



RAG-POT



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

For Boaters, By Boaters™



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

Fellow Mariners: *****

We are about to end another business year with our Change of Watch on March 13 at the Village Inn in Auburn. There was a very good turnout for this event last March and I do hope to see you all there again next week. Just let Harold know your dinner selection by the end of the day on Tuesday, March 10th.

Wanda, Gini, Phyllis, Ed and I have agreed to continue as your officers for another year. Thank you to my bridge for stepping up. D/C Chip Meany has designated Bill Wood, SN to preside over the Change of Watch, which will be followed by another interesting video.

As you know, Kennebec River is hosting the District Conference on April 18 at the Lewiston Ramada Inn. A registration flyer will be emailed soon. We hope that all of you will participate and make our squadron proud. We will need assistance with decorating tables, selling 50/50 and auction tickets, etc. so please sign up to help. This event will supplant the usual April dinner meeting.

On another note, on March 23rd, P/C Hobie and Pat Ellis will celebrate 61 years of marriage. Congratulations to both of you!!

Cdr. Ed Plourde, AP

MARCH 2020

KRPS CALENDAR

March 2, 2020

eBoard Meeting
East Coast Mortgage
7 PM

March 13, 2020

DINNER MEETING
Village Inn
6 PM Social 7 PM dinner

April 6, 2020

eBoard Meeting
Steve Hayes' Office
Augusta
7 PM

April 18, 2020

SPRING CONFERENCE
Ramada Inn
Programs all day
Social Hour 6-7
Dinner 7 PM

**Come to the day's
activities, meet
those from other
squadrons!**

DINNER MEETING - MARCH 13

Education Corner

By Phyllis Jones, AP 207-645-3109

We are presently offering Sailing and America's Boating Courses. In April, there will be another ABC 3 Boating Course in the Gardiner area. The numbers of students are minimal, for several reasons.

The competition for classes from varied sources and the costs have been part of the lack of students signing up for the classes.

We are located in an area where most boaters are lake and river boaters and fishermen. They believe that if they can see shore-lines, they are safe. Most river boaters do not know what the markers mean, nor do they realize that current and tides can change quickly, and put them in harm's way. Most of our rivers have tidal waters. Many boaters have had bad experiences fighting the currents and tides in small crafts. This could be avoided with a little education.

The markers in lakes are different from those in the ocean. Do you know the differences? America's Boating Course will teach you these important facts.

Fishermen and river boaters in tidal waters do not realize that they are not under Maine Laws & Regulations, but must abide by Federal Laws & Regulations. There are differences in safety equipment and the ages mandated for life jacket requirements. You need awareness!

I am open to suggestions to get these boaters and fishermen involved with a class. It will make you, your family, and your friends safer on the waterways.

The completion certificate is required to fish or boat in neighboring states, such as NH and Canadian waters. Course can be a few hours per week, 1 day, or other arrangements can be made.

You are urged to encourage your friends and family to take a course. You will be glad you did!

ED'S DOCK BOX

by Ed Jones, AP-INI

Does your boat have touch screen electronics? Is your screen dirty and has fingerprints? Are you unsure what product to use to clean it? Do not use paper towels! They are abrasive and will scratch your screens. Other damaging cleaners are Purple Power, Windex and Sof Scrub. Use water and a soft cloth, (old T shirt or Sweatshirt). You can purchase a micro-cloth. Avoid seams and sewn edges. If water does not work, Star-Brite Screen Cleaner & Protectant is recommended.

Do your vinyl boat seats have ink marks? Have you tried to clean them and find that they are still visible? I have a solution for you! Take an alcohol wipe and clean the ink spot. If the spot is large, then pour rubbing alcohol onto a soft cloth and clean.

BOATING SAFETY

By Ed Jones, AP-INI

PERSONALIZING YOUR LIFE JACKET

Most of us have several types and sizes of Life Jackets stored aboard. Doesn't it make sense to have the crew's and the frequent visitors' Life Jackets ready??

For the crew, let's personalize the Life Jackets. Identify by writing the person's name on the front, with a waterproof marker. Adjust all the straps and buckles to fit properly. Add a plastic whistle to a strap. Make sure the whistle does not have a wooden ball, as it will swell when wet, preventing it from working. I know, you can holler loudly, but your voice will give out and it takes a lot of energy. If you are my age, you know what I am saying!

If your jacket does not have reflective tape on the shoulders, then buy adhesive ones and put them on your jackets. Reflective tapes are now required. The reflective tapes assures a search light will illuminate the tape, making you more visible.

Small bottles of Sunscreen are available with a clip to attach to a strap. Sunburns happen quickly in the ocean. Some add a pouch of water or small bottle, place in a pocket. Something to think about before you end up in the water. This only takes a few minutes and is a time saver, when minutes count.

THE BEST SOLUTION IS: WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET!

Come to the Conference

(COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING THE CONFERENCE IN A SEPARATE EMAIL!)

Reservation Information

THE FOLLOWING RESERVATION TO BE MADE BY MAIL TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

Conference Registration @ \$15.00 Number _____ \$ _____

Saturday Banquet Dinner:

@\$32.00

Number _____ \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

(Make Check payable to Kennebec River S&P)

Non-Members trip to Museum LA* Number _____

*Minimum Charge Adult \$5 & Seniors \$4 paid at museum

Name: _____ Rank: _____ Grade: _____

Spouse: _____ Rank: _____ Grade: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Squadron: _____ District: _____

Mail Check and Form by 3 April 2020

Lt/C Gini Fiedler, JN

338 Willey Point Rd

Oakland, ME 04963

(207) 465-3961

Hotel Reservation made directly at the Lewiston Ramada
King \$91 Double Queen \$97* Call Hotel (207) 784-2331

*does not include tax

Mark your 2020 Calendar now—the SPRING CONFERENCE is April 18.

Thank you to three members, who have already volunteered to make the centerpieces for the banquet tables.

Debra Tucker, Elaine Bell and Julie Mecham –you deserve our appreciation!!

WE NEED EVERYONE TO PITCH IN FOR THIS EVENT.

Bring an appetizer, mixer and a bottle to share at the Hospitality Suite for cocktail hour at 6 pm on Saturday.

DINNER MEETING

CHANGE OF WATCH

DATE: March 13

**TIME: 6 PM Social Hour
7 PM Dinner**

**WHERE: The Village Inn
Auburn**

COST: \$ 25



Order haddock, prime rib, or veggie option.

COME AND BRING A FRIEND

RSVP: HAROLD WOOD AT 623-1926 BY MAR. 10