



RAG-POT



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

OCTOBER 2018

KRPS CALENDAR

October 1, 2018

Exec. Board Meeting
East Coast Mortgage
Center St. Auburn
7 PM

October 12, 2018

DINNER MEETING
Gardiner Lions' Club
Rt. 201 Gardiner
Social Hour 6 PM
Dinner 7 PM

November 5, 2018

Exec. Board Meeting
Steve Hayes' Office
One Weston Ct.
Augusta
7 pm

November 9, 2018

DINNER MEETING
The Village Inn
165 High St. Auburn
Social Hour 6 PM
Dinner 7 PM



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Well Folks, here we are nearing the end of another boating season. It has certainly been a nice, warm, albeit humid summer. My boat came out yesterday and is now at Pontes in Topsham for the winter. Gini is having hers hauled out on Tuesday and Harold's is "on the hard." Normally, I wait until mid-October to take advantage of clear, crisp fall days, but as you know, I will be crewing to Tampa for two weeks beginning Oct. 11 and I don't want to deal with the boat on my return at the end of the month.

Tomorrow, I will be attending the district Fall Council Meeting in Alfred. I sure hope it will be worth the 2 ½ hr. Round trip and 120 miles. You always learn something and get to know the movers and shakers of USPS a little more. I only wish this meeting were scheduled in November when activity for winter preparation winds down. I'll be updating you on any news that comes from the council.

I will not be with you for our first dinner meeting in Gardiner on the 12th, but Harvey Bell will keep you all behaving.

Look for my story about my crewing adventure in the November *Ragpot*. In the meantime, GET THOSE BOATS WINTERIZED!

Ed Plourde, Commander

SPEAKER ON LOCAL WATER RESCUES-OCT. 12

OCTOBER 26, 27, 28

FALL CONFERENCE

DISTRICTS 12, 14 AND 19

Spend a weekend on Cape Cod and meet new friends

Call the DoubleTree in Hyannis for your room reservation: \$125 per night (501)778-1700

Check your email from last month to find the registration form and complete schedule or contact gfiedler@roadrunner.com for information.

BOATING SAFETY

BY ED JONES, AP-INC

BATTERY CARE for the OFF SEASON

Whether you remove your batteries from your boat or not, is up to you. However, there is a procedure to follow:

- # Battery vent caps need to be securely installed, preventing water or cleaning solutions from entering the cells.
- # Clean battery exterior with commercial battery cleaning solution. Most contain a dye that will change color if electrolytes are on the surface. You may use a solution of distilled water and baking soda.
- # Rinse thoroughly with plain cool water and allow battery to dry.
- # Check electrolyte solution with battery hydrometer. It should read 1.265 when corrected to 80 degrees F.
- # Check the electrolyte level, which should be at the bottom of the splash band. If the electrolyte level is low, add distilled water, or in a pinch use "good drinking water".
- # Charge the battery to obtain the full specific gravity reading.
- # Store clean, fully charged battery in a cool, dry location where it won't get knocked over or damaged. I store batteries on painted wooden stirrers so air can circulate and avoid condensation.
- # Cover the terminal post to avoid accidental contact.
- # Check the electrolyte specific gravity at regular intervals. If the readings drop below 1.225, the battery needs to be recharged to the full 1.265.

Be Safe and Protect your Batteries for the next season.



THE VILLAGE INN

After years of enjoying our Lewiston-Auburn area dinners at Rolandeaus, we have to move on to a new venue. The members of the executive board have investigated



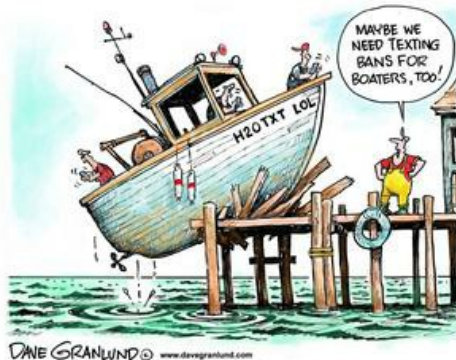
several possible restaurants and found the Village Inn to be the best fit for our meeting needs. It isn't easy to find a restaurant with a suitable room on a Friday night and the Inn has been

very accommodating. Our first dinner there will occur on Friday, November 9th, and we hope to have a good turnout for our trial run. That's right....we are trying it out and will be looking for input, going forward, to decide whether we should stay there or try to find another setting. Our meals will be \$20 plus tax and tip per person, and we will choose among three or four dinner offerings. The restaurant is well-liked in the area and the room setup is very good for programs.

