

**Susquenango
SeaChest**

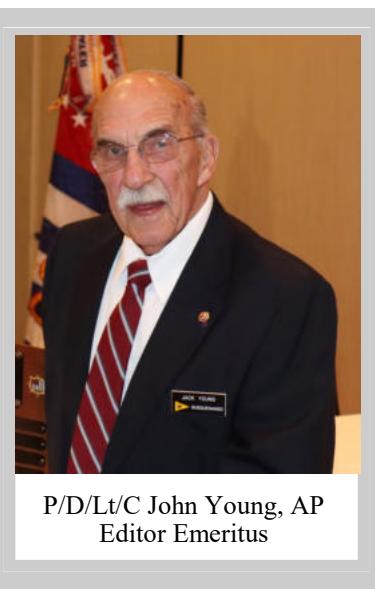
Monthly Publication



January 2026

Volume 71 Issue 1

District 6

Susquenango January Happenings**Contact Lt/C Linda Rought, P @ 607-760-6388****21January 2026-Squadron Meeting— Social Hour @ 5:30
Chef Stanley's, 7664 NY-434, Apalachin, NY 13732****8-15 February 2026—National Meeting— 9800 Queensway Boulevard,
Myrtle Beach, SC 29572****21 February 2026—Susquenango Change of Watch, 5:30
Jonathans, Endwell, NY****Did You Know?****how silent night
began****P/D/Lt/C John Young, AP
Editor Emeritus**



SeaChest

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Education Officer
Adm. Officer
Secretary
Treasurer
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P/C David Olds, AP
P/DLt/C Leslie J. Smith, JN
Lt/C Linda G. Rought, P
D/1st Lt Peg Acciai, P
P/D/C Nancy Bieber, P
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D/1st Lt Peg Acciai, P
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Lt Robert Kucharek, P-IN
P/Lt/C Margaret Olds, S
P/Lt/C Anna M. Smith, P

SeaChest
Editors D/Lt/C Michael Acciai, AP
D/1st Lt Peg Acciai, P
Editor Emeritus P/D/Lt/C John Young, AP
Photographer P/C David Olds, AP

Commander's Comments

Happy New Year!

My wish for you in 2026 is for good health, much happiness and calm waters! Thanks to those who attended the Holiday Party at the Trailside Inn and to Lt. Linda Rought, P for arranging the event. The food was delicious and it is such a lovely place. We were treated like royalty – I wonder if that had anything to do with the manager, Paul Daniels, being the son of our own P/R/C David Daniels, SN? Actually, I think it's just the way everyone is treated there. Special thanks to L/C Nancy Bieber, P for the fun SANTA Bingo game!

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Lt/C David Olds AP, has completed work on the 2025-2026 Bridge and Executive Committee. A full slate of officers appears in this issue. I urge each of you, if you are contacted about being an officer or joining a committee, please say YES! If you look at our roster, you will see there are several openings where you could step forward and help our squadron. I hope to see you at our Change of Watch on 21 February at Jonathan's in Endwell where the new officers will be installed.

The ABC class will be held from Monday, 23 February – Monday, 23 March, 2026 (7–9 p.m.) at the Johnson City High School. If you are interested in helping, please contact SEO Les Smith, JN. Public Relations Chair, Lt. Ann Smith, S, will have information flyers available soon so if you know a location where they can be posted, contact Ann.

So don't despair....it's only 4 months until May and boating season again!. And the way time flies anymore, summer will be here before we know it!! Until then, stay warm and safe and....

Always remember... ***“Home is Where the Anchor Drops”***.



Commander Mary



Nominating Committee Report

21 December 2025

2026-2027

In accordance with the provisions of the Susquenango Sail & Power Squadron By-Laws, *Sections 5.5 & 6.8, and Article 11*, the Nominating Committee submits the following nominations for office for the 2026-2027 year:

Elected Executive Committee Members with voting privileges at all meetings

Squadron Bridge

Commander	Mary Kucharek, P
Executive Officer	David Olds, AP
Squadron Educational Officer	Leslie Smith, JN
Administrative Officer	Linda Rought, P
Treasurer	Nancy Bieber, P
Secretary	Margaret Acciai, P

Members at Large

Michael Acciai, AP
Ronald Bieber, S
Donna Gould
Robert Gould, AP
William Herrick, JN
Robert Kucharek, P- IN
Margaret Olds, S
Anna Smith, P

Elected Officers and Committees (not part of the Executive Committee with no voting privileges at Executive meetings) Exception: Those marked * do have voting privilege as Member at Large or Bridge member.

