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January, 2007

No. 511

# THE FOGHORN

Newsletter of the  
**MID-HUDSON  
POWER SQUADRON**  
*UNIT OF THE*  
**UNITED STATES**  
**POWER SQUADRONS®**

## Message from Commander Danko:

Happy New Year! I hope each and everyone had a safe and prosperous holiday season. Just think, it is the beginning of a new year, so, get through January and February and boating season begins in 60 days. It does not seem too bad. Speaking of a new year...this will be an interesting one for USPS. If you haven't checked out the new USPS web site, please do so soon. Go to [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org) and take in the new look. There are many, much needed, improvements such as a new way to navigate, much more information, graphics, and photos. I give it 100%. USPS University is well on its way. This concept, borrowed, from real life learning will bring USPS educational programs into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Please check out the Educational Department on the National Website and decide what courses you haven't taken. Do not ignore the seminar series; they are great. Make up a personal plan, contact your Squadron Educational Officer or me and go to work. Power Squadron is all about education, so take advantage of the opportunities. The Power Squadrons are changing for the better, please commit your membership and be a part of these changes. Remember, if we stand still, we go backward. This might be a good time to consider membership. We are all aware that the Power Squadrons have been losing members for the last 15 years. We are in trouble and, if the membership continues to decline, eventually, we will be out of business. The National Educational and Operating Committees have proposed a plan, which will be voted on at the USPS Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, Florida in February. This plan proposes to waive for three years, the required boating course/proctored exam for experienced boaters as a prelude to USPS membership. This means that anyone who desires can join our organization without fulfilling the age-old requirement of taking a boating safety course. There will be much discussion on this topic as it is a plan to increase membership. Whether it is a good plan or not, it is a plan and we need all the help we can get. Please consider your position on this matter and transmit your feelings to the Executive Committee. We shall be part of the vote in February. Don't forget our January and February member meetings. Times, places, and themes are detailed in this edition of the FOGHORN and, of course, on our website: [ww.midhudsonpowersquadron.com](http://ww.midhudsonpowersquadron.com). Again, Happy New Year and everyone have a great winter.

January 2007 Member Meeting

**ANNUAL SHARING MEETING  
FREE PIZZA PARTY**

Wednesday January 17, 2007

**REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED!**

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

Bring your favorite photos, videos, slides and stories to share with your friends at the Power Squadron. Pizza will be delivered at 1900 : we need a head count so please respond promptly.

***Please note: We will be voting on the dues increase at this meeting since we did not finish this at the Holiday Meeting. Increase is \$ 1.02.***

**Directions to Dutchess County Pistol Assoc. Clubhouse:**

From I84 – Exit 13. Rte -9N for 6 miles. Turn right onto New Hackensack Rd (DC104). Go 2 Miles. Turn right onto St. Nicholas Rd. Go 1 mile. The Club is on the left.

From the North: Rte 9S from Poughkeepsie Galleria area. Once over the bridge going over the Wappingers Creek, look for New Hackensack Rd (DC104) on the left (look for an Eckerd's and a Wendy's). Go 2 miles. Turn right onto St. Nicholas Rd. Go 1 mile. The Club is on the left.

**If lost call DCPA club house at 845-297-4481.**

## **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.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

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

### **EDUCATION : Our most important product**

The Weather class is starting on January 5th at St  
Andrews church, Overocker Rd, Poughkeepsie.  
1900 to 2100. If you wish to join this class please  
contact the instructor, George Danko.

We are planning to do an Engine Maintenance class  
starting in the end of March or beginning of April at the  
shop of Bruce Lopresti in Saugerties. Two students  
have already signed up. If you wish to join the class  
please contact Dick Winchell (Bruce is away till  
March).

I have no other request for classes at this time. It is now  
time to start planning for our Spring Boating class and  
help is needed. We need a team with a leader that is a  
certified instructor and some proctors. Please contact  
Dick Winchell if you would like to help in this, our  
most important class.

Our NautiBender problem this month poses this  
question: You are lost in thick fog. All of a sudden you  
hear a buoy. You know it's a gong buoy because: the  
tone is DIFFERENT or the SAME each time you hear  
it (answer to be found elsewhere in this issue).

From Commander George Danko and Weather Course  
instructor the following:

The time has come. Weather 101 and 102 will start  
Friday 5 January at 1900. If you are attending, please  
confirm. We will meet at St. Andrews Church 110  
Overlook Rd. Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. I have  
scheduled 10 sessions over the next 12 weeks, and we  
should be finished in that time. After you confirm,  
please be prepared for class as follows:  
You need 2 texts. The Weather Book by Jack Williams  
(USA Today) and Weather Supplemental Manual  
USPS 2004 Edition....Please read, understand, and be  
prepared to discuss in class as a group Chapters 1 and 2  
from both texts.

We are going to take a new approach to USPS learning  
in 2007, in keeping with the USPS University theme,  
and I shall explain it more fully in class.

Again, please confirm your attendance, and I shall see  
you on January 5, at 1900. Any questions should be  
directed to me at [dankogeorg@aol.com](mailto:dankogeorg@aol.com), 845-724-3702  
or 845-258-8445.

Pictures of the December Holiday Party at Coppola's



All the Boys and Girl gifts displayed – Ready for the Pirates Auction!



Jim Silver Calling the Auction numbers



Some of the attendees at the Holiday gathering

Pictures of the November Meeting at Downtown Café Kingston



Enjoying the presentation from the Hudson River Maritime Museum



One of the ferries which were used on the Hudson



Another of the Ferry boats of the Hudson

Answer to the Nautibender: DIFFERENT (Gong buoys have three or more "gongs" each with a different tone).



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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**5 January, 2007** Weather Class Starts @ St .  
Andrew's Church 1900

**9 January, 2007** Auction Staff Mtg. at Gladstone's  
**17 January, 2007** Member Meeting at the Dutchess  
County Pistol Association Club House.

**27 January, 2007** D2 Winter Council @ Best Western,  
Poughkeepsie, NY

**31 January, 2007** Ex Comm @ Coco's 1830

**9 February, 2007** Dessert Party at Fred & Linda  
Mangelsdorf. Details to follow.

**February 20 – 25, 2007**, USPS Annual Meeting at the  
Hyatt Regency Riverfront, Jacksonville, FL see link for  
info: <http://www.usps.org/newpublic2/video/>

**7 March**, Ex Comm @ Brennie's (George's Last as  
Commander)

**15 March, 2007** Kid's Boating Class for Girl Scouts,  
one session only 17:30 – 20:00 @ Pleasant Plains  
Presbyterian Church, 2 Fiddler's Bridge Rd. Confirm  
time and directions with Betty or Pat.

**21 March, 2007** COW Greenbaum & Gilhooleys

**30- 31 Mar- 1 Apr. 2007** D2 COW Best Western,  
Poughkeepsie.

**14 April, 2007** Annual Auction at PYC.

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

