

# LGPS

## SOUNDINGS

May-June 2019



### *Commander Message*

*By David J. Hawthorne*

AHOY MATES! We're off to another season of safe boating!

It's good to be back at the tiller of LGPS again. Many thanks to P/C George Williams for covering last year (once again) as Commander. I would also like to thank Administrative Officer Lt/C Katy Williams for the great job arranging our recent Change of Watch at Professor Java's in Albany. Everything went smoothly with the venue and it was clear she covered the details and arrangements for our ceremony very nicely, indeed! Well done Katy!.

P/D/C Susan Darcy, JN was our District attendee and officiated the ceremony. Thank you Susan, for all your tireless work for us and District 2. Longtime member P/Lt/ C John M. Wainwright, P was sworn in as our new Executive Officer – thank you for your assistance. A memorial precluded our ceremony to honor the passing of our longtime Squadron member and more recently Executive Officer Anthony J. Rozek, P. Tony was a Life Member and will be greatly missed at our monthly executive meetings. Tony was a steadfast and dependable asset to the Squadron sessions. It's hard to imagine not seeing his face at the table anymore.

As we begin a new boating season let's not forget all the things that make boating fun and safe for everyone on the water. Be sure to get your vessel safety check by contacting Armand at (518) 372-7220.

Thank you all for your help - See you at the upcoming meeting!

PS: Before you launch...." Don't forget to put the plug in.

#### **WANTED**

Quality - high resolution digital photographs for the Squadron Website Photo Gallery Page

All photo's should be submitted in landscape - digital jpeg format

Mail a CD or e-mail your photo's to Armand at [lgpsinfo@nycap.rr.com](mailto:lgpsinfo@nycap.rr.com)

**LAKE GEORGE POWER SQUADRON BRIDGE/EXECUTIVE MEETINGS**  
**NEXT MEETING**  
**Wednesday May 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**at 6:30pm**  
**Church of the Good Shepard**  
**Rt. 50 – Burnt Hills**



# Now Hear This...

## **2019-20 Bridge – Executive Committee**

The Squadron proudly announces the officers for 2019-20 as follows: Squadron Commander - P/C David Hawthorne; Executive Officer - P/Lt/C John M. Wainwright, P; Education Officer - P/C Donna S. Canestraro, S; Assistant SEO - P/C Kevin McCarthy, P; Administrative Officer – Lt/C Katherine C. Williams; Secretary - Lt. David J. Wilkinson, S; Treasurer - Lt/C Max Gollmer, AP and Members-at-Large P/C George K. Williams, AP, P/C Armand Canestraro, P and Lt/C Charles M. (Don) Puckett, S. If you do not see your name listed, there are still plenty of positions they can use your help with. Please come join us!

## **Our Condolences...**

The Lake George Power Squadron sadly reports the passing of two longtime Squadron members - Past Commander David W. Sexton, JN on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and Assistant Treasurer Arlene Gollmer on May 11, 2019. Our sympathy goes out to both David and Arlene's extended family. Rest in Peace!

## **Vessel Safety Check 2019**



**Vessel Safety Check Vision:** *Safe, Fun & Responsible Recreational Boating.* The VSC Program helps to achieve voluntary compliance with federal and state recreational boating safety laws, particularly with regard to the carriage of safety equipment while raising boater awareness about safety and environmental issues through voluntary contact by a Vessel Examiner (VE). Vessel Examiner discussions with recreational boaters is designed to motivate recreational boaters to maintain and operate their boats in a safe manner, taking boating safety courses to increase their knowledge and skills in boating and promoting overall safe boating. Call Armand at (518) 372-7220 to schedule your VSC.

## **Upcoming Bridge Meetings – May 15<sup>th</sup> & June 19<sup>th</sup>**

The Bridge-Executive meetings will be held on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> and June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Church of The Good Shepard – Route 50 – Burnt Hills, NY. For directions, contact Commander Hawthorne at George at (518) 871-1331.



**Wear It! Campaign** - Reminds boaters of the importance of boating safety, including always wearing a life jacket. The campaign is produced under a grant from the Sports Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. Visit [SafeBoatingCampaign.com](http://SafeBoatingCampaign.com) for **free** resources and information that you can use for your own Wear It! outreach efforts.

## **Lake George 2019 Boat Inspection Sites**

It's that time of year again - boat inspectors will be present at each of the seven following locations – help keep our waterways free of invasive species.

