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**Message from Commander Danko:**

Here it is, December already. It seems like just last week. That I was in Florida at the USPS National Meeting, and that was in January! We are preparing for winter, the holidays are fast approaching and soon it will be a new year. May everyone please have a safe and prosperous holiday season.

This time of year is exciting, not as exciting as the summer and boating season, mind you, but exciting nevertheless. This is the time when merit mark reports and website evaluations are done. My reports will be sent this week. If you have qualified for a merit mark by performing meritorious squadron service, congratulations and thank you, if not, please review your commitment as a proud member of the Mid-Hudson Power Squadron.

More exciting news...USPS University. You have probably heard that USPS is completely re-thinking our education programs. Very soon, members will be able to study our educational material in a different way. All of our member courses are being re-done and a new opportunity will exist for taking two-hour seminar classes. These seminars will offer various interesting subjects such as GPS, On-Board Weather Forecasting, and VHF Marine Radio. These are only a few, with many more in the works. Please stand-by for more information on USPS University. There are many on-going changes taking place and it will take time to adjust. Don't wait, however, sign up for a class today. Contact me or your Squadron Educational Officer for all the details.

Finally: do not forget our member meeting on Wednesday 20 December. We will be at the Copolla's Restaurant in Hyde Park starting at 1830. A festive Holiday Dinner with a Special Guest shall be our year ending get together. Hope to see you there.

November-December 2006

No 510

# THE FOGHORN

Newsletter of the

## MID-HUDSON POWER SQUADRON

*UNIT OF THE*

### UNITED STATES

## POWER SQUADRONS ©

### WINTER HOLIDAY MEMBER MEETING OF THE

### MID-HUDSON POWER SQUADRON

Wednesday December 20 2006, 1830

**COPPOLA'S ITALIAN &  
AMERICAN BISTRO**

4167 ALBANY POST ROAD

HYDE PARK, NY

845-229-9113

### Menu:

Choice of: Veal Parmagiana, Chicken Marsala ,  
Broiled Salmon. Meal includes, Antipasta and  
Penne

Dessert (Sundae) Coffee or Tea

Cost: \$23.00

There will also be an optional gift exchange. If you care to participate bring a wrapped gift marked for man, woman or either. Please keep the cost between \$5 & \$10.

**Dress Code:** Uniform A with a Red Bowtie or Appropriate Attire.

**RSVP** with your choice of meal to Lt/Cdr Andy Williams AP no later than **December 15.**

**Andy: 845-876-0761 or [agizmofish@yahoo.com](mailto:agizmofish@yahoo.com)**

See you there and bring a guest!!!

## **Mid-Hudson Power Squadron Bridge**

### **Commander**

Cdr. George Danko, AP  
845-724-3702,  
[dankogeorg@aol.com](mailto:dankogeorg@aol.com)

### **Executive Officer**

Lt. Cdr. Patricia K. Smalley, AP  
845-889-4242,  
[Lymey2@aol.com](mailto:Lymey2@aol.com)

### **Squadron Education Officer (SEO)**

Lt. Cdr. Richard Winchell, SN  
845-691-7606 ,  
[n2exv@hvi.net](mailto:n2exv@hvi.net).

### **Assistant Squadron Education Officer (ASEO)**

1st Lt. Michelle L. Tarsa AP  
845-229-2572,  
[mltonhudson@hotmail.com](mailto:mltonhudson@hotmail.com)

### **Administrative Officer**

Lt. Cdr. Andrew E. Williams AP  
845-876-0761  
[agizmofish@yahoo.com](mailto:agizmofish@yahoo.com)

### **Secretary**

Lt. Cdr. Jerry Toepfer, AP  
845-462-1786  
[Jerry.Toepfer@verizon.net](mailto:Jerry.Toepfer@verizon.net)

### **Treasurer**

Lt. Cdr. Janice M. Silver, P  
845-877-4777,  
[jansilver@optonline.net](mailto:jansilver@optonline.net)

### **Foghorn Editor**

P/C John C. Kwak, AP  
845-255-5318,  
[jckwak@earthlink.net](mailto:jckwak@earthlink.net)

### **Web Master**

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Dave Rosenthal SN  
[mhpswebmaster@optonline.net](mailto:mhpswebmaster@optonline.net)

### **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.

### **YOUR BOATING EDUCATION IS OUR GOAL**

Something to consider for your engines winter lay up. All oils are not created equal. Most all of them are created for a specific purpose including marine engines. As the life blood of your four stroke marine engine there is a new formula that you should switch to. It is identified as "NMMA Certified FC-W" ( NMMA is the National Marine Manufacturers Association Oil Certification Committee). If you choose not to use oil recommend or produced by the engine manufacturer it would be advisable to use the new FC-W oil.

