



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®
FOR BOATERS, BY BOATERS®

NEW HAVEN SAIL & POWER SQUADRON
A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons® • Sail and Power Boating • District 1

BULLETIN

THE OLDEST CONTINUOUS SQUADRON IN USPS - CHARTERED 23 APRIL 1914

www.nhspss.org

SEPTEMBER 2025

Our Partner Network

America's Boating Club® is proud to partner with the following organizations to make our waterways safer and connect you with other recreational boating resources you might need.



The United States Power Squadrons®, also known as America's Boating Club®, works with the following partners:

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Message from Cdr Peter Jenkin, SN

Our summer season is nearly over

I hope your time spent on the water was as good and rewarding as mine was.

I had a lot of practice navigating by radar in heavy fog, and dodging lobster pots. If folks would follow my example and not eat lobster, then maybe the lobster pots would eventually go away. Constant course changes to keep from fouling with them makes dead reckoning charting a real challenge. Nancy and I will have photos of our adventure boating through lobster pots that we will share with all at the October membership meeting.

We have plans for two seminars this fall.

Peter DePascale will continue to present seminars that are of direct interest and of practical value to all boaters. Check the schedule in this *Bulletin* for dates, locations, and registration information.

Our Administrative Officer, Doug Roberts, is working on programs for our upcoming Squadron meetings, so stay tuned for details. We'll be meeting at Longley's, so come and socialize with fellow members. Dinner is optional. If you have any boating friends who are not members but are interested in any of our meeting programs, they are welcome to attend. Invite them to join you at our meeting. The **District 1 Fall Conference** is open to all members, and will be at East Street Eatery in Wolcott, as will the D/1 Holiday Party. Details will be in *Sounds of One*.

Our mooring in Branford Harbor was renewed and refurbished this season. I hope that you have had a chance to enjoy it. Remember to fly your burgee when on our mooring so you will be identified as a member entitled to use it, and if you find it occupied by a non-member, politely ask them to move. The mooring is private for the use of members only.



Calendar

September – October 2025

November – December 2025

09 September 1830 (second Tuesday)

NHSPS Bridge Meeting

Virtual Meeting on Zoom.
Membership is invited.

16 September 1830 (third Tuesday)

Membership Meeting – Presentation TBD

Longley's / Allegra's Café
249 W Main Street, Branford, CT
Membership and guests invited.
Details will be sent out via email.

07 October 1830 (first Tuesday)

NHSPS Bridge Meeting

Virtual Meeting on Zoom.
Membership is invited.

14 October 1830 (second Tuesday)

**Membership Meeting – Presentation by
Commander Peter Jenkin, SN and Nancy
Miller, SN about their 30-day boat trip from
Old Saybrook to Mount Desert Island and
back!**

Longley's / Allegra's Café
249 W Main Street, Branford, CT
Membership and guests invited.
Details will be sent out via email.

18 October 0900–1100 (third Saturday)

Tides and Currents Seminar

Indian Neck Yacht Club
87 Harding Ave., Branford, CT
Membership and guests invited.
Details in *Bulletin*.

04 November 1830 (first Tuesday)

NHSPS Bridge Meeting

Virtual Meeting on Zoom.
Membership is invited.

08 November 0900 (second Saturday)

District 1 Fall Conference

East Street Eatery
141 East Street, Wolcott, CT
Membership and guests invited.
Details in *Sounds of 1* upcoming issue.

11 November 1830 (second Tuesday)

**Membership Meeting – Presentation by
Robyn Rivers about how she sailed around
the world!**

Longley's / Allegra's Café
249 W Main Street, Branford, CT
Membership and guests invited.
Details will be sent out via email.

15 November 0900–1100 (third Saturday)

Introduction to Marine Batteries Seminar

Indian Neck Yacht Club
87 Harding Ave., Branford, CT
Membership and guests invited.
Details in *Bulletin*.

02 December 1830 (first Tuesday)

NHSPS Bridge Meeting

Virtual Meeting on Zoom.
Membership invited.

06 December 1700 (first Saturday)

District 1 Holiday Party

East Street Eatery
141 East Street, Wolcott, CT
Membership and guests invited.
Details in *Sounds of 1* upcoming issue

NHSPS Education Department

Autumn 2025 is upon us, and New Haven Sail and Power Squadron is back with a variety of two-hour seminars on boating safety related topics which will be helpful for new and experienced boaters. **Join us this Fall for these informative presentations!**

First, on Saturday, 18 October from 0900 to 1100 the **Tides and Currents Seminar** will be given at Indian Neck Yacht Club at 87 Harding Avenue in Branford. Don't get pushed around! Know your tides and currents. Discover what causes the tides to rise and fall and what causes the currents to flow. Learn where to find sources of information about tides and tidal currents, simple ways to predict the height of tide and speed of current flow, and how to use both print and

electronic tide tables. Learn about how tides and currents affect your boat's performance from experienced coastal boaters. This seminar will cover:

- Causes and effects of tides and currents
- Predict the time of highest tide before it begins to fall
- Predict the vertical movement of the water
- Safely navigate the low tide
- Determine the speed of the current and when it reached maximum flood
- Deal with mean high and low water
- Use NOAA charts and tables
- Factor in tides and currents when anchoring

The cost is \$10. Register by 15 October to reserve a spot. To register for this seminar and pay online, use the Zeffy link that follows: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/tides-and-currents-seminar>. There is no processing fee. Or you can contact Squadron Education Officer Pete DePascale at (203) 671-2420 and leave a message or email him at bathworksinc@gmail.com.

