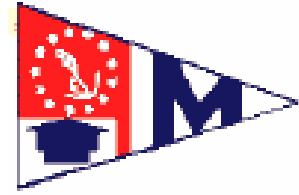




Mansfield YACHTSMAN



Spring

L 40° 45' N Lo 82° 30' W

2024

From the Wheelhouse

Cdr John Fort, SN

Join me in welcoming the new Bridge for our calendar year 2024 – 2025! I am looking forward to working with them to bring you a fun, activity-filled year. Patty Traylor nominated Ellen Wells to be Secretary and Cindy Fort to be Squadron Education Officer from the floor at our Annual Meeting – so we have elected a full Bridge pending approval of the SEO position by District. Ellen's willingness to serve as Secretary so Cindy can fill the SEO role, a critical role given our mission of educating our members and the public to promote safe boating, is typical of our squadron members stepping up to keep our squadron strong. As Cindy pointed out, she is new to the Squadron and will take all the help she can find to learn the SEO ropes.



We have lots of activities planned this year including rendezvous all summer long. Administrative Officer, Ed Corley, is finalizing plans for many of those events. Look for information on our website and email blasts as well as in the *Yachtsman*. Newly elected Executive Officer Patty Traylor, and her committee members are working hard planning for Safe Boating Week and Vessel Safety Checks.

We have a one-day ABC Safe Boating Public Course set for June 1st at Bay Point Yacht Club. Contact Lynn Fortman if you know someone interested in taking that Class. Our last two long ABC classes in Mansfield and Shelby did not fill. We are contemplating a two day (perhaps two Saturdays) to be held in Mansfield for late spring. Help spread the word about these classes. Sue Schroeder is heading up our new Social Media Campaign to help get the word out about the Mansfield Power Squadron, Safe Boating, and classes we offer. Look for announcements about classes on Facebook and other social media platforms.

I am looking forward to serving as Commander again this year and am excited to have some of our newest members joining me on the Bridge. The activities we have planned are designed to get us out on/near the water to enjoy our natural environment and the friendships we have. If there is anything I can do for you, please let me know.

2023-2024 Bridge

Commander

Cdr John Fort, SN

419-566-7576

jfort.mps@gmail.com

Educational Officer

P/C Charles Tarbert, JN

419-564-7317

ump95@aol.com

Administrative Officer

Lt/C Edward Corley

edwardcorleyemail@gmail.com

Secretary

P/R/C Thomas Etwiler, SN

419-529-4812

etzwilertom@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Lt/C Georgiann E. Mathews, P

419-512-5289

rmathews@neo.rr.com

Mansfield contact email

1mansfieldpowersquadron@gmail.com

Education Officer



P/C Charlie Tarbert, JN

I write this article with not a lot to say. The Education Department has been rather lack luster recently. This is due in part to my inability to devote the time needed to do the job as it needs to be done. Therefore, I have informed the bridge and executive committee I must step aside as of

the Change of Watch for personal reasons. I need to thank the instructors, members and the bridge for their help. This job cannot be done alone, and without their help, it would be impossible. So, THANK YOU! The upcoming Educational Recognition banquet will be combined with the once popular Cookout. Most of the membership can remember it being held at the Mifflin Lake Sailing Club. So, mark down the date on your calendars of May 18th. This will be hosted by Jay and Ellen Wells in their hanger at the Ashland Airport. The details are to be worked out yet and will be publicized shortly. So, please come and enjoy the festivities and bring your friends and family along.

We will be instructing a one-day ABC class again this year at the Bay Point Yacht Club on June 1st thanks to P/C's Dan and Lynn Fortman. I wish the incoming SEO the best and pledge any support I am able to provide. Again, thank you!

Charlie

The Mansfield Yachtsman is published Four times a year. Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

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

Deadlines for the Yachtsman articles are the 15th of December, March, June, and September.

Cindy Fort, P, incoming SEO



Many of my fondest memories from childhood include boating on Pleasant Hill Lake and later on Lake Erie. I took my first public boating class in the early 1970's. I was aghast that I was not allowed to join Mansfield Power Squadron, but my younger brothers were! My education took me to Indiana and then my employment as a professional environmental engineer kept me in Indianapolis until retirement. Not much big water for boating in Indianapolis. My husband, Webb, and I sailed with my parents, Ned and Shirley, as well as my brothers many times each summer for the past 40 years. Since retirement and returning to the Mansfield area, I took the ABC class and joined the Mansfield Power Squadron. After that class, I completed Boat Handling and Marine Navigation classes.

