Planning the Summer!

Do you take a calendar out and start color coding dates? We are so excited about our new to us vessel that our dance card is filling up fast. Making the plans from going from a weekender to working towards living aboard full time actually has me consumed and excited about our impending summer. Buckeye Chuck didn't see his shadow but you all know what that means, not an early spring, unless it means it snows from the end of March until the middle of April.

What excites us the most this impending boating season is taking great trips. At the time of press, I am awaiting on answers from Portside Marina for a Father's Day Weekend Rendezvous (It also coincides with their KI Maritime Weekend). There is plenty to do and entertainment abound. They also have a Greased Pole competition on Saturday (lots of fun to watch but not something I'd be doing) that pays $1000. for the first person to get the flag from the end of greased telephone pole that hangs over the water on their fairway that separates C dock from the wall. Many things to do for the weekend and it ends with the blessing of the Kelleys Islander Fleet. At this point, I am reserving 20 docks and this is Vermilion Sail and Power Squadron event, however, ALL ARE INVITED! If you have a boating friend or dock mate and want to attend and they're interested, PLEASE LET THEM KNOW! I can always get more dock space. There will be more on Facebook in the coming weeks and taking as many reservations as possible. Looking to have just a FUN WEEKEND. For those of our members without boats, a day trip on Saturday would be a wonderful way to get things going for the summer. (Watch for details on a Pelee Island Trip August 14th & 15th) We will be looking for cruise directors (even the land items will need cruise directors) to help out all summer long. We have discussed a dinner cruise in Cleveland and also in Sandusky on the Goodtime III and Goodtime boat respectively.

Our Education Department is now actively advertising our classes coming up at Beaver, Ritter Library and also the JVS. We are looking to expand more classes to our eastern edge of our operating area. We received good input on the boat show and we were given 2 follow ups. Looking like we may have 2-4 people for classes and then possible membership. We also have been running a Facebook ad. If you haven't seen it, we made a 'call to action' for an answer. It promotes our education department and may be getting a couple of new students from it's run. I committed it for 30 days and specifically targeting boaters on it and towards the younger boater.

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VERMILION BRIDGE

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P/C Paul Hammel, S  
P/C David Kastl, P  
P/C Tim Smith, S  
P/C Cathe Radabaugh, N

www.usps.org/vermilion

“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.”
Dear members of Vermilion S&PS

Christmas is over, New Year is behind us, and Easter is in preparation and life goes on.

First, I want to offer my support to Paul Hammel going through rough time.

Secondly, I want to give a big thank you to Kathe that religiously reminds us to write our article.

Finally, we need to appreciate the mild winter we are having in Ohio, especially for us Older peoples.

In a positive look at the near future, spring is close, the Ground Hog says 6 weeks before spring, and boating and Kayaking season is near.

I will be leaving for a Canadian trip early Feb and I should be back mid-February. Old Goat is almost ready for the big journey, and I am anxious to do it.

I have changed Old Goat Home port name, from St Petersburg Fl to Sandusky Ohio by myself and now I have a full legal boat name.

Lt/C Gilbert Lorenzo AP

Commander McCullough (Continued from page 1)

At the boat show, PDC and our SEO David Bialorucki and I met with Nate from Oasis Marina (Formerly Spitzer Lakeside). Very exciting meeting and there are some very exciting opportunities coming in the near future with them. I also had a meeting with Kumar from Rinker. He lost his lease (the buildings sold in Vermilion); he was moved out to Port Clinton. He was looking for an area back in Lorain County and hoping we could reconnect. He is very excited about the Power Squadron and wants to be a part of it when he secures something in the area again.

In Closing, the following year, I plan on being very active on Lake Erie. We have something about every weekend. Hoping to really show our presence on the islands, Sandusky and in our own back yard. We have many people who live in Lorain County and boat all over the lake. We need to make sure we're seen out there! Fly your burgee, fly your flag, be a proud member when you're out and about! Let's make 2020 the year of VSPS and keep our momentum going strong.

Yours in Boating,
Cmd Kerry McCullough, AP
Happy Valentine’s Day!♥

January meeting at Wood and Wine, Avon was a very pleasant evening of good food, great people and discussions. We are in the planning stages for upcoming events this summer with more info to follow.

February membership meeting will be at Paper Moon Winery (in their tasting room) on 2008 State Rd. (Rt. 60 in Vermilion), Thursday February 20, 2020 (02-20-2020!) We will recognize the Sweethearts of the Squadron (SOS – Save our Sweethearts). Meeting at 1800. Order from menu.

CHANGE OF WATCH to honor our Commodore and Bridge will be held March 19, 2020 and Beaver Park Yacht Club, 6000 West Erie Avenue, Lorain. Full catered menu and formal invitation is forthcoming.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Kastl, P
Administrative Officer

Here is a sail (Pez Vela) caught by Jerry while we were in Guatemala!

