

# the Bilge Pump

BULLETIN OF THE HARTFORD POWER SQUADRON

A UNIT OF DISTRICT 1

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRON

Volume 87 Issue 1

"In the Shadow of Mt Teide" Tenerife, Canary Island



| Schedule of Upcoming Squadron Activities   |  | Page |
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| 08 May                                     | Executive Committee Meeting - Century Spring Mfg. 6 pm                   |      |
| 18 May                                     | Marine Swap Meet & Craft Show - West Marine parking lot Old Saybrook, CT | 12   |
| 28 May                                     | Members Meeting- Olympia Diner Newington, CT 6:30 pm                     | 10   |
| Schedule of Upcoming District 1 Activities |  |      |
| 31 May to 1 June                           | June Rendezvous Middlesex Yacht Club Chester, CT                         |      |
| 01 June                                    | District 1 Council   |      |
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# At the Helm

Cdr. William Waseleski | (860) 212-2636 | [wwaseleski@centuryspringmfg.com](mailto:wwaseleski@centuryspringmfg.com)

Ahoy All,

Spring is running a little behind schedule this year. We got a teaser this past Monday with temperatures near 70, but none the less it's time to take the shrink wrap off your boat.

Our Combined Change of Watch & Meriden's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on Saturday evening, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Westbrook Elks club was well attended. Chief Commander C/C Ralph A. Bernard, AP honored us with his presence. Chief Commander Bernard installed the new officers & joined us for the festivities. It was a pleasure to meet him & I'm sure he will do an excellent job for our organization.

Our Marine Swap meet/Craft Show is coming up on May 18<sup>th</sup>. We pushed it out to May this year in anticipation of better weather and moved it to the West Marine parking lot in Old Saybrook. We'll be drawing the winners of our all cash raffle at the Swap meet. Only 500 tickets will be sold. There is still time to secure a vendor space. It's a great opportunity to sell that excess boating equipment you no longer need & there will be a lot of good deals. The members of our Executive Committee will be there bright & early, 6AM, to set up and direct vendors to their spaces. We'll also be cooking Hot Dogs & Hamburgers and selling any remaining tickets for our raffle.

Get your Vendor Space now, we look forward to seeing you there!

We have a great speaker with the true history of Middletown to tell us about at our next member meeting on Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at the Olympia Diner. Author Erik Hesselberg, "Night Boat to New York", will do a Presentation & Book Signing.

Our Co-op charting event is coming up on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, we will be checking the location & condition of all the Aids to Navigation on the Connecticut river from Old Saybrook all the way up to Hartford.

Lastly, mark your calendars, the June Rendezvous will be at the Middlesex Yacht Club on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. Planning is underway, there will be all you can eat Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Corn on the Cob, & Clams. The pool will be open. Bring your family & Boating Buddies !

Contact Peter Jenkins ([ladybug.peter@gmail.com](mailto:ladybug.peter@gmail.com)) to make your reservations.

Our squadron is becoming more active & recognized by the boating public with each event. Please send us your ideas for new events, services, meeting places, & entertainment. Visit & "Like" our Hartford Power Squadron Facebook page & "Share it" with your friends.

All of our member meetings & events are open to non-members so they can get to know us. Bring your Boating Buddies!

May you have fair winds and following seas!

Cdr Bill Waseleski, AP



# Education Department

Education Officer (SEO)

Lt/C Patrick A. Pabouet, P

860-209-1776 [Argus06108@aol.com](mailto:Argus06108@aol.com)

We are happy to report that the Marine Navigation (formerly Piloting) class has wrapped up with 7 members taking the test. Captain Rich Fortunato did a great job with the class and we are looking forward to the possibility of offering the Advanced Marine Navigation (formerly Advanced Piloting) course in the fall. See the September *Bilge Pump* for the entire 'line up' of classes for the fall.

The 9 March ABC class was completed with 2 students and the 4 May class was just completed with 6 students. All students passed the test and are now able to get their DEEP Certificate to Operate Power Boats.

Our ABC courses are 8-hour courses meeting the requirements of the State of Connecticut DEEP for its Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operations.

