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SEPTEMBER 2004

No 486

# The foghorn

Newsletter of the

MID-HUDSON

POWER SQUADRON

A UNIT OF THE

UNITED STATES

POWER SQUADRONS ©

## Message From Commander Jim Silver:

Well, it would appear the boating season is coming to a close. The nights are starting to get cooler, days shorter and the leaves are starting to change colors. I cannot believe how quickly it went by. Time to get back to business.

Dick Winchell is recovering nicely from hip replacement surgery, Fred & Linda are now Mr. & Mrs. Mangelsdorf, 28 members (only Young America & Sea Serpent) challenged the rainy weather to attend the MHPS Rendezvous – a good time for all, and the Mangelsdorf's are enjoying their "honeymoon" trip to the Governing Board Meeting in Jacksonville Fl.

SEO Dick Winchell has scheduled a Basic Boating Class to start on September 7, 2004. We need members to help teach this course, if you are interested in teaching a segment or being a proctor and assisting the instructor please contact Dick.

The new Piloting Course will be offered in late September depending on availability of the training materials. This will be the first attempt at using the new materials, thus being a learning/development experience for instructor (yours truly) and students alike. Anyone interested in being a guinea pig (student) or helping with this course, please let me know. Remember there is no closed book test and this is all new to all of us, great opportunity to get in on the ground floor and have some fun.

Upcoming District Events; please try to attend the Fall Conference 2004 being hosted by Housatonic River S & P and held at The Ethan Allen Inn in Danbury CT. As Housatonic will be celebrating their Diamond (75<sup>th</sup>) Anniversary, please try to attend. The Ethan Allen is very close to our area, right off Route 84 just over the state line in CT. Again, I would like to remind you of our own Spring Conference to be held in Poughkeepsie on March 18-19, 2005. Please mark it down on your calendars.

See you at the Member meeting on September 15, 2004. Regards, Jim & Jan

## SEPTEMBER MEMBER MEETING

**All:** Please accept this invitation to attend the September Monthly Meeting of the Mid-Hudson Power Squadron at the Ramada Inn in Kingston, NY

**Date:** Wed 15 Sep 2004

**Time:** Cash Bar opens at 1830, meal 1930

**Place:** **ROUDIGAN'S**

*At the RAMADA INN, KINGSTON, NY (just off Thruway Interchange)*

## Program: **SSB and HAM --Beyond VHF**

*Ed Weber (SSB) and George Danko (Ham) will present overviews of advanced marine communication at our September meeting. Following an introduction to single side band and Ham radio, Ed and George will entertain questions!*

**Menu:** *Served Salad (Choice of)*

**Oven Roasted Prime Rib, OR**

**Chicken Francaise, OR Crab Stuffed Sole**

*Potato, Vegetable, Warm Rolls with Butter*

*Chefs Choice Dessert, Beverage Service*

**Cost:** \$ 24.00

**Please RSVP by Monday September 13 with your choice of entree to:**

[JRSATV@AOL.COM](mailto:JRSATV@AOL.COM) (Email preferred) or call 845-255-0160 (leave a message).

Please join us for this event and bring a guest.  
Jim Smith, P Administrative Officer, MHPS.

## MidHudson Power Squadron Bridge

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### WEB SITE

The Mid Hudson Power Squadron web site is at

[www.midhudsonpowersquadron.com](http://www.midhudsonpowersquadron.com)

This is where you can get all the information about the Squadron.

Web Master, Dave Rosenthal SN

[darosent@optonline.net](mailto:darosent@optonline.net)

## Mid-Hudson Education Program

Hearty congratulations to Andrew Williams and David Cason on passing the Seamanship course.

Many thanks, to Pat Smalley and Ernie Klopping for conducting the course. Both students passed the course in the high nineties.

The Boating Course will start on Tuesday, September 7 at 1900 at the Highland Middle School, Main Street Highland. I will be conducting these classes using Power Point presentations in the majority of the material. For those of you who would like to participate in making presentations please get in touch with me soon so I can get you on the schedule.

Using Power Point is not radically different than using overhead projection. Instead of flipping black and white foils we now hit a key and get great color pictures with key phrases highlighting the material.

