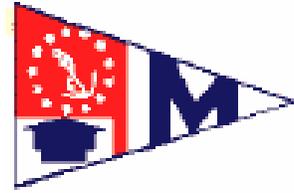




Mansfield YACHTSMAN



September/October

L 40° 45' N Lo 82° 30' W

2019

From the Wheelhouse

Cdr Mike Siwek, SN



Changing Seasons

It's hard to believe that September is here already. The days are getting shorter (daylight wise), the kids are back in school, and the boating season is getting shorter. It has been a crazy year weather wise, too much rain in the spring hampering boating, and then it got hot, very hot!

It nice to see the weather cooling down now, as fall is my favorite time of the year. I hope all of you are having a fun filled boating season.

I am pleased to report we have six new vessel safety check examiners. Garry Schroeder and I held two VSC classes in June and all six students passed the final VSC exam. The new examiners have to do five exams under the supervision of a qualified examiner, and then do five more to be qualified for the year.

Congratulations to past commanders, Dan and Lynn Fortman, Dennis Figley, and Jay Wells. Congratulations also to Wayne Hammond, and Harold Fitz.

We now have eight VSC examiners which should increase our numbers drastically.

I wish to congratulate District 7 and all the committee members who helped with the D7 Cruise held August 3rd. This was a great event!! The weather was perfect and the boat ride to Put-in-Bay

2019-2020 Bridge

Commander

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

Executive Officer

P/C Daniel A. Fortman, N
419-566-0719
dfortman70@gmail.com

Educational Officer

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

Administrative Officer

P/C Lynn Fortman, N
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 on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

was a very nice trip. The day on the island was very interesting as I had not been there in a number of years. I was shocked to see about 1000 golf carts flying around the island. You really had to watch when you crossed the street. The buffet dinner at the Sandusky Yacht Club was also a great meal. I would like to see District 7 do something like this in the future, as everyone does not have a boat. It gave everyone a chance to get back on the water again.

Thank you District 7!

Mansfield was well represented at the cruise as we had quite a few members and guests on the cruise.

Some dates to remember coming soon.

The Fall Governing Board meeting in Louisville KY
8-15 September

The next Mansfield Membership/Executive meeting
10 September 6:30

The Fall Equinox Party at Brookside Park, Ashland
OH 19 September

The District 7 Fall Conference in Cleveland, 1-3
November.

Have a happy and safe fall boating season.

From the Education Officer

Lt/C Shirley Fort, SN

MPS LAUNCHES SECOND CHANCE LENDING LIBRARY

Winter lay-up time is here. You could have saved a bundle by learning how to winterize your own engine. Battery draining for some unknown reason?

Marine Electrical Systems might have provided the answer.

Although the Education team tries hard to schedule classes what-where-when as requested, we know it's not always possible. The solution? A Lending Library of current course materials. For a donation of \$20 Squadron Members may borrow current student manuals for Electives or Advanced Grades for a period of three weeks. The fee includes exam processing and question/answer sessions with qualified instructors as necessary. Get the benefits of knowledge with the convenience of self-study. The donation (way less than purchasing a text individually) will be used to maintain current issues as HQ releases new editions.

Contact SEO Shirley Fort to get started on your Second Chance Wish List.



SIGN UP NOW FOR ELECTRONIC NAVIGATION

A brand new course that links old-fashioned 60 D St and TVMDC with the latest and greatest technology: GPS, Radar, Chart Plotters, and more. Instructor Jay Wells.

Registration open now. Contact SEO Shirley Fort for information.



Water Wonderings Articles Requested

Share your travels, experience on the water, mishaps (never) and adventures with your fellow sailors. If getting the information onto paper is the problem, call me and we can work out a plan to help. I know that you're doing some fun activities. Let's share the joy. Irene will want your article before the 15th of Dec, Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., or Oct.

Administrative Officer

P/C Lynn Fortman, N



Coming Events

What? We're looking ahead to Fall already? Doesn't it just seem like we got our boats in the water, the water rose due to the heavy rain and now it's time to prepare to take our boat out of the water soon. However, there is one harder way to say goodbye to summer and that's to get your annual Winter Storage Agreement in the mail as we did today! But before we sing our swan song, we have some events that we hope you can attend.

Thursday, September 19 will be our Fall Equinox Party at North Pavilion in Ashland. Social hour is at 1700 with dinner to follow. Please bring a covered dish to share, your choice of beverage and your own table service. Meat sandwiches will be provided. Email or text Lynn Fortman by Tuesday, September 17 at 419 631 4842 if you will be attending.

Saturday, September 21 Berea Power Squadron will hold their annual Clambake at Marine City. Tickets for the clambake need to be purchased prior to the evening event. Check their website for more information or contact P/C Larry Spraggins at 330 467 1323 to make ticket arrangements.

