



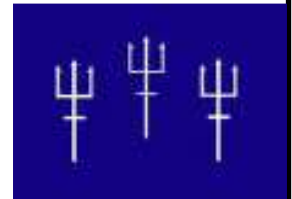
# THE BALL



A PUBLICATION OF THE VERMILION SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

May, 2024

**RICH BARZYK, SN**  
**COMMANDER**



Fellow squadron members,

I am both humbled and honored to once again serve as Commander of the Vermilion Sail & Power Squadron. I Thank all who voted for me, and I hereby personally commit to you, to serve our squadron, District & National to the 'best of my ability.' Our change-of-watch was held at the Wellington Eagles, where immediate P/C/C Craig Fraser, SN-CN, did the procedural honors. Other distinguished guests attending included District7 Commander, D/C Joe Jonhenry, JN. (My personal "Thanks," to Mary Ann, & Tim Smith for creating this gala event.)

The bridge for 2024-25 remains as the previous year, with the Commanders chair being the lone exception. A special "shout-out," again to Past Commander Dave Kastl, P for his steadfast lead this past year. My deepest appreciation to those who opted to, "stay onboard," for I will surely need your 'expertise & experience,' to aid me in fulfilling my duties. I would be remiss if I did not point out that ALL our bridge members (Mary Ann, Cathe, Dave B, Ralph, Dave K) have been serving in their respective offices for several years and even more, and Vermilion is most fortunate for their long-term commitment. However, having said that, may I invite ALL members of our squadron, to "get involved, get your dues worth," by helping us to promote the mission & purpose of AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB! I guarantee you will be glad you did!

I attended the District7 Spring Conference, along with D/Lt/C Cathe Radabaugh, N who was installed as District7 Secretary, & P/D/C Dave Bialorucki, SN, who once again will serve as District7 Assistant DEO, where 55 District7 members gathered to partake in the annual change-of-watch conference, as Berea's D/Lt/C Joseph H. Jonhenry, JN was installed as District7 Commander. Vermilion received noteworthy recognition in two areas; first off, THANKS to our "artistic & imaginative," web-master D/ Lt/C Cathe Radabaugh N, we were hailed for DISTINCTIVE PERFORMANCE for WEBSITES in 2023, and P/D/C Dave Bialorucki SN, was once again recognized for performing 100+ VSC's in 2023. Congratulations to both!! And "Best of Success," in your District positions!!

Continued on Page 5



## **VERMILION BRIDGE**

### **COMMANDER**

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**P/C Kerry McCullough, AP**  
**P/C Tim Smith, S**  
**P/C Paul Hammel, S**

### **EDUCATION OFFICER**

**P/D/C David Bialorucki, SN**  
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dakmak@roadrunner.com

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**P/C Paul Hammel, S**  
**P/C Dave Kastl, P**  
**P/C Tim Smith, S**

### **AUDIT CHAIR**

**P/C Jean Verlotti, P**

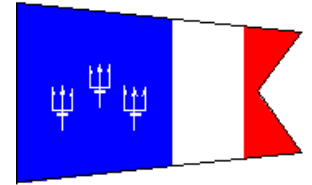
### **RULES CHAIR**

**P/C Larry Barber, P**

“America’s Boating Club is a nation-wide boating organization. We learn together, boat together, and help each other and other boaters on the water and on land. Our members learn boating skills, engage with boating friends, and connect with the boating community.”



**P/C MARY ANNE KASTL, P**  
**Administrative Officer**



Our change of watch in April was well attended by our D7 Commander Joe Jonhenry, P/CC Craig Fraser and Liana Mihalca, Tom and Joan Hancock and our squadron. Appreciation and gratitude to Craig as the installing officer, and to Tim Smith and his brother Tom Smith, Paul Hammel, Cathe Radabaugh, Ralph Schaefer and my husband for all your help to set up, cook and handle the finances.

May 16, 2024 meeting will be at Fort's Old Town Tavern, 122 W Herrick Ave, Wellington at 5:30 PM. We'll order from the menu and enjoy Cdr Rich Barzyk's business meeting. Congratulations Rich!