The future of all our courses will be in Power Point with all the material on a single disc.

The new Piloting course will be conducted by Commander Silver, in the near future. Please contact him at (845-877-4777) or email ([jimsilver@att.net](mailto:jimsilver@att.net)) if you would like to sign up for this course, so that we can get an estimate of how many to order.

The Marine Electronics course will be conducted by George Danko this Fall. Contact George to sign up for this one (845-724-3702) ([DANKOGEORGE@aol.com](mailto:DANKOGEORGE@aol.com)).

We have many courses to offer but we need students to keep our instructors busy. Please get in touch with us with your requests.

Dick Winchell, SEO

845-691-7606 [n2exv@hvi.net](mailto:n2exv@hvi.net)

Michele Tarsa, ASEO

845-229-2572

## SAFETY CORNER: THE MSU PFD STUDY REPORT

By Lt./C Jim Smith, P

The Recreational Marine Research Center (RMRC) at Michigan State University released its study, "Boater Attitudes Regarding Requirements for Adults To Wear Life Jackets While Underway In Recreational Boats," in late August 2004. The results are surprising, to say the least.

There was resounding opposition to potential regulations that would require adult boaters to wear personal flotation devices (PFDs) while underway in any type of vessel. Some 86% of the respondents opposed the concept and only 12% supported such a PFD requirement. About one-third of all respondents indicated they would reduce their boating activity if such a regulation were adopted.

However, 78% supported the notion that children 12-and-under wear life jackets while underway. There was also support for a PFD requirement for small vessels.

Why the opposition to mandatory PFD regulation? According to the RMRC researchers:

- The disagreement with a requirement is not because of the cost or discomfort associated with wearing PFDs.
- Many disapprove of a requirement that adults wear life jackets while underway in all boats because "it is additional and unnecessary intrusion into recreational activity that they enjoy in large part because of the sense of freedom it provides."
- The vast majority of those who oppose a requirement to wear life preservers in all boats do wear them in certain conditions (29%) and in certain boats and conditions (50%).
- Opposition relates more to "individual choice" and the belief that captains of the boats know under what conditions to require their passengers to wear preservers.
- There is more support for a requirement that boaters wear life preservers while underway in small boats and certain types of boats including canoes, kayaks and personal watercraft.

There was some good news about overall PFD ownership. Some 90% of the respondents apparently owned at least one Type II and one Type IV PFD. And most owned several PFDs. The results of the survey also documented low ownership levels of Type I PFDs. Ownership of Type I and inflatable PFDs seemed to increase with boat size (reported length).

### How many of the following types of life preservers do you currently own?

Type of life preservers they own	Percentage that own at least one	Average Number of these PFDs owned
Type I	29%	3.7
Type II	90%	7.0
Type III	71%	4.5
Type IV	91%	3.0
Inflatables	43%	2.3

*Recreation Marine Research Center Study Report. August 2004.*

"The 4,337 respondents own a total of 7,649 boats, or an average of 1.8 boats. Fifty three percent of these boats are less than 21' in length. Sixteen percent of all boats owned by respondents were outboards, 11% were Inboard-outboards, 19% were sailboats with berths and 4% were jet boats or personal watercraft. "

Is this survey representative of the boating community at-large? As a professional in market research, I should point out that there is a relatively large subgroup of Americans that tend to resist any form of regulation and are more prone to participate in surveys than the average citizen. Further, it should be noted, that this *voluntary* study was administered via on-line survey methods and therefore might not represent the opinions of boaters who either do not have on-line ability or opted not to participate in the RMRC study.

