

THE BALL

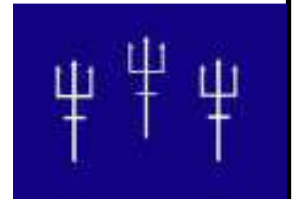


A PUBLICATION OF THE VERMILION SAIL & POWER SQUADRON



September, 2024

**RICH BARZYK, SN
COMMANDER**



Fellow Squadron Members,

I do hope everyone had a safe and eventful summer. We had great success with two of our social activities this summer, the June Kayakathon and a Lake Erie Crusher baseball game. The Kayakathon event included a flotilla on Findlay Park's Lake, with 9 kayaks participating, followed by a picnic lunch where 16 guests enjoyed an 'old fashioned' picnic smorgasbord, and afterwards VSC's were conducted.

Our second planned social event was attending a "Lake Erie Crushers" baseball game, hosted by Marie & Scott Chandler. Originally scheduled for August 8th. severe storms caused that game to be cancelled and re-scheduled for August 29. While I personally cannot report on the game, I'm most grateful to Scott & Marie for hosting this outing. I realize the re-scheduling created an exorbitant amount of work and Vermilion is appreciative of your persistence and patience. Being open to the public, this event produced a perfect venue for promoting Vermilion's genuinely warm hospitality.

Thank you, Mary Anne, Marie & Scott, for making these outings so special. And "Thank you," for supporting them!

A deserving "shout-out," here, as Vermilion's Past Commanders, Dave & Mary Anne Kastl hosted the catered District 7's Rendezvous dinner in Huron, Ohio on July 27th. Vermilion "Thanks," you both for your commitment to District 7 and the USPS.

One of my "first-order," of business as Commander, after our summer hiatus, is to prepare Merit Mark submissions for our 'Area monitor,' by November 1. I thought a brief refresher on the criteria for earning a Merit Mark might be in order.

Merit Mark justification and member participation is compiled by me, and submitted for review, to our 'Area monitor.' They are then either forwarded to the Chief Commander for approval or returned to me for additional justification. National Merit Mark guidelines require my subjective submissions include descriptions and examples clearly identifying a member's "significant & specific personal efforts and time commitment." Attending District conferences as a delegate, committee chairmanships, serving on committees, assisting in squadron social events, cooperative charting and participation in Safe Boating Week are just some examples of personal contributions fulfilling

Merit Mark criteria. Objectively speaking however, performing 10 VSC's will undoubtedly qualify you for a Merit Mark. Attending general membership meetings, while considered exemplary & commendable, is not considered sufficient activity, "in itself," to be bestowed with a Merit Mark. It is imperative that you inform me of ALL your contributions & participation in the USPS, namely to our squadron, so that they may be included with my submitted recommendation. The Merit Mark program is an invaluable tool, used by the Chief Commander, as their way of personally "Thanking You" for 'giving back' to the USPS. Volunteer today, and start earning yours!



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

AUDIT CHAIR

P/C Jean Verlotti, P

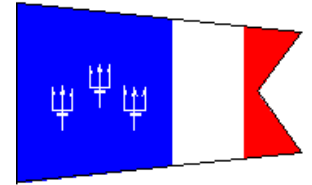
RULES CHAIR

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



Another beautiful summer has come and gone. On June 15 was our Kayakathon and picnic. Thanks to Jackie for sharing her water sensitivity class and ceremony. It was great to have guest paddlers including a stand-up paddle board join us and we appreciate our kayaks being inspected. Appreciate the wonderful side dishes and hats off to our grill chefs! On July 27, Dave and I coordinated the dinner at the District 7 Summer Cruise at the pavilion in the Huron Basin. This was well attended by boat and car. August 13 our Executive board and bridge met in person and phone at Beaver Park Yacht Club for a planning session for the upcoming year.

As I write this article, I'm looking forward to the Crushers Game on August 29. Marie Chandler did an outstanding job setting up this summer outing not only once but twice. Remember the power outage in early August?

September 19, 2024 we will meet at the Vermilion River Reservation, pavilion number 2 at 5:30 until sunset. This is on the amphitheater side of the park, not the Carriage Barn side. Dress for the weather, arm against mosquitos and bring your own beverage. Dinner will be Subway, Jimmy John's or other sandwiches and sides and cost per person should be under \$10. Please let me know you are coming.

October 17, 2024 we are meeting at the Wellington Eagles, card room at 5:30. We will order food from the kitchen or pizza from town. November 21 meeting will be at Paper Moon Winery, Vermilion at 5:30. They serve nice sandwiches/paninis and salads. December 19, again we meet at the Carriage Barn, Mill Hollow at 5:30 for a catered dinner, optional gift exchange and fun holiday shenanigans.