Tuesday, October 8 when we meet at 1830 for our Membership Meeting we will "pass the hat" for the Mansfield Food Bank.

Saturday, October 12 is the date of the Lakeside Lighthouse Festival on Marblehead Peninsula. If weather permits we will have a luncheon picnic at Bay Point beginning at 1100. Contact Lynn Fortman at 419 631 4842 a week before (Oct. 5) if you are planning to attend so that passes for Bay Point can be arranged.

As a follow-up to the District 7 Goodtime I trip to the islands and dinner at Sandusky Yacht Club, great job D/7! There were over 109 people who attended this event and Mansfield Power Squadron brought members, family members and friends to enjoy a perfect day. The weather was perfect but because the water levels of Lake Erie were still high, the Goodtime 1 was not able to dock at Kelley's Island due to extreme water levels at the docking slip.

Instead, members received additional time on the water as they slowly cruised to Put-in-Bay for the day. There were indications from some members that a potential name change to "Golf-Cart- Bay" may be in store for the beloved island because golf carts were everywhere! Parking was three deep so "rafting off" took on a whole new meaning while visiting the island.

Here's what else we've done this summer:

Too hot, too hot, too hot! That's what the band that was to play at The Vault in Shelby in July said to Vault owner, Ben Lash when our squadron made a trip to listen to music and enjoy a summer evening together. Instead of outside seating and no band, we opted for inside tables and air conditioning! Good conversation, dinner and drinks were enjoyed and the evening proved that sailors are flexible when it comes to the sometimes unpredictable, hot weather of summer!

But what do you do on a warm summer weekend when the waves are perfect and the sun is shining? You head to an outing that MPS held on Saturday, August 10 at the Harbor House in Huron. Members came by boat and cars with guests that enjoyed lunch and being entertained by the numerous boats traversing the Huron River. Some members thought it might be a good place to offer our next Vessel Safety Check because there is always a wait for any

(Continued on page 4)

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

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

Deadline for the Yachtsman articles is the 15th of Dec, Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct.

(Continued from page 3)

meal and so many of the boats that we saw were not identified by a USPS Safety Check Sticker for being compliant. Planning for 2020 begins now. If you have ideas, please forward them to our Cdr. Mike Siwek so that we can incorporate them into the schedule for 2020.

Lead by USPS National Geodetic Marker winners, Tom and Joanne Hancock, and accompanied by Mansfield's Geodetic Marker Leaders, Jim and Bobby Jackson, the Mansfield Power Squadron spent the day on August 21, searching the areas in and around Ashland for markers that had not been located in the past year. Members were searching fields, school grounds, bridge abutments and roadways to find markers. Luckily, one group was very successful and the second group, in the spirit of friendly competition, will keep trying!



Again, the weather was perfect with a light breeze and sunshine. This search was followed by lunch at Jakes in Ashland which topped off all efforts! In fact, a second outing is tentatively scheduled for the third week of November, with a possible date of Thursday, 21. Look for more information in the November/December Yachtsman. Come and join us this fall to learn more about this unique challenge.



Save the Date

November 1-3 is the District Conference in Independence. As of this printing, the registration form is not available. It will be posted on the D/7 website (and a link from MPS website) when it becomes available.

Yachtsman Donor

If you are interested in helping to support the printing and mailing cost, a \$10 or \$20 donation is always appreciated. Please send your contribution made payable to Mansfield Power Squadron to: P/R/C Tom Etwiler, SN 2581 Millsboro Rd. E. Mansfield, Ohio 44903-8784.



NO DINNER CLAMBAKE

Remember when we had our yearly clambake that raised funds for the use of the classroom at the Red Cross Building? Remember when we had enough help that only a few of the faithful went home totally exhausted from the long night of shucking clams or the long day of cooking food for the event. Well, unfortunately, we've been unable to proceed at the rate we once did, so we needed to look for another avenue to provide financial support to keep the doors open for students taking our classes in ABC or Weather or Electronics. So this year, we will offer you something new-----a **NO DINNER CLAMBAKE!**



Yes, that's what I said- a **NO DINNER CLAMBAKE!** No there won't be a dinner that you need to attend to add to your busy schedules nor will there be clams to shuck the night before nor will there be desserts to prepare for the meal and NO there won't be any clams to eat, but we still need your support to pay the rent and keep the water and electricity running at our meeting room.



Your "clams" can come in the form of a donation to the Mansfield Power Squadron. Do we like asking for money from our members? No. But based upon the hectic schedules of our members and the number of people that are able and willing to help, it may be the way for us to continue our mission of providing boating safety courses to the public. It's the price we all pay for trying to keep our waterways safe and our members alive.

IF you can help, please do so by sending a check, big or small, made payable to *Mansfield Power Squadron* in any amount that you feel you can, to our Cdr. Mike Siwek, at 484 5th Ave. Mansfield, Ohio 44905-1943. Thank you for helping to make this fundraiser a "CLAMoring" SUCCESS!



