the nicest people in the Boating world, I also get to hear many of the problems of the 19 squadrons in the

District. With approx. 1800 members under my leadership there are many different points of view. I also rite a Cdr. Message for the D/2 News. I have included the last editions Message for your reading. Please take the time to read it and ponder the message. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at Squadron's Picnic.

Robert Shivokevich

Well now that summer is here and I completed my first District Function duties as commander, The Northern Trek, it is a time to step back and reevaluate our goals and set new ones. At the Spring Conference I asked everyone to "Rediscover" USPS, and rekindle some of that enthusiasm of old. In a time when my squadrons are struggling to put together a Bridge, we need to find ways to rekindle the USPS Spirit. This is a time to invest in your squadron.

Our members are the assets of this fine organization. All levels of this organization has to Discover ways of investing in our members, by sponsoring events, giving awards, or scholarships towards USPS Courses. You need to Discover that by investing some of your Treasury on the membership we just might rekindle some of that enthusiasm, Let's Call it a STIMULUS Plan. We all know our new motto "Boating is Fun, We'll show you how!" What have you been doing to promote fun?? District promotes fun at the summer council, with plenty of games and Friendly Competition which brings out the enthusiasm in most of us. This year's Summer Council will be on July 25, make plans now to attend, and Discover the Spirit of USPS!! Check out the flyer! What is happening at the squadron level? Do you promote friendly competition among members? Tell us about it! You tell me and I'll pass it to the other squadrons. You'll find that friendly competition can Rekindle some of that Enthusiasm of old!!

USPS has so much to offer at all levels! National has developed many new seminars and improved our elective courses, have you checked them out lately? You just might be pleasantly surprised on how informative they can be! District sponsors many different events through out the year. District has helped defray the cost of attending the day sessions of the Conferences, by donating money to the host Squadron to help lower the cost of lunch and meeting room costs. Did you know that if you wanted to just attend the meeting and not partake in the lunch that there is no cost for this? That's right Free! So plan on attending the Fall Conference at Lake George on the weekend of October 23-25, 2009. District has tried to put fun in their events. At the Northern trek we had fun skits on Friday Night, and our Annual Fun Auction on Saturday Night. Did you miss out? Plan to attend next year. At the upcoming Summer Council, after the Meeting, and lunch we get into our Friendly competition, many different fun and games to help build Comradery! Plan on being there. So now what are you doing at the Squadron Level? Are you planning picnics, rendezvous, and courses?

At this summer Council we will be setting the agenda for the Fall Conference, discussing the proposed Budget, and other by-law proposals. I plan to have the "Southern" Squadrons give a brief report on their Squadrons. So Plan to be there.

Some squadrons believe that they can survive without without the upper levels (District and National). I truly do not believe that. The squadrons are the grassroots level where the important ideas are born. Without the squadrons there would be no District or National, you are the building blocks of this fine organization. But the squadrons need the higher levels District and National to take your ideas and network them so others can benefit. The upper levels help cement the organization together. So we all need each other to make USPS work.

USPS is one of the Best Kept secrets to the non Boating world lets all help spread that secret, and REDISCOVER USPS for what it really is, A Great Boating Organization!!

Enjoy the summer, be safe, and remember you are USPS!