
United States Power Squadrons®

Mansfield

YACHTSMAN

We Are America's Boating Club™



November/December

L 40° 45' N Lo 82° 30' W

2018

From the Wheelhouse

Cdr Mike Siwek, SN

Boating season is sadly over for most of us, except for the diehard perch fisherman and those wanting to enjoy the fall colors from the water.

Now we may be able to complete some of our projects we started this summer, but never finished.



Even though boating season has passed, Squadron activities continue. Please continue to support our Squadron by attending the meetings and social activities. We had many outings this past summer, some boating related and some just for fun. Thanks to Lynn and Dan Fortman for organizing these activities. If anyone has any suggestions for activities for next year, please let us know. We would appreciate any and all suggestions. Possible we could have more dinner outings or maybe a kayaking get together at one of our local lakes. Let us know what you think!

We are still looking for some new Vessel Safety Check examiners. If interested, we could schedule a meeting at our classroom to discuss the requirements of becoming a VSC examiner. Please let me know.

For those who continue to boat this late fall season, please be aware of the dangers of cold water boating.

Remember the 1-10-1 rule!

If boating in cold water (50 deg. or less) and you fall overboard, you will probably start hyperventilating. You have one minute to get your breathing under control or you will pass out.

(Continued on page 2)

2018-2019 Bridge

Commander

Cdr Mike Siwek, SN
419-526-0534
masiwek@richnet.net

Executive Officer

P/C Daniel A. Fortman, JN
419-566-0719
dfortman@eaglecrusher.com

Educational Officer

Lt/C Shirley J. Fort, SN
419-522-2964
johnfort@core.com

Administrative Officer

P/C Lynn Fortman, JN
419-631-4842
fortmanlynn@gmail.com

Secretary

P/C Dennis J. Figley, SN
419-895-1534
petitoiseau44805@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Lt/C Georgiann E. Mathews, P
419-883-2191
rmathews@neo.rr.com

(Continued from page 1)

After that, you have ten minutes to do something like getting back in the boat or making it to shore. After ten minutes, your body will shut down and you will not be able to do anything. After that, you have about one hour to be pulled from the water or you will succumb to hypothermia.

Boat very carefully in cold weather and cold water.

For more information on cold water boating, check the ODNR websites,

“watercraft.ohiodnr.gov” or “parks.ohiodnr.gov”

From the Safety Officer

P/C Daniel Fortman, JN

OUR WATER CONCERNS Lake Erie Algae Blooms and Florida Red Tide



There has been a lot of news reported this Summer about issues that may affect all of us in some way. Algae blooms in Lake Erie are occurring regularly and Red Tides have become a more pressing problem for the Florida Gulf area and now spreading somewhat to the Atlantic Coastal areas. Naturally, we look at how these types of algae effect our drinking water, our fishing and recreational water sports. Since many of us spend time in Florida, or know someone that does, and most of us have Lake Erie experience, I thought that I would take some time to explore these situations.

Our oceans are now facing unprecedented threats from the onslaught of ocean trash, overfishing and ocean acidification. The Red Tides that occurred this last summer near the Florida Gulf beaches has been heartbreaking. There have been reports of 200 pound groupers washing up on beaches in Longboat Key and Sanibel Island. Reports show that at least 300 sea turtles, 100 manatees and a dozen dolphins have also been killed. Dead fish are washing up regularly now even as far north as Pinellas County, meaning this year's red tide event covered over 100 miles of shoreline, with a reach offshore of at least 40 miles. That's an area as large as the entire state of

(Continued on page 3)

Website: <http://www.usps.org/mansfield>

From the Education Officer

Lt/C Shirley Fort, SN



MPS UNEMPLOYMENT REMAINS AT ALL-TIME HIGH

No, not a scare tactic, just the truth. Sadly, MPS has a very large number of excellent, knowledgeable instructors with nothing to do. It is time to put them to work. Think about your summer boating experience.

