



Saugatuck River Sail And Power Squadron



Dredgings Monthly Newsletter

May 2020
Vol 63 No 5

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

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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.



Captain Tooker Trophy The story is on page 3

Commander's Message



The corona virus has opened the eyes of everyone. It has impacted the boating industry in commercial and recreational marinas, yacht clubs and boat yards. New York marinas are closed, Connecticut is getting ready to shut down the boat yards and marinas. I have been on and off at the club I work at, because

I fall under Homeland Security.

It's difficult for any owner of a boat to prep or launch a boat. The marinas, beaches, town parks, boat ramps are closely policed, and barricades are all around.

On Easter, a beautiful Sabre power boat came to visit. I had to be at least 6 feet away from the boat including assisting with dock lines and talking to the owner.

Please stay safe. We all hope that boating season will start in June.

Craig Burry, P
Commander

It is with great sadness that we must report the death of Past Commander

Mike Keene, N.

Condolences can be sent to:

Nicholas Keen

7 Valley View Rd, Rose Valley, PA 19063

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. If you see a red pennant flying at a marina, what does that forecast about the winds?
2. If a vessel rolls slowly and sluggishly what might be the cause?
3. If you are in a following sea, what steps could you take to better control the boat?
4. Name a famous novelist who once worked as a Mississippi river pilot?

ANSWERS:

1. Winds to 33 knots, dangerous sea conditions for small craft.
2. It is very likely top heavy.
3. Decrease speed, shift weight aft, tow a sea anchor.
4. Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens).

Education Report

The SRSPS courses are all on hold as we go through this pandemic. As soon as we emerge from it, and it is safe to gather, we will announce the courses, their location and times.

Remember there are many books especially Chapman *Piloting and Seamanship* and Bowditch *American Practical Navigator* which can be bought on Amazon.

SEO Russ Levine, P

There is a poetry of sailing as old as the world.

—Antoine De Saint—Exupery

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



A typical three-blade propeller running at 3,200 rpm can inflict 160 impacts in one second. • A typical recreational propeller can travel from head to toe on an average person in less than one tenth of a second. • Most propeller accidents CAN be prevented.

1. Be aware of what is going on around you! The captain of the boat is in command and must take responsibility for the safety of people in and around the boat.

2. Wear your engine cut-off switch lanyard



and your life jacket at ALL times. If the lanyard is removed from the switch, the engine will shut off.

3. Assign a passenger to keep watch around the propeller area of your boat when people are in the water.

4. Read and follow all the safety instructions in your boat and engine operator's manuals.

Captain Tooker Trophy

Every year from 1969 to 1978 SRSPS ran a predicted log contest.

Members were given a local marine course to travel. They had to predict how long it would take to cover the course. At the end of the contest, the boat with the closest predicted time to their actual time was awarded the Captain Tooker Trophy.

Sadly, only two winners are still alive. The 1977 winner was P/C John Luscombe. 1978 winner was P/C Steve Raffel.

We have been unable to uncover who Captain Tooker was. The best information came from Betty Bavor who recalls he was a local person involved in marine activities and a friend of P/C Gordon Bavor. Any of our senior members who can add to his identity?



Photo by Craig Burry

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



Dates to Remember:

Ex Meeting	May 5 Tentative
Ex Meeting	June 2 Tentative

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
May 5	3:00 pm	Ex Committee Tentative	Westport Town Hall
May 5	3:00 pm	Ex Committee Tentative	Westport Town Hall