

LGPS SOUNDINGS



LAKE GEORGE POWER SQUADRON, INC.
OF UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS
PO BOX 411, BURNT HILLS, NY 12027

March – April 2012

Commander Message

By Cmdr. Donna S. Canestraro, S

This is my last and final Commanders Message. Thinking back to the words of Dr. Seuss' all time favorite, "*Oh, the Places You'll Go!*" brings a smile to my face and an opportunity to reminisce a bit of all the places the Squadron has gone together over the past 22 months. Yes, it was not long ago that I repeated "*I solemnly promise that I will serve the Lake George Power Squadron faithfully as Commander by always keeping in mind the best interest of the organization*".

I have not been on my own as Commander for there are many others who have "faithfully served the Squadron" and for this reason I must first acknowledge and thank each of the wonderful members of the Bridge/Executive Committee who have served tirelessly. Thank you to Executive Officer John Jermano, Treasurer Max Gollmer, Secretary David Wilkinson and Education Officer Kevin McCarthy as well as all those who have served as Members-at-Large during my command including David Hawthorne, Tony Rozek, Steve Traver, Peter Weill and my husband Armand. A special heartfelt thanks goes to George Williams for his mentoring and guidance, thank you Elizabeth for allowing me to steal some of George's time away from you. I also want to thank Marv Snyder for his counsel on so many issues that faced us this past two years.

I also cannot forget all those dedicated members who have served on one of the many Committees, helping keep the Squadron from running aground. I would like to especially acknowledge the wonderful guidance and reassurances I received from both Jim Kelley and Chuck Everson, through their support and wise counsel I made it past each hurdle – it has truly been a team effort and for that I thank each and everyone of you.

What has our Squadron accomplished in the past 22 months? Most importantly, I am pleased to report that our membership has remained solid and participation has been up. We have recruited and welcomed seven new members. We have taught five beginning boating/PWC certification classes educating nearly 100 boaters in the last two years. We have attended social functions of neighboring Sacandaga and Mohawk-Hudson Power Squadrons and have enjoyed their company at our gatherings. LGPS members have once again attended District functions and meetings throughout the year. The membership approved last year to fund the purchase of and to donate six fire extinguisher pedestals to the Village of Lake George which have been installed at the village public docks. It is with anticipation that the memberships generosity to the boating public will continue in approval this year of funding for yet a second donation to another town that graces Lake George shores. We anticipate the approval of three fire extinguisher pedestals to be installed at the Town of Bolton Landing public docks this spring. The Executive

Committee has been working on updating the Squadron website as well as the inclusion of an on-line store to include LGPS branded merchandise and burgees.

The biggest step taken with our website is the secure one-stop ordering of the Squadron navigational charts including electronic payment using a credit card and the addition of next day delivery of chart orders to our vendors, eliminating lost telephone call orders and long delivery times.