Did you sit at dockside trying to guess the weather pattern? A Weather class would help. Did your knots and hitches look like rats' nests and jam constantly? Did the wind and current make for a less than neat docking? A brand new boat handling course that takes the place of the old Seamanship class has just been released. What about your engine and all that electronic gear you depend on so heavily? Try Marine Electronics and Engine Maintenance to take away the mystery. The Education Department is willing and able to schedule the classes you want when you want them.

All you have to do is ask.

PUT US TO WORK!

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 Jan/Feb issue is Dec 15

(Continued from page 2)

Connecticut that is teeming with harmful red tide.

Meanwhile, in our part of the United States, the western basin of Lake Erie has also been experiencing algae issues. Although not as severe as those in Florida, these algal blooms undermine Ohio's economy and threaten the drinking water source for millions of people each summer.

According to the "Ocean Conservatory Group", red tide is essentially a naturally occurring event. In Florida, red tide is caused by a dinoflagellate microorganism called *Karenia brevis*. About once a year, when conditions are right, it will bloom along Florida's coast. Red tide blooms do not occur in rivers and lakes because the *karenia brevis* microorganism cannot tolerate low salinity for a very long and must remain in salty water. Red tides are hard to ignore because the microorganisms emit brevetoxins which, as they are transferred through the food web, can paralyze fish gills and cause animals such as manatees and sea turtles to become sick or die. Humans also suffer when the toxins get blown into the air, constricting the lungs and sending people with asthma and other health issues to emergency rooms with coughs and shortness of breath.

Our algae blooms in Lake Erie are similar, but not as severe. As found in an article from the "Alliance for the Great Lakes", by definition, an algal bloom is a rapid increase in the population of algae in an aquatic system. The type that we experience is from algae that can survive in fresh water. Lake Erie blooms can be green, yellowish-brown or red. As algae grows, it chokes off existing plant life. This organic matter then becomes food for bacteria that decompose it. With more food available, the bacteria increase in number and use the dissolved oxygen in the water. As oxygen decreases, many of the fish and aquatic insects cannot survive. This results in a dead area.

Though Florida is still struggling to find ways to combat red tide, Ohio Governor Kasich signed an executive order that takes steps to protect Lake Erie. Three years ago, Kasich joined Michigan Governor Rick Snyder and former Ontario premier Kathleen Wynne to reduce the amount of pollution, specifically phosphorus, flowing into western Lake Erie by 40% by 2025. The recent executive order, combined with Ohio's recent designation of western Lake Erie as "Impaired" under the Clean Water Act, establishes a framework for progress on this pollution reduction goal. Much of the focus has been on agricultural lands, which according to many experts is the main source of pollution feeding the

harmful algal blooms.

Our environment faces many threats like the increase in ocean trash, overfishing and environmentally unsafe chemical use and disposal. We all need to be good stewards of the place that we live...planet earth.

Administrative Officer

P/C Lynn Fortman, JN



Coming Events

How's the leaf raking going today? I think our neighbors planted some new trees but at least there's still only one Ginko. Enjoy the fall because soon the snow will arrive and the holidays begin.

To start the holidays, we will enjoy the sights and sounds of a Winter Wonderland at our District 7 conference in Cleveland from **November 2-4**. Check our D/7 website if you haven't made reservations and you are still interested in attending. Next, we will have our Classroom Fundraiser at Applebees Restaurant on Lexington-Springmill Road in Ontario. All proceeds from your meal and beverage purchase will have 15% allocated to our Classroom Fund. Since this is our main fundraiser for the year, please help us by attending and bring a copy of your event reminder to Applebees to give to your server. Serving times are from 11:00 to 9:00 pm on **Thursday, November 8**.

The following week, we will be having our annual Veterans' Day Dessert Banquet in conjunction with our Executive meeting on **Tuesday, November 13** at 6:30 at the Red Cross Building on the square in Mansfield. It's a time when we want to honor our service people for the sacrifices that were made for our freedom. Come and meet your fellow Mansfield Power Squadron members that have served and share a delicious dessert with them.

Lastly, December finds us enjoying our Christmas Party on **Sunday, December 2** beginning at 5:00 pm at the Lexington Depot (Senior Center) on Main Street in Lexington. This facility is well organized for our needs. It will be a covered dish but the final meal plans have not been determined. You will be receiving a separate mailing regarding this event with all the details you will need to come and enjoy the fellowship of other boaters.