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Details of January to May 2025 meetings will be announced in future Balls once finalized. We will have the Zoom meeting or conference call option for those who may be out of town/traveling in the colder months

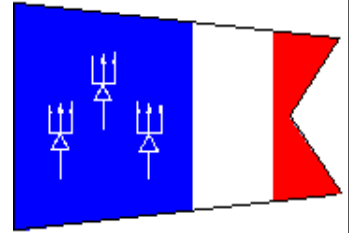
- Note that I need your reservation 5 days before all the stated meetings (please contact me so I don't have to contact you) 😊
- Bring a guest with you to the meetings – we would love to share our friendship and boating knowledge with them and interest them in joining VSPS (no pressure of course)
- If you would like a speaker or activity at the meeting, let me know and I will set it up.
- If you want to share a recent trip or adventure , we would love to hear about it.
- Consider going to the Fall Education Conference on October 26 at the Venue on Tallmadge Circle.

Respectfully submitted,

P/c Mary Anne Kastl, P
Administrative Officer



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



SEO REPORT

WHERE HAS SUMMER GONE? We are now back to monthly meetings. Our ABC Boating class is set up for Saturday, October 5th, 12th, 19th at the Vermilion Power Boat Marina. Classes are from 10: 00AM to 2:00PM . No other classes are set up for this Fall.

MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT

Happy Fall and back to monthly meetings. Our first meeting will be September 19th, 2024, at the Metro park in Vermilion. Check this newsletter for details.

Birthday list for September:

P/C LARRY BARBER,
BRUCE BARNHART,
P/D/C DAVID A. BIALORUCKI SN,
P/C MARY ANNE KASTL,
D/LT/C CATHE RADABAUGH, and
STEPHEN SUMP.

Please keep in your prayers Roger Cooper, who passed on this summer. Also prayers for Lt/C Ralph Schaefer who is recovering from medical problems.

Our upcoming Governing Board Meeting is in Pittsburgh on September 25th thru 29th. Hope to see you at our next meeting.

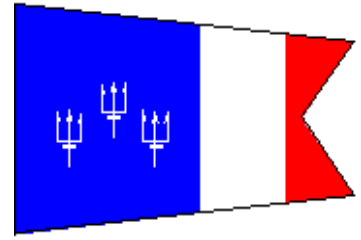
“Can’t remember temperature conversions?” Try these ‘rounded, numbers & easy steps when the need arises.

F-30x2=C or Cx2+30=F.

Vermilion’s infamous 52nd Annual WOOLYBEAR FESTIVAL will take place on Sunday, September 29th, from 0900-1700. For more information visit woolybearfestival.com.



P/C CATHE RADABAUGH, N Executive Officer



There is a National meeting of the USPS happening in our back yard later this month. The Governing Board meeting takes place Sept ember 22 thru 30, in Pittsburgh, PA. They have a pretty full schedule, and if you're interested in what goes on, check out this link—

https://www.usps.org/php/reservations_new/meetings.php?mtg_id=49.

You might also talk to Dave B at our own September meeting, for his thoughts on the Governing Board meetings.

Our District 7 Fall Meeting takes place on Saturday, October 28. The location is the Venue Banquet Center in Talmadge, Ohio, and the Conference runs from 0830 to 1545. The registration form can be found at

https://d7usps.org/images/Conference/2024Fall_Conference.pdf

The form, with more details, is shown here.



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
DISTRICT 7
For Boaters, By Boaters™

D7 Fall Conference, 28 October 2024

SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION

Learn what USPS offers in their Education Department!
Learn about new seminars and technology,
presented by knowledgeable & qualified presenters!

Tentative Schedule:
8:30 a.m. REGISTRATION & "APPLES FOR TEACHERS"
9-10:00 a.m. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST & SQUADRON OFFICER MEETINGS
FIRST TIMERS RECOGNITION
FALL RAFFLE

10:15-11:00 a.m. SESSION 1 TBD
11:15-12:00 p.m. SESSION 2 TBD
12:15-1:30 pm LUNCH: SOUP, SALAD & WRAPS
LUNCH SPEAKER - U.S. CUSTOMS & BORDER PATROL
1:45-3:45 pm D7 BUSINESS MEETING
Educational Awards & Instructor Recognition

The Venue Banquet Center
10 Talmadge Circle, Talmadge Ohio

Come for the Education! Stay for the Friends!

REGISTRATION FOR DISTRICT 7 FALL CONFERENCE - 28 OCTOBER 2024

Certificate	rank	First name	Last name	grade	squadron
			\$40.00 per person	#	Total \$

*indicates First Timer!

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

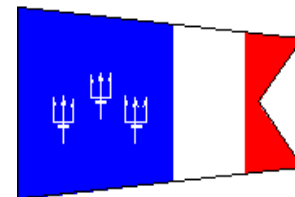
Phone _____ Email _____

Registrations are due by **Friday, 18 October 2024**.
Use the QR Code to make your payment through Zelle or
Mail your check payable to **D7-USPS**
to **Tom Hancock, 426 Emerson Ave., NW, North Canton, OH 44720-2308**.





