



Susquenago Sail & Power Squadron



SeaChest

Monthly Publication



2018
Happy New Year!

December 2017

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District 6

Merry Christmas



*Donna & Bob Gould
John Langill
Anthony & Denise Lenzo*

*Karl & Vonda Oakley
Linda Rought*



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SeaChest



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Commander's Column

It was a good General Membership meeting from all the feedback I received. Sixteen members were in attendance and twelve stopped in early to grab a bite to eat and enjoy some fellowship with our Squadron family. Unfortunately the service was very slow and the meeting had to start late. I really wanted to attend and both Peg and I were looking forward to a dinner out on the town with our friends. That being said, I sincerely thank our X/O Lt/C Mary Kucharek, P, for taking the helm on short notice and running the meeting with my agenda. We spent a large amount of time on the phone prior to the meeting so I could update her on the agenda notes and speaking points. Many thanks to P/C Dave Olds, AP, who made copies of my meeting agenda and for the phone time to go over our Multi Media Presentation results.

Having our Chief Commander, Louie Ojeda, SN, attend and speak at our D/6 Fall Conference was very enlightening. No one is more gung-ho on USPS America's Boating Club than he is. His explanation on how National uses its fifty five dollar portion of the membership dues was quite interesting. They make the funds go a long way to provide the educational materials we depend on so much. There is a big push to work with and combine services with the USCG Auxiliary, something our northern D/6 squadrons are working on, along with more cooperation and joint ventures with the Canadian Power Squadrons, located just across the river from them. I think both District 6 and Susquenango are up to that challenge. More information will be forthcoming in the next several months.

Speaking of dues, the District assessment will increase two dollars to help keep a balanced budget. Susquenango's assessment will remain the same.

Merit marks have been submitted and will be awarded shortly. My thanks go to P/D/Lt/C John Young, AP, for all his work obtaining and putting the data together in our data base for submission.

Our membership is strong at seventy and I would like to welcome Chris Utyro and his spouse to our Squadron and look forward to meeting them in the near future. Welcome Chris.

By the time you read this, Thanksgiving will have come and gone, the SeaChest will be full of Christmas and Holiday greetings and we will be getting ready to attend our Christmas/Holiday party at Little Venice in Binghamton. I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday. May you be blessed with safe travel, family, friends, traditions, good food and wonderful memories as we give thanks for all that we have been given in this great land.

Until we meet again, God Bless
Cdr Mike



On the Horizon

Susquenango Events

09 December
Cocktails 6:00 PM
Dinner 7:00 PM

Holiday Party
Little Venice Restaurant
111 Chenango St
Binghamton, NY 13903

20 December
7:00 PM

Executive Meeting & Card Party
Town of Binghamton Fire
Station #2
2010 Pierce Road
Binghamton, NY

Highlights of the 15 November 2017 Executive Meeting

Mary Kucharek, P, called the meeting to order at 1930 – Commander Acciai, AP, was unable to attend due to a medical issue.

Asst. Secretary, Lt Missy Olds, S, reported that a quorum was present. The minutes from the previous meeting were distributed. XO Mary Kucharek, changed the number of Boscov's coupons sold to 55. This was noted and the minutes were accepted as corrected.

Lt/C Mary Kucharek, P, reported that problems encountered with DB2000 were corrected and History Reports to National were submitted.

Lt/C Les Smith, AP, reported that P/D/C Bill Herrick, JN, was nearing the end of teaching his JN class and would be ordering tests soon. Les stated his JN sight folder was completed and approved. His JN final exam will be ordered. He also stated he would like to teach a JN class once he has reached his JN grade. The price of the ABC course was decided to remain at \$45 for the next class and then increase to \$50 for subsequent classes. The Seamanship course price will be at his discretion.

Lt/C Ann Smith, S, reported that she made new trifold to hand out at the upcoming classes once the current ones are depleted. She will be changing some of the brochure graphics to include "America's Boating Club". She was able to show our Chief Commander, Louie Ojeda, SN, at the D/6 Fall Conf., some of the materials she has created for promoting and advertising our courses.

P/C David Olds, AP, reported that membership will be 70 people. He was notified that a man and his wife have sent in their application and check to join the squadron. Dave stated that the National and District dues will each increase by \$2.00 next year and we will have the option to also raise our Squadron dues at that time. This will be discussed further at a later meeting.

P/D/Lt/C John Young, AP, requested that those who wish to have a Christmas graphic or their name in the December issue of the SeaChest see him or Mary Kucharek after the meeting. All Squadron merit Mark requests have been submitted.

P/C Bob Gould, AP, mentioned that a better system for obtaining VSC decals from headquarters could be an incentive to do more VSC checks.

New Business: Nominating Committee Chairman P/R/C David Daniels, SN, reported that a worksheet was distributed to the three committee members. The worksheet divided and assigned to each member a contact group to determine who will continue in their position for an additional year. Due date for the final report is 12/21/2017.

Commander's Comments: XO Mary Kucharek, P, read Cdr Acciai's comments from his agenda as follows: The D-6 Conference was excellent. Having Chief Commander Louie Ojeda attend brought a lot of enthusiasm and news of what's going on at National. Some of these items are:

- * There is a big push to work with the USCG Aux, and extend the America's Boating Club branding.
- * The lake water level and climate change experts, who gave the afternoon presentations, did a fine job on showing how bad-management is changing the Great Lakes shores and what we can expect, climate wise, in one or two decades.
- * The Multi Media presentations by Susquenango, Syracuse and Rochester Squadrons went well and our critique by the multi media and marketing consultant shows we are on the right track in handling our website and Facebook pages.
- * Thoughts of combining Squadrons for leadership and services were discussed, but rejected. Combining the western Squadrons is not working as expected. Bridge Officers are not stepping up to run the new larger Squadrons.
- * Developing a list of all Squadron members who camp and boat on the St. Lawrence river and encourage them to schedule booths at the Antique Boat Museum in Clayton. They could work with the USCG Aux, the CPS and the St. Lawrence Squadron to promote USPS activities and membership and other joint endeavors.
- * Discussed an activity plan for the Tall Ships in Brockville rather than in Buffalo for the 2019 D/6 Summer Rendezvous.

Mary also added that D/C Jeff Freidman, SN, has concerns that Skaneateles does not have a squadron and that he is looking into having an open house at the Skaneateles Country Club. Maxine Flagg, of the Ithaca Squadron, will contact Ben Weitsman, a prominent local business man and Skaneateles resident, about this issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 2005

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret E. Olds

Mark Your Calendars
Change of Watch
16 March 2018
Jonathan's
Endwell, NY



Mike & Peg Acciai



Ron & Nancy Bieber



Dave & Linda Daniels



Ken & Lawrie Boll



Sue Dunlap



Bill & Linda Herrick



John Langill



Karl & Vonda Oakley





Tom Dixon



Frank & Grace Penny



Linda Rought



Dave & Missy Olds



Les & Ann Smith



Steve Tisdale



Jack & Katie Young



Executive Meeting and Crowd Mixer & Dub Bridge Party — 20 December 2017

Join us for a Dub Bridge party that is a great crowd mixer. The game is easy to play as long as you know the different card suits (hearts, clubs, diamonds, and spades) and you can count by ten. All supplies will be provided for you. We'll start the game immediately following a brief squadron meeting on December 20, 2017. Bridge members will bring an appetizer or dessert and we'll enjoy some snacks. Bring your own favorite beverage. The game lasts about 1½ hours and prizes will be given to the lady and gentleman winners! We look forward to seeing you all there.

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