I hope to see you at all of our upcoming events but if you're not able to attend, please have a safe and peaceful holiday season with family and friends.

EVENT SCHEDULE
MANSFIELD POWER SQUADRON
2018-2019



2018

November 2-4 D/7 Fall Conference at Holiday Inn, Independence
 8 Applebees Classroom Fundraiser 11am-9pm
 13 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 6:30 PM
 Salute to Veterans Night, Dessert Banquet

December 2 Christmas Party at the Lexington Senior Center
 11 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 6:30 PM
 TBD Applebees Classroom Fundraiser 11am-9pm

2019

January 8 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 6:30 PM
 Spring ABC Classes/Advanced Grade Classes begin- contact SEO Shirley Fort
 Boat Show West, Cleveland

TBD Applebees Classroom Fundraiser 11am-9pm

February 12 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 6:30 PM
 National United States Power Squadron Meeting in Orlando

TBD Applebees Classroom Fundraiser 11am-9pm

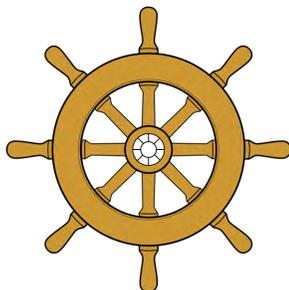
March 12 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 6:30 PM
 16 Annual Meeting at Lexington Senior Center
 TBD Applebees Classroom Fundraiser 11am-9pm

April 9 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 6:30 PM
 27 Change of Watch

* Applebees Classroom Fundraisers have no dates assigned since they can only be schedule 30 days in advance. Emails will be sent when they are not listed in the Yachtsman which is published every other month.

** Contact your Administrative Officer, Lynn Fortman, at 419-631-4842 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 have questions about an event, please call.



Nautical Trivia III

“Viking” The correct pronunciation of this word is “Veek-ing” and refers to those wild sea robbers who laid in wait for their victims in the “Veeks” or bays of Norway.

WHITEWATER WONDER

My experience of rafting and hiking the Grand Canyon Continued from Sep/Oct Yachtsman

By P/C Dan Fortman, JN

Day 4

We began the day with the sound of our guides preparing our breakfast. When the word “coffee” was sounded out, everyone walked down for a cup of the strong, steamy brew. My knee now hurt. This was probably a result of the climb and accidental fall the day before. There has been time every morning to journal while the crew packs up the cooking supplies.

The rafting part of the day began and after around two hours we stopped at the mouth of the Little Colorado River. We saw an old miner shack that was once occupied by Ben Beamer, an old prospector. The Little Colorado was very shallow and the water was clean and bright blue. We turned our lifejackets around and wore them like a diaper while we would ride down the rapids on the smooth rocks. After boarding our raft, we proceeded to ride the water until about 3:30 when we stopped for the night. We were very near where we could hike to the top of a hill and see “Hill Top Ruins” which was an ancient ruins left by the Anasazi. After hiking up, we found ourselves in a great location for scenic pictures. We were overlooking the Colorado River and took pictures of each other for our records. Day 5 was promised to be a big one. We will raft through a few huge rapids in the morning and then stop at Phantom Ranch where will have access to phone service for the first time on the trip. We had traveled 71 miles at that point.

We now had two persons with stomach issues even though both claim to be drinking vast amounts of water. I had a small headache, but it wasn't too bad at this point. My knee has not gotten better, but the Tylenol has helped.

Along the ride today, we rafted closely to the Hopi salt mines. This is where the Hopi tribes would get their sacred ceremonial salt. The salt has seeped through to canyon walls and has formed stalagmites. We were not permitted to touch this wall, just as we were not permitted to touch any of the ruins due to palm oils and salt from our hands effecting the items.

