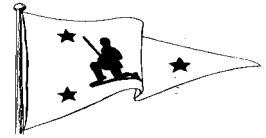




# Saugatuck River Sail And Power Squadron



## Dredgings Monthly Newsletter

April 2018  
Vol 61 No 4

### **Bridge Officers**

*Commander* Craig Burry, P  
203-216-1301  
*Executive* Harrison Valante, SN  
203-226-6424  
*Educational* Russell Levine, P  
203-227-6184  
*Administrative* Jack Fitzgibbon  
203-854-9436  
*Secretary* Barbara Raffel, P  
203-226-3954  
*Treasurer* Hugh Sebastian, SN  
203-762-3938

### **Dredgings Staff**

*Editor P/C* Stephen H Raffel, SN  
203-226-3954  
*Mailing* Barbara G. Raffel, P  
203-226-3954



*DREDGINGS*  
is published  
monthly ex-  
cept combined  
July/August.  
Deadline is the  
10<sup>th</sup> 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 Squad-  
ron is a unit of the United States Power  
Squadrons® and District 2.*

## Change of Watch

**Sunday March 18, 2018  
3:00-6:30 pm**



**Saugatuck  
Harbor YC  
6 Great Marsh Rd  
Westport, CT**

**Buffet: Tutti's Restaurante**  
**Beer, soda and water provided**  
**Bring your own wine and spirits**

**Rick Delfosse business manager of Rex and Cove  
Marinas and experienced cruiser and instructor will  
talk about the Norwalk Islands.**

**Come discover their history, along with navigation and  
anchorage, tips and tricks around the 25+ Islands.**

**Your check is your reservation. Mail to:**

**Hugh Sebastian, SN  
Treasurer**

**93 Pond Rd**

**Wilton, CT 06897**

**\$25 per person check payable to SRSPS**

## Commander's Message



A powerful nor'easter storm blew through, snapping trees and powerlines. I hope our members and other squadrons members and all boat owners had safely secured or moved their vessels to safe places. Now would be a good time to check your boat cover to be sure it survived nature's fury.

Spring is in the air with high temps and warm currents of air that suddenly drop in a minute's time to a wintry chill.

Speaking of spring and the beginning of another boating season, this year's Change of Watch will be a tri-squadron event – Saugatuck River, Norwalk and Penfield. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at this wonderful celebration. If you haven't made your reservation yet, do it now. There is limited space at Saugatuck Harbor Yacht Club. Full details are on page one of this issue.

Thank you again for bestowing your trust and dedication for the survival of these boating squadrons -Saugatuck, Norwalk and Penfield. May we have a fun castoff party.

Stay well.

Craig Burry, P  
Commander



*Never a ship sails out of a bay,  
but carries my heart as a stowaway.*  
Roselle Mercier Nomtgomery

If you aren't getting notice of *Dredgings* and other Squadron information by email, it is because we don't have your current email address. Send it to [raffel@post.harvard.edu](mailto:raffel@post.harvard.edu).

## Do You Know the Answers?

1. Your course taken from your chart is 70° T. Variation is 13°West and Deviation is 6°East. What compass course should you steer?
2. Which jib most often would be smaller a **Storm Jib** or a **Heavy Weather Jib**?
3. As a rule of thumb is a longer or shorter VHF antenna likely to increase the range of the signal?
4. How can you reduce the chance of pumping oil or other contaminants by the bilge pump overboard?

### ANSWERS:

1. 77° Remember Down add West or East is least..
2. The Storm Jib.
3. Longer gives more effective range;
4. Put an oil absorbing material under the engine. .

## Education Report

We will soon be offering in conjunction with Norwalk Sail and Power Squadron the following courses:

Engine Maintenance, Coastal Navigation, Electronic Navigation and Seamanship. See schedule next page.

America's Boating Course, Practical-on-the-Water lessons and Seamanship will be offered at a later date.

Please let me know which course is of interest or if you have any questions

SEO Russ Levine  
203-227-6184



**U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security  
United States  
Coast Guard**



Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) Consumer Protection Department is advising boaters with vessels having a US Coast Guard Certificate of Documentation to be wary of any letter arriving by US mail offering renewal. An increasing number of BoatUS members have complained that these letters direct them to websites that may be mistaken for the actual US Coast Guard Vessel Documentation Center located in Falling Waters, West Virginia, and appear to show a significant increase in the annual fee to renew US Coast Guard (USCG) documentation.

BoatUS advises that while the USCG does send official annual renewal notices by US mail, other notices being received by members are not from the USCG but rather third-party companies whose name or return addresses may appear similar to that of the official USCG Vessel Documentation Center. Members of the half-million boat owners group report the letters look like "real" USCG communications. Some examples members have forwarded to BoatUS do not have any disclaimers noting that they are not official USCG correspondence. the USCG National Documentation Center website at [www.uscg.mil/nvdc](http://www.uscg.mil/nvdc) and click on instructions and forms."



Tug for Compo Channel Dredge at Compo dock. Photos by Barbara Raffel, P

## Course Schedule

### Marine Navigation

March 17th Saturday 9:00am-1:00pm. Contact Karl Wagner 203-274-5550

### Electronic Navigation

March 10th 1:30pm- 5:30pm  
Contact Karl Wagner  
203-274-5550

### On-the-Water-Boat-Handling

Norwalk June 16th 9am-5pm  
Contact Karl Wagner  
203-274-5550

### Seamanship

April 4th 7:00-9:00pm  
Contact George Hallenbeck  
203-348-7121.

### America's Boating Course **Qualify for required CT or NY Safe Boating Certificate**

#### **Norwalk/Westport Apr 14**

Contact Karl Wagner  
203-274-5550

#### **Fairfield April 21**

Contact Carol Heller  
203-259-4870

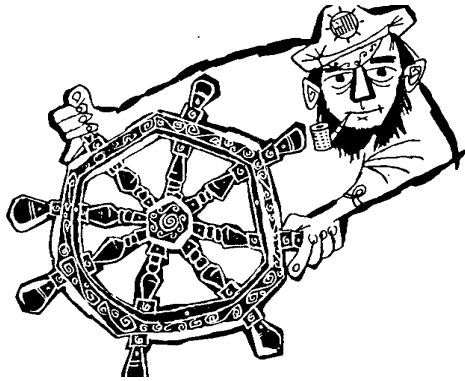
#### **Darien April 30**

Contact Frank Kemp



**Compo Channel Dredge**

**Saugatuck River Sail and Power Squadron  
6 Janson Drive  
Westport, CT 06880**



**Dates to Remember:**

<b>Change of Watch</b>	<b>March 18</b>
<b>Exec Meeting</b>	<b>April 3</b>

## **Schedule of Meetings and Events**

**SRSPS:** [http://www.usps.org/d2/saugatuck\\_river/index.html](http://www.usps.org/d2/saugatuck_river/index.html)

**Dredgings:** [http://www.usps.org/d2/d2\\_squadron\\_news.html](http://www.usps.org/d2/d2_squadron_news.html)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Mar 18</b>	3:00pm	Change of Watch	Saugatuck Harbor YC
<b>April 3</b>	3:00pm Note New Time	Exec Committee	Westport Town Hall