



August—November 2009

Lake George Power Squadron



Soundings

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ASST. EDUCATION OFFICER

**Lt/C James Kelley
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Production Editor: Peter Weill**



LAKE GEORGE POWER SQUADRON HOSTS DISTRICT 2 CONFERENCE IN LAKE GEORGE

by P/C Armand Canestraro

The Lake George Power Squadron recently hosted the Northeastern District Two Conference of the United States Power Squadron the weekend of October 23-25th.

This year's fall conference was held at the Fort William Henry Resort and Conference Center overlooking beautiful Lake George with nearly 100 attendees from as far South as the Carolina's and North to the Canadian Border. Robert

Continued on p. 2, "Conference"



Commander's Message

only a few weather-related complications, and everyone was visibly enjoying themselves. One D/2 representative said it best, "This is going to be a hard act to follow!"

Armand discusses the conference in a more detailed report beginning on this page, but to those who were unable to attend, the conference was informative and a lot of fun!

With the passing of the fall conference I suddenly realized that the main boating season had come to an end. I say the "main" boating season because I find the fall to be one of the most rewarding times to be out on the lake. The water is still warm, the tourists and much of the boat traffic is gone, and there aren't any problems finding a vacant campsite!

During the weekend and the few days leading up to the mid-week Veteran's Day holiday, I was able to go on a canoe camping trip with an old high-school buddy of mine aboard my canoe "Darmok." Us-

Continued on p. 2, *Commander*



"Commander," from p. 1 ing my miniature 2HP outboard we were able venture up to The Narrows and camp out a few days in "Indian Summer" like warm weather. Despite the warmth we remembered to wear our PFDs, and it's a good thing we did, for sure enough there was an ENCON ranger checking to make sure the few boaters that were out were in compliance with the new regulations requiring that boaters actually WEAR a PFD while boating from November 1 to May 1.



The reasoning behind this new rule is that when the water is cold it can be difficult to swim or use your muscles normally. This might make it impossible to find and don a stored PFD. Though I never learned to swim, and grew up living on the shore of Lake George, I've been very lucky and have only had a few close calls. The water temperature on our trip was 51 degrees, so rule or not, we decided to wear our life jackets in the canoe.

One of the other concerns I had in planning for the trip was wind. My power boat "Proteus" had already been put away for the winter which meant traveling by canoe. Many of you have seen Lake George on a windy day. It can go from calm to heavy waves in less than an hour. Fortunately there too I was lucky, for with the warm weather came light south wind and the trip out to the Narrows was smooth and relaxing. The forecast several days out

was less certain but I figured if the weather was expected to be windy, we'd leave a day early on Tuesday. By Monday the National Weather Service predicted light winds for Wednesday morning, so I decided we could stay until then. Unfortunately the forecast was wrong and we had to return down the lake Wednesday in strong north wind and whitecaps. At times it was a bit hairy but we made it back okay.

The following Sunday, the 15th, the weather was again fair and light wind, so by myself I took another canoe ride, this time just a day trip up to The Narrows and back. I like to ride my snow machine "Yeti" during the winter, but I'm already anxious for spring and ice-out!

Even though the boats are put away and the lake will soon be freezing, the Squadron will still have plenty of activities and rendezvous coming up, so I hope to see everyone at the next activities! ❁

Initial feedback received at the Sunday District Bridge breakfast meeting included these comments "...this conference will be a hard act to follow!"; "...the accommodations and planned activities were outstanding!" and "...when do we sign-up for the next LGPS dinner cruise on the Adirondac - it was absolutely terrific!"; Despite the torrents of rain, nearly 3 inches on Saturday alone, a terrific time was had by all those who attended.

In closing, I need to thank all those members I mentioned above who were not only present, but lent a helping hand throughout the conference from set-up to registration, 50/50 raffles and fielding attendee questions. While Tony Rozek could not attend the meetings, he was present on Friday afternoon lending a hand during set-up; thanks Tony. Last but not least, a very special thanks goes out my wife Donna for all her patience and assistance during the months leading up to the event. ❁



"Conference," from p. 1 Sweet, the National Squadron Educational Officer and author of several books on safe boating and navigation was the keynote speaker at the Saturday meeting. Mr. Sweet was a former systems engineer who helped develop GPS navigation for the U.S. Air Force. The Squadron also hosted a welcoming reception and dinner on Friday evening.