Upon passing the final exam the students receive the Hartford Power Squadron's Certificate attesting to the passing of the NASBLA test which can be used in any State to apply for a License or Certificate to operate a power boat.

The Connecticut student will then be able to apply on-line for the State of Connecticut DEEP Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operations.

**Look for our fall class lineup in the September *Bilge Pump*.**

Would you like to teach one of our courses? If you have taken a course and would like to teach it, please contact Pat Pabouet.

**FALL PHOTO CONTEST! DEADLINE **October 1<sup>st</sup>****

**1<sup>st</sup> prize \$50 cash, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize \$25, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize \$10**

**2023 – 2024**



***NAUTICAL THEMED***

**click here to [Upload your JPEG](#)**

**PICTURES!**

***Rules: Open to Squadron members and their family.***

Submit up to three of your best photos taken in 2023 or 2024.

**Winners will be announced at the October Member Meeting.**



**United States Power Squadrons®  
Hartford Power Squadron  
Annual Reports  
26 March 2024**



## **Annual Report of the Commander**

The Hartford Power Squadron had a great, activity packed, year. Our Change of Watch Dinner was well attended on April 16, 2023 at Portofino's Restaurant in Kensington, CT.

We held our 2nd Annual Boat Show /Swap Meet at the Westbrook Outlets and our Second Annual All Cash Raffle. Both events went off very smoothly and netted our Squadron a profit of approx. \$900. We decided to move the 2024 Marine Swap Meet/ Craft Show to the West Marine parking lot in Old Saybrook and pushed the date out to May 18<sup>th</sup>.

Our Executive Department's CoOperative Charting efforts did not go unnoticed by National. We held our Coop Charting event on June 10, 2023. Our Squadron was ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in the country, and ten of our members received individual awards for their actions. Great job, guys.

Immediate Past Commander Timothy Tyler once again hosted our ExCom meeting/outing in August at the Ragged Rock Marina. A 'Pot Luck' Steak Barbeque was enjoyed by all.

NBC Meteorologist Darren Sweeney did a presentation on weather forecasting at our September Member meeting.

Our Squadron helped host the District Christmas party at the Middletown Elks Club in December, featuring Steve Kazlauskas, Echoes of Sinatra, and an excellent Buffet Dinner. It was a sellout, with over 65 people attending.

The Hartford Boat Show at the Mohegan Sun was back again this year & we secured a Complimentary Booth from the CMTA. It was a busy show & we distributed over 300 flyers on our upcoming Marine Swap Meet/ Craft Fair, ABC classes, and our new Navigation Course offering.

At our January Member Meeting/Trivia Contest with Steve Petty unfortunately had to be canceled due to inclement weather. Our February Member meeting featured Rhea Drozdenko of the Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC). She gave us a talk on their efforts to maintain a healthy Connecticut River all the way from the top of New Hampshire to the Sound.

Sadly, we lost 2 members of our Executive Committee, P/C Michael J. Rinaldi, JN and P/C Ken Weeks, Jr., AP. Members of the Executive Committee attended their memorial services & a donation was made to the Carpenter's Boat Shop, in Pemequid, ME in Ken Weeks' name.

The Secretary's Department received awards for all our publications, provided accurate and timely meeting minutes, and once again kept our histories 100% up to date.

The Treasurer's Department performed all its responsibilities in a timely fashion, arranged for our (successful) yearly audit.

I would like to thank all our members and especially the Executive Committee who have supported the Squadron & me throughout the past year. You are the ones that make the Hartford Power Squadron the great organization it is today.

Respectfully submitted, Cdr William Waseleski, AP

## **Annual Report of the Executive Officer**

The Executive Department has under its umbrella, the Safety Department, the Vessel Safety Check Department, the Coop Charting Department, and the Boat Show.

**Vessel Safety Checks.** We were only able to complete 14 Vessel Safety Checks as we are down to only 2 Examiners. Pat is hoping to offer a VS Examiner class to attract more members into the VSC program.