Day 5

Once again we were up with the sun at 5:15 am. The temperature dropped to 45 degrees the prior night. We had another healthy breakfast of scrambled

eggs, English muffins, ham and carrot cake. By now, I have to admit that I am beginning to like the coffee. My body was holding up okay so far. The trip had become much more strenuous than we realized it would be. One person, Lois, no longer participates in the hikes, so she stays back in camp and reads while the rest of us go off. At this time I had five broken fingernails, had a huge bruise on my right wrist from my fall off the cliff and my knee still hurts. For the ride today we were advised to dress in full battle gear as it was going to be cold and wet most of the way. Our first really big rapids was Hance Rapids. It was listed an 8 to 10 on the Canyon scale. It was great, like getting hit with buckets of cold water. In total, it had a 30 foot drop. After a few smaller rapids, we stopped at Clear Creek Canyon. The Vishnu schist formations here are the best in the Canyon. Vishnu Schist is the name recommended for all Early Proterozoic crystalline rocks exposed in the Grand Canyon region. This rock forms the basement rocks that underlie the other rocks in the canyon. We hiked up a rocky stream, up a slit canyon all the way to a small waterfall. It was hot and slow walking. The rocks were slippery and several we had to climb over.

We rafted further down the river and arrived at Phantom Ranch around 3:00. This is the only place within the canyon where it is accessible by travelling down from the rim. Mule trips take people down to this spot and day hikers can walk down in a day. It is located about 4800 feet below the rim. The ranch itself is very rustic. It is used to stable and rest the



Day 5 - mules at Phantom Ranch

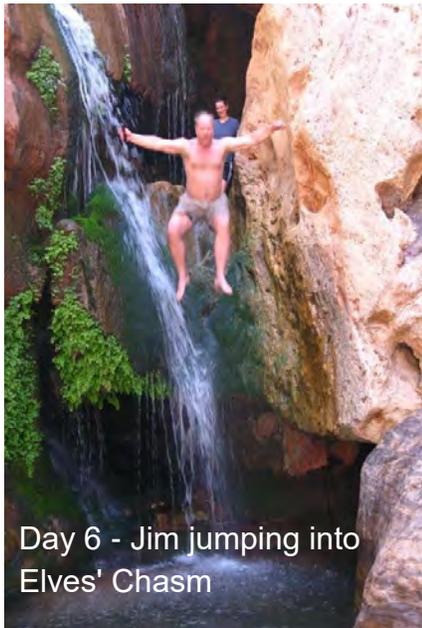
mules and has very little human traffic. The smell of mule feces was strong and everywhere. We walked for about a mile from the raft's landing point to the camp itself. There, we were able to call home and send letters out through the general store.

After leaving Phantom, we rafted for an hour or so and saw two sets of longhorn sheep. I counted eleven total with four of them being lambs. They were very close to the water and must have come down to the river to get a drink. We saw sheep several more times during the rafting portion of this trip. We camped that night at Trinity, which is at about the 95 mile mark. This site is sandy and I was able to find a flat spot near the rock cliff wall to pitch my tent. It was extremely windy so I found bowling ball sized rocks to strategically place to keep my tent from blowing away. I took my second bath in the river with soap. The water was still as cold as ice. The wind was blowing sand in our eyes so we all went to our tents early that night.

Day 6

This day promised to be the wettest one so far. This section had three of the top six rapids on the River. At this time I must comment about the wind. It is unbelievable at times. It once nearly blew two people out of the raft that were standing and unprepared. I should have brought goggles as my eyes felt sandblasted even though I did my best to protect them.

We stopped at mile #107 for a quick lunch. We stopped at Elves' Chasm and hiked over large boulders and walked a difficult one-half mile to get to the waterfall. This is the most photographed spot in the Canyon. Several of us climbed the rocks from behind the falls and jumped down into the pool created by the water. It was a jump of about ten feet from top to bottom. A few others climbed up to jump, but decided not to do so and had to climb back down. We had a surprise when we approached the chasm. I



