



# Saugatuck River Sail And Power Squadron



## Dredgings Monthly Newsletter

May 2021  
Vol 64 No 5



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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.*

## Remember:

Red

Right

Returning



## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



The Westport marinas officially opened on April 1. Yes, a few boats are starting to populate their slips. It is a welcome sight to see life returning to our boating facilities.

We will be teaching America's Boating Course on May 15 and again on May 22. Contact Karl

Wagner (203) 276-1486 for details. Successfully passing this course will allow you to receive a Connecticut Safe Boating Certificate. That is required to operate a vessel in Connecticut waters. Remember whatever happens on a boat under your command is your responsibility. So, for the safety of all it is critical that you know how to safely operate the boat and what to do in an emergency. That is what this course is all about.

We are planning to again hold bi-weekly Compo Beach picnics this year. The town has yet to announce the rules for the beach and also has yet to begin the application process for car permits. As soon as those details are available, we will set the picnic dates.

Remember to check the weather before you leave your slip or mooring, only have alcohol when your boat is tied-up for the day and always wear your PFD.

Be well and as the Irish saying goes "fair winds and following seas."

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](mailto:raffel@post.harvard.edu).

## Do You Know the Answers?

1. What is appropriate to add if your boat has an all-chain rode?
2. What is an easy way to clean fenders?.
3. When you enter from sea and find a horizontally striped red and green buoy, what does the top strip tell you?
4. What term is used to describe an inward curving topside above the waterline?

### ANSWERS:

1. A nylon shock absorber.
2. In a well ventilated area, use acetone with a soft rag.
3. Which side is the preferred channel eg if the top band is red then the preferred channel is the one that has red buoys to right.
4. Tumblehome.

## Education Report

### America's Boating Course

**May 15 and May 22**  
**9AM-5PM**

### For Information:

**Contact Karl Wagner**  
**203-276-1486**

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



The Coast Guard and Hampton Fire Department responded to a disabled and adrift jet ski off of Hampton Beach, Wednesday evening.

responders from Coast Guard Station Portsmouth Harbor, Coast Guard Station Merrimack River, responded to a distress call of a jet ski with one person on board, disabled and adrift. A Coast Guard Station Merrimack River 29-foot Response Boat-Small crew placed the jet ski in tow and rescued the operator before transferring both the operator and jet ski to a Coast Guard Station Portsmouth Harbor RB-S crew, who returned both safely to their point of origin.


This case highlights the importance of continuing to follow cold water safety measures even as air temperatures rise throughout the region. With ocean temperatures still holding below 40 degrees, the cold water can quickly incapacitate a person and make it difficult to signal for help.

## COLD WATER SAFETY

*Remember...*

**DRESS FOR THE WATER, NOT THE WEATHER!**

 WARMER SPRING TEMPERATURES CAN LULL BOATERS INTO THINKING WATER TEMPS ARE HIGHER THAN THEY ARE.

 WATER TEMPS BELOW 70 DEGREES CAN CAUSE HYPOTHERMIA AND BOATERS AND PADDLERS SHOULD WEAR A WET SUIT, DRY SUIT, OR OTHER TYPE OF WATERPROOF, INSULATED GEAR.

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER TO WEAR A LIFE JACKET AND HAVE A VHF MARINE RADIO

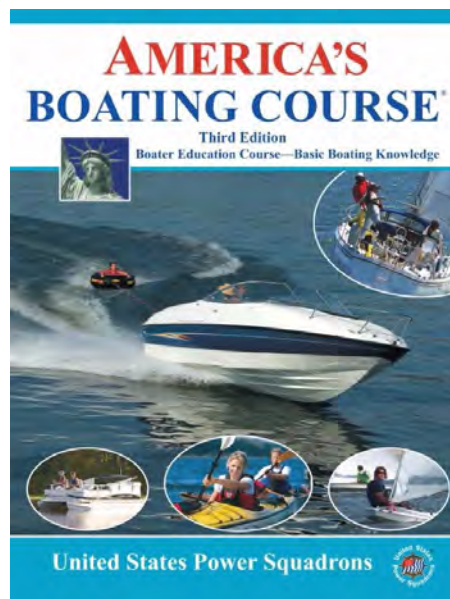


**Saturday May 15 and May 22  
9am-5pm  
America's Boating Course**

**Contact  
Karl Wagner for details  
203-276-1486**

This class qualifies graduating students for the Connecticut Boating Certificate plus Personal Watercraft (Jet Ski) Certificate. Topics included are:

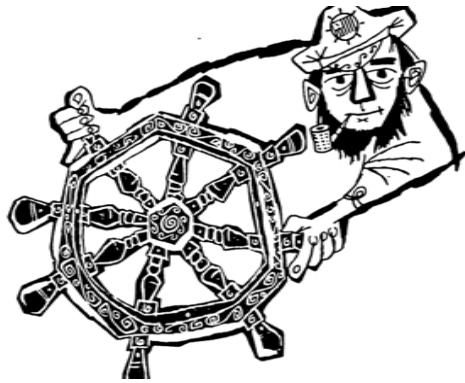
- General Boat handling
- Safe Towing (water skiing & tubing)
- Docking and Anchoring
- Radio NEW VHF/DSC
- Safe refueling practices
- State boating regulations
- Ropes, cleats, knots, all made easy



*Never set sail on  
someone else's star.*

**Proverb**

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



**Dates to Remember:**

<b>Exec Meeting</b>	<b>May 4</b>
<b>American's Boating Course</b>	<b>May 15 and 22</b>
<b>Compo Beach Picnics</b>	<b>TBA</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>May 4</b>	3:00 pm	Ex Committee Tentative	Virtual
<b>May 15 and 22</b>	9:00 am	American's Boating Course	Norwalk
<b>TBA</b>	5:30 pm	Compo Beach Picnic	Compo Beach