

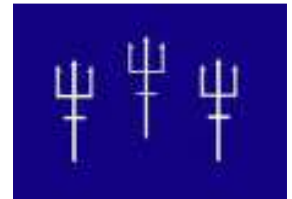
THE BALL



A PUBLICATION OF THE VERMILION SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

January, 2025

**RICH BARZYK, SN
COMMANDER**



Fellow squadron members,

HAPPY NEW YEAR, and I do hope "You'll enjoy peace throughout the New Year."

Our Christmas meeting was a beautiful seasonal celebration at the Carriage Barn in Vermilion's Mill Hollow Reservation, with 28 guests in attendance, 21 from Vermilion and 7 from District7. Administrative Officer Mary Anne was truly the Master of Ceremonies for the evening, accepting responsibility for the wonderful dinner, her traditional Christmas poem, personal invocation and fun games. I, however, had the honour of presenting the Dave Bialorucki Excellence in Service Award to Dave & Mary Anne Kastl for their long-standing service & commitment to Vermilion, District7 and the United States Power Squadrons. Congratulations & Thank You, Dave & Mary Anne.

Our food collection was a humbling surprise as we gathered 4 boxes, over 100 individual items of non-perishable foods, which Dave Bialorucki graciously delivered to the Lorain County Salvation Army. Lorain's branch of the Salvation Army was chosen as the most "needy" organization in Lorain, Ohio. Thank you, Vermilion, and District7 for your generosity. BRAVO ZULU to all who participated.

Unfortunately, our Secretary/Treasurer Capt. Ralph Schaefer couldn't attend our meeting, as he's recovering from an accident where he broke his hip. Vermilion sends our sincere message for a "quick" recovery. Cards would be appreciated as Ralph has had a most "unfortunate" year!

The January 16th, 2025 General membership meeting will be at Martino's in Vermilion and will be our first hybrid meeting for the year, so you'll have 2 options. Hopefully you'll choose to participate in person, and if not, via Zoom. (Instructions and a link will be provided.) Either way, please plan on attending, consider it "getting your dues worth," and the meetings are comfortably informal and come with warm comradery. The February 20th meeting will also be hybrid, and our Executive Officer, Cathe Radabaugh, has graciously offered her house as the stage for this meeting. Specific details on all our meetings can always be found in our newsletters and on our website.

The Cleveland Boat show will run from January 16th through January 19th, 2025, @ the IX-Centre in Cleveland. If you're inclined to do so, District7 needs help staffing the District7 USPS booth. Please consider volunteering.

Celestially speaking; January is rather quiet. There is, however, our first Full Moon of 2025 on January 14th. the "Wolf Moon," where our indigenous people believed the wolves "howled at the moon" due to the harsh conditions of winter. And speaking of the moon, where we often discuss the Perigee & Apogee of the orbit of the moon, we seldom refer to the orbit of the earth around the sun, namely its Perihelion & Aphelion. The orbit of the earth around the sun is NOT a perfect circle, but an ellipse, therefore we have Perihelion, when the earth is closest to the sun, and Aphelion, when the earth is furthest from the sun. Perihelion will occur on January 4, 2025 @ 8:28 AM, and Aphelion will occur July 3rd. These two cycles are relevant as they have an impact on our seasons, and their occurrences help us to understand the complexities of planetary motions. One interesting final note here, strangely enough, OUR seasons are primarily determined by the tilt of the earth's axis, and NOT by its proximity to the sun.

