



# United States Power Squadrons

*Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends<sup>SM</sup>*

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## City Island Sail and Power Squadron Newsletter

**Celebrating our 37th Watch**  
*We are Family!*

### The Commander's Corner



I have some great things to report! At our November meeting we celebrated the accomplishments of two of our valued members.

Congrats to P/C Del Wilson for his 50-year USPS membership. Del has been a valued member and constant contributor over the years to CISPS mission. In fact, Del is the Commander that both Gary and I tried to model ourselves after when we became Commanders. I am certain that CISPS would not be the organization it is today, if it were

not for Delius Wilson. Testament to that is the fact that so many members came to the November meeting to honor, celebrate and thank Del!

We also celebrated Gary Mandarano's District 4 nomination for the Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching. Four days after our meeting, I got the call of a lifetime from our National Educational Officer (NEO), Craig Fraser, telling me Gary was a NATIONAL winner of the award. I was bursting with pride --- not only for Gary's well-deserved recognition, but because Gary is the THIRD instructor in our squadron to win this prestigious award. Gary's in good company with Peg Morton winning in 2008 and Jeff Taylor winning in 2016. Some may not be aware that CISPS is the only squadron in our District that has certified instructors for all USPS courses. I've always known that our instructors were extraordinary and are the cream of the crop!

As you read this message, you can take pride in the fact that you belong to one of the great squadrons of USPS. Not only do we have an extraordinary education program, but we have a fellowship and camaraderie second to none. I can truly say that my life has been greatly enriched by the many friends that I have made in CISPS.

But we do have one Achilles heel. Both our membership and our leadership are stagnant. We need new members or we will slowly fade away as many squadrons have done. There is something YOU can do to help. Please spread the word on all that we have to offer. You can help by sharing information about our upcoming boating class (March 28, at CIYC) with your family, friends and just about anyone who may have an interest in boating. Also, mandatory licensing is rolling out and by January 1, 2025 ALL operators of motorized vessels, regardless of age, will need a boating safety certificate. Please be proactive and share the class information. The flyer is posted on our website and will be sent out with the March meeting notice.

Cdr Barbara Mandarano, SN

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*Barbara Halecki, Editor*



## EDUCATION UPDATE

Governor Cuomo recently signed “Brianna’s Law” which went into effect on January 1, 2020 and becomes fully effective by January 1, 2025. It modifies Sec. 49-1 of the Navigation Law to require all operators of motorboats to hold a boating safety certificate. The law will be phased-in over the next 5 years based on a person’s date of birth (see chart below).

**By 2025, ALL motor boat operators will require a boating safety certificate!**

Born on or after:	Certificate needed in:
January 1, 1993	2020
January 1, 1988	2022
January 1, 1983	2023
January 1, 1978	2024
ALL OPERATORS, regardless of age	2025

Other changes and exemptions affect boat rentals, new boat owners, and guests operating your boat. Please refer to the law for the specifics.

As you know, boating safety certificates can be obtained by attending classroom or online boating safety courses. **All current USPS members wishing to add the Boating Safety Certificate icon to their driver’s license can call HQ at (888) 828-3380 +1 to get a laminated certification card mailed to them at no cost.** The certification card is required to have the boating safety icon added to your license.

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## CISPS’s 38<sup>th</sup> Annual CHANGE OF WATCH

Saturday, April 4, 2020 - 18:30 - 22:30  
Modern Restaurant in New Rochelle, NY

Includes full dinner and open bar.  
Highlights include Installation of the new bridge and presentation of awards.

