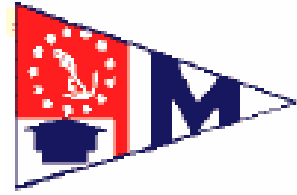




Mansfield YACHTSMAN



March/April

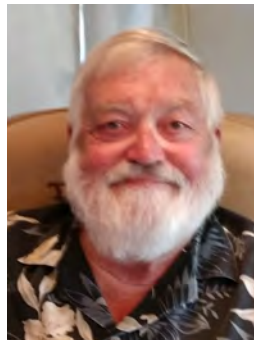
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2022

From the Wheelhouse

Cdr Jay Wells, AP

Hello from the bridge. As I write this, there is still large piles of snow and most of the ground is covered after 30 some days. However, spring will be here in a few weeks. Hopefully you have all those winter projects completed so you are close to being ready to launch your boat for the summer that will be here soon.



We are coming into the season for our annual meeting in March, and the change of watch in April. We are looking forward to seeing you at one or more of these events.

It has been another year of difficulties at holding classes and social events due to Covid. I hope this year will be much better as the cases seem to be coming down. We do have an ABC class scheduled in hopes we will be able to follow through with a successful class.

If you have any suggestions for future activities, contact any of the bridge with suggestions. We are always looking for interesting things to do.

I hope you have a successful spring launch, and a great summer.

See you soon. Jay



2021-2022 Bridge

Commander

Cdr Jay Wells, AP
419-651-2879

jepiper@3g4airport.com

Executive Officer

P/C Daniel A. Fortman, SN
419-566-0719

dfortman70@gmail.com

Educational Officer

Lt/C Denise Tenison, SN
419-884-0541

dtenis007@embarqmail.com

Administrative Officer

P/C Lynn Fortman, SN
419-631-4842

fortmanlynn@gmail.com

Secretary

P/R/C Thomas Etwiler, SN
419-529-4812

erzwilertom@yahoo.com

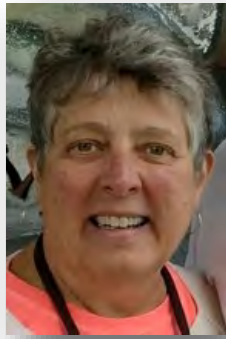
Treasurer

Lt/C Georgiann E. Mathews, P
419-512-5289.

rmathews@neo.rr.com

Administrative Officer

P/C Lynn Fortman, SN



Time flies when you're having fun and what's more fun than being on the water? Our schedule for next year is being compiled and will be presented at the Annual Meeting in March. Please let me know if you have a request for an activity that I can schedule.

Saturday, March 12, 2022.

The Notice of Annual Meeting is included in this Yachtsman. It will be held at Lexington Depot Senior Center on Saturday, March 12 with the Annual Meeting beginning at 5:00 and dinner will follow. Prior to the Annual Meeting will be our General/Executive Meeting and it will begin one hour earlier at 4:00. You are invited to attend both meetings. Dinner for the evening will be spinach/spring greens side salad and an Italian Wedding Soup complete with homemade meatballs and a side of cocktail meatballs if you are still hungry. A donation hat will be on the table for those participating in the meal. You will need to bring a dessert to share and your own soup spoon/silverware and beverage. After dinner, anyone interested in staying to play their favorite board game/card game that they used during those cold, snowy days this winter is welcomed to stay a little longer with MPS friends.

Saturday, April 23, 2022

The Change of Watch will take place on Saturday, April 23, at The Cabin Restaurant. Our social hour will begin at 5:00 with dinner to follow at 6:00. Following dinner we will have our Change of Watch. At this time, the menu will include appetizers, salad, an entree, dessert, coffee/tea and gratuity. A cash bar will also be available. The cost to each MPS member in good standing will be \$15.00 because we are trying something different. Since we have had limited activities over the last few years due to necessary Covid protocols, we are looking to offset a portion of each meal with the \$20.00 dues that you have paid to our local squadron. Your RSVP will be extremely important. Please check your calendar now to see if you can attend. As we get closer to the time, I will email you more information regarding the exact meal choices that will be available to us at that time due to product availability as well as when your payment for the meal is due. If you do not have an email listed in the roster, please call me by April 1 if you are interested

in attending and I will return your call with the information that you need.