Fair winds and following seas,

Rich



VERMILION BRIDGE

COMMANDER

Cdr Rich Barzyk, SN
130 East Street
Wellington, OH 44090-1127
440-289-5243
morningstar7744@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

P/C Cathe Radabaugh, N
73 King Street
Oberlin, OH 44074
440-223-8295
ceradabaugh@gmail.com

SECRETARY / TREASURER

P/C Ralph Schaefer, SN
103 Haydens Arbor
Elyria, Ohio 44035
440-319-2341
captralph555@gmail.com

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

P/C Kerry McCullough, AP
P/C Tim Smith, S
P/C Paul Hammel, S

EDUCATION OFFICER

P/D/C David Bialorucki, SN
2548 W. 37th Street
Lorain, Ohio 44053
440-282-2282
taxi60@hotmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

P/C Mary Anne Kastl, P
1327 Narragansett Blvd
Lorain, OH 44053-3414
440-282-7023
dakmak@roadrunner.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

P/C Paul Hammel, S
P/C Dave Kastl, P
P/C Tim Smith, S

AUDIT CHAIR

P/C Jean Verlotti, P

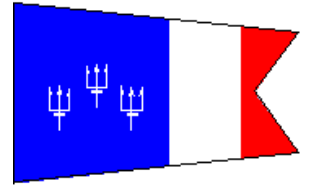
RULES CHAIR

P/C Larry Barber, P

“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.”



**P/C MARY ANNE KASTL, P
Administrative Officer**



Happy New Year!

What a lovely December dinner meeting and party at the Carriage Barn! We'll get this beautiful venue on the schedule for December of 2025.

Dave and I will be sail fishing in Guatemala the second week of January, but back in time for the January 16, 2025 meeting with fish tales to share. Meet in the front, private room at Martino's Intl. Café, 4415 Liberty Ave, Vermilion, 5:30 - 7:30. Order from their menu.

February 20, 2025 is Save our Sweethearts meeting with annual voting taking place. Meet at 5:30 PM at Cathe Radabaugh's home, 73 King Street, Oberlin.

March 20, 2025 meeting starting at 5:30 will also be at Cathe's home.

NOTE FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH, 2025 MEETINGS: During the meeting time, there will also be a Zoom meeting available to all those who are unable to attend in-person. A link to access the meetings or conference call instructions will be sent a few days prior the meeting. If you do not have access to Wi-Fi or a computer with a camera, you can simply call in on your cell phone or land-line.

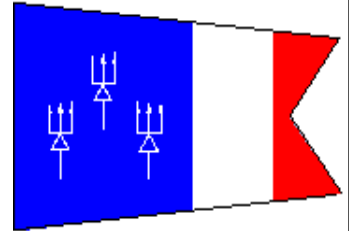
Respectfully submitted,

P/c Mary Anne Kastl, P
Administrative Officer





**P/D/C DAVID A. BIALORUCKI, SN
SEO and Membership Chair**



SEO REPORT

We are planning to have ABC Safe Boating classes starting after the Boat Show. Times and dates will be in the February Newsletter, and posted on our website. If there is a class that you would be interested in attending let me know. Call me at 440 282 2282 and I will try and set up a class for you.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

National has told us that they are going to send out DUES renewal notices to everyone. With the new IMAS system, things got pushed to the back burner. Hopefully this is getting taken care of, so we can each figure out where we stand with Membership.

Please remit payment when you receive your notice. Thank you in advance.

MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT

Happy New Year to All, and I hope we all have a good year.

Birthdays for January:

MARIANNE COCHRANE, and

JOHN VANEK.

Happy birthday!

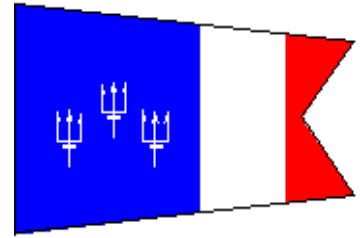
It's hard to believe that we are starting a New Year but here we are. The January membership meeting is at Martino's International Café in Vermilion. Check Mary Anne's article in this issue of the newsletter for details. Hope we get a good crowd for the meeting.

Members who are going some medical problems: Ralph Schaefer; and Bev Sams. Please keep these members in your prayers.





P/C CATHE RADABAUGH, N
Executive Officer



Happy New Year, and may this year be the best one ever. As long as I'm wishing things, may our boats stay covered all winter long, and may we not have any false spring weather. Let winter be winter, and once it gets warm enough for spring flowers, no backsliding into freezing temps.