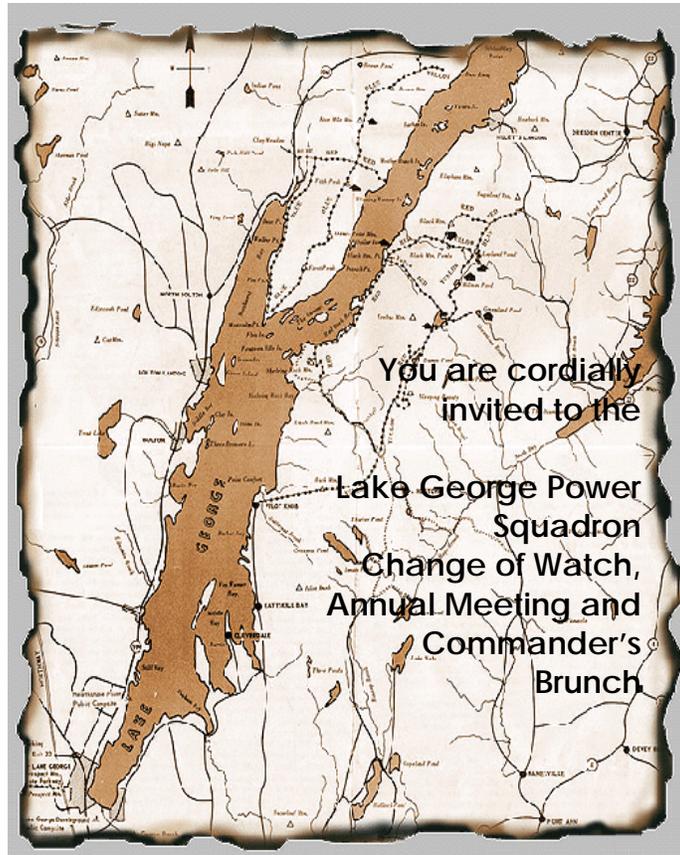
In closing, I would like to thank each member for supporting me as I served as Squadron Commander. It has been an experience I will never forget and always cherish wherever I may go. *So, Yes we are again off to 'great places! For today is our day! And our horizon awaits us! Oh, the Places we will Go!*

**LAKE GEORGE POWER
SQUADRON
BRIDGE – EXECUTIVE
MEETING**

**Sunday, April 22, 2012
Annual Meeting – Change of Watch
Commanders Brunch
Edison Club - Rexford, NY
1300 hours (1:00pm)**

DID YOU KNOW....

That because of the past mild winter weather, the ice boom on Lake Erie was removed the earliest since it was first installed during the winter of 1964-65. Previously, the earliest boom removal was March 5, 1998. Last year, the boom wasn't removed until April 12th. The ice boom keeps ice chunks from flowing down the Niagara River and clogging hydro-power intake equipment for the New York Power Authority and the Ontario Power Generation plants. The ice boom extends 8800 feet from the outer break wall at Buffalo across the Lake Erie outlet to the Niagara River to near the Canadian shoreline. The boom is situated approximately 1000 feet southwest of the City of Buffalo water intake crib and is 2 miles upstream of the International Peace Bridge.



Buffet Brunch

Assorted Danish, Muffins, Bagels and
Condiments
Fruit Salad, Tossed Salad, and
Waffles with Strawberry Sauce
Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Sausage,
and Home Fried Potatoes
Juices, Coffee and Teas

Baked Ziti Marinara and Stuffed Fillet
of Sole

Dessert
Crispy Banana Crepes with Caramel
Sauce & Vanilla Ice Cream

*Join us for the Lake George Power
Squadron Change of Watch, Annual
Meeting and Commander's Brunch*

on **April 22, 2012, 1 - 4 P.M.**
at the Edison Club
891 Riverview Road,
Rexford, NY

The Brunch is in honor of our LGPS
members, so anyone with active LGPS
membership status will be the
Squadron's guest.

All guests and non-Lake George
members will be asked to pay \$25.00
per person.

Please RSVP by completing the form
mailed earlier to all members and
return it not later than Monday April 9,
2012.

*Sponsored by the Lake George Power
Squadron*

Change of Watch – Commanders Brunch – Annual Meeting
April 22, 2012 – 1:00PM (1300hrs)
Edison Club – 891 River Road – Rexford, NY

Slate of Nominees
Lake George Power Squadron
Command Year - 2012-2013

Bridge Officers

Commander – P/C George K. Williams, AP
Executive Officer – P/C Armand Canestraro, P
Administrative Officer – position open
Secretary – Lt/C David J. Wilkinson, S
Treasurer – Lt/C Max Gollmer, AP

Squadron Education Officer

P/C Donna S. Canestraro, S

Members at Large

Anthony J. Rozek, P
David J. Hawthorne
P/C John J. Jermano
one position open

Budget & Finance Committee

Anthony J. Rozek, P– 3 year term

The Bridge office of “Administrative Officer” and one position of “Member-at-Large” still remain unfilled at the time this newsletter was printed – if you are interested in serving in either capacity, please contact P/C Armand Canestraro at 372-7220 or P/C George Williams at 393-6414 to volunteer.