See you soon!



"Now that Spring is here, I thought I'd take the boat out. I'll be back in about a month. I want to make up for lost time."

The Mansfield Yachtsman is published every other month.

The editor reserves the right to edit any articles submitted for size, clarity, spelling and grammar. The editor also reserves the right to omit any submitted article due to space limitations.

Please submit articles either as a Word document or in the body of an E-mail.

Send your articles and pictures to Irene Rodriguez at rodriguezri@artistirene.com

Deadline for the Yachtsman articles is the 15th of Dec, Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct.

From the Education Officer

Lt/C Denise Tenison, SN



Our Current Chapter

We escaped to a warmer climate recently and took advantage of winter in Florida to do some boating. Denny and I put the knowledge and skills we learned in the Mansfield Power Squadron educational courses to good use. Our vessel, named **Current Chapter**, a 31 foot single engine Camano trawler saw us on our first venture.

Leaving from our dock on the Caloosahatchee River on the Okeechobee Waterway (OCWW) west of Lake Okeechobee we passed through our first lock in Moore Haven and proceeded on toward Clewiston. Being bird watchers, it was this stretch we enjoyed as there was a great deal of bird activity. We spent the night in Clewiston after passing through another lock. Then with light winds of 5 knots we left Clewiston and headed across Lake Okeechobee the next morning for Port Mayaca and the Mayaca Lock, part of the St. Lucie Canal.

The St. Lucie Lock further east on the OCWW was scheduled for a 3 month closure for maintenance beginning January 2, so we needed to pass through in short order. We visited St. Lucie and then Port Salerno in Manatee Pocket.

In Stuart, Florida we joined the Intracoastal Waterway (IWW) going south, down the coast of Florida. We spent most nights dockside, but dropped anchor as well, and spent the night on the hook. We made stops in Boynton and Fort Lauderdale. Did I mention we took our 4 cats along? Yes, four. (We did have as many as 8 cats at one time... so four is indeed less.) They took traveling by boat in stride making things easier for all.

We spent a night anchored on the south side of North Bay Island, just north of Miami, with a view of the city's skyline day and night. Departing the next morning on the ICWW, I saw my first manta ray jump out of the water in front of the boat! Cruised by the Hard Rock Cafe in Miami and by the port.

We entered Biscayne Bay on a fine day taking advantage of little wind for the crossing. There were lots of fisherman's buoys to steer through. We made a 54 mile run that day stopping for a couple nights at Key Largo. Osprey, dolphins, a manatee, and a crocodile made their appearances.

Our next landing was in Marathon. We used the GPS to locate our marina on shore and to guide us in as we watched the depth. Just after we arrived, a front passed through bringing rain and strong winds. We rode out the weekend there with the boat rocking us to sleep. It was also where Denny reached over to grab a towel that had blown off the dock into the water losing his eyeglasses in the process. The depth at the dock was 12 feet and the waves just kept coming with no chance of recovering them.

The next day was even more exciting. We walked across the road to a Home Depot in search of a kitchen sink faucet cartridge. While perusing the items available, Denny just simply passed out in aisle 23. He came to quickly. He is fine by the way, but it was enough to scare us! We got him checked out at a local health center. Home Depot didn't have the cartridge we needed.

We enjoyed our visit to Crane Point Hammock, a park, while in Marathon. After Marathon we anchored at Bahia Honda Key just off the state park beach at the western tip between the US 1 bridge and the old railroad bridge. I called ahead for reservations at Key West for several days since the long term forecast did not sound good. That night we anchored near Crane Key off Cudjoe Channel which was calm and peaceful, with only the occasional fishing vessel passing, before proceeding on to Key West.