Please come have dinner with your boating friends in November!!



"Yes, Mom, boating safety is important, however, a giant floaty is a little embarrassing."



Education Department

by Lt/C Phyllis Jones AP-IN

Course changes for Seamanship include updated material and a new format. Last week the new materials became available. **Course now includes Boat Handling.**

Course will begin Oct. 2nd at Cony High, Adult Ed, Augusta from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Register now at Adult Ed: augusta.coursestorm.com 207-626-2470

Any member that would like to take the class to “refresh” is more than welcome.

Advanced Piloting is being offered in Auburn/Lewiston area. Space is limited so register with me as soon as possible. Course begins mid Oct. Please call or email me right away.

Spring Courses are being scheduled. We have 3 ABC 3 classes, and the seminar on How to Read a Nautical Chart, and WHAT would you be Interested in taking to enhance your Boating Skills?????

Call or email me for information or suggestions.
phyjones@myfairpoint.net (207)645-3109



ED'S DOCK BOX

Ed Jones, AP-INC



HAVE YOU NOTICED A LOT OF CRUSTY RUST ON YOUR METAL PARTS OF THE BOAT?

THE RUST WILL CONTINUE TO GROW AND EAT AWAY AT THE METAL IF NOT TREATED. THERE ARE SOOO-MANY “DE-RUSTERS ON THE MARKET AND COME WITH A HEFTY PRICE. IN A BOAT RESTORATION SHOP, THEY USE A COMMON PRODUCT THAT MOST WOULD NOT THINK OF. IT IS DIET COKE-A-COLA. (DIET COLA IS USED AS CONTAINS LESS SUGAR SO IS NOT AS STICKY TO WORK WITH) ON LARGE PARTS , YOU CAN POUR IT DIRECTLY OR USE A RAG SOAKED IN COKE AND ALLOW TO SET. SMALLER PARTS AND YOUR TOOLS CAN BE PUT IN A CONTAINER AND SOAKED IN COKE. SCRUB AND RINSE WITH WATER. IF SOME RUST REMAINS, REPEAT THE PROCESS. AFTER CLEANING, SOME SPRAY THE PARTS AND TOOLS WITH WD 40 OR COOKING SPRAY AND THEN WIPE IT DOWN. RESULTS: SAVE MONEY, AND HAVE SHINY RUST FREE PARTS OR TOOLS.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Your eBoard has discussed changing our “public” name to **Kennebec River Boating Club**.

Over the years, we have been misunderstood by many in the public because they don't relate anything like boating to our “Power Squadron” name. We will still have our legal name as Kennebec River Sail and Power Squadron and remain a unit of the United States Power Squadrons, denoting that relationship on all documents in smaller print. However, the new name will more accurately describe our boating purpose and can be used on our Facebook and web pages, so we will show up when an internet search for boating organizations is conducted.

A change of this kind requires a vote of the Squadron's general membership. That vote will be conducted at the October Dinner Meeting at the Gardiner Lions Club on October 12. Be sure to come and voice any concerns....make your vote count.

October Dinner Meeting

**WHERE: GARDINER LIONS CLUB
BEHIND THE ARMORY ON 201**

**WHEN: OCTOBER 12, 2018
6 PM SOCIAL HOUR
7 PM DINNER**

COST: \$15 BYOB



**SPEAKER: GARDINER FIRE DEPARTMENT
WITH THEIR NEW WATER RESCUE BOAT!**

RSVP: Harold Wood hrwood@roadrunner.com 623-1926 by Tuesday, Oct. 9 at 7 pm