Marine engines live in a very harsh environment and are operated altogether differently than a automotive engine there by requiring oil that will stand up under these conditions. One very important aspect is that the FC-W oil has a rust protection requirement not found in automotive oils.

Treat you engine kindly when it comes time for its next transfusion. It will pay dividends for you in the long run. This information was gleaned from an article in the September issue of Boating Magazine.

There must be some of you out there that would like to become instructors. We need you. Teaching any of our boating courses is a fun way to start. Please let me help you get started!

If anyone wants the 2007 Nautical Almanac you may e-mail me your order.

This months NautiBender poses the following question. While watching the annual Dory Boat races, your boat's engine quits. You drift into the path of one of the racers...although the racers divert, one scrapes your boat. Who's at fault?

Answer to be found elsewhere in this issue.

Dick Winchell, SEO

November 2006



**Figure 1, Lively discussions at the Pot-Luck Supper**

**SAFETY CORNER: By Lt. Jim Smith,  
Power Boat Sinking Sources—Power of Checklists**

In a previous article, we discussed issues related to sinking at the dock. Here are some recent statistics from a BoatUS Marine Insurance review of claims, originally published in Seaworthy magazine's July edition. The sources seem to range from carelessness to marginal seamanship skills. Some of these numbers are real eye-openers, like the percentage of boats sinking while underway due to live/bait well plumbing problems or failures.

Sure we cover all of these issues in our MHPS courses but how many of our members actually create formal pre-voyage checklists and follow them? Yes, it's a drag to check all of the through-hull fittings each time before leaving the dock but it's better to examine the fittings there, than from water-level in a PFD 30-minutes later.

**Sinking At The Dock**

- Rain or snow 47%
- Underwater Fittings 20%
- Above the Waterline Fittings 10%
- Poor Docking Arrangements 9%
- Water Over Gunwales or Transom 9%
- Other 5%

**Sinking While Underway**

- Water over Gunwales/Transom 32%
- Live well or Bait well Plumbing 20%
- Drain Plug 16%
- Struck a Submerged Object 12%
- Other 12%
- Construction 8%

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR, MARINE AUCTION**

Mid Hudson Power Squadron's annual marine auction will be held on April 14, 2007 and is to be held at the Poughkeepsie Yacht Club. Watch for more news later. Don Gladstone 485-5204.

Nautibender Answer:

You are. (A race is considered a "regatta" and therefore of limits by Coast Guard rules).

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL**



By Lt Cdr Janice Silver P

**November Birthdays**

Last	First	Birthday
LoPresti	Bruce	11/6
Olsen	Anna A.	11/10
Gladstone	Betty D.	11/15

**November Member Anniversary**

Toepfer	Jerry L.	11/1/1971
Chernowski	Joseph F.	11/10/2000
Chernowski	Judy A.	11/10/2000
Hatfield	Christopher M.	11/10/2000
Smith	James R.	11/10/2000
Taft	Rose B.	11/10/2000
Fikis	Ed	11/12/1999
Kwak	John C	11/18/1997
Enichen	William A.	11/28/1978
Enichen	Margaret	11/30/1978

**December Birthdays**

Last	First	Birthday
Suessle	Edward F.	12/1
Gladstone	Donald	12/9
Rivenburgh	Paul	12/13
Canter	Mary Ann	12/29

**December Member Anniversary**

Paetow	Arlene M.	12/1/1979
Sayegh	Steven A.	12/1/1998
Boyle	John M.	12/2/1986
Ferreira	Kathleen P.	12/3/2001
Gotimer	Karen K.	12/3/2001
Gladstone	Betty D.	12/6/1975
Hoffman	Christopher J.	12/12/1969
Popko	Edward	12/15/1992
Rhodes	Christine C.	12/20/1999



Figure 2, Lining up for the goodies.



R.

# THE FOGHORN

## Newsletter of the MID-HUDSON POWER SQUADRON

Nov. Dec 2006

No 510

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Wednesday 6 December 2006** Executive Committee meeting on at **Coco's Pizza** 580 Albany Post Road (Route 9), Hyde Park, NY.

**Wednesday 20 December 2006** Member Annual Holiday Party at Coppola's, Hyde Park.

MID-HUDSON POWER SQUADRON  
FOGHORN EDITOR  
John C. Kwak  
240 Sand Hill Rd.  
Gardiner NY 12525