

Media Release

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AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2021

January 29, 2021.... **America's Boating Club and the Great South Bay Power Squadron** of the *United States Power Squadrons* has elected its new officers for 2021 at their annual meeting on January 29, 2021.

John P. Pergola, AP, of Patchogue, NY, has been elected as Squadron Commander. Elected to serve with Commander Pergola is James M. Milton, JN, of East Islip, NY, as Executive Officer; Michael Boland, AP, of West Islip, NY, as Educational Officer; Diane Boland, S, of West Islip, NY, as Administrative Officer; Patricia May, AP, of Babylon, NY as Secretary; Steve Potestio, P, of Holbrook, NY, as Treasurer; and Marie A. Wallach, AP, of Holbrook, NY as Assistant Educational Officer.

The Change of Watch Meeting, installing these officers, will be on Friday, February 26, 2021, beginning at 8:00pm, virtually at <https://boatgsb.org/cow/>.

Commander-Elect Pergola is a Squadron *Advanced Pilot* of the **United States Power Squadrons** and served as the Executive Officer over this last year. His previous Squadron responsibilities include being the Administrative Office in 2016, Executive Officer in 2017, and was the Squadron Commander in 2018. John has received the following educational advancements and awards in the Squadron: achieved the grade of Seamanship, Piloting, and Advanced Piloting in 2011, and the Basic Boating Course in 2003. He has also earned Educational Proficiency in 2013, Skipper Award in 2013, Pilot Award in 2015, Leadership Development in 2017, and became a Senior Member of the United States Power Squadron in 2017. He successfully completed Engine Maintenance in 2011, Weather in 2012, Marine Electrical Systems in 2013, Operations Training in 2014 and 2017, Marine Communications in 2014, Navigation Systems in 2015, Electronic Navigation in 2015, Marine Radar in 2016, Emergencies Onboard and Man Overboard in 2017. John Pergola has earned nine Merit Marks with the **United States Power Squadrons**, which is based on dedication and work that has been accomplished within the Squadron.

America's Boating Club and The *United States Power Squadrons* is a non-profit organization of boating enthusiasts who have a common interest and appreciation of recreational boating, boating safety, and education. As a public service, the Power Squadron offers Safe Boating Courses. Through this course, over three million students have already learned how to make their boating safer and more enjoyable.

The Great South Bay Power Squadron offers public safe boating courses throughout the year in Islip, Babylon, and Brookhaven Towns. For more information on the Public Safe Boating Courses within Islip, Babylon, and Brookhaven Towns, please visit our website: <https://boatgsb.org>, email marieawallach@gmail.com or call Marie A. Wallach, AP, Squadron Educational Officer at 631-848-8387.

Organized in 1914, the *United States Power Squadrons* is the world's largest private boating organization. The national organization is comprised of over 50,000 members in over 450 local Squadrons across the country.

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