



# THE 45<sup>TH</sup> PARALLEL

Official Publication of  
Grand Traverse Bay Sail and Power Squadron, Traverse City, MI  
Member, District 9, United States Power Squadrons®  
Sail and Power Boating

Vol. 68 No. 6

June, 2016

Articles for publication must be received by **the 20th** of the month. Articles may be submitted by e-mail, computer disk or hard copy to:

Lt. Sue Brown, P  
9506 Fairview Rd  
Williamsburg, MI 49690  
suebrown3569@gmail.com



## BRIDGE OFFICERS 2016

Commander	Cdr Thomas Stone, P	231-932-2036 tnjstone@shianet.org
Executive Officer	Lt/C Bill Smethells, P	715-579-2557 wsmethells@gmail.com
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Janet Ward, P	231-271-7720 janet.ward49@yahoo.com
Squadron Education Officer	Lt/C Dave Terrell, AP	231-938-2521 dterrell@nmc.edu
Asst SEO	Lt/C Bill Bailey, JN	231-676-3357 billbaile@gmail.com
Secretary	Lt/C Mary Gillooly, S	231-369-2316 mgillooly@acegroup.cc
Treasurer	Lt/C Catherine Holcombe, P	231-271-6714 cfholcmb@hotmail.com
Asst Treasurer	Lt/C John Weih, P	231-938-3316 jwweih@aol.com

General Membership meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at the Elks Club, Traverse City. Executive meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at Traverse City. Anyone interested may attend.

Photography

Records and  
Web Master

Lt Jerry Williams, AP  
231-633-3141

Editor

Lt Sue Brown, P  
231-267-5806

[www.gtbayboating.org](http://www.gtbayboating.org)

*THE 45TH PARALLEL* is published monthly except July and August by the Grand Traverse Bay Sail and Power Squadron located in Traverse City, MI. Opinions expressed within do not necessarily reflect the opinions of USPS® or of the GTB Sail and Power Squadron. Articles may be reprinted without permission if credit is given to the author, Grand Traverse Bay Sail and Power Squadron, and *THE 45TH PARALLEL*.



## Grand Traverse Bay Sail and Power Squadron 2016 Activities Calendar

June 2	General Meeting-1600	Elks Club
June 8	Weather-1700	West Marine
June 9	Lunch with the Commander-1200	Cottage Café
June 15	Executive Meeting-1600	Cottage Cafe
June 17-19	Shakedown Cruise	Elk Rapids Marina
June 22	Partner in Command-1700	West Marine
June 26	ABC Safe Boating Course-8:30	Elks Rapids Marina
July 11	Sail-On the Water	NMC-Great Lakes Campus Rm101
July 13	Marine Radio-1700	West Marine
July 17	Power Island Picnic	Power Island
July 26-Aug 3	eQUALITY Cruise	
July 27	Using GPS effectively-1700	West Marine
August 8	Advanced Piloting-1600	TBA
August 16	Cruise Planning-1600	TBA
August 19-20	Lobster Bake	Northport
August 24	Laying up your Boat	West Marine

\*\*\*\*\*

### **2 JUNE 2016**

**Mike LeButt**

A presentation about the sinking of the S.S. Eastland  
In Chicago

**1800 Social Hour**

**1900 Dinner**

**2 Entrees**

**Salads, Vegetables, Rolls, Dessert**

**18.00/person**

If your telephone caller does not reach you by Sunday, May 29 please call Donna Daciuk at  
231-223-7140 or email [daisy.d1569@gmail.com](mailto:daisy.d1569@gmail.com) by Monday, May 30.

(Please let your caller know if you will need a ride to the meeting)



## **COMMANDER'S MESSAGE**

**Cdr Thomas Stone, P**

Boating season is finally here. Janet and I had a beautiful day to bring our new good old boat from Boyne City to Elk Rapids, then 3 days later it snowed. Someone was looking down favorably on us that day.

If you missed the May meeting, or were not paying attention to my ranting, we have many fun filled events coming up this summer, which do not require you to bring your boat, or to even own one anymore. It all starts with the Shakedown Cruise on June 17, in Elk Rapids. Tom and Barb Lyon are once again hosting a pizza party Friday night, and we will have our awesome catered dinner on Saturday. All you need to do is go to the Squadron's website, and pull up the registration form. If you need a ride call (me or one of the Executive Committee members) and we will arrange transportation.

We hope to see every Squadron member at at least one event this summer. It's a lot more fun when everyone is involved!

Finally our June meeting should be great. We are calling it our Beach Party, which means come in casual summer attire like Hawaiian print shirts, sun dresses, shorts, sandals, etc.. We know the dinner will be tasty and desert will be ice cream. Our speaker will be Mike Lebutt who is giving a presentation on the sinking of the S.S. Eastland that sank in Chicago killing 844 people.