Day 6 - Jim jumping into
Elves' Chasm

was the first of our group to arrive due to the difficulty of the hike and as I rounded the corner near the waterfall there were two naked women swimming in the pool. I was more startled than they were. I apologized for my intrusion and they just ignored me and put their swim suits on. In retrospect, I realized that they may not understand or spoken English. In all, we traversed 21 rapids that day. Fifteen of them were big enough to have names such as Granite, Salt Creek, Crystal, Serpentine, Waltenberg, etc. The wind continued to be a major issue. My guess is that there were sustained winds from 30 to 40 mph with gusts higher. It blew water and sand on you and in your eyes. By this time I was cold and very sore. My fingers were split and bleeding and I was able to use some cream that John had brought to put on them under my gloves. I used eye drops often for the sand in my eyes. I smashed my right little toe on the rocks and although it was not broken, it felt like it was. My right knee finally swelled up and my right elbow is very sore. I was told that this is the price that one pays for "high adventure"!! The night time temperature is now around 65 degree and it's still very windy. I placed large rocks inside my tent to keep it from blowing away.



Day 6 - Longhorn

Day 7

This day was expected to be easier than day 6. The temperature dropped to 45 the prior night (surprise). Our first hike was only a few miles from where we camped. It was a place called Black Tail Canyon. It's a slot canyon that shows great geological examples of rock layers. The lowest visible layer is Vishnu schist which dates back to about 1.8 billion years. This is the basic rock that makes up the mountains such as the Rockies and Alleghenies. Then came a layer of metamorphic rock that dates back about 500 million years. This was topped off with sandstone that is only 50 or so million years old. The wind had died down which made life a lot more pleasant. Each day so far has been sunny. At this point, nine of my ten fingers are cracked and bleeding. I'm not alone with this

problem and seven others of our group have it the same or worse. Truly, John has saved the day for us by bringing A & D ointment that he has been willing to share.

We stopped to camp and hike at mile #132 (Stone Creek). We hiked about four miles each way and walked up an elevation of around 1000 feet. Due to the terrain, it took us about four hours total time to do this. In all, we traversed eight rapids during the rafting, none of them imposing with the largest being only a 6 with a 15 foot drop.

At camp that night we had a huge discussion. On day 8 we had the option to walk the "Death March" which is a hike of eleven miles with 1800 feet of elevation. If we choose to do so, we could walk across the "Wall of Death" which is the most dangerous path on the trip. It is about 50 feet along a sheer cliff wall with the path itself being about 24 inches wide in that section and it narrows to about 15 inches for about 10 feet. Everyone was very concerned about this. I had to decide what to do as I wanted to do it, but my knee was sore and my toe was black and blue. Besides, I promised Lynn that I would be careful. The big problem with this is that the hike takes all day. If we do it, we'll have to motor to Lake Mead for the last two days without stopping for photo and hiking. The daytime temperature was now up to 80 degrees or more and felt even hotter in the direct sunshine. Before bedtime, we saw mice in the campground which was a concern due to the hantavirus. I hate mice, especially if they plan to be in my tent with me.

Day 8

The time had come for me to make the decision to take the Death March or not. I decided not. Seven of the group decided to go, so this left four of us to stay behind and claim the campsite. After breakfast, we rafted for three rapids then stopped at Deer Creek Falls to let the seven walkers off and to set off our bags. We then motored across the river to the falls for pictures. The plan for the four of us that remained was to hike up the 250 feet to the top of the falls for even better pictures. From there, we will hike to a place called the Patio. Now the interesting part. They did not tell us the night before that the Wall of Death was on the way to the Patio. We started walking and I decided to delay my decision to cross over the Wall to when I got there and saw it. We walked up what actually was a 900 foot cliff to get to the top of the formation. I decided to cross after all. I was the only one of the four that did this. I had to walk sideways, facing the wall at all times and not look down. The guide explained that I would not survive this fall if I did it again. It was cool. Along the wall face, inches