How many folks are going to the Boat Show at the I-X Center this month? It's a great place to either dream or reminisce. The show isn't as big as it once was, and it's curiously lacking in both the small boats and the yachts. But it's still fun if you're going with someone who wants to talk boating, and you can still get those big pretzels, and watch Twiggy water ski. (What is the life span of a squirrel, anyway?)

There is a booth for America's Boating Club/Power Squadrons there, and the District organizers are always looking for volunteers. The link is

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E4AAFA82B0-53473690-2025#/>

in case you'd like to use it to see what signup times are still available. It saves you on the entrance fee, and you get to swap tall tales with other boaters for the duration of your shift. There are 3-4 people on each shift, so you wouldn't be by yourself.

Save the 3rd Thursdays for our winter and spring meetings. In January, we will meet at Martino's, and I'll create a Zoom link so that Rich Barzyk can log in and show us how warm it is in Florida.

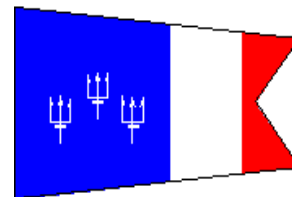
For February and March, I'm offering my home so that we are sure of a good wifi connection. As you may remember, February is our Annual Meeting, where we vote on the nominations for our Bridge for 2025-2026. We need a quorum to hold that vote. So I'm bribing you all with pizza from Lorenzo's, salad, BYOB, etc. Since it's also our Save our Sweetheart meeting, we'll have to figure out some chocolatey desert to cap it off. The meeting will also be available on Zoom, but you'll miss the pizza and chocolate.

Pics from our December meeting are scattered about this newsletter. We had good friends, good food, and good times.





P/C RALPH SCHAEFER, SN
Secretary/Treasurer



No report available at this time. We'll give the guy some time off—Editor's note

VSPS PATRONS—2024

Dave Bialorucki
Paul Hammel
Dave & Mary Anne Kastl
Cathe Radabaugh
Bev Sams
Brian Sams
Ralph & Barb Schaefer
Tim Smith

ADD YOUR NAME TO THIS PAGE & HELP SUPPORT YOUR SQUADRON.

**New Sponsor and Patron ads are needed for the
2025 year. Please contact Cathe Radabaugh
or Ralph Schaefer.**

Patron ads are \$10 per year. Sponsor ads are \$30 per year.

Nominating Committee Report for 2025-2026

In accordance with our Bylaws, Article 11, & Article 6 – Section 6.8, of Vermilion Sail and 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:

Commander P/C Rich Barzyk, SN
Executive Officer P/C Cathe Radabaugh, N
Admin. Officer P/C Mary Anne Kastl, P
SEO P/D/C David Bialorucki, SN
Treasurer/Sec'y P/C Ralph Schaefer, SN

Executive Committee:

P/C Tim Smith, S
P/C David Kastl, P
Open

Nominating Committee:

P/C Tim Smith, S
P/C Paul Hammel, P – Continuing; 1 yrs remaining
P/C Kerry McCullough, AP Continuing; 2 yrs remaining

Rules Committee:

P/C Larry Barber, P

Audit Committee:

Patti Barnhart, S – Chair
P/C Jean Verlotti, P – Continuing; 1 yr remaining

Respectfully submitted,
P/C Paul Hammel, S
Nominating Chairperson

VERMILION SAIL & POWER SQUADRON
DISTRICT 7
P/C Ralph Schaefer, SN
103 Haydens Arbor
Elyria, Ohio 44035



FIRST CLASS MAIL

**Vermilion Sail and Power Squadron
January Membership Meeting
Thursday, 16 January, 2025 — 1730**

**Location:
Martino's International Café
4415 Liberty Ave., Vermilion, OH**

**RSVP: Mary Anne Kastl
dakmak@roadrunner.com
or text 440-724-9511**