See you on June 2, 2016

***Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends<sup>sm</sup>***

## A biography of our presenter—Michael LeButt

Michael LeButt, has been sailing for over sixty years. He has logged thousands of miles cruising on the Great Lakes, and is a veteran of the Port Huron-to-Mackinaw race, the California Ocean Triangle Series, and the Newport Beach-to-Ensenada, Mexico race. In the 1980's, he lived aboard his 40-ft. cutter *True North* in Ventura, CA.

Michael is a Coast Guard Licensed Master, and is a Life Member with the Grade of Senior Navigator in the United States Power Squadrons®— where he was named the 2010 Instructor of the Year for District 9 and the district's nominee for the national award. He is a member of Tip-of-the-Mitt Sail and Power Squadron (Northern Michigan), and an associate member of the Balboa Sail and Power Squadron in Newport Beach, California – where his teaching skills were featured in a boating safety video series running on local television. He edits Tip of the Mitt squadron's newsletter, *The Barometer*, and serves as Executive Officer, Chairman of Advanced Grades, and Port Captain for the Straits of Mackinac.

LeButt is a volunteer aboard Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum; other affiliations have included the Detroit Yacht Club, Cheboygan Yacht Club, the Great Lakes Cruising Club, American Professional Captains Association, the Lake Michigan Singlehanded Society, and the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association.

As a hobby, he gives educational, nautically-themed programs like *The Great Lakes and WWII*, *Voyaging on Inland Seas*, *The S.S. Eastland Disaster*, and *Cruising the California Coast by Sea and Highway* – having made presentations to The Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum, Coast Guard Cuttermen Association, Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum, Orange Coast College Sailing Adventure Series, and various Power Squadrons.

"The cabin of a small yacht is truly a wonderful thing;  
not only will it shelter you from a tempest,  
but from the other troubles in life, it is a safe retreat."  
— L. Francis Herreshoff

\*\*\*\*\*



## D/9 Lobster Bake

Please note August 19/20 on your calendar for the annual D/9 Lobster Bake weekend. We will have the traditional barbeque on Friday evening followed by a bonfire. This is the time for us to relax and get to know our fellow Power Squadron members. Lansing Squadron will again host the Saturday breakfast. That has been totally awesome in the past and certainly worth getting up semi early in the morning. Saturday afternoon about 1500 the boys will begin building the lobster fire pit ... entertainment at its finest! Dinner about 1700. Boat into or drive up to the Northport Marina for a weekend of fun. Registration forms will be available online near the end of June. This is a *don't miss* event!!

Donna Nelson, Coordinator  
231 271 6968



# SAFETY OFFICERS REPORT

Lt Brian Nelson, AP

## Some Statistics to Keep in Mind When Heading Out On the Water

The following statistics are taken from the US Coast Guard's Recreational Boating Statistics Report for 2015. This Executive Summary from the report says a lot in just one page, especially the highlighted item concerning boating safety instruction. This is the core reason for the existence of our Squadron and our education program. When someone asks "why should I take a boating class or join GTBSPS", just share these numbers with them. Very convincing!

### 2015 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

□□ In 2015, the Coast Guard counted 4,158 accidents that involved 626 deaths, 2,613 injuries and approximately \$42 million dollars of damage to property as a result of recreational boating accidents.

□□ The fatality rate was 5.3 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. This rate represents a 1.9% increase from last year's fatality rate of 5.2 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels.

□□ Compared to 2014, the number of accidents increased 2.3%, the number of deaths increased 2.6%, and the number of injuries decreased 2.4%.

□□ Where cause of death was known, 76% of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 85% were not wearing a life jacket.

□□ Where instruction was known, 71% of deaths occurred on boats where the operator did not receive boating safety instruction. Only 15% percent of deaths occurred on vessels where the operator had received a nationally-approved boating safety education certificate.

□□ There were 158 accidents in which at least one person was struck by a propeller. Collectively, these accidents resulted in 27 deaths and 150 injuries.

□□ Eight out of every ten boaters who drowned were using vessels less than 21 feet in length.

□□ Operator inattention, operator inexperience, improper lookout, machinery failure, and excessive speed rank as the top five primary contributing factors in accidents.

□□ Alcohol use is the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents; where the primary cause was known, it was listed as the leading factor in 17% of deaths.

□□ Twenty-two children under age thirteen lost their lives while boating in 2015. Twelve children (55%) died from drowning. Two children (17%) of those who drowned were wearing a life jacket; half of the remaining ten children who were not wearing a life jacket were not required to do so under State law.

□□ Where data was known, the most common types of vessels involved in reported accidents were open motorboats (45%), personal watercraft (19%), and cabin motorboats (17%).

□□ Where data was known, the vessel types with the highest percentage of deaths were open motorboats (46%), kayaks (12%), and canoes (11%).

□□ The 11,867,049 recreational vessels registered by the states in 2015 represent a 0.5% increase from last year when 11,804,002 recreational vessels were registered.