June 15 will be our annual Kayakathon at Findley State Park, Rte. 58, Wellington. All kayaks, SUP's, canoes, row boats (electric motor only) are welcome! Launch at picnic area boat and kayak launch at 10:00 AM. Grilling brats, hotdogs and burgers at noon in picnic area. Bring a side dish to share, folding chair and your own personal beverages. VSC's (optional) of all vessels to be conducted. RSVP for the paddle and picnic to Mary Anne Kastl, text 440 724 9511 or email [dakmak@roadrunner.com](mailto:dakmak@roadrunner.com) This event is open to all and is a great way to introduce others to our squadron and possibly become a member.

***Findley Lake covers 83 acres of water. The north end of the lake is fairly deep, with depths measured to 21 feet. The southern end of the lake is relatively shallow, with depths measuring generally less than six feet.***

***Hand-powered vessels and boats with electric motors are permitted on the lake. Two launch ramps, each with floating kayak launch ramps, provide access (the Main Boat ramp is located on the west side of the lake; the other ramp is in the campground). Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, kayaks and canoes can be rented Mondays and Friday-Sunday from the beach concession.***

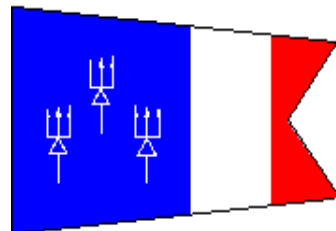
***Findley Lake was constructed by the Ohio Division of Parks. The earthen dam was built during 1954 and 1955, with the gates closed in April 1956.***

Some balmy night this summer, we will have an outing at the Lake Erie Crushers Stadium in Avon. Working with one of my favorite students from Boat Handling to pick the best game. More info to follow.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lt/C Mary Anne Kastl, P  
Administrative Officer



**P/D/C DAVID A. BIALORUCKI, SN**  
**SEO and Membership Chair**



## SEO REPORT

The Boat Handling class is almost completed at this writing. As soon as the exams are graded, I will post the results.

There are no courses planned for the summer months. But if there are any courses that you would like to take this Fall, let me know early so I can order the material.

## MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT

As our monthly meetings are coming to an end for the summer and you are getting your boats ready for the water please take time to check all safety items on your boat and make sure that they are all up to date.

Get a VSC check from one of our examiners, they are:

Dave Bialorucki - 440 282 2282, (Home), 440 714 2311 (Cell),  
Dave Kastl - 440 282 7023 (Home), 226 346 1417 (Cell),  
Rich Barzyk - 440 647 2047 (Home), 440 289 5243 (Cell),  
Steve Sump - 440 323 5311 (Home), 216 272 2214 (Cell), or  
Ralph Schaefer 440 319 2341 (Cell).

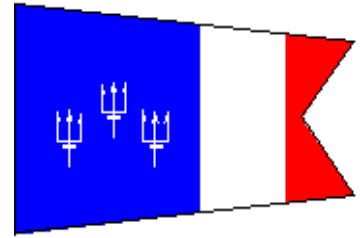
All of our inspectors have been certified and are waiting for your call.

Don't forget our membership meeting May 16 at Forts Restaurant in Wellington, Ohio. Look for details in the newsletter. Hope to see you there for good food and to enjoy spending time with fellow members.





## P/C CATHE RADABAUGH, N Executive Officer



Please watch for more information about this summer's District 7 Rendezvous. It's well organized, and it's also located so that former boat-owners can arrive by car. There will be more information coming out soon.

**Save the date!!!!**

**District 7 Rendezvous**

**25 July in Vermillion**  
**26-28 July**  
**Huron Boat Basin**  
**Fleetwood Mac Tribute Band on 27 July**




Knowledge doesn't mean you're good at boating, but it can help you more easily and safely develop boating skills that must be practiced on the water and become a better boater. To help boaters understand the significance of theory and practice, America's Boating Channel offers the video "[Knowledge Versus Skills](#)."

Invite your friends and neighbors to watch, like and subscribe to America's Boating Channel on YouTube as a fun and educational introduction to what our organization has to offer. This video and more also are available via the America's Boating Channel free on-demand app on Apple TV, Roku or FireTV.

