

Past Chief Commander John T Alter, SN

The Immediate Past Chief Commander for 2014, John and his wife Judy live in Whispering Pines, NC and are members of the Raleigh Sail and Power Squadron in District 27. Both are natives of Toledo, OH. He joined the Toledo Power Squadron (D/29) in 1970 and in 1977 he was transferred to Cleveland, OH where he became a member of the Rocky River Power Squadron (D/7). He served on the squadron bridge, and was Commander in 1985 and again in 1987. In 1990 he was transferred back to Toledo and served on the D/29 Bridge, including District Commander in 1996. Throughout his squadron career, he has taught the Public Boating, Seamanship, and Piloting courses. At the national level, he has been an Aide to two Chief Commanders and has served on the



Strategic Planning Task Force. He has served as a member of the Budget Committee, as National Treasurer from 2003 to 2006, as National Administrative Officer, and recently as National Executive Officer. He was a member of the Committee on Nominations and the Restructuring Committee, was an Aide to the National Treasurer and squadron Radio Technical Officer. He is a Life Member with 32 Merit Marks.

John is a graduate of Xavier University in Cincinnati, OH. He has both Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Business Administration. He spent 27 years with the Ohio Bell Telephone Co. holding various marketing, human resources, and customer service positions in Toledo, Columbus, and Cleveland. Judy is a graduate of the St. Vincent School of Nursing in Toledo and a Registered Nurse. She is a member of the National First Aid Support Team (FAST) team and has 18 Merit Marks.

John and Judy have four adult children and eleven grandchildren. He has “been messing around with boats” since the age of six when his parents purchased a summer home on the shores of Lake Erie. The shallow water and treacherous storms, for which Lake Erie is known, taught him the values of safe boating and seamanship at an early age. Most of his experience has been with powerboats, although they did have a sailboat when living in Columbus. Their children also shared the love of boating and summer weekends on the water were family affairs. Their current boat is a 20-foot pontoon boat they use on Thaggard Lake.