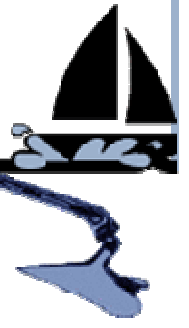


Scope



November 2009

ROCKFORD SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

Commander's Message

James Rielinger, SN
Commander

Nautical Quotes:

"Headwinds are sore vexations and the more passengers the sorer."
Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Bad cooking is responsible for more trouble at sea than all other things put together."
Thomas Fleming Day



Highlights:

- November Dinner Meeting 2
- Useful Information 3
- Safety Tips 4

The fall Conference is over. The chili has been dumped. The days are short. There is a chill in the air, and the weathermen are starting to use that awful four letter S word. We cannot stop the inevitable, winter. Mother Nature provided a spectacular finale to summer. Some of the fall colors this fall have been awesome. Bonnie and I spent some time in Kentucky. In spite of the cold, rain, and gloom there the scenery was worth the trip. We hope everyone has their boat winterized and in storage as is our new-used little bowrider the Bonnie K.

Although summer is gone, there is still much fun and camaraderie to be enjoyed compliments of your Squadron. This month's dinner meeting is at Table 13 on Wednesday 11 November. There will be a very interesting presentation by Bill Zang, the president of Universal Hovercraft in Rockford. Universal Hovercraft manufactures turnkey hovercraft for military and law enforcement applications. It also sells

plans, parts, and kits; a winter "basement" project anyone? The Christmas party will be on Saturday 12 December at Di Giovanni's Ristorante 4866 Bluestem Rd Roscoe, Illinois, what a great time to socialize, renew old friendships, and foster new ones. Please put this date on your calendars now. We would like to see everyone there so we can wish them a very Merry Christmas. For the January Dinner Meeting on 13 January 2010, your bridge is attempting to schedule a presentation on modern oils. Today's oils and additives are complex. We all could benefit from additional information. Everyone that attended the Fall Conference had a lot of fun along with the normal business. Some squadrons have had great success with obtaining new members and "reactivating" old ones in spite of current tendencies. Their Commanders shared their ideas and methods with us. There was a fun game on Friday night and many members in costume. Saturday evening's

activities concluded with an excellent singer. It was noted at the conference that participation in SailAngle was far from complete. If you have not signed up yet, please do so now. National has advised us of possible problems with some internet providers. Some are treating email from non-members with more than ten recipients as spam and are blocking it. If you are not receiving our emails as you should, please contact Caren Canfield, Jan Eviston or me. The Executive Committee meeting will be held 04 November at Bob & Caren Canfield's house. As always, all are welcome to attend. Let's see how many Rockford Squadron members we
(Continued page 3)



November Dinner Meeting
Wednesday, November 11

Table 13

6957 Olde Creek Road
Rockford, Illinois

Located off N. Perryville Road one block
South of Woodman's Supermarket and
Across Perryville

Menu:

Chicken Marsala

Almond-encrusted Whitefish

12-oz. NY Strip Steak

All dinners served with Garlic Mashed
Potatoes, Fresh Vegetables, and
After-dinner coffee.

Our guest speaker is the head of our local
Hover Craft company.

\$26 includes tax and tip. Cocktails at 1800

Hours and dinner at 1900. Please RSVP to

Don Kasuboske at 815-914-1827.



Universal Hovercraft

Universal Hovercraft is the manufacturer and seller of crafts that can fly a few feet above water as well as travel on land and ice, and other vehicles that travel only on land or ice. Build-your-own kits start at \$6,000. A ready-made Hoverwing costs \$85,000; other all-terrain vehicles cost in the \$50,000 range. Customers include the military, rescue groups such as fire departments, and commercial users such as thrill-ride operators in Mexico and France, where tourists fly over coastal waters or jump between islands.



Bill Zang from Universal Hovercraft is pictured above. He will be our guest speaker at our November dinner meeting and will provide background and history of hovercraft as well as information on the units manufactured in Rockford.



Commander's Message (continued from page 1)

can pack into one Canfield house!

On behalf of the entire Bridge, Bonnie and I wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving. Remember what the turkey says: "Gobble, gobble, gobble!"

**Fueling Tips**

1. Use the "One-third Rule:" One-third of your fuel to get out, one-third to get back, and one-third in reserve.
2. Make certain all passengers are ashore.
3. Do not overfill. Prevent fuel from falling into the water. This can damage marine life.
4. Wipe up all spillage.
5. Open ports, hatches, and doors to ventilate.
6. Turn blower on for a minimum of four minutes.
7. Do the sniff test.
8. Keep engine properly tuned and hull clean.
9. Use correct propeller, engine, and oil mix.
10. Shut off engine when at dock or at rest. Use trolling motor for minor changes in location.
11. Make fewer turns so as not to increase motor load.
12. Distribute weight evenly and don't overload.

**Weather Warning Flags**

1. A single red triangular pennant means that a small craft warning is in effect.
2. Two red, triangular pennants is a gale warning, winds between 34 and 48 knots and choppy seas.
3. A single square red pennant with a black square in the center is a storm warning, winds between 48 and 65 knots (55 and 74 mph) and seas are rough.
4. Two red square pennants with black squares mean a hurricane warning, winds in excess of 65 knots and heavy seas.

**2008-2009****Bridge****Commander:**

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(815) 962-3427 (W)

Treasurer:

Lt/C Bonnie Rielinger, S
(815) 943-4023 (H)

Merit Marks

Merit Marks are awarded to USPS members who make significant contributions toward the work of USPS during the year. It's a way to say "Thanks" for the effort a member puts in to help our organization. Any member can earn a Merit Mark (one per year); his or her record is evaluated by the squadron commander and, ultimately, the Chief Commander. Only the Chief may issue a Merit Mark.

A member with 5 Merit Marks becomes a Senior Member, and 25 Merit Marks qualify him or her for a Life Member Award.

How can you earn a Merit Mark? Easy: Get involved! Offer to help, take on a job, ask what needs to be done. Talk with any bridge officer about what you would like to do and brainstorm ideas.

Our Rockford Squadron Life Members are Mike Eckman, Dick Schmalig, William Schwartz, and Tom Shouler. Congratulations and thank you to these dedicated souls.



Tips for boaters on how to stay safe while boating:

Make sure a friend or relative knows your float plan. A float plan states where you are going and how many people are on board your vessel. It also gives a vessel description, details your destination and what time you expect to arrive there. If you are delayed for some reason, make sure you let someone know.

Make certain to check the local weather prior to departing the dock. Weather can change very rapidly and you should keep a watchful eye on the forecasted conditions.

Have nautical charts of the area you are boating in, a global positioning device and a reliable means of communication on boards your vessel. VHF radio is

the best method of communication while on the water.

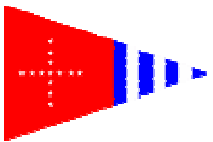
Although cell phones are a good backup, they can be unreliable due to gaps in coverage area and an inevitable dead battery. Wear your life jacket! In an emergency, there might not be enough time to put one on, so wearing one at all times may save your life.



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SCOPE

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