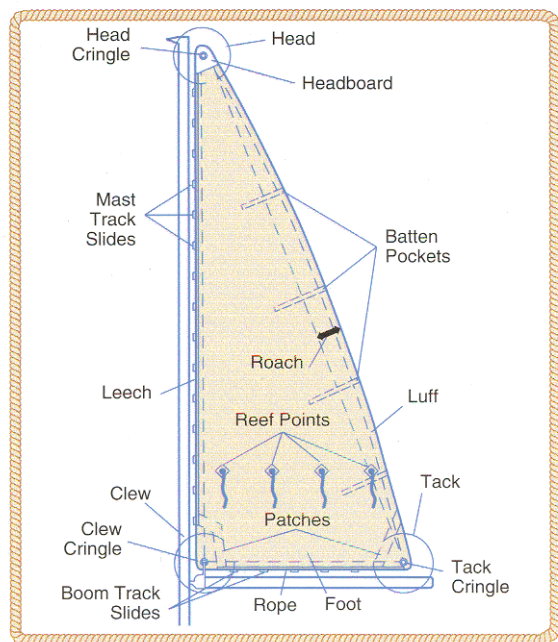
The research results were presented at a meeting with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) in late August 2004. This is mandatory reading for all USPS members as this further helps in understanding our population of boaters. You can retrieve a complete copy of the PDF survey report to the NTSB by accessing <http://www.prr.msu.edu/rmrc/pfdsurvey.pdf>.

## FROM NAUTI BENDERS 2004



Figure 1. Before anchoring, what is the most important consideration?

- (A) holding ground;
- (B) number type and position of boats present and anticipated;
- (C) anticipated weather
- (D) water depth, current direction, tidal range



**Figure 2**, IN THE ABOVE DIAGRAM, WHICH SAIL DESCRIPTORS HAVE BEEN TRANSPOSED (see page 5)

### The Erie Canal Song

A fellow Cal boat sailor sent out the following song, which I thought was appropriate for the MHPS to learn. All you Erie Canal navigators and wannabees please learn or bring the words and we will sing it at the meeting. One problem, we have the lyrics but what is the tune? Editor John

### The Erie Canal Song Words and Music By: William S. Allen

I've got a mule,  
Her name is Sal,  
Fifteen years on the Erie Canal.  
She's a good old worker  
And a good old pal,  
Fifteen years on the Erie Canal.  
We've hauled some barges in our day  
Filled with lumber, coal and hay  
And ev'ry inch of the way I know  
From Albany to Buffalo.

Low Bridge, ev'rybody down,  
For it's Low Bridge,  
We're coming to a town!  
You can always tell your neighbor,  
You can always tell your pal,  
If you've ever navigated  
On the Erie Canal.  
Low Bridge, ev'rybody down,  
For it's Low Bridge,  
We're coming to a town!  
You can always tell your neighbor,  
You can always tell your pal,  
If you've ever navigated  
On the Erie Canal.

We better get along  
On our way, old gal,  
Fifteen miles on the Erie Canal.  
Cause you bet your life  
I'd never part with Sal,  
Fifteen miles on the Erie Canal.  
Git up there, mule, here comes a lock,  
We'll make Rome 'bout six o'clock.  
One more trip and back we'll go  
Right back home to Buffalo.

Low Bridge, ev'rybody down,  
For it's Low Bridge,  
We're coming to a town!  
You can always tell your neighbor,  
You can always tell your pal,  
If you've ever navigated  
On the Erie Canal.  
Low Bridge, ev'rybody down,  
For it's Low Bridge,  
We're coming to a town!  
You can always tell your neighbor,  
You can always tell your pal,  
If you've ever navigated  
On the Erie Canal.

## SSB and HAM -- Beyond VHF

Ed Weber (SSB) and George Danko (Ham) will present overviews of advanced marine communication at our September meeting.

For distances of only a few miles the familiar marine VHF (Very High Frequency) radio and frequently cell phone can provide communication to other boats and to shore. To cover longer distances and to access critical safety information MF (Medium Frequency) radio is an economical and convenient option. A very brief summary of equipment, license requirements, and illustrations of accessible information will be provided.

Following the presentation, Ed and George will entertain questions! And continue after the meeting for those who desire more detail.