Last Updated March 21, 2012
Respectfully submitted – Nomination Committee



GOLF ANYONE?

The Squadron is looking for interested members and guests to join in for a First Annual Lake George Power Squadron Golf Tournament – If you would like to join us for a round of golf, we need to know who you are. Whether it be a Scramble, Best Ball or an Alternate Shot style Tournament, the one sure shot is everyone will be guaranteed good food, cold drink and a wonderful time on the links. So, dust off those golf clubs, pickup the phone and call Armand at 372-7220 to indicate your interest in playing. In the meantime, go out to the driving range and hit a few balls. The details of this event are still being worked out. Watch future Soundings for more information.

Boating: Inspections may hinder usage of Lake George

Daily Gazette - Thursday, March 15, 2012

By Ed Noonan

I recently received several emails about the Warren County Board of Supervisors' passage of a ban on the introduction of aquatic invasive species to Lake George, that if violated, could result in some expensive fines and even jail time. It's a regulation that has recreational boaters, anglers and even hunters who utilize the lake for waterfowl and deer hunting worried. The invasive species issue is not new to the lake, or other lakes that are suffering from it. An invasive species is any species not native to the ecosystem under consideration, and whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm to human health.

Lake George has had an aquatic invasive species Lake Steward Program in place since 2006 designed to educate and spread their prevention program, which includes hired lake stewards located at various boat launches around the lake. These stewards look for and remove invasive species within the lake and into other lakes. Additionally, they collect data about the boats that enter the lake. The Steward Program is sponsored by the Lake George Association, Lake George Park Commission, Lake Champlain Basin Program and the Lake George Watershed Coalition. Last year, lake stewards at the six launches (Dunham's Bay, Norowal Marina, Town of Hague, Rogers Rock, Mossy Point and Million Dollar Beach) inspected 8,593 boats. Interviews revealed incoming boaters had been in 193 different waters located in 15 different states in two weeks prior to coming to Lake George. The most common were Lake George (2,853) and the Hudson River (100). They also found 1,106 of the boats inspected were at risk. They also collected 171 aquatic organism samples from 125 boats and trailers, 87 of which were invasive species.

Apparently, the board has decided more requirements will help lessen the invasion of invasive species. Warren County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 508 of 2011 prohibits launching a boat in any Warren County waters if the boat or trailer has invasive species, other plants or animals, etc. If found guilty, it's punishable by a fine of \$500-\$5,000 or imprisonment not to exceed 15 days. It definitely could ruin your day on the water. The Lake George Park Commission's three-person Committee on Invasive Species Spread Prevention would like a test period for mandatory boat washing at the Norowal Marina, and its boat washing station should be operational by summer. The boat washing fee of \$25-\$35, more if a boat and/or trailer is found to be contaminated, would be voluntary during this test period. It was further described that only "at-risk boats" coming to the lake from infected waters or which were dirty and/or wet would be require a mandatory wash. They're also considering and planning to have all Lake George launching sites gated and locked when there is no inspection staff there.

In general what could happen, as early as this summer, is that anyone who wants to boat on Lake George such as pleasure boaters, anglers — including bass tournament anglers — licensed New York state fishing guides and those waterfowl and deer hunters who go by water to their hunting areas, will not be allowed on the lake unless their boats are inspected.

CONCERNS

As an angler who fishes Lake George, I'm concerned about the locked state launch gates. When I fish there, I'm usually at the launch between 5 and 6 a.m. and off the water by

(continued next page)

noon. What are my chances of those gates being open and manned at that time? Walt Kendall, president of the Lake George Fishing Alliance posted on www.lakechamplainunited.com, “if you think they will have any inspector on duty 24/7 , you live in a fantasy world,” and I agree. And what about the ice anglers? Will they, too, have restraints? These inconveniences will affect the weekend angler, fishing guides, bass tournament anglers, hunters and those just out for a fun day on the water. Then there are the washing fees, which if added to the cost of the Lake George Boating Permit, gas for your boat and vehicle, can make for a rather expensive day on this beautiful lake. I believe that these locked gate restrictions and additional fees, etc., are going to encourage boaters to find other waters.