from my face was ancient hieroglyphics that could only be seen by doing what I did. Once over the wall, the Patio was awesome. A small stream ran through a flat rock area with light vegetation and a few cottonwood trees. saw a rattlesnake sunning itself on the flat rocks, so I gave it a wide berth. No one was there with me so I swam in a water pool that was much like a large Jacuzzi. I was able to show in the waterfall and clean my hair for the first time in eight days. After an hour or so, two of the other four of our small group braved the wall and joined me. We waited for the other hikers to join us from the other direction. To that point it had been six hours since they were dropped off. We didn't want to wait too long as we had to go back the way we came across the Wall of Death and didn't want it to be dark. After eight hours they appeared. It took them this long to walk eleven miles which made me very pleased that I decided not to join them. It was starting to cloud up which signaled rain, so we hurried down the path to the campsite. We unloaded our gear and set up our tents while dinner was being prepared before the rain hit. It started raining soon after we ate. We planned to leave early in the morning. So far we had only travelled 136 miles of the 284 necessary and had only 3 and one-half days to do the rest.

Day 9

The latex gloves and A & D ointment worked. I could zip and unzip my tent and tie my shoes without pain now. It only rained lightly that night. During the night we had a visitor. It was a ring tailed cat that rummaged around the tent next to mine. I did not hear or see it, but others did. Our guide leader said that he was afraid to check it out as he thought that it may have been a mountain lion.

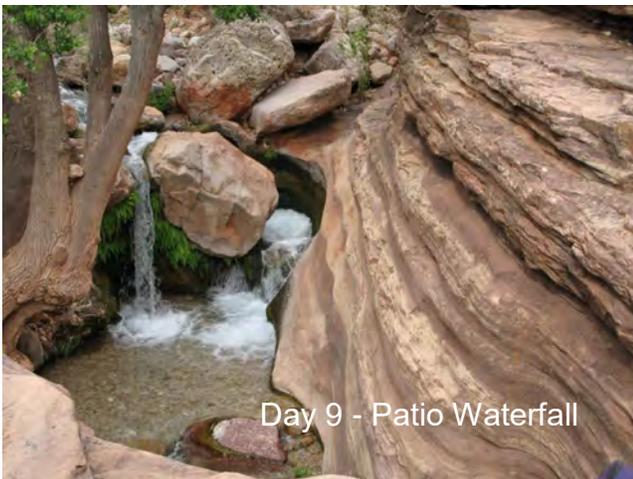
We rafted for a few hours and stopped at mile #148, Matkatamibe Canyon for a two mile hike to a patio and some stream viewing. At this point I have to admit that the photographers seem to be very competitive. They scramble and compete for the best spot and the best light at every location. I often hear one of them calling another to "stay out of my frame!". I tried to stay out of their way whenever possible but I learned much about photography by watching them and asking questions. They were always willing to be helpful and to share any knowledge that they could.

Our next stop was a two hour hike into Havasu Creek Canyon. The water there was clear and blue and there were many waterfalls.

I'd like to take a few minutes here to stop and explain some of the rules that we needed to follow. In no particular order they are:

- * Urinate in the Colorado River only. One cannot go in the side streams or on the sand.

- * No littering of anything. If we see anything like paper, we were to pick it up.
- * Bathing with soap is only permitted in the Colorado. No soap can be used in the side streams or pools.
- * The pooper was set up only once camp was set. It was placed in an outdoor area behind a large rock or bushes so that there is some privacy. There was an orange cushion that needed to be carried to the pooper. That way others knew when it was going to be used. If it was not on the path, we waited for it to return.
- * Hand washing was strictly enforced at all times, especially before meals.
- * When rafting, lifejackets were required to be worn at all times.



Day 9 - Patio Waterfall

The four guides have been great. They have been patient and extremely helpful. They knew where and how to stop at the best spots for pictures and camping. Our guide leader, John, would read to us nightly from books explaining the area and tell us what was important to know and see. He would tell us stories about John Wesley Powell and his wife Emma. He would even read poetry, humorous only. All of this made the trip so much more special.