**CoOp Charting.** We had a successful Coop Charting year. Our trip on the CT River on 10 June recorded a number of irregularities on the river, checked aids to navigation and new structures not appearing on the charts. The results awarded us with ‘Honor’ status at the National level.

**National Awards for Coop Charting Nationwide Rankings**

|                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Hartford Power Squadron | Honor Roll, ranked 9  |
| Hartford Power Squadron | Honor Roll, ranked 9  |
| Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN | Honor Roll, ranked 21 |
| Pete Berlandy           | Honor Roll, ranked 52 |
| Paula Berlandy          | Honor Roll, ranked 52 |
| Lt/C Pat Pabouet, P     | Honor Roll, ranked 61 |
| P/C Ted Wurz, P         | Honor Roll, ranked 61 |
| Lt/C Jim Salvatore, AP  | Honor Roll, ranked 61 |
| Cdr Bill Waseleski, AP  | Honor Roll, ranked 61 |
| P/C Tim Tyler, SN       | Honor Roll, ranked 78 |
| Lt/C Tom Berlandy, AP   | Honor Roll, ranked 78 |
| Ken Letendre            | Honor Roll, ranked 78 |
| District 1              | Ranked 8              |

(Hartford was the only Squadron participating)

**Hartford Boat Show.** The Hartford Squadron decided to sponsor a booth at the Hartford Boat Show at the Mohegan Sun on 18-21 January. We had a lot of interest in our upcoming ABC and Marine Navigation courses as well as our May Swap Meet.

My thanks go to all the members of the Executive Department and to our Executive Department staff:

|                        |                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Lt/C Pat Pabouet, P    | Chair, Vessel Safety Check Committee |
| Lt/C Cliff McKibbin SN | Chair, CoOp Charting Committee       |
| P/C Tim Tyler, SN      | Chair, Safety Committee              |
| Lt Frank Pascucci, AP  | Chair, Boat Show Committee           |

Without their help, my job would be a lot harder and time consuming.  
Special thanks to Lt/C Bill Waseleski AP for leading the effort at the Hartford Boat Show

Respectfully Submitted, Lt/C Tom Berlandy, AP

**Annual Report of the Educational Officer**

**This year we continued to use the Bristol Public Library for one day ABC courses.**

I would like to thank David Pero for serving as Asst. SEO, and Cliff McKibbin for his help with the ABC classes.

Three members of the Education Department received merit marks this year.

**For 2023-24, we had the following course completions:**

| <u>Course</u>                      | <u>Instructor</u>          | <u>Passed</u> | <u>Location</u>        |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| ABC-25 March 2023                  | Pat Pabouet/Cliff McKibbin | 11            | Bristol Public Library |
| ABC-20 May                         | Pat Pabouet/Cliff McKibbin | 9             | Bristol Public Library |
| ABC-21 October                     | Pat Pabouet/Cliff McKibbin | 4             | Bristol Public Library |
| Total completions for all classes: |                            | 24            |                        |

We are quite excited about our offerings in the new year, including ABC and Marine Navigation with our new instructors: Captain Rich Fortunato and Captain Eric Lundin. Both bring extensive experience to our classes and we know our students will benefit.

Respectively submitted, Lt/C Pat Pabouet, P

## Annual Report of the Administrative Officer

This year we had a number of successful activities:

- 16 April 2023 We had our annual Change of Watch dinner at Portofino’s Restaurant. This formal event allows squadron members to witness the transfer of responsibility of bridge assignments.
- 22 April 2023 We held our boat show and swap-meet at the Westbrook Outlets. The weather did not cooperate, but a fun time was had by all.
- 23 May 2023 We hosted Paula and Rob Goldstein at our monthly Member’s Meeting. They discussed their journey from Punta Gorda, FL to Connecticut – taken aboard their new 45’ Hunter Sailboat.
- 10 June 2023 This was our annual co-op charting trip along the Connecticut River. Our members found 27 ATON’s with missing numbers. ATON’s in need of paint or covered over in foliage were also noted. Our squadron ranked 5<sup>th</sup> nationally for the number of problems that were discovered.
- 20 Aug 2023 The Executive Committee held its meeting and picnic at Ragged Rock Marina.
- 26 Sept 2023 At this monthly member’s meeting, we hosted meteorologist Darren Sweeney from Channel 4 News. Mr. Sweeney discussed basic weather forecasting, as well as the significance of various cloud formations as they relate to boaters.
- 24 Oct 2023 Our member’s meeting was held at the Kinsmen Brewery in Milldale, CT. The excellent staff at Kinsmen gave us a tour of the brewery and a behind the scenes look at the brewing process and the equipment used.
- 7 Dec 2023 Our annual Christmas party was held at the Middletown Elks Club with a fantastic turn-out for the event. We enjoyed music by Steve Kazlauskas and held a Yankee Swap.
- 18 Jan 2024 Our members once again manned a booth at the Hartford Boat Show, which was held at the Mohegan Sun Casino.
- 23 Jan 2024 The member’s meeting, which was to feature a “trivia night” with Steve Petty, was canceled due to the weather.
- 29 Feb 2024 Our member’s meeting hosted Ms. Rhea Drozdenko from the CT River Conservancy. Her spirited presentation was about the on-going efforts to clean and protect the Connecticut River.
- 26 March 2024 We will be having our annual meeting and election of officers. Ken Letendre, Hatchery and Farm Manager at the Fisher’s Island Oyster Farm will be our guest speaker.
- 20 April 2024 The Change of Watch will be held at the Westbrook Elks Club. The Hartford Power Squadron, along with the Middletown and New Britain Power Squadrons, will celebrate Meriden Power Squadron’s 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. All will witness the official swearing in of the new Bridge.

Respectively submitted, LT/C Jim Salvatore, AP

## Annual Report of the Secretary

The Secretary Department continued to serve the Hartford Power Squadron.

### Staff

The staff for the year were:

Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN, Secretary

1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Jeanne Waseleski, Editor, Bilge Pump

1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Frank Pascucci, AP Webmaster

Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN Historian

### Membership

The breakdown of our membership by grade is as follows:

| End of Year | Total Members | S  | P  | AP | JN | N | SN |
|-------------|---------------|----|----|----|----|---|----|
| 2018        | 115           | 13 | 25 | 26 | 7  | 3 | 2  |
| 2019        | 104           | 14 | 21 | 22 | 7  | 2 | 2  |
| 2020        | 96            | 11 | 24 | 20 | 7  | 2 | 2  |
| 2021        | 83            | 9  | 19 | 17 | 5  | 2 | 2  |
| 2022        | 87            | 9  | 18 | 17 | 4  | 1 | 2  |
| 2023        | 87            | 9  | 16 | 15 | 5  | 1 | 2  |
| 2024        | 80            | 8  | 14 | 14 | 3  | 1 | 2  |

## **Bilge Pump**

The Bilge Pump continued to be our primary means of communicating with our membership. 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Jeanne Waseleski, published seven issues from May 2023 to March 2024. The Bilge Pump includes the schedule of upcoming activities, reports from department heads and articles of general interest, Jeanne Waseleski was honored for The Bilge Pump, receiving the “Distinctive Communicator Award” for 2023.

## **Squadron Web Site**

We want to thank 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Frank Pascucci, AP for maintaining our squadron website at [www.hartfordpowersquadron.org](http://www.hartfordpowersquadron.org) Frank was awarded the “Distinctive Communicator Award” for the website for 2023. We want to thank P/C Tim Tyler, SN for assisting Frank with the maintenance of the website. The website includes up-to-date information on upcoming activities, classes, officers and contacts.

## **Squadron History**

Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN, completed the 2022-32 history in a timely manner and we have submitted 100% of our histories.