### Rich's article—Continued from Page 1

Since this is both my first & last Commander's article until September, may I remind you to be sure to get a VSC for your boat this spring. You can request an exam by using the National web-site, or by contacting me personally @ [morningstar7744@gmail.com](mailto:morningstar7744@gmail.com). Vermillion has 5 current examiners willing to perform your safety check.

In closing, I hope to see many of you at the May monthly squadron meeting, at the Fort's Tavern, in Wellington, on May 16<sup>th</sup> @1730 and/or at our KAYAKATHON at Findlay State Park, on June 15<sup>th</sup> @ 1000, @ the boat launch picnic area. There will be a lake flotilla followed by a picnic lunch, where VSC's will be offered. This event is open to the public and is a great way to introduce anyone to Vermillion's camaraderie. Check our website for further specifics.

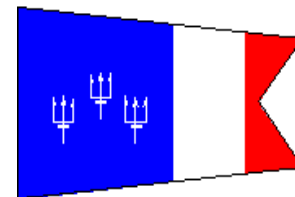
Yours in safe boating, have a wonderful summer,

Rich

\*Remember when navigating; To multiply Nautical miles by 1.15 to convert to Statute, and to multiply Statute miles by .875 when converting to Nautical.



**P/C RALPH SCHAEFER, SN**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**



**THE DESK OF YOUR TREASURER SECRETARY**

The Change of Watch was at the Wellington Eagles Club last April 18th. There were 21 members present, with D-7 well represented. Many thanks to Tim Smith's brother who did all the cooking and serving. The food was great as always; so thank you for that.

The new bridge was sworn in, and the plans for the summer were presented. A Kayakathon is set for June at Findley State Park. Dave Bialorucki received an award for his work with co-op charting. We also received an award for our website and a number 1 rating for the District Commanders Challenge for 2024. Our Squadron is alive and well thanks to all you new and old members.

from P.C. Ralph Schaefer S.N.

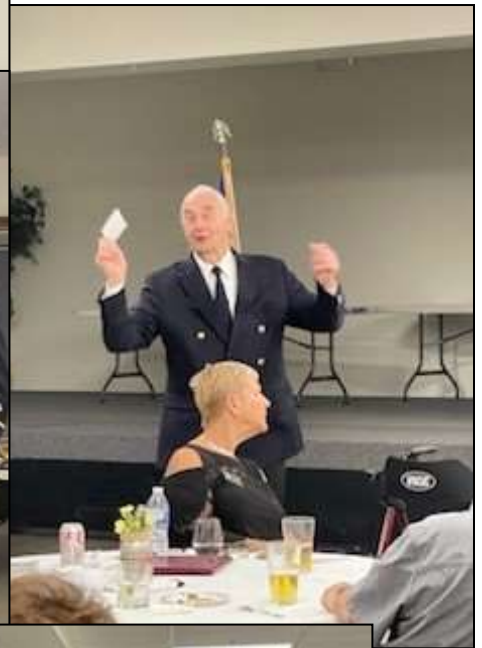
**ADD YOUR NAME TO THIS PAGE & HELP SUPPORT YOUR SQUADRON.**

**VSPS PATRONS—2024**

Dave Bialorucki  
Paul Hammel  
Cathe Radabaugh  
Bev Sams  
Brian Sams  
Ralph & Barb Schaefer  
Tim Smith

Patron ads are \$10 per year. Sponsor ads are \$30 per year. Please contact P/C Ralph Schaefer, SN to add your name or business card.

**2024 Change of Watch**  
Photos courtesy of Mary Anne Kastl and Jean Verlotti



**VERMILION SAIL & POWER SQUADRON  
DISTRICT 7  
P/C Ralph Schaefer, SN  
103 Haydens Arbor  
Elyria, Ohio 44035**



**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

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**Vermilion Sail and Power Squadron  
May Membership Meeting  
Thursday, 16 May, 2024 — 1730**

**Location: Fort's Tavern  
122 W Herrick Ave. (SR 18)  
Wellington, OH  
We will order from the menu.  
See: [fortstavern.com](http://fortstavern.com)**

**RSVP: Mary Anne Kastl  
[dakmak@roadrunner.com](mailto:dakmak@roadrunner.com)  
or text 440-724-9511**