The weekend's conference focused on leadership skills and public awareness of boating safety as well as educational seminars offered through the USPS. The conference culminated with a late afternoon sunset dinner/dance cruise aboard the Shoreline Adirondac. LGPS was represented by twelve of its members including Commander Steve Traver, Executive Officer Bruce Catrambone, Past Commanders Armand Canestraro, Kevin McCarthy and Joan Weill together with their spouses JD, Barb, Donna, Mary and Peter who are active members as well. Also present, were LGPS members Jane Story and Secretary David Wilkinson who joined the group for lunch on Saturday. David also provided his DJ services aboard the Adirondac on Saturday evening.

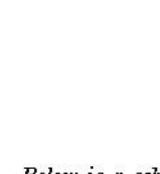
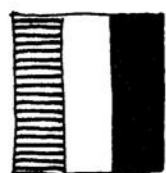
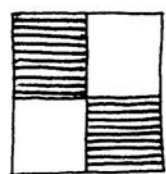
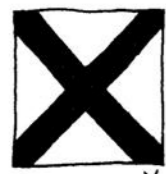
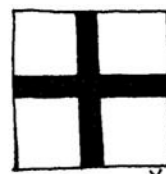
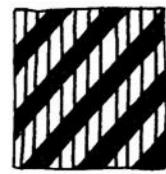
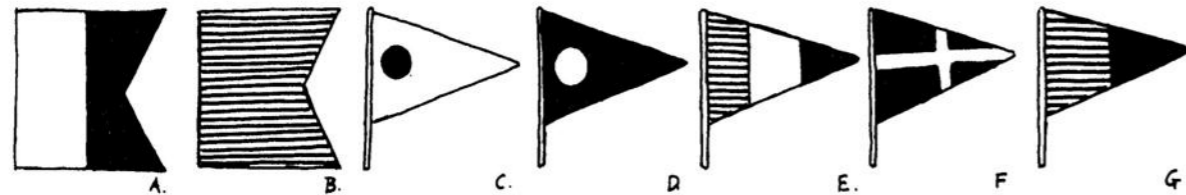
A LGPS burgee was presented by Past Commander Canestraro to Conference Service Manager Christine Roberts of the Fort William Henry Resort for the dedication she and her staff provided prior to and during the event weekend. The Squadron has learned that the framed burgee will be permanently displayed in the hotel foyer.

Continued on next page



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Schedule

Below is a schedule of some upcoming events as proposed by the Bridge with input from members. We have also included District 2 events and joint events with other squadrons for your convenience. We hope you will find this helpful. Please contact any member of the Bridge with your suggestions.

All Bridge/Executive Committee meetings are held at the Lake George Association, 2392 State Route 9N, Lake George NY 12845, just west of the Northway off exit 21. (518) 668-3558. Meetings are usually held on the third Wednesday of the month. They start promptly at 1900 (7 pm) and usually end by 2030 (8:30 pm)

December 2009

Dec. 6: Tri-Squadron Holiday Party, sponsored by Sacandaga Power Squadron, starting at 1:00pm, Crystal Ristorante, 72 Lyon Street, Amsterdam, NY. See page 7.

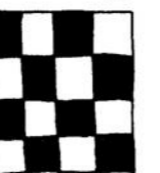
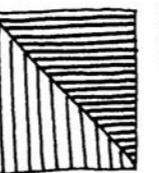
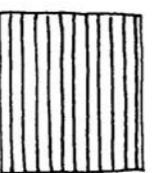
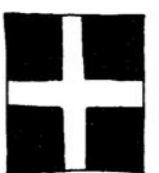
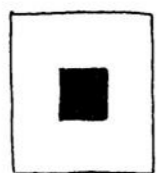
Dec. 16: Weather rating exam. 1700 hours (5:00pm), Lake George Assn. For Squadron members who are taking this rescheduled test. Please contact Kevin McCarthy for more information.

The monthly Bridge/Executive Committee meeting will be held following the above rating exam, at the usual time, 1900 hours (7:00pm)

January 2010

Jan. 16: Squadron Winter Party, 12:00pm to 3:00pm, Manna's Restaurant, 17 Low Street, Ballston Spa, NY. This is an RSVP, paid in advance only event. See page 5 for more information. A brief January Bridge/Executive Committee will also be held.

All events subject to change. Check out nearby Power Squadrons' events on line on the D/2 Calendar Page and on the LGPS website.



D/2 Spring Conference to be hosted by Berkshire PS

The District 2 Spring Conference will be held from April 9 to April 11, 2010, hosted by Berkshire PS. It will take place at the Williams Inn, Williamstown MA.



Lake George Power Squadron

Saturday, January 16, 2010 Brunch 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
THIS IS AN RSVP, PAID IN ADVANCE ONLY EVENT—NO WALK-INS WILL BE PERMITTED
Manna's Restaurant

Please mail your check, payable to LGPS and reservation form to: Lake George Power Squadron, c/o Lt./C Bruce Catrambone, 14 Deerfield Place, Ballston Spa, NY 12020 no later than Monday, January 4, 2010.