Respectively submitted, Lt/C Cliff McKibbin, SN

## **Annual Report of the Treasurer**

This year we continued all of the policies for the accounting and finances of the Hartford Power Squadron. Among these, we:

1. were able to purchase several CDs at favorable rates due to the increase of the Fed rates.
2. Contributed to the National Education Fund for the 25<sup>th</sup> year.,
3. Prepared a draft budget for the Executive Committee at the January, February, and March meetings to be submitted for approval to the Annual Meeting on 26 March, 2024.
4. Paid our State of CT sales tax for course manual sales in a timely manner.
5. Filed the CT Secretary of State Annual Report in a timely manner.
6. Filed the IRS 990-N for non-profits in a timely manner.
7. Met with our auditor, Ted Wurz, P. His report is included with the Officer Reports below

The results for this year were better than normal with a net gain for the year of \$1,251.21 on income of \$6,704.17 and expenses of \$5,452.96. This was primarily due to the gain from the Boat Show and Swap Meet and the improvement in interest rates for our CDs.

I would like to thank the Executive Committee for its support of my efforts and thank Ted Wurz for his efforts as our auditor.

The end of year Financial Statement and Balance sheet have been submitted to the Executive Committee and are available to any member wanting to review them.

Respectfully Submitted, Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN

## **Report of the 2024–2025 Nominating Committee**

### **Bridge**

|                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Commander:              | Cdr William J. Waseleski, P   |
| Executive Officer:      | Lt/C Thomas H. Berlandy, AP   |
| Education Officer:      | Lt/C Patrick A. Pabouet, P    |
| Administrative Officer: | Lt/C James Salvatore, AP      |
| Secretary:              | Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN |
| Treasurer:              | Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN |

### **Bridge Assistants**

|                                   |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Assistant Education Officer:      | Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN |
| Assistant Secretary:              | Open                          |
| Assistant Administrative Officer: | Lt/C Thomas H. Berlandy, AP   |

### **Executive Committee Members at Large**

Elaine L. Cleary  
P/Lt/C Frank Pascucci, Jr., AP  
P/C Theodore J. Wurz, P  
Open Position

**Elected Committees**

Nominating Chairman: Lt Timothy F. Tyler, SN  
Nominating: Elaine L. Cleary  
Nominating: P/Lt/C Frank Pascucci, Jr., AP  
Auditing Chairman: P/C Theodore J. Wurz, P  
Rules Chairman: Lt Timothy Tyler, SN

Respectfully Submitted, Lt Timothy Tyler, SN, Chair  
Elaine L. Cleary  
P/Lt/C Frank Pascucci, Jr., AP

**District Spring Conference** Pequabuck Golf Club Terryville, CT 16 March



**Special Guest N/Fl/Lt Randy Stow, JN-IN helped induct the District Bridge**

**Awards for 100% Histories**

**Guest Speaker Walter "Wally" Banzhaf**, was introduced by P/D/Lt/C Clifford Mcibbin, SN. He is a retired Hartford professor and former Northeast Underwater Sound Lab engineer. Wally gave us the **"We are Very Likely to Die"** scenario of he, and 11 other men on the *Sea Surveyer* in 1969. On an Electric Boat research vessel, they encounter gale force waves and winds- abandon ship, and survive four days in a life raft- finally rescued by a Norwegian freighter. A very compelling story.

(below: N/Fl/LT Randy Stow, JN-IN chatting with D/Lt/C Arthur Andrea, AP; and Cdr William J. Waseleski, AP; "Wally" introduced by P/D/Lt/C Clifford McKibbin, SN; Photo with Wally and Merina Corby- the daughter of William Graham Burgess Jr.- one of the 12 men on the *Sea Surveyer*).





# 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Meriden Squadron

USPS Chief Commander Ralph Bernard, AP Presiding

20 April, 2024

*The Hartford, Meriden, Middletown, & New Britain Squadrons celebrated their Changes of Watch at the Westbrook Elks Club in Westbrook, CT.*

USPS Chief Commander Ralph Bernard, AP Presiding

Cocktails, followed by a Buffet Dinner and Ceremony at 1930. Later, music by DJ Aaron DeMarest of Pryme-Tyme Entertainment.



(above swearing in of Cdr Randy Guilmette, P, Middletown; Cdr Paul Bialecki, P, New Britain; Cdr William J. Waseleski, AP;Hartford; Cdr William J. Waseleski, AP presenting Lt/C Patrick A. Pabouet, P with Commander's Award- USPS Chief Commander Ralph Bernard, AP Congratulating; members of HPS in foreground and background).