Being the Commander's sister puts me at risk of being volunteered to help out. I agreed to be nominated for Secretary when Tom Etwiler pulled the "I'm 90" card. Then to my surprise, Patty Traylor nominated her mother, Ellen Wells, for secretary from the floor during the annual meeting and then nominated me to be SEO next year! I agreed wholeheartedly since I agree with the concept of education as the path to safe and fun boating. I know I will need help figuring out this new role and I know there are past SEOs who will be willing to coach me – thank you in advance for the help!

Classes planned for the upcoming few months:

ABC at Bay Point Yacht Club on June 1, 2024.

Contact Lynn Fortman if you know someone interested in taking the class.

ABC Class in Mansfield: We will schedule a two Saturday half day classes in late Spring.

Weather: Based on interest shown during the meetings, John Fort (with Tom Etwiler's coaching) will teach this class.

Advanced Marine Navigation: Several of those who took the Marine Navigation Class recently would like to tackle the Advanced Marine Navigation course (before we forget what we learned about the Open CPN program) to further our navigation skills. Please let me know if you would like to take this class too.

If there is a class or seminar you'd like our Squadron to hold, please let me know at:

1mansfieldpowersquadron@gmail.com or 317-409-1091. Cindy

From the Safety Officer

Lt Webb Bernhardt, S

SPRING SAFETY STUFF

Spring is coming! I've spotted boaters already out on Pleasant Hill Lake and Charles Mills Reservoir. Your launch day will get here eventually. Use the time between now and launch to ease into it; get the boat ready before she hits the water. Many items we carry while boating are safety-related and are required by Federal law (33 CFR Chapter 1), enforced by the USCG, and hopefully suggested if not dictated by common sense. Safety items are listed in the text for United States Power Squadron's *America's Boating Course*. Safety equipment only gets used for emergencies, so it is easy to overlook it when sailing is smooth. Given the experience and safety record of Mansfield Power Squadron members, there is little need for a detailed dissertation here. I will simply list a few items and corresponding thoughts:

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS



Most (but not all) of our engine-powered vessels require one or two accessible "good & servable" fire extinguishers on board. First, check the label for operating temperature. If units may have frozen, get rid of them. Then check the gauge; if the arrow is not in the green, discard or recharge the unit depending on type. All fire extinguishers are ONE USE

ONLY; replace or recharge after use. Never test-fire an extinguisher, not even a little phsst; partially charged units probably won't work and/or won't have enough chemical. Also inspect for damage to the canister, handle and valve lever, and pull-pin; discard damaged units. Note the date of manufacture printed or stamped on the canister.

Non-rechargeable units should be replaced after 12 years (so any units built before 2012 need to go away). Rechargeable units are not restricted on age per se but do require documented



maintenance by a certified agency; manufacturers recommend recharges every six years. Unverified word on the wharf says it is cheaper to replace than to recharge, but it's captain's choice. Finally, consider the USCG-required mounting brackets on the vessel. Fire extinguishers buried in a lazarette or under a bunk may not meet the intent of the "accessibility" rule.

FIRST AID KIT

Take a look at the box itself. Is it undamaged and waterproof? Will it stow properly in a dedicated space? Now look *inside* the box. Are those WWII surplus wound care products all pliable, safe, and dry? Do higher use items like Band-Aids need replenished? Check the flavor date on all lotions and potions; replace the old stuff. If you have burning red mercurochrome, it is old and makes babies cry.

PERSONAL FLOATION DEVICES

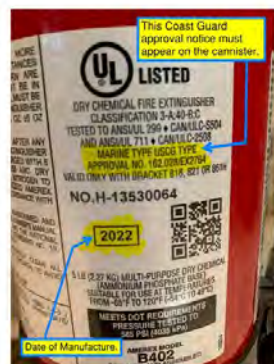
You know you need them, and we know you wear them. Thanks. Now, in pre-season would be an excellent time to check your PFD wardrobe. Do they fit you? Do they fit the purpose (e.g. probably do not want an automatic inflatable for wet-boating in a kayak)? Are the buckles and straps in good shape? Are your automatic inflatables armed? Do you have bright colors and/or reflective accents to help rescuers spot you; does that color complement your sailing apparel? Do you have loaner PFDs for guests?

MAN OVERBOARD RETRIEVAL EQUIPMENT

After spotting and returning to the MOB, rescuers will need to get additional flotation and lines to him. Is your inventory of throwable ropes and floats adequate? Do you know how these will be stowed at the ready in the cockpit? The most challenging element of a water rescue is getting the MOB out of the water and into the boat, especially if the MOB is incapacitated. Do you have web slings and other devices prepared for this? Are your swim ladders and platforms in good order. Is the davit crane greased and ready?