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



THE DESK OF YOUR TREASURER SECRETARY

The Executive Board met on August 13, 2024 at Beaver Park Yacht Club. They set up venues for the upcoming year.

I could not attend because I have a boot on my left foot that I broke in June. Good news - my bladder cancer is gone, so now I have 6-month checkups.. My knee cap is healed and my left foot is healing fast

My oldest granddaughter is not going to work at the Casino Docks next year, and will spend next year at internships at various Rehab centers around here. My middle granddaughter will be attending Cleveland State on a paid scholarship. My grandson is playing 9th grade football at Avon Lake. Let's hope this year is better than last year.

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.

VERMILION SAIL & POWER SQUADRON			2024-2025 Schedule of Events	
Date	Event	Place & Time	Activities	NOTES
9/19/2024	September Membership Meeting	Vermilion River Reservation, shelter #2 , 5:30 to sunset	Combined Exec.& membership	First meeting after summer
10/26/2024	Fall Education Conference	Venue on Tallmadge Circle	Spotlight on Education	https://d7usps.org/images/Conference/2024FallConference.pdf
10/17/2024	October Membership Meeting	Wellington Eagles, card room, 5:30 to 7:30	Combined Exec.& membership	Order from kitchen or order out
11/21/2024	November Membership Meeting	Paper Moon Winery, 5:30 to 7:00	Combined Exec.& membership	
12/19/2024	December Membership Meeting and Christmas Party	Carriage Barn, Mill Hollow, Vermilion, 5:30 - 8:00	Combined Exec.& membership	Christmas adventure!
1/16/2025	January Membership Meeting	Zoom Meeting and venue TBA	Combined Exec.& membership	
2/20/2025	February SOS Meeting	Zoom Meeting & Cathe Radabaugh home	Combined Exec.& membership	Nominations
3/20/2025	March Membership Meeting	Martinos, Vermilion, to be confirmed	Combined Exec.& membership	
4/1/2025	D7 Spring Conference			
4/17/2025	April Membership Meeting, Change of Watch	Wellington Eagles, 6:00 - 9:00	Combined Exec.& membership	
5/15/2025	May Membership Meeting	Beaver Park Yacht Club	Combined Exec.& membership	
Author: Mary Anne Kastl, cell 440 724 9511, dakmak@roadrunner.com				

More from Commander Barzyk—

Celestially speaking, September boasts several interesting facts; first off 2 Zodiacs, Virgo 8/23 - 9-22 and Libras, 9/23 – 10/22 & the Fall equinox, which this year will be @ 12:44 UTC, September 22nd. The equinox is when the sun will be exactly above the equator, moving from north to south. Not to be confused with Solstice, which is the distance the earth will be from the sun, either the closest or the furthest, in its yearly orbit.

On a rather personal note, Patti & I attended the Akron Sail and Power Squadron’s Kayak & Paddle Board class, under the tutelage of P/D/C Robert Ball, SN and were impressed with the program. In preparation for our Alaska Cruise, (which was in late August,) we had 1 hour of class room instruction, and then 2 hours “hands-on,” training, in the kayak, under their close supervision, on Portage Lake. We felt the class was a crucial part of our cruise preparations, and recommend it for anyone interested in learning the art of kayaking. BRAVO ZULU Akron!!

In closing, “lest we forget,” that September 11, 2024 is the 23rd anniversary of 9/11, a day that will also live in infamy. On that day, 19 al-Qaeda terrorists, under the direction of Osama bin Laden, managed to highjack 4 commercial airliners, crashing them in NY, PA & DC, resulting in 2977 deaths and thousands being injured. The surrounding fields at Shanksville, PA & the 9/11 Ground Zero Museum itself, in NYC, are considered hallowed grounds. In NYC alone, more than 400 police & fire-fighters perished. Let us pray we never experience a tragedy as this, ever again! “8 BELLS!!

Long time Vermilion Squadron member Roger S. Cooper P, passed away on July 10, 2024. Roger was born on September 19, 1927, and is survived by his wife of 70 years, Frances Cooper. (nee Ferko) In his early years he served in the US Navy, the Army Corp & the Air Force Reserve and from 1970 thru 1984 Roger was treasurer for Oberlin College. Roger & Fran were generous benefactors to the Oberlin Community Services organization. Among many other squadron contributions, Roger most recently audited the squadron’s Financial records, for the past several years. Our September meeting will be on September 19th at Mill Hollow Park, in Vermilion. Look for all the details in this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you there.

Fair winds & following seas,
Rich

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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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

**Location:
Vermilion River Reservation—Bacon Wood
Pavilion #2
51211 North Ridge Road
Vermilion, OH**

**RSVP: Mary Anne Kastl
dakmak@roadrunner.com
or text 440-724-9511**