SOLUTIONS

I am sure we all agree that invasive species in any waters is extremely important and has to be dealt with as quickly as possible, but I also agree with Kendall that there should be a greater concentration on educating the boating public on what they should do to become responsible boaters, in terms of what they can do to help combat the aquatic invasive species problem. Here is what “we” as responsible boaters can do. Invasive species can be spread from a boat, trailer, fishing equipment and any of the water toys, including outboard motor props, depth finder transducers and fishing lures. Visually inspect and remove mud, plants, fish and/or animal parts before transporting any of this equipment. Discard these items in an upland area, or if the launch has an invasive species disposal station, use it. Thoroughly clean and dry anything that comes in contact with the water. This includes baitwells, livewells and bilge areas. If this equipment cannot be dried before it is used in another body of water, use a disinfectant. For more information on invasive species and how to prevent their spread, go to www.protectyourwaters.net.

Right now, nothing can happen without the consent of the Department of Environmental Conservation, which operates the Mossy Point and Rogers Rock launches on Lake George. So I strongly suggest boaters make their feelings known before it’s too late. If it happens here, it can happen on other waters. **REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION**



Paradise Bay - Lake George
Ice-Out camping trip March 17, 2012
Photo courtesy of P/C Stephen Traver

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

What Does 'Pounds of Buoyancy' Mean?

In our boating course we read that different PFDs have different pounds of buoyancy. What does that mean?

A buoyant apparatus is anything that can float and hold up weight. For instance, if you had a Type I PFD that is required to have 22 pounds of buoyancy, it would be capable of supporting 22 pounds of dense material such as lead, iron, gold, granite, etc. It would not let the material sink to the bottom. If we tied a 20 pound anchor to this PFD, what do you suppose would happen? If you guessed that it would hold the anchor off the bottom you would be correct.

How can this PFD with 22 pounds of buoyancy hold up a two hundred pound person in the water?

You have to do the math! Let's take the example of a 200 pound person. Approximately 80% of the body is water. Water in the body has no weight in water. So now we are down to having to support only 40 lbs.

$200 \text{ lbs.} \times 80\% = 160 \text{ lbs.}$
 $200 \text{ lbs.} - 160 \text{ lbs.} = 40 \text{ lbs.}$

But the PFD only has a buoyancy rating of 22 lbs. How can it hold up 40 lbs?

On average our bodies also have 15% fat and fat is lighter than water.

$200 \text{ lbs.} \times 15\% = 30 \text{ lbs.}$
 $40 \text{ lbs.} - 30 \text{ lbs.} = 10 \text{ lbs.}$

Now you can see that the average 200 pound person only weighs about 10 pounds in water. The 22 lbs of buoyancy in your PFD is more than enough to keep the person afloat.



MEMBERS AND FAMILY
THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER

Safe Boating-PWC Class Scheduled April 21st

In partnership with the Lake George Power Squadron the Guan-Ho-Ha Fish and Game Club will host a PWC and Boating certification course. Learn the fundamentals of safe boat handling and operation in one comprehensive classroom course. This course meets state specific and National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) requirements for operator certification. The class which is offered in a single day satisfies the NYS certification requirement for operators of Personal Water Craft and young boaters between the ages of 10 and 16. The class is open to everyone. Cost \$50 per person.

Registration by calling Armand Canestraro at 372-7220 prior to Saturday, April 14th. **Class size is limited** – so call to reserve your seat today.

FROM
Lake George Power Squadron
P.O. Box 411
Burnt Hills, NY 12027