Asst. Squadron Education Officer	Bill Herrick, N *
Asst. Secretary	Margaret Olds, S *
Asst. Treasurer	Justin Park, SN

Bylaws and Rules Committee:	David Olds, AP *
	Elizabeth "Jane" Park, S

Auditing Committee:	Carol Herz, S
	Donna Gould *

Nominating Committee 2026-2027 Chair	David Olds, AP *
	Robert Kucharek, P-IN *

Each nominee has been personally contacted, made aware of the duties of the office and has accepted the nomination for that office.

Respectfully Submitted,

David L. Olds
Chairman Nominating Committee

***All Squadron members may vote at General Membership Meetings**

What is the water cycle?

The Ocean Learning Hub



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Water covers 70% of Earth's surface and plays a vital role in everything from cellular function to climate. Although we may recognize rain and snow as the most obvious parts of the cycle, precipitation is just one stage of a continuous series of movements water makes as it travels across the globe and into the atmosphere. Water is constantly in motion, shifting from reservoirs such as oceans, lakes, groundwater, and ice up into the atmosphere and back again.

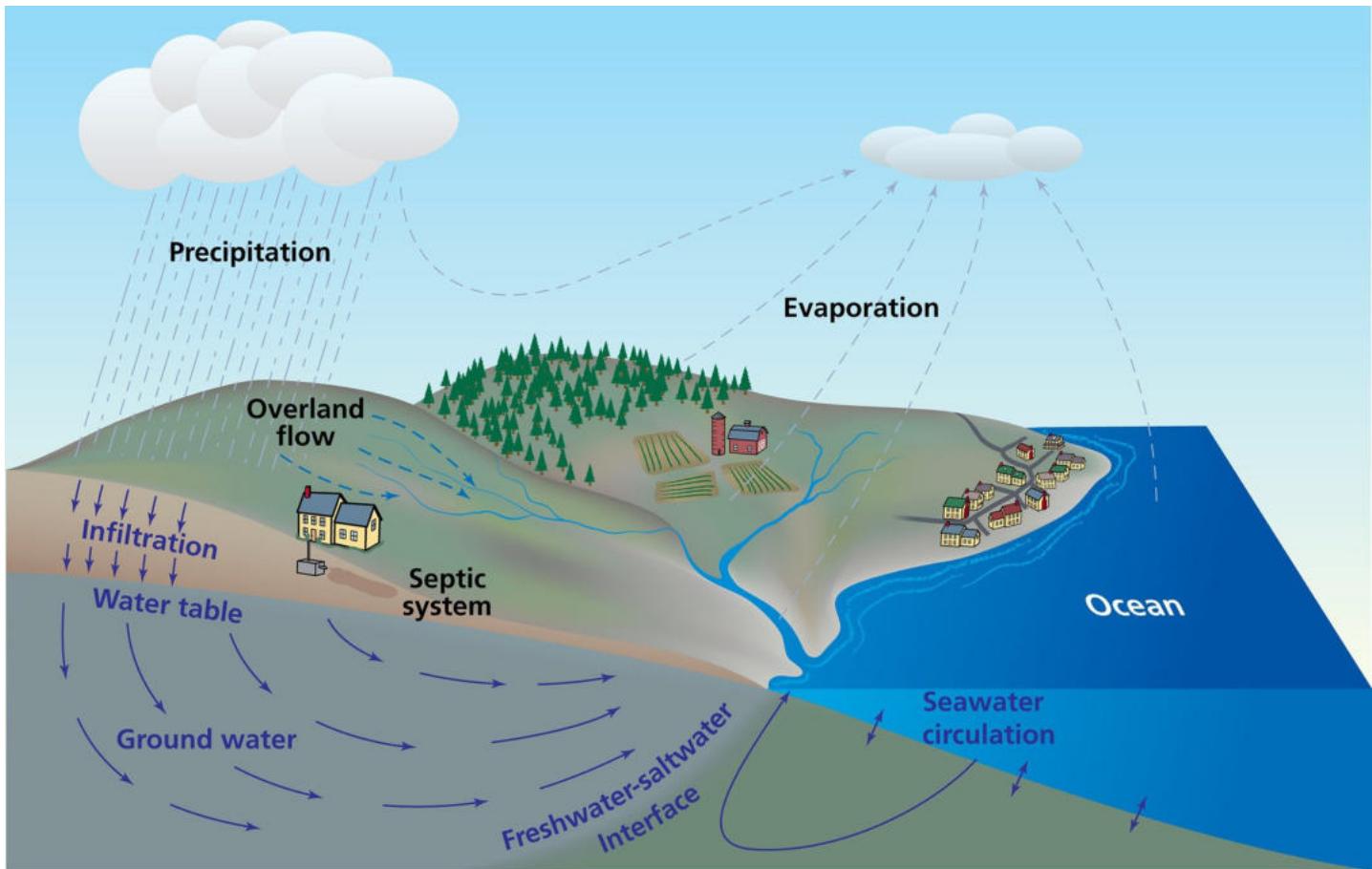
In this complex system, heat causes water molecules to evaporate from bodies of water. The vapor rises into the atmosphere and eventually condenses into clouds. If droplets inside a cloud become heavy enough, they fall as precipitation (rain, snow, sleet or hail). Liquid water travels over the landscape as runoff or soaks into the ground to become groundwater. Plants take up groundwater but use only a small fraction of it; the rest is released through pores on the underside of leaves—openings through which water molecules evaporate into the air through transpiration. Along with evaporation from soil and water, this process drives evapotranspiration, which cycles moisture back to the atmosphere.