**Let's all enjoy a safe and fun boating season!**

**MAY MEETING—**



Elaine Young  
P/C Bill Young, AP  
Chuck Watson, AP



Carole Geiger, AP; Jan Carter; Marge Scott;  
Nicole Smethells; guest Sarah Balanger



Terry Hoiles  
Mary Petterson, P  
Lt/C Bill Smethells, P



Dixie Lee Lockwood, S  
Barb Lyon, AP  
Mary Norris



Kathleen Millross, P  
Pat Rottman



Madonna Williams  
P/C Joel Lockwood, AP



Bill Rottman, AP  
Larry Robinson



Lt/C Jerry Williams, AP  
Lt/C Dave Terrell, AP

**WINNERS—**



Linda Taddia, AP



P/C Jan Hartesvelt, S



Jan Carter

# AWARDS NIGHT



Commander's Award given to Lt Jerry Williams, AP by P/C Jan Hartesvelt, S



Cdr Tom Stone, P Presenting Norm Dill, SN with 50 year member pin



Lt/C Dave Terrell, AP Receiving the USPs Educational Fund Certificate from Cdr Stone, P



Certificate of Appreciation being given to Donna Daciuk, AP by Cdr Stone, P



Cdr Stone, P presenting the Communications Award to Lt Jerry Williams, AP for Website and Lt Sue Brown, P for the



P/C Joel Lockwood, AP Dearborn Sports Legend Hall of Fame Inductee



Marnett Award to Janet Stone, P; P/C Harvey Norris, AP; Lt/C Dave Terrell, AP presenting; Donna Daciuk, AP; Mary Petterson, P; Terry Hoiles,



P/C Bill Bailey, JN received the Homer Humphrey Navigation Award from Cdr Stone, P. He also received the Gordy Brown cruising award

D/Lt/C Jan Hartesvelt  
5036 Heritage Way  
Traverse City, Michigan 49685  
Telephone (231) 620-0530  
Email: [rosesforjanet@gmail.com](mailto:rosesforjanet@gmail.com)

## FIRST ANNUAL FRESH WATER FESTIVAL

**IDEA:** To have educational and non-profit groups in and around Traverse City that have water as our common denominator to gather together in one place once a year to support each other and as-a-whole present our group's information to the public.

**REASON:** Groups like Maritime Heritage Alliance, Coast Guard Auxiliary, United States Power Squadron, Inland Seas and others hold their own celebrations throughout the boating season. Wouldn't it benefit those groups to combine efforts on one day in June to combine their strengths and attract the public to learn about them?

**DATE & TIME:** Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Set-up at 9 a.m., Festival runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Elk River Landing, Elk Rapids, Michigan

**EVENT EXAMPLES:** Eligible groups will bring white EZ-UP tents, folding tables for pamphlets and other appropriate items supporting our theme. Some groups like Charlevoix sector Coast Guard may bring one of their rescue boats on a trailer. Paddle Antrim group and kayak clubs want to do dryland demonstration. The United States Power Squadron will sponsor an educational scavenger hunt with a prize for the winner. Maritime Heritage Alliance is bringing the Gracie L on her trailer.

**GROUPS TO ATTEND:** We are continuing our search at this time, however here are some prospects: the YMCA, Great Lakes Cruising Club, GT Bay Yacht Club, TACS, Quantum Sail, Coast Guard Aux., Inland Seas of Suttons Bay, Cedarville Boat Builders, Red 8 with Rourke Miller, and a water qualities activity group.

I would like to invite your group to join this first time Festival in June! I am working closely with the Village of Elk Rapids to be sure we follow their rules so we all will be invited back.

A successful Festival will only get bigger and better with each following year.

Please contact Fresh Water Festival Planning Commissioner, Jan Hartesvelt at 231-620-0530 with questions, or even better, to let me know you'll join the Festival!

Thank you!



## MAY INVOCATION

The glistening pines are spreading pollen like snow  
The land is turning green, and the plants are starting to grow

Cherry trees with their buds bursting forth  
And trout running in the crystal streams of the north

Bull frogs are booming loud and clear  
Young deer are prancing without fear

Birds and their songs are filling the air  
It is spring in the north and God is there

P/C Bill Klein, AP

\*\*\*\*\*

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS—

Mark Benedict	Jim McIntyre
Sue Brown	Mary Melvin
Mary Dietrich	John Merlo
Ron Dunbar	Harvey Norris
Paul Gonzalez	Lyn Salathiel
Barb Klein	Pat Salathiel
Mark LaSarge	Bill Smethells
Joel Lockwood	Janet Stome
Karen Ludwig	Garret Walker
Gloria McClay	Janet Ward

### JULY BIRTHDAYS—

Leith Butler	Lee Nowak
Alan Holcombe	Linda Vaught
Ward Kuhn	

### AUGUST BIRTHDAYS—

Charlie Dietrich	Julie Sutton
Peter Haddix	Arnie Taddia
Carol Kuhn	Chuck Watson
John Melvin	Don Willman
Mary Petterson	



Editors Note:

We have been asked to discontinue the use of dates to protect against any possible identity theft