

Dredgings

Saugatuck River Squadron

VOL 53 No 1

SAIL AND POWER BOATING

APRIL 2010

Bridge Officers

Commander Craig Burry, P
226-8292

Executive Harrison Valante, SN
226-6424

Educational Russell Levine, P
227-6184

Administrative Diane Valante, P
226-6424

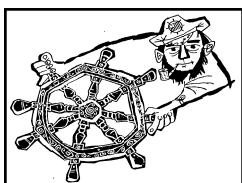
Secretary Juli Ann Weber, P
216-2956

Treasurer Hugh Sebastian, SN
762-3938

Dredgings Staff

Editor P/C Stephen H Raffel, SN
226-3954

Mailing Peg Nesbitt
259-1265



DREDGINGS is published monthly except combined July/August. The deadline is

the 10th of each month. *Send your articles and address changes to: P/C Stephen H. Raffel, SN, 6 Janson Drive, Westport, CT 06880 or email to the following: raffel@post.harvard.edu.*

Articles and opinions do not necessarily reflect either SRSPS or USPS policy or endorsement unless so designated.

Saugatuck River Sail and Power Squadron is a unit of the United States Power Squadrons® and District 2.



Our summer picnics will likely start on Tuesday, June 1st at Compo Beach. All the picnic dates are a Tuesday. The full schedule will be in the next *Dredgings* after we receive confirmation from the town.

The picnics start at 5:30 pm. Look for the Squadron flag in the picnic area of the south beach. The Squadron provides the fire; you bring your food and beverages.

Here are some of the regulations that need to be followed:

No containers of beer in excess of one liter

No glass containers; cans, paper or plastic containers only are allowed.

If you don't have a beach sticker, tell the gate guard you are attending the Saugatuck River Sail and Power Squadron picnic. We have waivers for 15 cars in our permit. Lt/C Diane Valante, P, will be happy to answer any questions—226-6424.

Commander's Message



We had many merit marks this year. A dedicated past commander assisted me in procuring

data and coordinating with the Commander to submit to national. Jose Maria Castro, who now resides in California has for two years assisted me in CT to get these ready. Jose, thank you again for doing this and making our squadron even more outstanding. In fact, we have submitted merit marks for two years well before the deadline.

As we enter a new Squadron year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the year that has just past.

We have had a stupendous, incredible and fun general meeting. "How to build a sailboat out of steel from scratch". This meeting had a very high turnout and everyone enjoyed the presentation. We have had some new members this year join us, as well. Welcome Suzanne Rieve, Charles Rieve and as a Sea Scout, Connor Rieve. May you all enjoy the Squadron's great events and Compo Beach picnics.

All in all, our Squadron, the Saugatuck River Sail and Power Squadron is doing just fine and we are staying afloat and do not need a PFD to do it either. The Squadron is financially sound, members still enjoy our meetings and social events and we are here to stay.

So, we say bon voyage to the winter winds, snow covered roads and bone chilling air. We say hello and welcome aboard to spring. Enjoy the spring fling and our coming season of boating!

Craig Burry, P
Commander

Do You Know the Answers?

1. What design has inward curving topsides above the waterline?
2. What are "limber holes"?
3. If you see a small plane circle 3 times overhead and gunning its engine, what does that mean?
4. What is required on all boats at all times?

ANSWERS:

1. Tumblehome
2. Holes cut into the transverse members to allow bilge water to drain.
3. The plane wants you to follow him likely to render assistance to a vessel in distress.
4. A proper look-out

EDUCATION REPORT

Here is a list of courses that are in progress. I have listed the email contact for each course should you want to join them. If you have any additional questions, you can reach me at 227-6184.

Russ Levine, P
SEO

Course	Contact
Seamanship	Leah_beckman@mac.com ralphkravitz@sbcglobal.net
Piloting	gwlk@aol.com
Advance Piloting	Leah_beckman@mac.com ralphkravitz@sbcglobal.net
Engine Maintenance	ralphkravitz@sbcglobal.net
Sail	ralphkravitz@sbcglobal.net reddog_captain@yahoo.com
Weather	Leah_beckman@mac.com



Coast Guard is issuing an urgent safety advisory for all boaters and paddlers planning to venture out on the inland and coastal waters of the Northeast.

“The high air temperatures we recently experienced can be very deceptive to boaters and paddlers who think it’s the perfect opportunity to be out on the water because the water temperatures remain dangerously cold,” said Al Johnson, the First Coast Guard District recreational boating safety specialist. Inland and coastal water temperatures are in the 35 to 40-degree range and a sudden spill into water that frigid incapacitates most people within minutes. Body heat is lost about 26 times faster in water than on dry land, and after about 30 minutes in 35 to 40-degree water, the average person loses the ability to function.

“At this time of year, in addition to wearing a life jacket, a wet or dry suit is essential for survival,” said Johnson. “I don’t mean to dampen anyone’s plans but, if you’re not fully aware of what can go wrong and properly prepared and equipped for any crisis that can occur, I strongly recommend you wait for summer weather.”

Johnson also reminds paddlers that wearing a life jacket is mandatory in Connecticut until the end of May.

Boaters, paddlers and fishermen should check water conditions at the U.S. Geological Survey Real-Time Water Data website at <http://water.usgs.gov/realtime.html> and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Hydrologic Information Center – River Stages website at http://www.nws.noaa.gov/oh/hic/current/river_flooding/Stages.htm

District 2 Spring Conference

The dates for the District 2 Spring Conference are April 9-11.

It will be held at the Williams Inn

Williamstown, MA.

The guest program is a tour of the Clark Art Institute. There you will find European and American painting, sculpture, works on paper and decorative art from then Renaissance to the early twentieth century.



Reservation information for the conference can be made by contacting Lt/C Cari Filios, AP, at cefil-

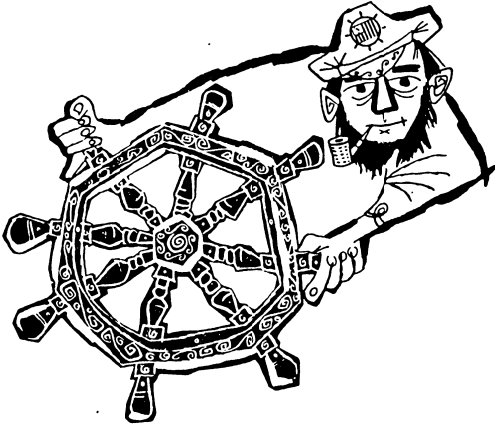
ios@verizon.net
or by calling
413-442-8984.



I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving

We must sail sometime with the wind and sometimes against it...but we must sail and not drift nor lie at anchor.

Oliver Wendell Holmes



Dates to Remember:

Executive Meeting	April 6
D/2 Conference	April 9/11
Executive Meeting	May 4

Schedule of Meetings and Events

SRSPS: http://www.usps.org/localusps/d2/saugatuck_river/index.html

Dredgings: http://www.usps.org/localusps/d2/d2_squadron_news.html

Date	Time	Event	Location
Apr 6	7:30 pm	Executive Meeting	Earthplace
Apr 9/11	Various	D/2 Spring Conference	Williamstown*
May 4	7:30 pm	Executive Meeting	Earthplace

* Details This Issue of *Dredgings*