The water cycle includes water in all of its forms—liquid, solid (ice), and gas (vapor). Although water typically shifts between gas and solid by passing through a liquid phase, under the right conditions it can turn directly from gas to solid (deposition) or solid to gas (sublimation).

Why is it important?

Water is vital for life on Earth, and it plays an essential role in regulating climate. When water evaporates, it absorbs heat and cools Earth's surface. That vapor then travels into the atmosphere where it releases heat as it condenses into clouds. Water vapor also traps the sun's heat, creating a greenhouse effect that helps warm the planet. Without it, Earth would be a ball of ice.

On regional and local scales, the availability of water supports ecosystems and human activities such as agriculture and manufacturing. Changes to the water cycle can have profound consequences for society. Major shifts in precipitation patterns likely led to the downfall of ancient civilizations around the world, from Angkor to Mesoamerica to the Indus Valley.



How does climate change affect the water cycle?

A warming climate has begun to shift some well-established patterns of precipitation. Warmer temperatures increase evaporation, adding more water vapor to the atmosphere. At the same time, a warmer atmosphere can hold more water vapor, increasing downpours when precipitation occurs. Under the right conditions, this can lead to heavy rainfall events and catastrophic flooding. This is particularly true of tropical cyclones, which have grown in intensity over recent years, but also applies to temperate regions. Recurring atmospheric rivers dumping massive amounts of rain on the west coast of North America are one example. Unusually large swings in precipitation tied to the South Asian monsoon have also caused significant flooding events in recent years.

While some regions are inundated with rain, others experience drought, as a warming climate alters atmospheric circulation patterns. Prolonged drought can have profound impacts, particularly on agriculture, and it contributes to extensive wildfires and loss of vegetation.

How do human activities alter the water cycle?

As we have modified waterways to better accommodate our needs, we have had a significant impact on the water cycle at the regional level. Dams and reservoirs hinder the return flow of water to the ocean. Clear-cutting forests can decrease local precipitation and even change the location of developing storms.