### **Lake George Inspection Station**

Transfer Road - Lake George, NY 12845

### **Million Dollar Beach Launch - Open 7am - 5pm**

139 Beach Road - Lake George, NY

### **Dunham's Bay Dock & Launch - Open 8am - 5pm**

2036 Bay Road - Queensbury, NY 12845

### **Hulett's Landing Marina Inspection - Call for hours at (518) 499-0801**

6068 Lakeside Way - Hulett's Landing, NY 12841

### **Mossy Point Public Boat Launch - Open 8am - 5pm**

158 Black Point Road - Ticonderoga, NY 12883

### **Roger's Rock Public Campground & Boat Launch - Open 8am - 5pm**

9894 Lakeshore Drive - Hague, NY 12836

### **Norowal Marina - Open 8am - 5pm**

21 Sagamore Road - Bolton Landing, NY 12836

## **The Canal System in Good Shape after long winter**

ALBANY — The state canal system has so far escaped any significant damage from winter and is scheduled to open for navigation on time in May.

The 2019 season will be May 18 through Oct. 16; locks and lift bridges will be staffed and operating from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. However, a handful of locks also will operate on demand from 5 to 10 p.m. for boaters who call or radio ahead for passage, including C-1 in Waterford, E-7 in Niskayuna and E-8 in Rotterdam.

The locks with extended hours typically see heavy local boating traffic, said Steven Gosset, a spokesman for the New York Power Authority, parent agency of the state Canal Corporation. E-7 and E-8 are among the busier locks, he said, “especially now with the new marina in Schenectady.” Use of the canal locks will remain **free** again this year for recreational boaters. Tolls had been waived for 2017 and 2018 to mark the 200th anniversary of the original Erie Canal and 100th anniversary of the modern canal system; the Canal Corp. board of directors voted in December to extend free use of the canal for non-commercial watercraft through the 2021 season. Tolls remain in place for commercial vessels.

Recreational vessels passed through locks or under lift bridges 65,281 times in 2016, 68,928 in 2017 and 71,463 in 2018. A significantly larger number of boaters plied the waters without ever going through a lock. Spring, which arrived a few months ago has brought its own weather problems, but Gosset said the locks and other components of the canal system fared well through the winter, with no ice or high-water damage. “There was no flooding of any great consequence and no damage to canal infrastructure,” he said.



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## **Turn Off the Tech**

Turn off the tech! Dock the water toys! Getting back to basics can provide the perfect antidote to modern life! Remember the days, not too long ago, when a boat outing meant a true escape from reality? No cell phones, no Wi-Fi, no surround sound speakers on every boat. Thanks to today's world of constant evolving technology, it's all too easy to board your boat without escaping the hectic pace of everyday life. If only for one day, take a break during your next cruise. Let your brain decompress; let your adrenals relax. Your first attempt will not be easy; but it will be worth it!

### **How to do it:**

*No Phones:* You might be starting to sweat with anxiety as you read this. But yes, try turning off your phone. If necessary, let another member on board screen your calls in case of an emergency, but in reality your constant communication with the world is less important than you think. Your reply can wait a day! Without your phone glued to your palm, you will find yourself connecting better with the other people on the boat, the people that matter most in your life.

*No Wireless:* Yes, this means no posting to Instagram, no updating your Facebook status, no reading political articles that raise your blood pressure. Let your mind ponder a question for a minute, rather than jumping onto Google for immediate gratification of an easy answer. And no, you don't need to post a photo of that beautiful dessert or even that spectacular sunset – the colors will remain more vibrant in your memory. Just be in the moment and appreciate what is in front of you.

*No Music:* Music may seem innocuous enough, but try going without it on your tech-free day. Read a book under the sun shade. Without the constant drone of music, your ears will grow sensitive to the smaller sounds on the water; the gentle lap of waves on the hull, the distant cry of seagulls, a sudden rush of wind. Reacquaint yourself with every manner of quiet sound and see how much your mind craves silence for a change.

*No Toys:* While we are all-in for the adrenaline-fueled water toys like a jet-ski, and while they are fun for the whole family but consider giving them a break during your tech-free day and let your adrenals relax and unwind. Perhaps grab a paddleboard, go for a swim or a grounding walk on the beach with your toes in the sand. Commit to one completely peaceful day, and you will find your exciting toys even more of a rush the next time you use it.

*Why Should I Try This:* Technology is NOT going anywhere. In fact, it's accelerating exponentially, and according to some neuroplasticity scholars, it's actually changing our brains. So take control and turn off your tech while you still can. A tech-free day on the water will prove that you're still in control of technology, not the other way around. Go ahead, power down.

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