Directions: North I-87, Exit 12 left (three roundabouts) to Rte. 50 right at traffic light, next traffic light (Rte. 67 West) take a left, first right onto Low Street, half way down hill on left, parking in front and on street or Rte. 50 North to Rte. 67 West then follow same directions as above. South I-87, Exit 13S, onto Rte. 9, at first traffic light-right onto Malta Ave. to Rte. 50 BS Village, at traffic light turn left, proceed one block, at next traffic light take right turn onto Front St., take first left around Monument, half way up the hill on the right, parking in front and on street.

• Buffet style luncheon – 25 or more participants • Family style luncheon – less than 25 participants

JOIN THE SQUADRON FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FABULOUS FOOD AND GREAT MUSIC

ENTERTAINMENT: DAN BERGGREN – FOLK SINGER Award winning Adirondack musician and educator Dan Berggren sings fresh, acoustic folk music rooted in mountain tradition and environmental awareness. His songs, written with wit, soul and great choruses, are about the many dimensions of home, hard working folks, taking care of our planet and each other.

Manna's Restaurant

Names attending - _____

Number attending: _____ x \$18 per person = _____ (Total)

TOTAL ATTENDING _____ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____



Rendezvous



New York Navigation Law Update for persons on boats less than 21 feet

This applies to everyone (including persons on larger boats making use of dinghy's they may have)

Beginning November 1, 2009, Section 40, Subdivision 1 of the Navigation Law shall be amended by adding new paragraph (e), which reads as follows:

No owner or operator of a pleasure vessel less than twenty-one feet, including rowboats, canoes, and kayaks shall permit its operation, between November first and May first, unless each person on board such vessel is wearing a securely fastened United States Coast Guard approved wearable personal flotation device of an appropriate size when such vessel is underway.

Failure to wear a lifejacket on such vessels will be considered a violation under Section 73-c if the Navigation Law and is punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$250, applicable to either the operator and/or the owner of the vessel.

On July 11th, 2009 Governor Paterson signed this law which goes into effect on November 1st 2009

This new law will raise awareness and has the potential to save lives. Cold water immersion and hypothermia are twin dangers faced by a boater when a boat swamps or cap-

sizes in water temperatures less than 60 degrees F. During the late fall and early spring, waterways have less boat traffic and response by rescue and law enforcement may be slower than in summer months.

HIGHLIGHTS

(1) Required on all vessels under 21 feet. This means motorboats, sailboats, kayaks, canoes, rowboats, & paddleboats, etc.

(2) Must wear a life jacket from November 1st to May 1st.

(3) All owners or operators must insure that everyone on board is wearing a properly fastened, USCG approved wearable PFD of an appropriate size when the vessel is "underway".

As an FYI, at all other times of year, New York law requires the use of a lifejacket when underway for everyone under the age of 12 unless in a fully enclosed cabin and for everyone regardless of age who operates a Personal Water Craft (PWC) or Jet-ski.

Chuck Everson well on his way on the road to recovery

Oct.1, 2009 Chuck Everson reports he is on the road to recovery from his recent illness. He emailed Dave Wilkinson: "Thanks so much for your e-card. That was very thoughtful! Was with the cardiologist yesterday and will be starting rehab soon. Just taking it easy for now and then going to Virginia Beach, VA, to visit our son and then on to North Myrtle Beach, SC, for some REAL relaxation. ✱"

US Disaster History, Oct. 29, 1850, Sagamore Steamship Explosion, San Francisco, CA

The steamboat Sagamore was built in San Francisco in early 1850 and was serving the Bay Area by June. Then disaster struck. As reported in the October 31, 1850 San Francisco Daily Alta California:

At five o'clock, just as the steamer Sagamore was casting off from Central wharf, with a large number of passengers, bound for Stockton, her boiler burst with a terrible explosion. Masses of timber and human bodies were scattered in every direction. Many bodies were blown into the water, from which they were recovered by the numerous boats which thronged about the scene of the disaster...Limbs and fragments were gathered up in baskets...

✱Submitted by David Wilkinson



In Memoriam

It is with great sadness to report the passing of our dear District 2 friend, Eleanor J. Lafferty, during this summer. Attendees at the Northern Trek remember Eleanor and Jim, (P/R/C James Lafferty, SN) regaling us with stories of the Lake George area. After Jim's passing, Eleanor still came to visit us at the Trek from her Lake George summer home accompanied by her son, Doug. A gifted artist, Eleanor was also a skilled boater participating and winning some of the predicted log races run by the Lake George Power Squadron.

