



# RAG-POT



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

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**NOVEMBER 2018**

## KRPS CALENDAR

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Just got back Sunday night from the Tri-District Conference in Hyannis. There were about 120 members in attendance with lots of camaraderie among the attendees from Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Our contribution of a Hamilton's Marine gift card for the silent auction was greatly appreciated.

Saturday morning, we had a seminar on marine weather, given by Bill Biewenga, a world sailor with over 400,000 hours at sea. He is an extremely interesting guy who can explain the complex formation and effects of ocean storms with simple clarity. At lunchtime, we had an historian and marine archeologist present the process of cleaning and preserving artifacts from the pirate ship Whydah which sank on the south coast of Wellfleet, MA over 300 years ago. And after lunch, Bob Sweet gave a terrific small boat handling seminar with practical scenarios of docking in high wind and current. Evening dinner was capped off with a speech by Martin Sandler, a seven time Emmy Award winner and prolific historical writer. He kept the audience captivated for over an hour as he gave insights into his process for researching his subjects.

National has issued nice plaques for Roger H. (Bucky) Lord, Jr. and James Wade for 50 years of membership in the United States Power Squadrons. We hope they will be able to attend our November 9<sup>th</sup> dinner meeting to receive their awards and pins at our new dinner location, **THE VILLAGE INN**, in Auburn.

On Page 2, I will describe the things that I learned about newest developments and programs that are available through our national organization.

*Ed Plourde, Commander*

### **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

### **December 3, 2018**

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

### **December 14, 2018**

**HOLIDAY PARTY**  
Gardiner Lions' Club  
Rt. 201 Gardiner  
Social Hour 6 PM  
Dinner 7 PM

**PAUL DUPUIS AND HIS GULF STREAM ADVENTURES - NOV. 9**

## **FROM OUR COMMANDER (CONT'D)**

- USPS has received \$1.4 M to develop an on-the-water boat handling simulator
- Some course names are changing—for example JN is now offshore navigation (ask Phyllis Jones for new names of other courses; she knows everything)
- Boat Handling is available in beta mode (experimental) as six 2-hr sessions for \$48 online.
- Radar course is borrowed from our Canadian neighbors as a 8-10 hr course
- Visit [americasboatingclub.org/education-matters](http://americasboatingclub.org/education-matters) for more information
- **Jump Start** is a new(ish) program where squadron members can teach boat owners how to handle their boats, on their boats Insurance is included at no cost and you need not be licensed. But you must communicate to your squadron that you will be doing this in order to get coverage. There is a guide for the instructor to follow with the boat owner, and the course lasts about 2 hrs.
- Digital Media Library is now called [AmericasBoatingChannel.com](http://AmericasBoatingChannel.com). You can get a 30 page Boating Primer free and also use it as a member recruitment tool.

**All above came from the conference!!**

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## **SAFETY**

By Ed Jones, AP-INC

### **TOP 5 CAUSES OF BOATING ACCIDENTS**

- 1. Running out of Gas**  
**Example: picture yourself on Lake Erie, now floating toward Niagara Falls!**
- 2. Running Aground**  
**Usually from driving too fast and being unfamiliar with area.**
- 3. Falling Overboard**  
**If you should fall overboard without a life jacket on and hit your head, you can be in serious trouble and may lose your life!**
- 4. Sinking**  
**Bronze thru-hull fittings can be dissolved by stray electrical current in the water, from other boats. A lot of water can come into your boat quickly.**
- 5. Catching Fire**  
**Always sniff the bilge, run air vents for 4 minutes, to clear the fumes before starting your engines.**

**ALWAYS BE SAFE, ON THE WATER OR THE HARD!**



## Directions to the Village Inn

FROM EXIT 75 (AUBURN) ON I-95:

TURN LEFT ONTO WASHINGTON ST. N AND PROCEED FOR 4.1 MI

SLIGHT RIGHT ONTO HIGH ST .1 MI

VILLAGE INN IS ON THE LEFT (165 HIGH ST.)

# Education Department

by Lt/C Phyllis Jones AP-IN

**We are well on the way through our Seamanship Course in Augusta. The students are interested and ask lots of good questions. It is a great class.**

**I am currently working on spring classes. They have to be submitted to Adult Ed in Augusta during the 1<sup>st</sup> week of November. We have 3 ABC 3 Courses, and seminars on How to Read a Nautical Chart and being prepared for Emergencies on Board. I do not have a confirmation for a Course of ABC-3 in Gardiner as of this writing.**

**All classes will be advertised as given by “America’s Boating Club of Kennebec River Area.”**

**Do you have an interest in any Course, Elective, or Seminar? Check out the possibilities at USPS.org. If you see one that interests you, please contact me asap. Phyjones@myfairpoint.net or 207-645-3109**



## ED'S DOCK BOX

Ed Jones, AP-INC



**1. Does your boat and/or cover use harsh chemicals that use vegetable oil on the the pine sap is gone wash recommend Dawn dish liq-ment safe.**



**have “pine sap” on it? Don’t will damage your gel-coat or paint. spots and rub the sap off. Once with soapy water and rinse. I uid as it is marine and environ-**

**2. When changing the lube, for fishing line snarls or other washer and re- can grease the prop shaft and re-install the prop.**

**remove the propeller and check debris behind the thrust move. You**

**3. Now that your boat has been hauled and on the hard, check the rudder/steering system for wear and damage and alignment.**

# 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 November Dinner Meeting at the Village Inn on November 9. Be sure to come and voice any concerns....make your vote count.

## November Dinner Meeting

**WHERE: THE VILLAGE INN  
165 HIGH ST. AUBURN**

**WHEN: NOVEMBER 9, 2018  
6 PM SOCIAL HOUR  
7 PM DINNER**

**COST: \$25**



**SPEAKER: OUR OWN VETERAN SAILOR-PAUL DUPUIS**

**“CROSSING THE GULF STREAM TO THE BAHAMAS”**

**RSVP: Gini Fiedler [gfiedler@roadrunner.com](mailto:gfiedler@roadrunner.com) 465-3961 by Tuesday, Nov. 6 at 7 pm**