Ed Weber SN

**From Ed Weber SN, I ran across the following on the USPS website.**

### Safety Alert!

It has come to the attention of the U.S. Coast Guard and the FCC that certain consumer electronics-grade active VHF/UHF marine television antennas are causing operational degradation in the performance of Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers. This interference may be realized as a display of inaccurate position information or a complete loss of GPS receiver acquisition and tracking ability. Students and mariners who have active (amplified) TV antennas aboard their boats and experience outages or degradation of GPS performance should perform an on/off test of the TV antenna. If the problem clears when power is removed from the TV antenna, students should contact the manufacturer of the antenna and identify the symptoms. If the problem does not clear, students should contact the CG Navigation Information Service at [nisws@navcen.uscg.mil](mailto:nisws@navcen.uscg.mil)/703-313-5900."



### SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

George A.	Olsen	1-Sep
Gary A.	Bartlett	6-Sep
William J.	Ringwood Jr.	7-Sep
Sharman	Fitchett	9-Sep
Rita	Mullaney	10-Sep
Linda L.	Mangelsdorf	17-Sep
Stephanie M.	Bambina	19-Sep
Edward Paul	Metivier	19-Sep
Arthur C.	Crawford	20-Sep
Rose B.	Taft	21-Sep
Homer P.	Coulter Jr.	23-Sep
Steven C.	Sayegh	27-Sep

### Happy MHPS Anniversary

Edgar E.	Bright	1-Sep
William A.	Fitchett	1-Sep
Barbara	Grey-Black	1-Sep
Bill	Krug	11-Sep
George Joseph	Danko	14-Sep
Edwin J.	Sugg	28-Sep

### Nauti-Benders Answers

Figure 1, (C) anticipated weather

Figure 2, "Tack" should be "Clew" and vice versa.

On page 5 you will see our proposed application form for the March 2005 District 2 Change Of Watch where our own Fred Mangelsdorf SN will become District Commander.

United States Power Squadrons®  
**DISTRICT 2 SPRING CONFERENCE 2005**

will be hosted by the  
**MID-HUDSON POWER SQUADRON**  
on the occasion of its  
**ALMOST 80th ANNIVERSARY**



Friday and Saturday, MARCH 18-19, 2005

At The Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel  
40 Civic Center Plaza

Poughkeepsie NY  
845-485-5300

Friday: 3:00 pm Registration begins  
6:00 pm Social Hour (cash bar)  
7:00 pm Dinner with the Chief Commander's Rep.

Saturday: 8:00 am Continental Breakfast/Registration  
9:00 am Morning Session begins  
12:00 Lunch  
1:00 Afternoon Session begins  
6:00 pm to 7:00 Cocktail hour  
7:00 pm to 11:00pm Dinner and Dancing

**Dress:** Fri Dinner –blazers, Sat. Meeting- Uniform F or casual, Sat Dinner Hawaiian/Tropical shirt or dress or grass skirt, LEIS will be provided.

**REGISTRATION FORM**

First Registrant: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Rank & Position \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Registrant: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Rank & Position \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel Room (double or single): Fri \_\_\_ Sat \_\_\_ nights @ \$ 109.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Dinner Chicken Marsala etc: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 35.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Cont. Bkfst & Luncheon \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 29.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Dinner: \_\_\_\_\_ Delmonico Steak  
\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Francais \_\_\_\_\_ Stuffed Fillet of Sole

Total Saturday Dinners \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 50.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Late fee if postmarked after FEBRUARY 1 \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Mid-Hudson Power Squadron and mail with this registration form to: Janice Silver , PO Box 293, Dover Plains, NY  
Phone 845-877-4777 email: [Jansilver@worldnet.att.net](mailto:Jansilver@worldnet.att.net)

Dated September 10, 2004



# **The Foghorn**

Newsletter of the  
**MID-HUDSON  
POWER SQUADRON**

SEPTEMBER 2004

No 486

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## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

- Sept. 1 Excom at Cosmo's Restaurant, Highland**
- Sept. 7 Basic Boating Class at the Highland Middle School, Highland**
- Sept. 15 MHPS members meeting at Ramada Inn, Roudigan's, Kingston**
- Sept. 23-26 Norwalk Boat Show**
- Oct. 6 Excom at Coco's ( formerly Easystreet)**
- Oct. 20 MHPS Members meeting (tba)**
- Nov. 5-6 D/2 Fall Conference, Huosatonic River PS, Danbury CT.**

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