We keep a log to document our travels and record pertinent information. We started out relying almost solely on charts until we got comfortable with the GPS. Now we use both.

Enjoyed fish and shrimp in Key West on an outdoor patio. Watched the chickens and roosters run around town. Visited the southern most point in the continental U.S. Shopped the stores and replenished supplies. Found what looked to be the best weather day of the following week, fueled up and headed up the Northwest Channel to green bell buoy "1" and off into the Gulf of Mexico with a compass bearing of 010 degrees m punched into the auto pilot for Capri Pass at Marco Island. Twelve hours and 83+nm later we were anchored safely in Smokehouse Bay on Marco Island. Did I mention the 3-5 ft. waves for 4 hours during the middle of the day? How about the 2 sea turtles I saw? Or the 2 pods of dolphins that passed in front of our boat? Or the fact that one cat got motion sick?

Spent the next day at the Marina at Factory Bay which allowed me to wash as much of the salt residue as I could off the boat as it was everywhere!

We followed that with another night anchored at

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Smokehouse Bay.

We took the inside passage from Marco Island to Naples (it was shallow in spots) and saw osprey nests all along the way. Lush mangroves were a welcome change from the openness of the Gulf. Ate more delicious fish in Tin City of Naples. Upon leaving Naples we saw several dolphins in the bay and channel.

We proceeded out Gordon Pass and into the Gulf of Mexico with light to moderate winds and seas of 1-2 ft., taking the outside passage to Big Carlos Pass and Fort Myers Beach. Found dockage at Moss Marina and enjoyed the beach for 3 days, got a new anchor light in place, plus had a Zoom birthday party for Denny with our kids, Andrew and Christina.

Secured a reservation for Sanibel Marina for a night and rented bikes to get around the island the next day. We biked the Ding Darling Wildlife refuge. The following night we anchored out of the wind off Pine Island and picked up the ICWW. We cruised across San Carlos Bay, past Fort Myers to the Caloosahatchee River. Locked through the Franklin Lock just as a large sternwheeler cruise boat finished locking through and passed us. We took a boat slip at the Corp of Engineers campground at Franklin Lock for the night which was a nice place full of wildlife!

The next day saw us heading up the Caloosahatchee River and through the Orton Lock. We stopped off at the LaBelle Marina for diesel fuel, tanking up, and shortly there after crossed our wake as we completed our first loop! Even though it was a "little" loop of southern Florida!



Plan to attend: " Learn How to Zoom!"

Come join us! All members are welcome! Learn how to operate online to attend meetings, gain knowledge by taking an online course, or impart educational instruction.

We will be meeting at the Elks (on PAW) on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 6:00pm (second floor, Sherman street entrance). Bring your laptop or look on with someone else.

Come watch, learn, engage and ask questions.

This is an important opportunity for all instructors to practice online instruction! See you there
Recertification

From the Safety Officer

P/C Daniel Fortman, SN



BOATING SAFETY – IT'S FOR EVERYONE

Does boating education help in preventing accidents?

Yes, and I can't stress this point enough!!!

A recent Florida study brought out these interesting facts:

72 % of operators involved in boating accidents had no formal instruction in the operation of a boat.

2.5 times as many accidents involve boaters who have had no boating safety instruction.

Boating is a wonderful pastime, and lots of fun, but there are a few things that one needs to know for it to be a **safe** pastime. You should never worry about looking silly, I've spoken to people that have been around for 50 years or more and they all say the same thing. They say that hardly a day goes by they don't learn something new or discover a new or better way of doing something.

About 30 years ago, my wife, Lynn, and I took our first boating course. Our plan was to purchase a boat and felt that there were so many things that we didn't know, so the best way to get started was to learn all that our minds could absorb early on. To my surprise, there were people in the class that had been around boating all of their lives and none of them were bored. They learned something new in each class, and better yet, were willing to share some of their stories about problems that they had, docks that they hit, weather that they didn't anticipate and many other "war" stories. We had a ball, and felt that we were as prepared as we could be to take on our new venture. Most of the class attendees thanked the "old salts" for sharing their knowledge, but at the same time realized that they were not alone in their quest to learn more.