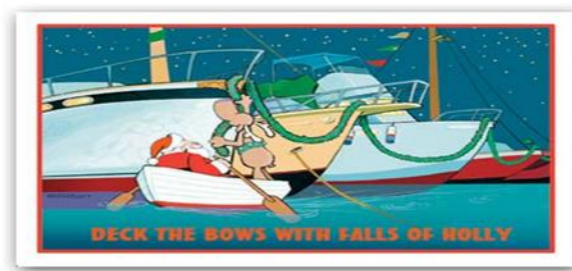
Eleanor was a real friend to District 2 and will be greatly missed. Our sympathy and condolences go out to her family. We have many happy and fond memories of Jim and Eleanor.

Peter ("Pete") Melanson, formerly a member of Lake George P.S., lost his 16-month-long battle with lung cancer, passing away on Oct. 30th. He is survived by his wife Katie Melanson, P.O. Box 836, Lady Lake, FL 32158. Katie can also be reached at mpetkat@yahoo.com. A small memorial service was held in Florida early in November, and Katie is planning on a memorial service in New York in the near future.

Lake George Power Squadron's August 29 rendezvous featured a two-hour river island cruise on the M/V Caldwell Belle, a sternwheel riverboat. The course took participants through Lock 5, then down the Hudson and around two large river islands on remote back channels. Members arriving early saw some reenactors celebrating the epic explorations of Henry Hudson and Samuel de Champlain as part of the Hudson Crossing 2009 Festival. These fine photos were taken by Dave Wilkinson.



Gallery: Three Sirens Islands Camping Trip



**United States Power Squadrons
District 2**



D/2 WINTER COUNCIL

*Saturday, February 27, 2010
Mercury Grand Hotel*

*Formerly the Best Western
2170 South Road, Poughkeepsie, New York*

The cost for the day is \$ 29 - includes Continental Breakfast and complete Buffet Lunch.

General Directions

From South. Take the NY State Thruway (Interstate 87) North. Take Exit 17 (Stewart Airport, Route 300, Route 17K, Interstate 84 Newburgh). Take Route 300 North to Interstate 84 East. Take Interstate 84 East to Exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie, Route 9, Peekskill). At the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Route 9 North. The Mercury Grand Hotel is approximately 9 miles on the right just past the Olive Garden.

From North. Take the New York Thruway (Interstate 87) South, Exit 18 (New Paltz, Route 299, Poughkeepsie). At end of ramp, turn right onto Route 299 East, to end turn right onto Route 9W South. Take 9W South about 2 miles, follow Route 44/55 East to Mid Hudson Bridge (toll). After crossing the bridge, take first exit on right to Route 9 South. The Mercury Grand Hotel is approximately 4 miles on the left.

From East. Take Interstate 84 West. Take Exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie, Route 9, Peekskill). At the end of the exit ramp, turn right onto Route 9 North. The Mercury Grand Hotel is approximately 9 miles on the right just past the Olive Garden.

From West. Take Interstate 84 East. Take Exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie, Route 9, Peekskill). At the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Route 9 North. The Mercury Grand Hotel is approximately 9 miles on the right just past the Olive Garden.

Registration will begin at 0830

Reservations **MUST** be received by 12 February, 2010 - Late Registration fee \$5.00

Mail reservations to

D/Lt Alexandra Digilio
25 Thomas Ave.
Fishkill, NY 12524

Questions - call (845) 896-6644

Cut & Mail

District 2 Winter Council

Due 12 Feb. 2010

NAME	RANK/GRADE
SQUADRON	PHONE
eMail	
2 nd NAME	RANK/GRADE
SQUADRON	PHONE
eMail	

BREAKFAST/LUNCH \$29.00 PER PERSON TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: USPS DISTRICT 2

Form Date 11 November 2009

**Original Equipment Manufacturer
Replacement Canvas Boat Enclosures**



*If your boat has the original equipment enclosure and metal frames, and its time to update the worn canvas and eisengalss
* we can provide that replacement canvas and eisengalss at a fraction of the cost of a locally sewn enclosure.

For a no obligation free quote, contact Armand with your boats Hull ID number off the transom, together with the Make, Model and Year of the boat at

Tel: (518) 372-7220.

Boat for Sale

1994 REGAL VENTURA (27'-6" LOA) Mercruiser 385HP I/O, full camper canvas w/screens, galley with refrigerator and dinette, GPS, trailer with new tires - includes winter storage - asking \$15,000 - Contact Barb Heenan at home on (518) 399-0370 or cell on (518) 339-0166.



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

LGPSoundings awarded