Cost: \$60 per person  
\$20 for children 10 years and under

Reservations **MUST** be received by March 21. Send to:

Barbara Mandarano, 3311 Radio Drive, Bronx, NY 10465  
(917) 612-6516 (text / voice)

(Checks should be made payable to “CISPS”)

## Connect with Us

- [www.cityislandpowersquadron.org](http://www.cityislandpowersquadron.org)
  - Find us on Facebook: City Island Sail & Power Squadron
  - For information on upcoming events, contact  
Barbara Mandarano at: [cispscommander@gmail.com](mailto:cispscommander@gmail.com)
  - For information on the America's Boating Course, contact  
Richard Welch at: [cityislandabc@gmail.com](mailto:cityislandabc@gmail.com)
- For information on other class offerings, contact Gary  
Mandarano at: [gmandarano@physics.nyu.edu](mailto:gmandarano@physics.nyu.edu)

Have a story or an  
announcement you  
would like to submit?  
Please send it to  
Barbara Halecki at:  
[halecki@juno.com](mailto:halecki@juno.com)

## SEO's Corner

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- **AMERICAS BOATING COURSE:** Saturday, March 28. **One-day (8 hour) Classroom Course** at City Island Yacht Club, 63 Pilot Street, City Island. Participants will receive **NEW YORK STATE SAFE BOATING CERTIFICATION (including PWC) upon passing the boating exam.** \$60 cost includes the course book and lunch.  
For additional information and to register contact: *Richard Welch*  
Email: [cityislandabc@gmail.com](mailto:cityislandabc@gmail.com) or phone: [347-202-5305](tel:347-202-5305) (leave msg, call will be returned)
- **SEAMANSHIP:** Class will begin in March on a date TBD. Eight, two-hour sessions at the instructor's home: 3311 Radio Drive, Bronx.  
Build boating confidence and competence for safe and fun on-the-water adventures. Seamanship provides a foundation of knowledge and skills in boat handling and maneuvering, boat operation, skipper's responsibilities and boating techniques that will advance your boating enjoyment. Cost: \$65.  
For additional information and to register, contact: *Gary Mandarano*  
Email: [commandercisps@gmail.com](mailto:commandercisps@gmail.com) or phone: 718-792-0897 (land line)

## Holiday Brunch

(Held at Modern on the Rails, December 8, 2019)

\*\*\* Special thanks to P/C Gary Mandarano, SN who submitted these pictures. \*\*\*



## Holiday Brunch (Cont'd)



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### P/C Delius Wilson, JN celebrated for his 50-year membership in USPS

Del Wilson was recently awarded his 50-year membership plaque by D4 D/C Bennett Schneider, P. Del was CISPS Commander for two watches: 1996 - 1998 and he has 31 Merit Marks. As a former school principal, he understood and was dedicated to the need and importance of education. As Commander, he always sought consensus from the Executive Board while holding steadfast to the tenets of our organization - education and fraternalism. After serving as Commander, Delius remained active within the squadron, doing jobs and taking positions as needed to provide support to the squadron and to the Commanders that followed him. Thank you, Del! (Photos by 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Michael Croce, P)



## Inter-District ABC Class

Submitted by P/C Jeff Taylor, SN

On November 16, we taught the USPS ABC course at the City Island Yacht Club, as our squadron has done for decades. In my experience, it's always been a pleasure. The students are generally polite and attentive, and they're looking for just the sort of knowledge and experience we have to offer. But this time around, there was something brand new about our ABC class. This year our City Island Sail and Power Squadron, from District 4, teamed up with members of the Westchester SPS from neighboring District 3, and taught the course as a joint venture. This is the first time I've ever heard of squadrons from different districts working together so closely. The idea was the brainchild of P/C Frank Palmieri, JN, of the Westchester Squadron, and it worked to perfection.

My wife and I were students in the USPS Public Boating class some twenty years ago through the City Island Squadron here in the Bronx. Prior to that, I had worked over a decade in the deck departments of towboats on the Mississippi, Ohio and Illinois Rivers back in the 1970's and 80's, pushing barges from New Orleans to St. Louis, Chicago and Pittsburgh. The last couple of those years, I'd been a Coast Guard-certified first mate, a licensed merchant marine officer for unlimited tonnage, which in that trade implied anywhere from 20,000 to 60,000 gross tons. I had long considered myself a pretty accomplished water rat and didn't really expect the class to teach me much. But we were thinking of buying a small sailboat - something I'd always wanted - and Sue was keen to get some formal training. My plan was to be polite, avoid grandstanding, help my wife learn a thing or two, and perhaps meet some interesting people who liked going out on the water.

