



# RAG-POT



Kennebec River Sail & Power Squadron's Monthly Newsletter  
A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons

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**MARCH 2018**

## KRPS CALENDAR

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone and welcome to the dog days of winter. In my opinion, this has been a very cold winter and I for one am ready for a little warmer weather.

The district council meeting will be held at the Bistro restaurant in Alfred, NH on April 7, 2018 at 1130. I am planning on attending so if you have any suggestions I will be happy to bring them to council.

The district conference is as follows. *HOTEL PRICES ARE FOR ROOM, NOT PER PERSON. DATES ARE APRIL 27 TO 29. WE HAVE A BLOCK OF 20 GUEST ROOMS BEING HELD AT THE NORTH CONWAY GRAND HOTEL. THESE ROOMS, BOTH DOUBLE AND SINGLE, WILL BE AT THIS RATE, PLUS TAX (9% CURRENTLY) UNTIL MARCH 28, 2018. CALL 1-800-655-1452 AND IDENTIFY YOURSELF WITH THE US POWER SQUADRONS. NOTE ANY SPECIAL NEEDS, BED TYPE PREFERENCE AND ROOMMATE REQUESTS. FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT STAY, RUN OF HOUSE: \$129 PER ROOM, PER NIGHT. SATURDAY NIGHT STAY, RUN OF HOUSE: \$149 PER ROOM.*

This will be my last commander's message before handing stewardship of our squadron over to Ed Plourde and I believe he will do an excellent job going forward. I would also like to thank the officers for making my job very easy. It has been a pleasure to serve you all this last year. I will remember it fondly in years to come.

I am going to be planning a canoe trip for this summer on Belgrade stream again but with the addition of an overnight stay. STAY TUNED.

With my very best wishes, Farewell.  
Lynn Mecham CDR

**Monday, March 4, 2018**  
Exec. Board Meeting  
East Coast Mortgage  
Center St. Auburn  
7 PM

**Friday, March 9, 2018**  
**DINNER MEETING**  
Rolandau's Restaurant  
755 Washington St..  
Auburn  
6 pm Social, 7 pm dinner

**Monday April 2, 2018**  
Exec. Board Meeting  
Hayes Law Offices  
One Weston Ct. Augusta  
7 PM

**Friday, April 13, 2018**  
**DINNER MEETING**  
Gardiner Lions' Club  
Gardiner, ME  
6 pm Social, 7 pm Dinner



**EXPERT IN PAINTS & FIBERGLASS - MARCH 9**

# EDUCATION CORNER

BY PHYLLIS JONES, AP-IN

I hope everyone enjoyed Shawn and JT from Bright Side Wooden Boats and Marina. I was so pleased with the members asking a lot of good questions and they seemed pleased that they got real answers. Many thanks to Shawn and TJ....Awesome job!

Not discussed at the Feb. meeting was the fact that Bright Side also rents boats of all sorts from boards to pontoons to classic. They also provide a Scenic Historic tour of the lake with a captain..And even a sunset cruise. This should appeal to some of our members that are now boatless, but love the water.

We are gearing up for Spring courses to begin. ABC3, Piloting, and Emergencies on Board are listed for Augusta and Hobie has an ABC 3 class at Gardiner High Adult Ed. The Rag Pot and our Facebook page have times and dates. We have 2 proposals for a 1 day ABC 3 Class. Please contact me if you have friends or new boaters that might be interested. We may offer the Paddle Smart & Safe Seminar, we just need a few more students.

If anyone has changed boats or are 1<sup>st</sup> timers, KRSPS will offer hands on Instruction and Support taking you out on your boat or ours. Contact Ed at [goneboating09@yahoo.com](mailto:goneboating09@yahoo.com) or call 645-3109,if interested.

Fall Courses are being scheduled. If you have an elective course or any course or seminar you would like, please contact me at [phyjones@myfairpoint.net](mailto:phyjones@myfairpoint.net) or call 645-3109, as soon as you can.



## ED'S DOCK BOX

Ed Jones, AP-INC

**Are you planning to use Caulks or Sealants on your boat this Spring?**

**You can make many sealants and caulks to "skin" over more quickly by using a spray bottle to apply a light mist of water to the bead.**

**The exception: Do not to use with silicones. For best results use caulking and sealants for Marine applications.**

**Planning to work on your trim tabs? Many use thread-seal tape or plumber's tape on hydraulic trim tabs. DO NOT DO IT!!!! This is NOT RECOMMENDED for hydraulic systems. If a tiny piece flakes off and gets into the system, it will clog a valve. It will clog a fuel system also, if you use it. Use appropriate pipe dope.**

**Always look at the sealant or caulking label. Consider what you are trying to bond or seal. Have you selected the right one???**

# CHANGE OF WATCH

## WELCOME YOUR NEW OFFICERS

*MARCH 9, 2018*

**COMMANDER: ED PLOURDE, AP**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER: HARVEY BELL, AP**

**EDUCATION OFFICER: PHYLLIS JONES, AP**

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER: HAROLD WOOD, AP**

**SECRETARY: WANDA SPRAGUE, P**

**TREASURER: GINI FIEDLER, JN**

**SAFETY OFFICER: ED JONES, AP**

**Please come and show your support for all the work  
they do to keep our squadron afloat!**



## Alyssa & Crew Take on the Ocean

“On a vacation in Key West, my family rented a pontoon boat and sailed out to spend the day at a sand bar. Eventually it was time to sail back and everyone piled into the front of the boat.

After a little while, we realized that the boat was moving slowly so we shut the engine off to restart and the whole boat started to tip over—like the front end was completely submerged and the motor was 3 feet out of the water. We all ran to the back, but the water just kept pouring in the front.

We all started panicking and tried to get the water out with little shot glass-sized Dixie cups. After we’d given up all hope of staying afloat, we realized that the anchor had fallen off the front of the boat...and we were dragging it through miles and miles of endangered coral reef.”

Before disaster struck.....



<https://www.smartdestinations.com/blog/travel-horror-stories-5-hilarious-vacation-mishaps/>

## BOATING SAFETY

By ED JONES, AP-INC AND DISTRICT 19 SAFETY OFFICER

### DOES YOUR INSURANCE HAVE YOU COVERED ? Part 2

#### FUEL SPILL LIABILITY

Suppose your boat sinks or a fuel tank has a leak. You have discharged lots of fuel into the water (some boats=100's of gallons). The marina has to shut down for a day. Under U.S. Federal Law, you can be held liable for up to \$939,800, at least not a million. A policy with specific fuel spill liability up to this amount, protects you from clean-up and third party damage caused by accidental discharge. Some policies just pay up to the policy's liability limits.

Just letting you know some facts. Don't learn the hard way.

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## MARCH DINNER



**speaker: Milton Farrin**  
**Paint & Fiberglass**  
**Applications**

*MARCH 9 - 6 PM SOCIAL*  
*7 PM DINNER*

*ROLANDEAU'S RESTAURANT*  
*755 WASHINGTON ST. N*  
*AUBURN*

\$20

**H M MAINE**  
**HAMILTON**  
**MARINE**

Make your reservation with Harold Wood at: [hrwood@roddrunner.com](mailto:hrwood@roddrunner.com) or 623-1926

**Before 7 PM on Tuesday, March 6**