Whether you are one of these boating veterans with years of boating experience, or a "lubber", who gets lost in the bathtub, do yourself and your loved ones a favor and take an approved boating safety course. The time to think through, and plan for a journey in a strange environment is before you make the trip. The Mansfield Power Squadron offers many such courses throughout the year. A listing of many of these is on

our website and in the bi-monthly "Yachtsman", so climb aboard and sail off into a safer, smarter, boating future.

P/C Dan Fortman, Safety

Nautical Origins

Above Board = legitimate and honest; *activity on deck where everyone could see*

Adrift = without control, failure to reach goal; *anything undone or gone missing*

A1 = excellent; *first rate ship with 100 or more guns spaced over three decks*

Aloof = one who stands apart; *away and to windward*

Bamboozle = cheat or mystify; *hoisting false flags to deceive*

Bitter End = to the end, in spite of difficulties; *if things go wrong or water is deeper than expected, end of anchor line attached to the boat has no more length to let out*

Cast Off = Second hand clothing or knitting term; *letting go of line, as to let ship free of mooring*

Chew the Fat = talk endlessly; *brine used as preservative hardened the meat and made it hard to chew*

Clean Slate = start anew; *at the end of a watch, the log slate information was transferred to the log book and the slate cleaned*

Close Quarters = very small space; *small defense structure placed around the after deck or quarters with holes for guns*

Coast is Clear = no danger of being seen or caught; *vessel has cleared the coast or possibly reference to smuggling*

Figurehead = leader without power; *carved ornament figure on the stem of ships gave the ship "life" with eyes up front to see the way.*

Fly-by-Night = shifty person here today, gone tomorrow; *large square sail often used at night*

MANSFIELD POWER SQUADRON HONOREES

Commencing with our last Yachtsman, we began to spotlight and honor members of the Mansfield Power Squadron that have dedicated significant time and talent to the success of our organization. It is an honor to recognize them as mentors and friends that have made our squadron stronger. We hope that you enjoy this new feature and celebrate the contributions that these members have made.

P/D/C Russell D. Niebel, SN



Russ Niebel began his life of boating at a young age. Having served his country while in the Navy, he was no stranger to life on the water. Like many young persons, especially those with a young family, he started slowly. He shared ownership of his first boat with a friend, a 16 foot

vessel that soon became too small for his entire family to enjoy the lake in the ways that they chose. Russ and his wife, Ada, then purchased an 18 foot Lyman Islander which served the purpose and time well. They moved from that to another 18 foot Lyman and finally to a 24 foot Chris Craft which was the boat that they used to travel with friends for years.

Russ and Ada would travel throughout the Great Lakes, departing from their boathouse in Sandusky. Many of these trips involved other close friends including Dave and Margaret (Maggie) Cole and Cecil and Catherine Bowen. They cruised the North Channel 19 different years with stops all along the way. Of course the children were always a big part of these adventures with Suzy, Russ and Ada's daughter, remembering the special time at Mackinaw Island when Russ and Ada and Dave and Maggie rode tandem bicycles. As she remembers, the ladies had a great time as the men did all the peddling!

Seeing the need for better boating education and having the desire to share his nautical knowledge, Russ and his friends were active promoters of the Mansfield Power Squadron in 1952. He went on to serve in many Squadron offices and currently serves on the Executive Committee of MPS and the National USPS Governing Board. He was present and represented USPS when the country of Portugal gave the original Prince Henry the Navigator award to each district in USPS. Over the years, Russ has tirelessly taught every class topic that has been offered by the squadron. Celestial Navigation was

his favorite and he taught over 100 Navigators from the Mansfield squadron. In recognition, he was recognized and honored with the Chapman Award, the National Award for Teaching Excellence.

