



Saugatuck River Sail And Power Squadron



Dredgings Monthly Newsletter

February 2020
Vol 63 No 2



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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.

Sail

8 Week Classroom Course
Tuesday January 14
7PM to 9PM

The course covers sailboat design nomenclature, rigging, sail forces, helmsmanship navigation rules marlinespike and much more

Contact:

Frank E Palmieri, JN
(914) 424-2255
Frankp56@optonline.net
Cost: \$95



Commander's Message



The New Year is here and with it this news. Last year we had a good number of students who took the ABC Boating Course. All of them passed. More courses are slated for this year. I encourage you to take a close look at each offering.

Many of our members again earned Merit Marks. Their efforts ensure the success of SRSPS. It is my hope that in 2020 more will step forward to assist the Squadron in its many needs.

I want to again mention that the Squadron needs a person to fill the role of Secretary. Please contact me (203-216-1301) for further information.

Before you know it, it's time to rip off the shrink wrap, sand the bottom, polish the fiberglass, test the engine and commission. At the yacht club I am doing line splicing, mooring chains and balls to be inspected and ready to hit the water soon.

We all look forward to 2020 and the joy of being back on the water again.

Craig Burry, P
Commander

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.

Do You Know the Answers?

1. What are some of the possible causes of oily spark plugs?
2. When can you not operate a personal watercraft?
3. What are 2 basic requirements for tubing?
4. What are the possible penalties for a third violation of Boating Under the Influence?

ANSWERS:

1. Worn piston rings, valve seats or head gasket a timing belt problem. In a 2 cycle engine the fuel mixture could have too much oil.
2. Between sunset and sunrise or during periods of reduced visibility.
3. 1. Riders are required to wear a USCG approved life jacket. 2. You must have an observer of at least 12 years old to watch for tuber safety.
4. A fine between \$2,000 and \$8,000, life suspension of boating privileges, 3 years in jail probation and 100 hours of community service.

Education Report

Engine Maintenance, Marine Navigation, Marine Electrical Systems and Electronic Navigation are courses that are being considered for starting in the new year.

See page 1 for an 8-week sail course starting January 14. Contact Frank Palmieri (914) 424-2255 for details.

Russ Levine, P
SEO



Recently, the Coast Guard launched its ice breaking season as winter's cold temperatures are anticipated to impact every port, waterway, and harbor in the Northeast.

Operation Reliable Energy for Northeast Winters (OpRENEW) is the Coast Guard's region-wide effort to ensure Northeast communities have the security, supplies, energy, and emergency resources they need throughout the winter.

Of the heating oil used in the country, more than 85 percent is consumed in the Northeast, and 90 percent of that is delivered on a Coast Guard maintained waterway by ship.



Coast Guard Cutter Pendant breaking ice on the Weymouth Fore River

***The sea once it casts its spell,
Holds one in its net
of wonder forever***

Jacques-Ives Cousteau

Walt Paul A Sailing Tale

The following was received from long-time member Walt Paul.

Evelyn (Walt's wife) and I were sailing through the Exumas in 1998 on our way to Ft. Lauderdale to replace the rigging on *Nefertari*. The shrouds were about sixteen years old and starting to develop "meat-hooks". Further, our insurance company and I suspect most do not want to insure a boat with ten year or older rigging when offshore.

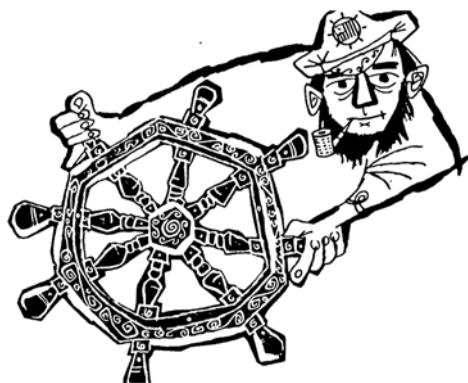
We anchored on the north shore of an island to get out of the prevailing breeze because the harbor nearby was too shallow according to the chart. A squall blew in about 0300 hrs the next morning from the NW. That put us on a lee shore with very large waves breaking close to us and a reef about a boat length away with waves breaking as they passed over. I was about to get up to assess the situation when I heard a loud "Ping". It turned out to be the cable connection to the steering chain at the binnacle although we didn't know it at that moment.

Evie was up in a flash to retrieve our emergency tiller which we stow under the V-Berths (she knows where all the safety things are). At that moment, the boat was yawing about the anchor with the rudder slamming from side to side. I went to the wheel and it was limp; it was no longer connected to the rudder.

Our emergency tiller was an aluminum tube about seven feet long with a bend to clear the after cabin. Evie no sooner inserted the tiller and it broke at the bend. I pulled it out of the deck fitting, stuck the good end into the fitting and told Evie to do the best to hold it steady because I have to get down below to determine what broke and get it fixed. She held on to that piece of broken tubing for "dear life".

To Be Continued

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



Dates to Remember:

Ex Meeting	Feb 4, 2020
National Meeting	Feb 9-16

Schedule of Meetings and Events

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

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

Date	Time	Event	Location
Feb 4, 2020	3:00	Ex Committee	Westport Town Hall
Feb 9-16	Various	National Meeting	Ponte Vedra Beach FL