DISTRESS & HAILING SIGNALS

Does your boat come with all the bells and whistles? Do you remember where you stowed them? Is there still gas in the air horn canister? Some devices (e.g. pyrotechnics) have expiration dates after which they will not satisfy USCG requirements. When replacing signals for night service, consider the newer electrical strobes as a potentially cleaner, safer, more reliable alternative. Kayakers, you have your whistles on your vests, but where are your orange square/dot flags?



(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

LINES

On land in the dry is the best place to check out your lines. If distressing guano deposits darken your dock lines, decontaminate. Check points of high tension, high abrasion, and knots for wear, especially on the woven outer sleeve. While the sailors must be particularly concerned about their running rigging, all seamen must tend to their miscellaneous lines for docking, dingy management, emergency jury rigs, etc.

TOOLBOX

Assuming you have a dedicated toolbox for the boat, pre-launch is time to make sure the kit is complete. Tools tend to migrate; you'll need to corral them. While in this mindset, how is your supply of fluids and small parts you keep on board? You might want to get them before Westy's implodes.

CLOTHING LOCKER

If there is apparel you normally keep on board, maybe the time is right to get organized. Foul weather gear, extra jacket or sweater, swim clothes, high UPF sun block clothing, hats, etc. could be collected and packed for the boat. Vessel safety examiners will pay close attention to the coordination of various layers of apparel and PFDs, so plan ahead.

VESSEL SAFETY INSPECTIONS

Members of the Mansfield Power Squadron perform voluntary vessel safety inspections at marinas on Lake Erie and at several of the local reservoirs. The inspections mimic those conducted by the US Coast Guard and Ohio DNR, but whereas the governmental agencies can cite and fine for non-compliance, the MPS inspections are risk-free, and our inspectors may offer suggestions towards compliance. Boaters want the inspections as double checks and dry runs before being boarded by USCG or DNR, plus they get an official-looking decal to display proudly upon their vessels.

Kudos to the MPS member inspectors; your dedication to assisting fellow boaters and promoting MPS is amazing. Being new to PS, I have yet to participate but hope to do so. Inspectors-in-training must attend a few classes and must conduct a few inspections before working on their own.

If you are interested in doing Vessel Safety Inspections, please contact Garry Schroeder at (419) 544-8917 or arch300@aol.com.

Garry states that members must be certified by the national office to perform inspections. Certification expires in five years, so members who were

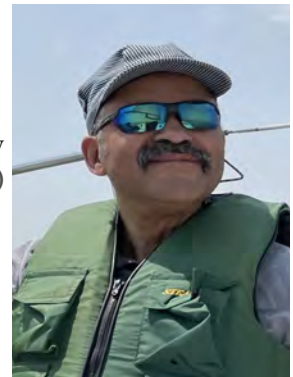
previously certified will need to get recertified. Recertification can be done online; see the USPS website or contact Garry for details. Garry is assembling a class for MPS members who may wish to become Inspectors. The training would entail 2 or 3 nights in the classroom and 2 supervised vessel inspections. If interested, please contact Garry. Scheduling for the training will depend on the interest shown.



Administrative Officer

Lt/C Edward Corley
(via a ghost writer)

After the whirlwind of preparing for the Annual Meeting, the Ad Officer must be daydreaming about which boat(s) are on his list!



April is a busy month for the Squadron:

D/7 Conference April 5 -7

Eclipse viewing party April 8 at 1300 at Jay & Ellen Wells house (701 Township Road 1102, Ashland OH. Jay and Ellen will be grilling hotdogs at 1300. Bring a snack or side dish to share for lunch, your table service (etc.) and a lawn chair. Rumor has it there are 6 geodetic markers near by – Joanne and Tom Hancock will lead the search – easy to join in to see how fun this activity can be! Please let Ed Corely know if you will be attending (edwardcorleyemail@gmail.com or (614) 668-9903). If you cannot attend, but want glasses the squadron purchased, let Ed know.

Change of Watch April 16 at 1700 at the Cabin in Mifflin. Lynn Fortman sent out an invitation to that event.

The updated calendar of events is included in this issue of the Yachtsman (and it is posted on our website: <http://usps.org/mansfield>). If you will be boating to our rendezvous this year, get your dock reservations made! Details about the Pleasant Hill and Middle Bass Island Rendezvous are in the works (waiting for the parks to open for reservations).

Happy washing, painting, and waxing to get the boats ready for launch!