## May Meeting Features: Night Boat to New York

Steamboats on the Connecticut, 1815–1931

By Erik Hesselberg

*Night Boat to New York: Steamboats on the Connecticut, 1824-1931*, is a portrait of the vanished steamboat days—when a procession of stately sidewheelers plied between Hartford and New York City, docking at Peck’s Slip on the East River in the shadow of the Brooklyn Bridge. At one time, Hartford could boast two thousand steamboat arrivals and departures in a year. Altogether, some thirty-five large steamboats were in service on the Connecticut River in these years, largely on the Hartford to New York City route. These Long Island Sound steamers, unlike the tubby, wedding cake dowagers of Western waters, were long, sleek craft, with sharp prows cutting a neat wake as they cruised along. Departing each afternoon from State Street or Talcott Street wharf in Hartford, the “night boats” reached New York at daybreak, inaugurating a pattern of city commuting that continues to this day. Steamboating not only brought people and goods—Colt’s firearms and Essex’s pianos—down river to New York for export to world markets, but also helped America’s inland “Spa Culture” transplant itself to the seashore, making steamboating not just convenient transportation but also a social phenomenon noted by such writers as Charles Dickens and Mark Twain. No wonder crowds wept in the fall of 1931, when the last steamboats, made obsolete by the automobile, churned away from the dock and headed downriver—never to return.

### About the Author

**Erik Hesselberg** has been writing about the Connecticut River for 20 years, first as an environmental reporter for the *Middletown Press*, and after as executive editor of Shore Line Newspapers in Guilford, where he oversaw 20 weekly newspapers from Old Lyme to Stratford, CT. He was president of the Middlesex County Historical Society and developed the award-winning exhibit “A Vanished Port,” on the Connecticut River’s ties to the slave economy of the Caribbean islands. His writings have appeared in *Wesleyan Magazine*, the *Hartford Courant*, *Estuary Magazine*, and on his blog, [Voicesontheriver.com](http://Voicesontheriver.com). He lives in Haddam, CT.

### Meeting Time and Place:

Date: Tuesday, 28 May 2024  
Time: 6:30 for dinner, 7:15 for presentation  
Place: Olympia Diner, 3413 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT  
Cost: \$20 to order off the menu. Includes tax and tip. Cash bar.  
Reservations: Jim Salvatore at: [jimsal1@comcast.net](mailto:jimsal1@comcast.net)  
Book: The author will sign any books purchased.

### Long-Time Boating Instructor: Barry Gordon

It has come to our attention, belatedly, that our long-time boating instructor, Barry Gordon, passed away on March 22, 2019, at age 78. Barry taught 100s of State residents Basic Boating over a 29-year period. He received his ‘Life Membership’ (25 Merit Marks) in 2002 and ended up with 29 Merit Marks.



Barry and his wife Betsey at our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in 2006.

Barry graduated from Weaver High School and went on to the University of Connecticut to study Pharmacy. He worked as pharmacist in his own store, Thrifty Drug of Newington and then went into the Drug Enforcement Agency for the State of Connecticut. After his retirement, he decided to go back to working in pharmacy at Bordonaro's. He was also an Air Force veteran.

Barry was not just committed to the Hartford Squadron. He loved to fly planes, sail boats, hunt, fish, do computing, cook, and spend time with family. He was also an educator at heart; he taught photography courses, computer classes, Hebrew School, as well as being one of our boating instructors.

**Our Annual Meeting on 26 March 2024 featured “Hatchery Season at the Fishers Island Oyster Farm”**

**with Jay Letendre**

Jay Letendre described the four main reasons for aquaculture as consumption, ornamental, restoration, and research. Of the five species of oysters in America, their farm specializes in the 'Eastern' or 'Atlantic' oyster. An adult oyster can filter 50 gallons of water per day, and they find the visibility is about 8 feet to the bottom of their farm while they can't see half a foot nearby.

