



RAG-POT



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

Fellow Mariners:

Last month the Change of Watch meeting at the Village Inn went very well. We had good attendance and the food logistics were greatly improved. Our last dinner meeting for this spring is coming up on April 12th in Gardiner. This is usually a fun meeting with lots of arguing as we talk about the itinerary for our August cruise. So start preparing your case to convince others to agree to the spots you would like to visit.

Also included at the meeting will be a report on the March District Council meeting in Alfred and a discussion regarding methods and ideas for increasing member involvement in Squadron activities.

The District Conference is set for April 12-14. I will be attending Saturday and Sunday and will bring back my report on that. All members are eligible and encouraged to attend. Next fall's tri-district conference in October is tentatively set to be held at Endicott College in Beverly, MA pending a determination of costs. Last year's meeting in Hyannis was very well attended and highly successful.

I hope to see you all on April 12, our last hurrah before we scatter!

Ed Plourde, AP

APRIL 2019

KRPS CALENDAR

April 1, 2019

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

April 12, 2019

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

April 12-14, 2019

SPRING CONFERENCE
Ramada Inn, Bangor
See Page 4 application

May 6, 2019

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

SUMMER CRUISE PLANNING - APRIL 12

Education Corner

by Lt/C Phyllis Jones AP-IN

The SEAMANSHIP class has completed testing. Students decided they would wait for Ed & me to recover and then they would test. This group has stayed together throughout. They are interested in joining our Squadron and have had information provided with contact numbers. They will be a great addition to KRSPS. We are waiting for test results from National.

Presently we are finishing up ABC 3 Course at Cony High School. The Chapter 5 of Charting will be done in April.

Howard Ellis will start an ABC 3 Course in Gardiner on April 10th. If you know of anybody that would like to take this course, contact Gardiner Adult Education.

A Seminar of How to Read & Use a Nautical Chart will be held in Augusta at Cony High Adult Ed on April 24th from 6:00-8:00 pm.

Due to increases in the cost of materials and texts we may have to consider an increase to our class fees. I expect that we will first address it at the next E Board meeting. It is hoped to have this decided before our Fall Courses. Fall Courses will be due in August for print.



TO ALL OF YOU----SEE YOU ON THE WATER----SOON!

**My contact information is: phyjones@myfairpoint.net
(207)645-3109**

LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK!

Check it out under Kennebec River Boating Club. It's your page..personalize it by adding comments or send pictures to Gini Fiedler or Harvey Bell to add to the page. You are the face of our club - show your enthusiasm!

BOATING SAFETY NOTES!

by Ed Jones, AP-INI

Spring has Sprung! So they say---but there is still a ton of snow here.

The boat work starts within a few weeks. The following is a list of commissioning tips to add to your spring chores:

- 1. When checking the gear case fluid, if it looks cloudy or milky or watery, you need to drain it off. Then check the gears, bearings, and shaft. You probably need a tech to assess for damage, especially if there is any rust.**
- 2. After removing your winter cover, if you notice rodent droppings or mildew, you will need to clean with bleach & water. Make sure you check all the areas of your boat. Don't forget to check for damage to the wiring systems and hoses.**
- 3. If you trailer your boat to the ramp, pull over before you enter the ramp. Take the time to unhook tie-downs and put the drain plug in. Place all the gear into the boat. Put on your PFD and guide the driver down the ramp, holding the line. Unhook boat and launch. This is common courtesy for your fellow boaters.**
- 4. If you notice your gelcoat has faded by the sun, you can carefully buff out the area. Use wet sandpaper-very fine (2,000-3,000 grit) Finish as desired and wax.**
- 5. Check all of your lights. It is much easier and safer to change out the light bulbs on the hard than on the water. Check the wiring for wear.**
- 6. If your motor doesn't want to start or idle, or runs rough, check the fuel. Fuel can get condensation or becomes "stale". Check the carburetor or your fuel injectors. Don't forget to check or replace your fuel filters.**



District 19 Spring Conference Registration and Meal



Hosted by
Penobscot Bay Sail & Power
Squadron
"Our Shared Gulf of

Registration Fee: \$70 per person

\$30 per person attending April 13 Banquet ONLY

Meal Preference for April 13 Banquet Dinner:

Name: _____ Chicken Cordon Bleu Prime Rib
 Haddock Au Gratin

Name: _____ Chicken Cordon Bleu Prime Rib
 Haddock Au Gratin

Indicate any dietary restrictions or needs:

Contact Information:

Email Address _____ Telephone Number: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

[Hotel Reservations must be made directly with the Ramada Inn

Mail registration to:

Louise House, 219 Washington St., Brewer 04412-1325

Make checks payable to Penobscot Bay Sail & Power Squadron

See March *Ragpot* for details about the program

ED'S DOCK BOX

By Ed Jones, AP/INC

Do you trailer your boat or dinghy? Do you have working brake and signal lights? Can you see them or are they very dull? Two things that could help avoid an accident on the road are:

1. There are lens cleaners and polishers on the market that can help without replacing the whole system. The products remove most scratches and dullness to the lens covers. You wipe on and wipe off! Check out the products in the auto supply departments. I have used it and it works.
2. Another item is the LED trailer light complete kit. All the wiring and LED Bulbs are included. The kits range in price from \$25-\$90. Your trailer can be seen better and improved lighting will help prevent an accident or damage to your trailer and boat. Check them out!



April Dinner

WHERE: GARDINER LIONS' CLUB

**WHEN: APRIL 12, 2019
6 PM SOCIAL HOUR
7 PM DINNER**

COST: \$15



A cruise with Boating Club friends
Come boat with us in August

BE PART OF THE PLAN

**CONTACT HAROLD WOOD AT: HRWOOD@ROADRUNNER.COM OR
623-1926 BEFORE 7 PM ON APRIL 9 FOR YOUR RESERVATION:**