From the Safety Officer

P/C Daniel Fortman, N

IT'S ALMOST THAT TIME AGAIN Winterizing your boat



Unfortunately the boating season is winding down and it's time to start thinking about protecting your valuable asset. Winterizing a boat reminds me of the old commercial which said "you can pay me now or you can pay me later". The time and effort that you spend now will have a definite effect on your boat's performance, or lack of it, and can certainly save you time, effort and money in the upcoming Spring.



Your first step in winterizing should be to make checklist of all the items that need to be accomplished. Check your owner's manual if you forgot or are not sure what should be on the list. If you are new to boating, ask for help from a knowledgeable friend or hire a professional. There is also many good resources on the Internet that will share detailed and specific information.

Inboard Engine – You should run the engine(s) to warm it up and change the oil while it is warm. This will allow impurities to be drained away with the old oil. You should also change the filter(s). Flush the engine with fresh water. You should circulate antifreeze through the manifold by using a pickup hose from the waterpump to a bucket of antifreeze. Remove your sparkplugs and use "fogging oil" to spray into each cylinder. It is a good idea to wipe down your engine with a shop rag sprayed with a little fogging oil or WD-40.

Stern Drive – You should thoroughly inspect the stern drive and remove any plant life or debris from the lower unit. Drain the gear case and check for excessive moisture in the oil. This could indicate leaking seals that should be replaced. Clean the lower unit with soap and water. If your stern has a rubber boot, check it for cracks. Grease all fittings and

check all fluids.

Outboard engines – Disconnect fuel hose and run engine until it stops. It is important to make sure that all the fuel is drained from the carburetor to assure that there will be no build up of evaporated fuel. Use fogging oil in the cylinders to lubricate the cylinder walls and pistons. Apply water resistant grease to propeller shaft and threads. Change the gear oil in the lower unit. Lightly lubricate the exterior of the engine.

Fuel – Fill your tank to avoid a build up of condensation over the winter months. Add a fuel stabilizer and follow the instructions on the product. Change the fuel filter.

Bilges – Make sure that the bilges are clean and dry. Use soap, hot water and a stiff brush to clean up any oil spills. Once clean, add a little antifreeze to keep any missed moisture from freezing.

Fresh Water System – Completely drain the fresh water tank and hot water heater. Pump and non toxic antifreeze into the system and turn on all the faucets, including the shower until you see antifreeze coming out.

Interior – Once you have taken care of your systems, you should remove any valuables, electronics, lines, PFD, fire extinguishers, flares, fenders, etc. These items can be checked and cleaned over the winter and replaced where necessary. Open all drawers and clean well. Turn cushions on end so that air can circulate around them or better yet, take them home and clean them there. Open and clean the refrigerator and freezer.

Those of you that know me well that I did not come up with the suggestions above on my own. I have researched many articles and have good friends. Hopefully, these tips can help you with something that you did not know or have not thought of before. If you have a different or better way of doing these things, great.

Yours in safe boating...

P/C Dan Fortman



EVENT SCHEDULE - MANSFIELD POWER SQUADRON - 2019-2020



- September** 10 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 1830
 11 Electronic Navigation (tentative)
 TBD Fall ABC Classes/Advanced Grade Classes begin- Contact SEO Shirley Fort
 19 Fall Equinox Party at North Pavilion in Ashland at 1700
 21 Berea Clambake at Marine City Yacht Club
- October** 8 Executive/Membership Meeting, Red Cross Building at 1830. "Pass the Hat" for Mansfield Food Bank
 12 Lakeside Lighthouse Festival and Luncheon Picnic at Bay Point (Kayaking/paddle board options)
- November** 1-3 D/7 Fall Conference at Holiday Inn, Independence
 12 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 1830. Salute to Veterans Dessert Banquet
 23 Dinner at Steve's Dakota Grill at 1800
- December** 1 Christmas Party at the Lexington Senior Center
 11 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 1830
- 2020**
- January** 7 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 1830
 TBD Spring ABC Classes/Advanced Grade Classes begin- contact SEO Shirley Fort
 16-19 Boat Show West, Cleveland- Check D/7 Website to help
- February** 11 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 1830
 17-22 National United States Power Squadron Meeting
- March** 14 Annual Meeting/Executive Meeting and Potluck Dinner at Lexington Senior Center at 1700
- April** 14 Executive/Membership Meeting at Red Cross Building at 1830
 25 Change of Watch

* See the Administrative Officer article in this newsletter for more information about activities.

** 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.



Mansfield Power Squadron
Mansfield Yachtsman
C/O P/C Dennis Figley, SN
50850 State Route 545
Ashland, OH 44303-1354

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