Rain that falls over urban areas can't soak into the ground when it encounters impermeable surfaces, such as roads, sidewalks, and buildings. Instead, rainwater runs over surfaces and overwhelms storm sewers, creating dangerous flash floods or more widespread flooding events that can damage urban infrastructure.

Even air pollution affects the water cycle. Water molecules attach to particles in the atmosphere, condensing into tiny droplets that make up clouds. In areas with air pollution, clouds can contain many smaller droplets—too small to fall as rain—which can limit precipitation in the area. Pumping groundwater from aquifers for use in agriculture is removing water faster than it can replenish in many areas, leading to significant regional water shortages.

How do scientists study the ocean water cycle?

The ocean water cycle is the marine branch of Earth's water cycle. As the primary source of atmospheric moisture, it plays a crucial role in shaping global precipitation patterns and regulating climate.

In addition to on-the-ground measurements of precipitation and water flow, scientists use satellite data to track precipitation, evaporation, and freshwater movement. Some NASA satellites use changes in ocean salinity to detect shifts in the water cycle. Others track freshwater flows into the ocean and measure changes in ocean mass caused by influxes of freshwater from ice melt or runoff.

Because the ocean water cycle drives evaporation, influences cloud formation, and interacts with radiation balance, scientists track its changes to understand how climate change can lead to heavier rainfall events—or disrupt rainfall patterns altogether.

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Santa Claus when he was young and poor, before he signed a contract with Coca Cola



Singing in the shower is all fun and games until you get shampoo in your mouth...

Then it becomes a soap opera!

Did You Know?



Lighthouse keeper Harry Claiborne kept the beacon burning as 135 mph winds tore through Galveston in 1900. With glass shattering around him, he sheltered 125 people inside while guiding ships to safety through the deadliest storm in US history.

While an entire city drowned, one man refused to let the light go out.

In 1900, lighthouse keeper Harry Claiborne made a choice that would save over 125 lives during America's deadliest natural disaster.

As winds screamed at 135 mph and the Gulf of Mexico swallowed Galveston whole, he stayed at his post. What happened next became a legend of courage that still echoes along the Texas coast.

The North Magnetic Pole is the point on Earth where the planet's magnetic field points vertically down.

Unlike the Geographic North Pole, which is fixed, the magnetic pole shifts due to changes in Earth's molten iron core.

Between 1590 and the mid-1800s, the magnetic pole wandered slowly around Canada. From 1850 to 1904, it started to move more consistently northward.

By the late 20th century, particularly from 1994 to 2001, the pace of movement accelerated significantly—from around 15 km/year to over 50 km/year.

By 2020, the pole had shifted well into the Arctic Ocean, heading toward Russia. This unusual acceleration in recent decades has been documented in geophysical studies.

According to data from institutions like the British Geological Survey and NOAA, the pole's current movement is believed to be linked to changes deep within Earth's core, specifically the turbulent flow of molten iron.

This migration impacts navigation systems like compasses and GPS corrections, necessitating regular updates to the World Magnetic Model.



Official Announcement

Earth's Magnetic North Pole Is Shifting Toward Siberia and Raising Questions About Unusual Movement

January Recipe and Libations by Recipe Haven



Pink Coconut Snowball Cake Bars



Why You'll Love These Bars:

- ✓ Beautiful pink snowy topping
- ✓ Rich chocolate base
- ✓ Easy, no-fail recipe

Soft... fudgy... coconutty... and topped with the prettiest pink "snow"!

These bars taste like a mix between a brownie and a coconut candy bar — absolute heaven!

Perfect for holidays, parties, or anytime you want a sweet treat that looks as good as it tastes!

What You'll Need:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup cocoa powder
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- (rest of ingredients as in your recipe card...)
- (See Recipe <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553372736227>)

How to Make Them:

1. Prepare the chocolate base, bake until set.
2. Add the creamy coconut layer on top.
3. Finish with the pink coconut "snow".
4. Chill, slice, and enjoy the magic!



EGGNOG

Rich, creamy, and a true holiday tradition.