Russ also recognized that boating and boating activities are a source of great fun. Russ would often host his students after class in his specially decorated basement called "Nub's Pub". It is believed that the name of this area came from the nickname that Russ acquired while playing handball with friends. They would call him "Nubbin"! He and Ada were also instrumental in promoting the annual clambake fundraiser. Russ would rent a U-Haul truck to get the clams on the East Coast while Ada teamed up in the kitchen for meal preparations. The clams would be cleaned at Marge and Chris Reining's garage at first and later at Ned and Shirley Fort's Auto Repair garage in Mansfield. Bring your bucket and your brush and scrub, scrub, scrub!

His tireless enthusiasm and devotion for the Mansfield Power Squadron and all that it entitles in the way of friendship, learning and community service has never stopped. Earning one Merit Mark per year, he has earned and has been awarded 68 Merit Marks which gives him the distinction of being the lone National Leader in Merit Marks. For this he was honored in 2019 by District 7 of the USPS at their annual meeting.



So to Russ, the members of the Mansfield Power Squadron want to say thank you for a lifetime of service, friendship and education. You are a special person and have made us all better by the influence that you have made in our lives.



EVENT SCHEDULE **MANSFIELD POWER SQUADRON** **2022**



Due to Covid-19 Restrictions, all plans are tentative. For the safety of all members, we will continue to respect the need for masks, social distancing and handwashing at all of our future events based upon current CDC Guidelines.

- March**
- 1 Spring ABC Classes begin
 - 12 Executive Mtg at 1600/ Annual Mtg at 1700; Potluck Dinner at Lexington Depot.
Social Hour begins when the Annual Mtg. is adjourned.
 - 23 Training for Zoom as a teaching tool Mansfield Elks Lodge 6:00-7:00 pm
Learn How to Zoom! How to Attend Meetings Online, How to Take Courses Online, How to Instruct Courses Online.
- April**
- 12 Executive/Membership Meeting at 1830 at Mansfield Elks Lodge
 - 23 Change of Watch at The Cabin Restaurant

* Contact your Administrative Officer, Lynn Fortman, at **419.975.9724 for all RSVP requests**. If you are interested in a venue for a rendezvous at another date/location, we can always add to our activities if there is interest from our membership.

** Members with email addresses will be reminded of upcoming events. If you do not have an email address and you have questions about an event, please call 419.975.9724.

Notice of Annual Meeting

In accordance with the Bylaws of Mansfield Power Squadron, the Annual Meeting will be held on
Saturday, March 12 at 1700, Lexington Depot Senior Center.

(General meeting/Executive meeting will be held at 1600 prior to the Annual Meeting. Dinner will begin after the Annual Meeting.)

Nominations for Mansfield Power Squadron **2022-2023**

BRIDGE:

Commander	P/C Jay Wells, AP
Executive Officer	P/C Dan Fortman, SN
Administrative Officer	P/C Lynn Fortman, SN
Education Officer	
Secretary	P/R/C Tom Etwiler, SN
Treasurer	Lt/C Georgiann Mathews, P

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

The committee consists of the Bridge, the immediate past commander and the following members.

- P/D/C Mike Siwek, SN
- P/D/C Russ Niebel, SN
- P/C Robert Mathews, JN
- P/Lt/C Wayne Hammond, SN
- P/C John Fort, SN

COMMITTEES:

Auditing:	P/Lt/C Bob Pompei, P Chairman P/Lt/C Jim Jackson, SN Dennis Tenison, SN
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Rules:	P/D/C Mike Siwek, SN Chairman P/C Dennis Figley, SN John Powell-Fort
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Nominating:	To Be Determined
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AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

Mansfield Power Squadron
Mansfield Yachtsman
C/O P/R/C Thomas Etzwiler, SN
2581 Millsboro Rd E
Mansfield, OH 44903-8784

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