Cabin Fever Fish Fry





**LET'S CELEBRATE!
MANSFIELD POWER SQUADRON
CHANGE OF WATCH 2024**

SATURDAY, APRIL 13
5:00

THE CABIN CATERING AND EVENTS CENTER
2106 STATE ROUTE 603 ASHLAND, OHIO

Buffet Dinner Menu

Appetizers: Mediterranean Tray and Spinach Artichoke Dip

Entrées: Chicken Marsala and Stuffed Pasta Shells on tomato fondue
Confetti Rice Pilaf, Zucchini and Yellow Squash, California Salad

Dessert: Dessert Martinis including cheesecake or mousse with whipped cream and
Fresh berries, Coffee/iced tea/lemonade

\$15.00

Cash Bar

RSVP before April 5 to 419 631 4842 or fortmanlynn@gmail.com

2024-2025 Mansfield Power Squadron Bridge and Officers	
<i>Bridge Officers</i>	
Commander	John Fort, SN
Executive Officer	Patricia Traylor, P
SEO	Cindy Fort, P
Administrative Officer	Ed Corley, S
Secretary	Ellen Wells, AP
Treasurer	Georgiann Mathews, P
<i>Committees</i>	
Exec. Committee: Includes Bridge, Immediate Past Commander and the Members listed here:	Bob Mathews, JN
	Jay Wells, AP
	Wayne Hammond, SN
	Dennis Figley, SN
	Lynn Fortman, SN
Auditing	Bob Pompei, P
	Jim Jackson, SN
	Ellen Wells, AP
Rules Committee	Tom Etwiler, SN
	Lynn Fortman, SN
	John Powell-Fort
Commander's Department	
Awards	Shirley Fort, SN
Chaplin	Dennis Figley, SN
Ed. Fund	Georgiann Mathews, P
Law Officer	Ed Corley, S
Merit Marks	Shirley Fort, SN
Exec Department	
Co-op Charting	Jim Jackson, SN
Asst. Co-op Charting	Bobbye Jackson, P
Safety Officer	Webb Bernhardt, P
Vessel Safety Check	Garry Schroder, SN
	Dan Fortman, SN
Education. Department	
Advanced Grades	Wayne Hammond, SN
Asst. Advanced Grades	Jim Jackson, SN
Aides to SEO	Jim Lutz AP,
	Andrea Lutz, AP
Secretary Department	
Yachtsman Editor	Irene Rodriquez. SN
Web Master	Irene Rodriquez. SN
Public Relations	Sue Schroder, S
Administrative Department	
Membership	Jim Lutz, AP & Andi Lutz, AP
Merit Marks	Shirley Fort, SN

Mansfield Power Squadron 2024 Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location
April 5-7		D7 Spring Conference	Independence
April 8	1300	Solar Eclipse. Contact Ed Corley (edwardcorleyemail@gmail.com) to get glasses	Jay & Ellen Wells Hosting Hot Dogs on the Grill
April 9	1830	Executive & Membership Meeting	Elks 499 Park Ave W
April 13	1600	Change of Watch	The Cabin, Mifflin
May 14	1830	Executive & Membership Meeting	Elks 499 Park Ave W
May 18	TBD	Education Banquet	Jay & Ellen Wells Hosting
May 18 -24		Safe Boating Week: Vessel Safety Check and other events	TBD
June 1	???	ABC Course at Bay Point Yacht Club	Bay Point Yacht Club
June 11	1830	Executive & Membership meeting	Elks
June 15-16		Huron Rendezvous We have reserved a block of 6 docks in Huron at the city docks. They will hold these docks until about a month before the rendezvous, then those which have not been reserved by MPS members will be released. <u>So if you plan to attend by boat, please call Doug at the Huron Boat Basin (city docks) at 419-433-4848 ext 1710 to reserve your dock. Tell him it is under the MPS block of docks.</u>	Huron Boat Basin
July 13-14		Vermillion Rendezvous We have reserved a block of 6 docks in Vermillion at the municipal docks. They will hold these docks until about a month before the rendezvous, then those which have not been reserved by MPS members will be released. <u>So if you plan to attend by boat, please call Bill Yancar (port authority) at the Vermillion Municipal Docks at 440-759-2977 to reserve your dock. Tell him it is under the MPS block of docks.</u>	Vermillion City Dock
July 26-28		D7 Rendezvous at Huron Boat Basin	Huron Boat Basin
August 13	1830	Executive & Membership meeting	Elks
August 17-18		Rendezvous at Pleasant Hill Park	
September 7-8		Middle Bass Island Rendezvous – Tour Stone Lab on Gibraltar Island and South Bass Light House	Middle Bass State Park
September 10	1830	Executive & Membership Meeting	Elks
September 10	1900-2100	ABC Class (multi week class)	Pioneer Technical
September 11	1900-2100	ABC Class (multi week class)	Madison Adult Education
September 23		Fall Equinox Party	
October 8	1830	Executive & Membership Meeting	Elks 499 Park Ave W
October 26		D7 Fall Conference	
November 12	1830	Executive & Membership Meeting	Elks 499 Park Ave W
December 10	1830	Executive & Membership Meeting	Elks 499 Park Ave W
		Christmas Party	

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