The course turned out to be an eye-opening experience. Having handled such huge tonnages in constant close-quarters for so many years, I simply wasn't intimidated by little pleasure craft. But all sorts of issues came up in class that I'd never considered before. Piloting had not really been my personal responsibility on the river and navigation on those towboats was a whole different animal anyway. Prospective riverboat pilots must "learn" the entire river they're getting licensed for, then draw a chart of all thousand miles or more from memory. For small boats, though I was familiar with some of the basics, I knew nothing about how to use a compass, plot a course, or construct a vector diagram to account for set and drift and leeway. I knew more knots than the class instructors, but I was clueless about anchoring, predicting the weather, or handling a small boat in heavy seas. I found myself fascinated and impressed. The teachers all had a lot of their own local boating experience and they were obviously conducting this class out of sheer love of boating. They weren't even getting paid. They had tons of casual, personal anecdotes about how they had enjoyed, and survived, many years of good times and sometimes wild adventures on and around Long Island Sound. These were just the sort of stories I was greedy to hear. What I didn't realize until later was how much fun they were having in class themselves, telling their stories, passing on their experience, and sharing their enthusiasm.

A short time later, I was helping to teach the class myself. I worked my way up through the other classes, including Seamanship and Marine Electronics with Gary Mandarano, now a past Commander and, after all this time, this year's National Chapman Award Winner. I'm very proud to say that Gary was also my student a few years ago in my Navigation class.

We gave the Public Boating Class (now called "ABC") one more time at City Island on Saturday, November 16, as we've done so many times in the twenty-two years I've been a member and long before that. Since I first started, I've sailed all over Long Island Sound, as well as up and down the coast from Boston to Florida, and over the horizon as far away as the West Indies. Teaching the Public Boating class remains a pleasure and a privilege. A lot has changed over time. We do the whole course in one eight-hour day now, where we used to meet two hours a week for eight weeks back in the day.

## Inter-district ABC Class (Cont'd)

The textbooks have changed a few times too, although the message is still very similar: that anyone can go out on the water in their own boat, have fun, and come back safely if they're sensible, responsible and (most importantly) educated. The classes are much smaller now too. We used to routinely get 30 or more students twice a year and now we're lucky to field a dozen in one annual class.

This most recent class was as successful as any we've ever had and, in some ways, it was the easiest and most efficient one we've ever taught. There were well over a dozen volunteers from both squadrons helping. Some handled logistics, setting up before the class and cleaning up after, supplying pizza and drinks, and handling the electronics, etc. We had more instructors than I've ever seen assembled for one Public Boating class, which made the whole project much easier for everyone. The class lasts eight hours, not counting getting ready and cleaning up after, and it can be quite a long day for the teachers if there aren't enough of us. But this time we had at least seven or eight, so the workload was light. That also meant each of us was fresher, more patient and alert, and in better humor all day, which could only have made the experience that much better for our students.

The class was a hit with the students, as usual, or maybe even a little better than usual. Several of them showed an interest in continuing their USPS education. The event particularly inspired me because our two squadrons reached out across district lines and combined our efforts to do a much better job together than either of us could have done alone. This spirit of cooperation, transcending any tendency to compete or defend territory, fits in very well with our mission of educating the public for the greater good of everyone who goes out on the water. I think Frank Palmieri had a great idea, and everyone involved from both squadrons responded beautifully. Here's hoping we do it again next year.