Ingredients (2 servings)

- 1 cup whole milk
- ½ cup heavy cream
- 2 egg yolks
- 3 tbsp sugar
- 1 oz rum or bourbon
- Nutmeg (for garnish)

How to Make

Whisk egg yolks and sugar until pale. Heat milk and cream gently (do not boil). Slowly whisk hot milk into eggs. Return to low heat, stirring until thickened. Remove from heat, add alcohol, chill or serve warm.



Santa Bourbon Bomb

Get ready to unwrap a little holiday magic — in liquid form!

The Santa Bourbon Bomb is a cozy, indulgent cocktail that tastes like Christmas dessert in a glass.

With layers of creamy caramel, bold bourbon, and a sweet cloud of whipped cream, it's the perfect drink to sip by the fire while the lights twinkle.

You Will Need

2 oz bourbon
1 oz coffee liqueur (like Kahlúa)
1 oz heavy cream or Irish cream
1 tbsp caramel syrup, plus more for drizzle
Crushed gingerbread cookies (for topping)
Whipped cream for garnish
Optional: a few cranberries or red sugar pearls for a festive touch

How to Make

- 1 Drizzle caramel syrup inside your glass and let it slowly drip for that Santa-style “bomb” effect.
- 2 Fill the glass with ice.
- 3 Pour in bourbon and coffee liqueur, then stir gently.
- 4 Add the cream or Irish cream slowly over the top — watch the creamy swirl!
- 5 Top with whipped cream, a caramel drizzle, and crushed gingerbread crumbs.
- 6 Garnish with cranberries or sparkly sugar pearls for that North Pole glamour!

Serving Suggestion

Serve this with a slice of chocolate cake or a warm cinnamon roll for a dessert pairing Santa himself would approve of!

Prep Time: 5 mins

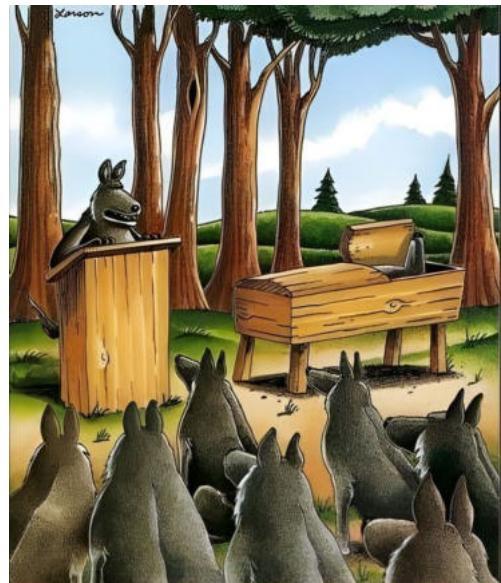
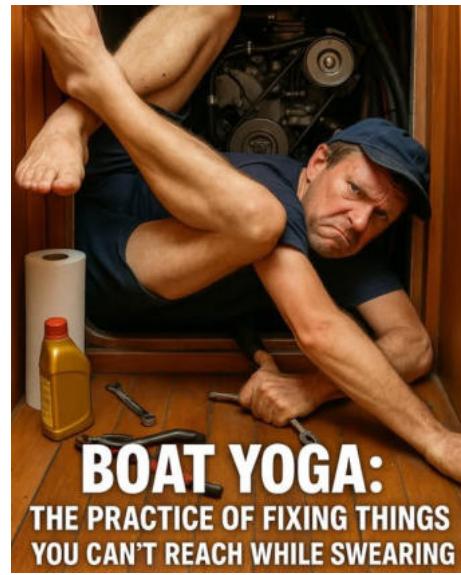
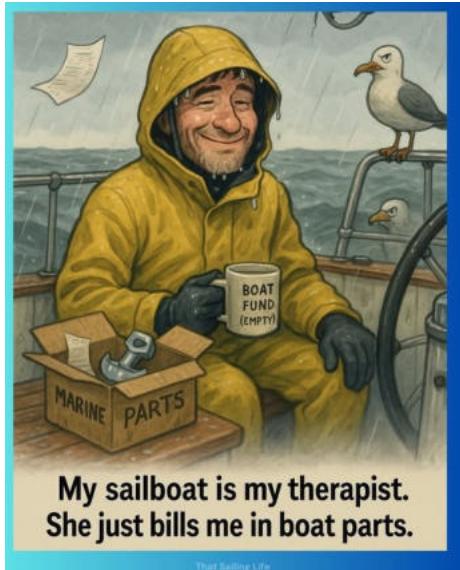
Total Time: 5 mins