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**D7 Dates to Remember for 2020**

**Spring Conference**
3-5 April  
Crowne Plaza Cleveland South in Independence

**D7 Rendezvous**
31 July thru 2 August  
Middle Bass Island and the MBIYC

**Fall Penta Conference**
5 Districts—7,9,11,24 and 29  
2 –4 October  
Kalahari Resort & Conference Center
SEO REPORT

Spring classes will start on Tuesday Feb 4th, 2020 at the Ritter Public Library, time 6:30 to 8:30, Beaver Park SOUTH, March 7th, 14th and 21st, time 10:00AM to 2:00PM and Monday April 6th time 7:00 to 9:00 at the JVS School in Oberlin.

MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT

February brings us the month of Red Hearts and all that goes with the special time of this month.

February is also the Annual Meeting for Vermilion Sail and Power Squadron. This is the month that the new bridge is elected with the newly elected Bridge members being sworn in at the Change of Watch in March.

Also this month is the annual meeting of National with its meeting at the Saw Grass complex in St Augustine, Fla where the new National Bridge will be sworn in with our own V/C Craig Fraser from D/7 moving to the Executive office.

Many new items will be coming up for Vermilion so watch for them in your Newsletter

Please keep Paul and Esther Hammel in your prayers for Esther’s recovery

Birthday list for February

Vicki Anderson,
P/C Bev Sams,
Brian Sams and
Jeff Scott.

Happy birthday to all.
This is the final accounting report for the year 2019. We finished with $4142.00 in our 2 C.D.s, and $3770.03 in our checking for a total of $8011.03. That leaves us at a loss of $366.92. Looking at the past several years, our total incomes has dropped due to loss of membership. We will need a fund raiser for 2020 to help offset these losses.

I do think the new Jump Start program and continued boat inspections will help us gain members. I know in talking to students who I met during the Jump Start classes that they are really interested in learning more about America’s Boating Club. The meet and greet we held on Labor Day weekend at Venetian Marina were a good start. The manager there was more than happy to give us the meeting room. I think free coffee and donuts helped but not the virtual trainer. That trainer is nothing but a video game for the kids. The time to get it and setup after hauling the heavy boxes into the room is not worth it.

Thanks to all that resigned up on the Bridge for the year 2020. We have already started to fill out our Summer events so please come to the” Save Our Sweethearts” meeting in February.

Thanks to the great state of Ohio leadership I have changed my thoughts on an all-electric car due to the $200.00 fee for renewal each year.

P/C Ralph Schaefer S.N.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

In accordance with the Bylaws, Article II, Article VI - Section 608 of Vermilion Power Squadron, a unit of United States Power Squadrons, the Nominating Committee presents the following slate of officers for election at the Annual Meeting in February:

Bridge Officers 2020-2021
For the office of Commander Cdr. Kerry McCullough, AP
For the office of Executive Officer Lt/C Gilbert Lorenzo, AP
For the office of Education Officer P/C David Bialorucki, SN
For the office of Administrative Officer P/C Mary Anne Kastl, P
For the office of Treasurer/Secretary P/C Ralph Schaefer, SN

Executive Committee  Rules Committee
1. P/C Tim Smith S  P/C Larry Barber, P
2. P/C Paul Hammel, P
3. P/C David Kastl, P

Nominating Committee  Audit Committee
P/C Tim Smith, S for 3 years Lt Roger Cooper, P
To join:
  P/C Cathe Radabaugh, N - 2 years remaining
  P/C Paul Hammel, P 1 year remaining

Respectfully Submitted,

P/C David Kastl, P
Nominating Chairperson
VSPS PATRONS

Fran Cooper, P and Roger Cooper, P
Esther and P/C Paul Hammel, S
P/C Dave Kastl, AP and
   P/C Mary Anne Kastl, AP
P/C Cathe Radabaugh, N
Barb and P/C Ralph Schaefer, SN
Karen and P/C Tim Smith, S

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Patron ads are $10 per year. Sponsor ads are $30 per year. Please see P/C Ralph Schaefer, SN to add your name or business card.
VERMILION SAIL & POWER SQUADRON
DISTRICT 7
P/C Ralph Schaefer, SN
103 Haydens Arbor
Elyria, Ohio 44035

Vermilion Sail and Power Squadron
February Annual Meeting

Thursday, 20 February, 2020—1800
Paper Moon Vineyards
2008 State Road, Vermilion
(at the State Rt 60 exit off State Rt 2)
papermoonvineyards.com

Please RSVP to Mary Anne Kastl
Text 440-724-9511 or
Email dakmak@roadrunner.com