Then on Saturday, 15 November from 0900 to 1100 the Introduction to **Marine Batteries Seminar** will be given at Indian Neck Yacht Club. Boat batteries are easy to forget – until they conk out and ruin your adventure. Learn the ins and outs of marine batteries before leaving the dock. This seminar covers how to:

- Choose the best battery for your boat
- Maintain your battery for longer life
- Get the best performance from your charging system
- Work safely with batteries

Get expert tips on both lead-acid and lithium batteries, plus upgrade considerations.

The cost is \$10. Register by 12 November to reserve a spot. To register for this seminar and pay online, use the Zeffy link that follows: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/introduction-to-marine-batteries>. There is no processing fee. Or you can contact Squadron Education Officer Pete DePascale at (203) 671-2420 and leave a message or email him at bathworksinc@gmail.com.

Join us at a Membership Meeting

The monthly membership meetings, which are held during the non-boating season usually on the evening of the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Longley's in Branford, are good times to get together with fellow boaters to reminisce about past boating trips or to talk boat maintenance woes or to see a presentation on boating safety or other interesting nautical related topics.

This past May's meeting included an impromptu presentation by Sally and John Noonan on their April 2025 passage through the Panama Canal aboard a cruise ship. The video they showed was a Holland America produced 15-minute

condensed version of the 7-hour trip through the canal from the Caribbean side to the Pacific side with cameo appearances by Sally and John.

Coming up this Fall the meetings include the following opportunities:

September Membership Meeting – Tuesday, 9 Sept., at 1830

Information on a speaker will be sent via e-mail when it is confirmed. Certainly, we hope to see everyone there to talk about their summer boating adventures.

October Membership Meeting – Tuesday, 14 October at 1830

Presentation will be about fog, lobster pots, 25 harbors, radar, AIS, and great weather. Hear about them all when our own Commander Peter Jenkin, SN and Nancy Miller, SN tell us about their 30-day boat trip from Old Saybrook to Mount Desert Island and back!

November Membership Meeting – Tuesday, 11 November at 1830

We will hear from Robyn Rivers, an experienced sailor who sailed around the world in segments spread out over a 13-year period. She will cover the highlights of those voyages. She noted that she took many of the Power Squadron's classes while in the Boston area to help her prepare for these trips.

In each case, the evening will begin with socializing and dinner followed by the presentation which will start at 7:45 PM and end by 8:45 PM.

Come for dinner, drinks, just the presentation, or all three. If you plan on coming, it would be helpful if you can contact P/C Peter DePascale at 203-671-2420 or bathworksinc@gmail.com so that he knows approximately how many people will be attending. It will help in determining which room we use. However, even if you don't contact him ahead of time, you are welcome!

Safety related statistics

This past June, the Coast Guard released the 2024 Recreational Boating Statistics. A look at this analysis of last year's boating season highlights the need for boating safety practices. This report can be found at: [United States Coast Guard | Boating Safety](#) and includes significant statistics from which we all can learn.

The 2024 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY portion of this report includes the following:

- In calendar year 2024, the Coast Guard verified 3,887 incidents that involved 556 deaths, 2,170 injuries and approximately \$88 million of damage to property as a result of recreational boating incidents.
- Where cause of death was known, 76% of fatal boating incident victims drowned. Where Personal Flotation Device usage was known, **87% were not wearing a Personal Flotation Device.**
- Where length was known, **4 of every 5 boaters who drowned were aboard vessels less than 21 feet in length.**

- Alcohol use is the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating incidents; where the primary cause was known, it was listed as the leading factor in 20% of deaths.
- Where instruction was known, **69% of deaths occurred on boats where the operator did not receive boating safety instruction.** Only 19% of deaths occurred on vessels where the operator had received a nationally-approved boating safety education certificate.
- There were 169 incidents in which at least one person was struck by a propeller. Collectively, these incidents resulted in 30 deaths and 158 injuries.
- Operator inattention, improper lookout, operator inexperience, machinery failure, and navigation rules ranked as the top five primary contributing factors in incidents.
- Where data was known, **navigation rules violations were a contributing factor in 55% of incidents,** 34% of deaths, and 63% of injuries.
- Collisions (with vessels, objects, groundings) were the most frequent first event in incidents, attributing to 56% of incidents, 24% of deaths, and 54% of injuries.
- Where data was known, the vessel types with the highest percentage of deaths were open motorboats (46%), paddlecraft (26%) and pontoons (8%).
- The 11,674,073 recreational vessels registered by the states in 2024 represent a 1.1% increase from last year when 11,546,512 recreational vessels were registered.

Interesting and important reminders to us all that boating safety should always be the primary consideration while out there on the water!

New Haven Sail & Power Squadron

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