The rapids on day 9 were fun. They are getting less intimidating as time goes on. The first was Fishtail Rapid with a 10' drop, then Kanab Rapid with a 12' drop. The next, Upset Rapid (so named because of the many accidents at this rapids) was tough and we had to get out and visually scout the rapids before we went. Being Spring and the first time down this season, the guides did not know if the course of the rapids changed over the winter. Our guide used a large, yellow rubber duck to float down the river while we all watched to see the water flow and to avoid the whirlpool that was there. After safely rafting through, we recovered the duck and were on our way. After passing mile #166, we entered the

Haulapai Indian Reservation. Lois decided to try to hike again today. She didn't do well and I was behind her when she slipped and fell backward. Fortunately I was prepared and was able catch her as she fell back. No one was hurt. That night we had dinner and sat around a campfire as usual. We used a duraflame log to keep the fire going and savaged wood to put one in for a nice campfire smell. It was fun with John reading another poem about an old doctor removing an overweight miner's appendix. It got windy again but there was no rain.

Day 10

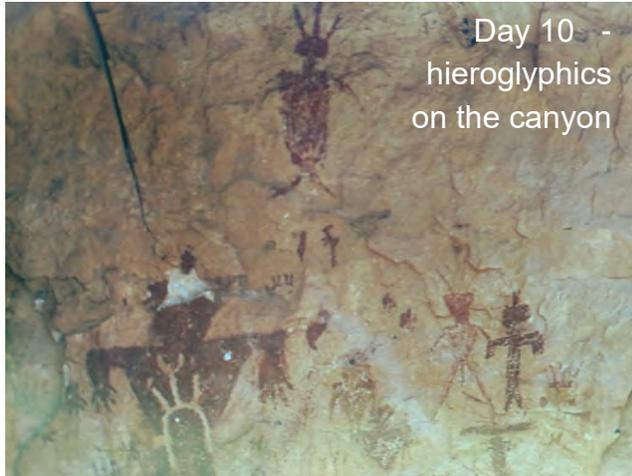
We will travel through Lava Rapids today. It is the most dangerous on the trip as it is rated as a "10" with a 13' drop in a short distance. We chose to hike first this morning before we went to Lava falls and the rapids. What a day. We rafted a total of 41 miles in cold, cold weather. It was around 50 degrees air temperature and the water was still at 45 degrees. The wind was gusting in our faces at around 40 mph. We were totally frozen. The day started well with a two mile hike up National Canyon. The terrain was relatively flat with only a few boulders to crawl over. After that, we loaded up for Lava Falls. Once again, we stopped before we entered the falls to see if there were any changes to the current over the winter months. We watched our two guides on the smaller raft go through first, then it was our turn. This rapids also had a whirlpool in it that had to be avoided. We did well with great memories of the adrenalin rush.



Day - 10 Lava Falls Jim is in front

We stopped for a rest then went on to run rapids #205 which is a 9 on their scale. We stopped to camp at mile #207 and set up. It was only 5:00 but we all needed to walk and to warm up. In celebration of a successful run of Lava Falls, we had steak for dinner. We saw mile after mile of lava. It was beautiful with lava flow walls and patterns. The belief is that the lava flows and volcanic activity created dams of 1900 feet in depth that totally blocked the River and created a lake that went back for hundreds of miles.

All of this was eroded down over a million years or so by the river in the same way that Niagra Falls is now eroding and way that the levies in New Orleans were undercut. Gradually, the canyon took its present form. It rained most of the day and actually hailed for part of the time. The next day promised to be better.



Day 11

It rained off and on again that night. Several of the brave souls in our group decided to sleep under the stars rather than in their tent. This was a bad decision and they all got wet. The day was warmer with the temperature hitting the 60 degree mark. The wind had died down which made it even more pleasant. Our first stop was at a flat area that had many potholes. Most of the rock was gneiss. Our next stop was Pumpkin Springs. This formation is full of arsenic so we were advised not to swim in it. Along the way, we saw Diamond Peak. We also stopped for an hour to photograph schist borings. This is where rocks were trapped in a pool and moved in a circular fashion in order to scour out smooth holes in the rock. We then ran through three of the major rapids and decided to make camp. This was going to be our last night on the trip so we sat up much longer than normal. We probably went to bed at the late hour of 8:30. The night was cool but pleasant. David did his last star trail and it was spectacular.

