



Saugatuck River Sail And Power Squadron



Dredgings Monthly Newsletter

June 2020
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AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

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 Open
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



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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.



Who was Captain Tooker?

The mystery is solved—see page 3

Good homebound viewing:
americasboatingchannel.com/



Commander's Message



Boating on the rise! It is now official CT and NY marinas and boatyards are open. Boating helps relieve if only for a brief period the doldrums of masks, gloves and self-quarantine.

I see a huge increase in purchases of used boats. Many are excited to get off the land and out onto the water. The

fun of boating is making a huge comeback. I have received calls about Boston Whalers available in Cape Cod, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. I've been asked as a boating consultant to please give insight to the background and manufacturing of these boats.

About 15 were available in sizes of 13 and 17 footers. All of them were available and sold in an instant. I didn't even get a chance to look at them. I am sure this is an indication that boating helps some with the doldrums.

We need to promote SRSPS and USPS. Remember we are an educational group of dedicated members who strive to instruct and nurture boaters. Cast off the shrink wrap, paint the bottom and get out and enjoy

Craig Burry, P
Commander

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

Larry Brown

Condolences can be sent to:

Barbara Brown

**617B Cherokee Lane
Stratford, CT 06614**

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. Which buoy may have an even number
2. What type of charts are meant for coastwise navigation outside of shoals and outlying reefs?
3. Capital letters on a chart indicate what?
4. The shoreline on nautical charts that are affected by large tidal fluctuations usually represents what?

ANSWERS:

1. An unlighted num buoy.
2. General charts.
3. The associated landmark is conspicuous.
4. The line of mean low water.

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.

The Fall Governing Board meeting is scheduled for September 8-13.

SEO Russ Levine, P



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



.First Coast Guard District command center crews, from Maine to Northern New Jersey, have a new tool to help distressed mariners come home to their families after being out to sea.

The i911 program allows for watchstanders to use a mariner's cellphone number to assist in finding their location for Coast Guard rescue crews to locate them faster. Once the number is entered, the mariner receives a text message authorizing them to share their location with the U.S. Coast Guard. Once shared, the internal cellphone's GPS, which uses satellites to pinpoint the mariner's location, is displayed on a screen for watchstanders to aid in the search for them.



This software is already available to first responder agencies across the country. It was developed by Callyo Inc. and is a free service for all first responders, including the Coast Guard.

Depending on the cell phone service, i911 can determine locations of distressed mariners from up to 15-20 nautical miles offshore. 38,000 search and rescue cases across the contiguous United States were analyzed, and it was found that 89 percent of all SAR cases took place within 20 nautical miles off shore.

The wind and the waves are always on the side of the ablest navigator.

Edward Gibbon

Captain Tooker

In the May Dredgings we reported that 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. The boat with the closest predicted time to their actual time was awarded the Captain Tooker Trophy.

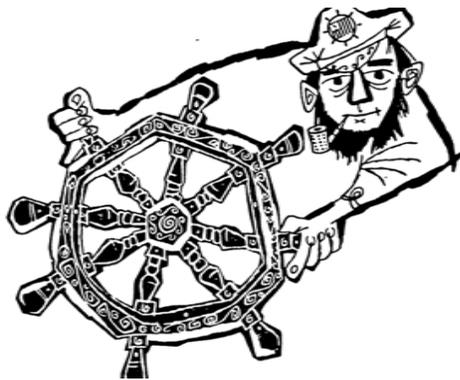
So, who was Captain Tooker? Thanks to P/C Rick Beck, his identity has been unearthed. Here is what Rick emailed:

Captain Bob as he was called was the town of Westport appointed Harbor Master. He and his wife lived on Grove point road off of Hills point road. Bob was also in charge of the Compo Yacht Basin where he assigned the moorings. In those days, every mooring was a mushroom mooring. Those mooring ran from the dock south to the outside of the basin and also, from the then small boat dock west to the turn to leave the harbor. The center section of mooring were lines anchored at end and small boats tied off on the main line in sections set up by Captain Bob. In the fall, Bob and his helper, Joe Vishnowski, would drop the chain off the buoy and in the spring, dredge up the chain and hook up the buoy.

Bob was also in charge of one of the town launch operators, (of which I was one of for four years). The Cedar Point Yacht Club operated out of the club house at the head of the dock and supplied the second launch operator for the season.

When I was commodore of SRPS, I was the one who put together the trophy in Bob's name. Bob was one of my father's personal friends and I came along after Dad sold his last boat, but stayed friends with Bob until the end.

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



Dates to Remember:

Ex Meeting	June 2 Tentative
Ex Meeting	July 7

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
June 2	3:00 pm	Ex Committee Tentative	Westport Town Hall
July 7	3:00 pm	Ex Committee Tentative	Westport Town Hall