Yields: 1 rich, cozy cocktail

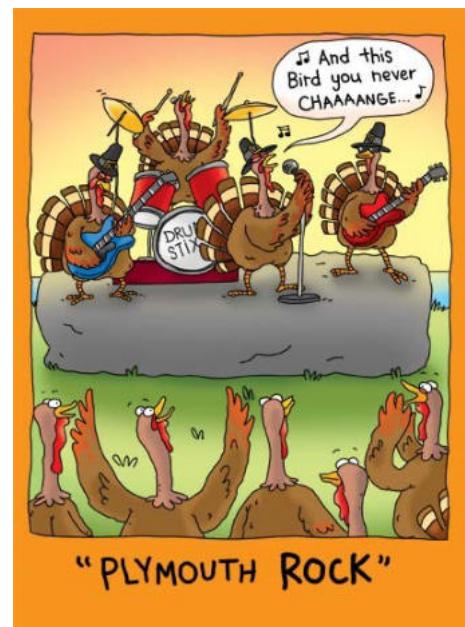


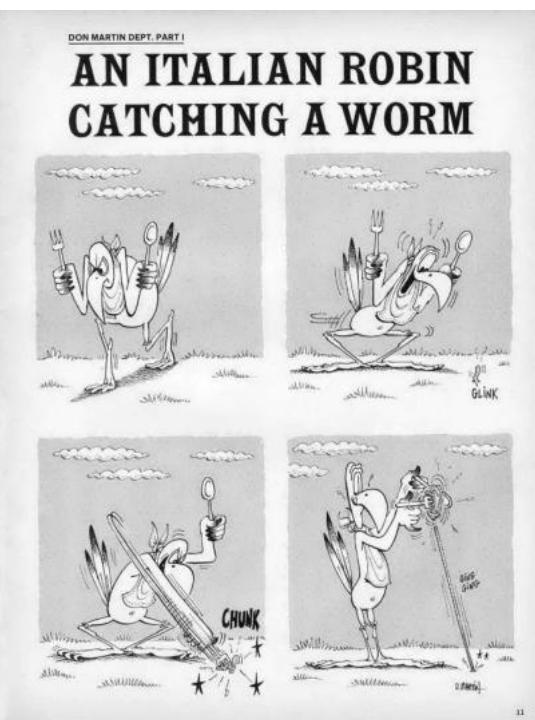
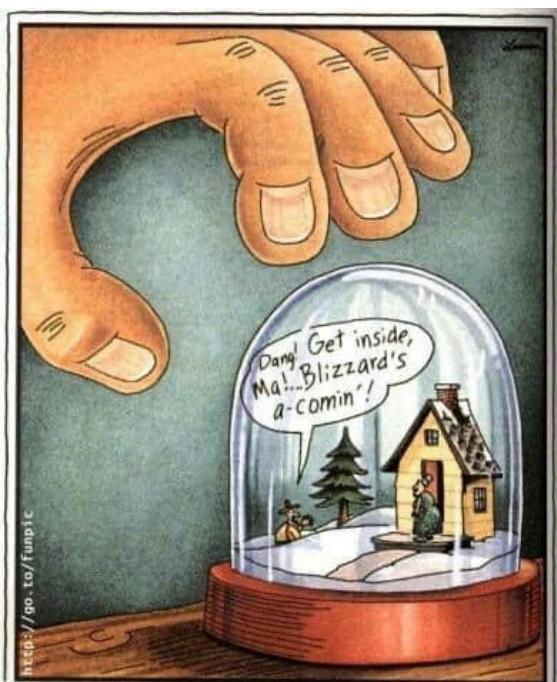


TOONS



"Yes, we'll all miss him, but we must not forget: Louis was shot while slaughtering chickens. So, we can take solace in knowing that he died doing what he loved."





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