Day 12

This was our last day. We passed an area where the local Indian tribe had built a lookout point so that they could sell tickets to overlook the canyon. It was a poor location as most of the beauty was far upstream. We also started to see tourist airplane rides overhead as we went. The river was getting very shallow so we boarded a small boat that took us out onto Lake Mead and to our landing spot.

One of the shocking sights of the day was to see the amount that the lake water had dropped due to the long drought in that area. You could see the white markings on the cliff walls where the water level had been and of course you could see where the lake level was now. We were taken ashore and bussed back to the motel in Las Vegas, preparing for our flight home the next day.

Summary:

My first thought in summary is that there is no way that I know to adequately describe what I had experienced. I've read books, seen movies and pictures, but still did not fully understand what was surrounding me once the voyage commenced. I was constantly on sensory overload. Everywhere I looked presented another great picture to take. My opinion is that you have to see this part of nature personally to fully appreciate its beauty and majesty. If I were to do this again, I would take goggles for the wind and sand blowing in my eyes. My feet got very cold in the mornings as my water shoes with neoprene socks were just not good enough. I would suggest diver boots which zip up for warmth and still provide support for the short hikes. My hands took a beating. The fingers were cracked and bleeding and my hands would get very cold on the raft. I would suggest water type gloves that could provide warmth as well as some protection from the rocks while hiking and climbing. Also, there was little use for cotton underwear. My best item that I brought as an afterthought was a pair of biker shorts that were elastic and dried quickly.

Overall the trip was Grand. My favorite places were Elves Chasm, Hilltop Ruins, The Patio, the Little Colorado, the Nankewap Graneries and the 150 rapids, including Hance, Crystal and Lava Falls.

In a spiritual sense, this trip was very memorable. The beauty of the cliffs, the power of the river and the sounds of nature were special. I was frustrated at times by some of the others in the group that wanted to chatter and visit constantly. I felt that you could do this anytime, but this was the time and place to allow the silence and the emotion of the environment to lift you up and heal your spirit. So I would go off by myself at times just to stop and listen to the world around me.

(Continued from page 9)

Perhaps this poem can capture how I felt.

Grand Canyon had no speech to make
She never said a word.
While I viewed her matchless glory,
I was startled by a bird.

It came flying, tumbling through the air,
And stopped beside me there,
And sung the sweetest little song
That he wanted me to hear.

A little chipmunk then rushed out
And stood on its hind legs
And chattered me a welcome
To this land of towering crags.

Then another little songster
From the tip top of a pine,
Sang as sweet as ever echoed
In the valley of the Rhine.

But the gorge was mute, but glorious,
Magnificent, sublime!
Her secrets still remain her own
And will throughout all time.

Bear Warner (1954—2018)

P/C Bear Warner, SN died October 18, 2018 from multiple complications secondary to diabetes. Although Bear was not an official member of this squadron after he moved to Huron, he frequently came to squadron gatherings as a welcome guest. Bear served on the MPS Bridge for several years and was Commander in 1992. He also taught Advanced Piloting for the Education Department. Bear was a master instructor, most noted for his ability to counter a student's question with his own question. Frustrating? Maybe. But when the class was over, the student not only knew the answer to his original question, but understood the WHY behind the answer.

Bear and his wife, Lisa, developed many strong ties and deep friendships with Mansfield Power Squadron. He will be missed.

Information from USPS Membership Committee:

The United States Power Squadrons® are always adding to the benefits that being part of the organization entitles you to. Some recent additions include:

- LTC Global is Long Term Care Insurance. As a USPS member you can save more when you prepare for the future.
- Vistaprint offers an assortment of discounted business card templates for general members and Vessel Examiners - easily edited and promotes "America's Boating Club®".

More information and the full list of member benefits can be found on the Member Benefits Home page.

- From R/C Bob Howd, SN-CN, Membership Committee Chair:

Spread the word. Make sure your friends, neighbors, acquaintances know that you are a member of the United States Power Squadrons®. You now have something else to highlight: We Are America's Boating Club®.

- And last but not least:

*****Alert from your Member Benefits Committee*****

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If interested in learning more, please contact [Stf/C Andy Hyman, SN-ACN](#); or complete the USPS Resume Form



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