Some hatcheries use the 'flow through' method in which the hatchery allows water to flow through tanks continuously. They prefer the 'stagnant' method in which they change the water daily, but the method reduces the amount of algae he needs to produce and the amount of filtration and heating they would need as a "flow through" system.

To start the process in November, they choose the best 'brood stock' from last year's oysters. This choice includes overall appearance, good edges, and healthy oysters. He showed a frame with only 25 oysters and stated they could get 50,000,000 fertilized eggs from them. They would only lose about 10% after they 'set' and they are fairly indestructible after that.



In the late spring, the oysters are ready to go outside and they are placed in upwellers and grown for an additional 2-3 months, then moved to pearl nets on long lines and hung in the water. They can't hang too deep as the amount of oxygen in the water declines after about 5 feet in their nursery.

In order to create an attractive oyster, the team must bring them out of the water for some time each day so the manual effort is considerable. He described an advanced farm in Europe that has equipment to do this, controlled by a cell phone program.

When the oysters reach 1.5" to 2" in size they start sending them to customers. Speaking of customers, Jay brought a supply to the meeting that Hannah, his coworker and significant other, handpicked that morning and served raw oysters to everyone wanting them. It was a great wrap-up of our annual meeting.

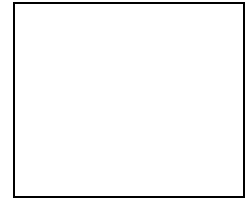


Jay Letendre demonstrates the art of shucking oysters. All attendees at the Members Meeting are invited to try one. Lt/C James Salvatore, AP, demonstrates. Jay and Hannah display the perfect plate!





United States Power Squadrons®



Hartford Power Squadron

c/o 44 Copplestone Rd., Avon, CT 06001

|                     |                               |                |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Commander           | Cdr William J. Waseleski, AP  | (860) 212-2636 |
| Executive Officer   | Lt/C Thomas H. Berlandy, AP   | (860) 678-1069 |
| Educational Officer | Lt/C Patrick A. Pabouet, P    | (860) 781-7106 |
| Admin. Officer      | Lt/C James Salvatore, AP      | (860) 346-0680 |
| Secretary           | Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN | (860) 655-4623 |
| Treasurer           | Lt/C Clifford W. McKibbin, SN | (860) 655-4623 |

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Address Service Requested

## Hartford Power Squadron's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Swap Meet and Craft Show

The Hartford Power Squadron will be hosting its annual boat show and swap meet at West Marine, 1667 Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook, CT on Saturday, 18 May 2024.

This family-friendly event will feature cookout-style food as well as items for sale. Not restricted to boats and boating equipment/services. Vendors can showcase locally made crafts, unique jewelry, one-of-a-kind gifts, clothing, tools, and much more!

Vendor reservations are available at only \$25 for a 9x18-foot space. For more information or to reserve a space, goto: <https://usps.org/localusps/hartford/>.

*Free Admission!* Eighth Annual MARINE SWAP MEET & CRAFT SHOW presented by HARTFORD POWER SQUADRON

8 A.M. TO 3 P.M. Saturday, May 18, 2024  
West Marine, 1667 Boston Post Rd, Old Saybrook, CT  
Rain Date: Sunday, May 19, 2024

*Bring the kids and have a fun time at this outdoor event!*

This family friendly event will feature cookout-style food as well as items for sale. Not restricted to boats and boating equipment/services. Vendors can showcase locally made crafts, unique jewelry, one-of-a-kind gifts, clothing, tools, and much more! Vendor reservations are still available but going fast at only \$25 for a 9x18-foot space.

For more information or to reserve a space, email: [swapmeet@hartfordpowersquadron.com](mailto:swapmeet@hartfordpowersquadron.com) today!

Additionally, members of the Hartford Power Squadron will be available to help boaters access information on our courses, including the basic water safety class that qualifies students to obtain their required certification from the state of Connecticut.

All proceeds will benefit the Hartford Power Squadron's mission to advance boating education, safety, and the camaraderie of recreational boating.