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <p><b>CITY ISLAND SAIL &amp; POWER SQUADRON<br/>IS MOST GRATEFUL TO OUR MEMBERS FOR THEIR SERVICE<br/>TO OUR SQUADRON DURING 2019.<br/>MERIT MARK RECOMMENDATIONS WERE AWARDED<br/>BY OUR CHIEF COMMANDER TO THE FOLLOWING:</b></p> |                      |
| • Alvarez, Franz                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | • Mandarano, Barbara |
| • Alvarez, Amy E. Hawley                                                                                                                                                                                                            | • Mandarano, Gary    |
| • Chun-Burke, Cheryll                                                                                                                                                                                                               | • Mauro, Joyce       |
| • Croce, Michael                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | • Schibli, Alex      |
| • Duffy, James                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | • Shimansky, Edward  |
| • Evers, Charles                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | • Sill, Troy         |
| • Gormley, Dennis                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | • Simotas, Eugenia   |
| • Halecki, Barbara                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | • Simotas, Jerry     |
| • Keane, Kevin                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | • Taylor, Jeffrey    |
| • Kornspun, Steven                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | • Taylor, Susanna    |
| • Luciano, Robert                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | • Vigoya, Noelva     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | • Welch, Richard     |

## United Veterans' Day Parade

November 10, 2019

\*\*\* Special thanks to 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Michael Croce, P who submitted these pictures \*\*\*

This year's Veterans' Day Parade celebrated its 35th year as well as the 100-year anniversary of the American Legion. Participants included Jeff & Sue Taylor, Barb & Gary Mandarano, Summer Mauro (pup), Charlie & Charline Evers, Zoe Evers (pup), Michael, Drita, Angela & Kubrick Croce, Noelva Vigoya & Alex Schibli. --- Special thanks to Charlie & Charline Evers for trailering tiny tug, *Little Toot*, and to Jeff & Sue Taylor for getting the flags and banner.



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## Inter-district ABC Class

November 16, 2019

Richard Welch and Frank Palmieri (WSPS) help to conduct our recent ABC Course which was a joint venture between us and D/3. (Photos by Cdr Barbara Mandarano, SN)



## Good and Welfare



### CONDOLENCES TO:

Barbara Mandarano and her family on the passing of her brother, Captain Paul Roublick, on December 26, 2019.

*Rest in peace.*

**Congrats to Jeff & Susanna Taylor** on their pristine “new-to-them” Catalina 36’ sailboat!



### **P/C Gary Mandarano, SN celebrated as 2019 National Chapman Award winner!**

This is the highest honor one can achieve in the Power Squadron. Gary is the course chairman for Seamanship, Marine Electronics and Engine Maintenance and he also teaches a section of our Public Boating course. Over the last 25 years, Gary has taught over 300 students - all with successful course completions. In January 2017, Gary completed the Navigation course and achieved the rank of Senior Navigator (SN), both a dream and a goal of his. In order to continue to support the CISPS educational mission, Gary became the Squadron’s Educational Officer (SEO) in April 2019.

Congratulations Gary!



*Left to Right: D/C Bennett Schneider, P, P/C Gary Mandarano, SN & Cdr Barbara Mandarano, SN*

## Mark Your Calendars

- **USPS Annual Meeting:** February 9 - 15, Ponte Vedra, FL
- **CISPS Annual Meeting & Elections:** March 19, City Island Yacht Club, City Island
- **District 4 Spring Conference & Change of Watch:** March 21 - Park Ridge Marriott, Park Ridge, NJ. Information on D/4's website: <http://uspsdistrict4.org>
- **Americas Boating Course:** March 28, City Island Yacht Club - one-day class. Flyer is posted on our website.
- **District 4 Memorial Service:** March 29, St Alban's Episcopal Church, 76 St. Alban's Place (Eltingville), Staten Island, NY. Service starts at 1400 followed by a reception. Information on D/4's website: <http://uspsdistrict4.org>
- **Change of Watch:** April 4, 18:30 - 21:30, Modern Restaurant in New Rochelle. Invitation is posted on our website and will be sent out with the March meeting notice.
- **CISPS Gen'l Membership Meeting:** April 16, City Island Yacht Club, City Island

***The next newsletter deadline is May 15.***

City Island Sail and Power Squadron  
P.O. Box 233  
City Island, NY 10464

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