

ROCHESTER SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON
THE CHART

#470

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Commanders' Report

Commander: Emy Casper, AP

Dear fellow members,

Since this is the first issue for this year I wanted to take some time to reflect on the milestones of the last year.

- Starting with the Founder's Day celebration at RYC, it was a wonderful experience and the feedback I got from people was that they truly enjoyed it. This year I had to cancel the scheduled Founder's Day because we did not have enough people to sign up for the event. I am thinking that we can celebrate our Founders at a later day when the weather is warmer.
- Our Commander's brunch last year was hosted by Rick and Bridget and thank you for doing it, this was a lot of work and all who came had a lot of fun. We
-
- are doing it at Bridgett's again since we all enjoyed it. We will
- have a sign-up sheet at the March meeting.
- Our annual picnic again was a bit different last year as I hosted it at my house and I believe that people had a good time. We are going to do the same this year. Mark your calendars.
- The Rendezvous was at Oak Orchard Yacht Club and I want to say a big thank you to Jerry and Vanda Lighthouse for organizing it. We have not determined where we are going to have it this year yet, but I am looking forward to hear suggestions from you at our upcoming meeting.
- Our education department was strong this year. We had 2 ABC classes, and a Boat Handling class. Thank you, Bert, Don, and Rick, for teaching those classes.
- We welcomed several new members to our boating family, each bringing fresh energy and stories to share. We also had some members as well.

- A big thank you to Craig Zicari for organizing all the guest speakers we had this past year and for all of his time and efforts in the admirative duties for the club. The new Admin Officer is Bert Koenig. Thank you, Bert, for taking the baton.
- A big thank you to Bert again for helping with whatever we asked of you last year.
- Of Course, Rick and Bridgett a big thank you for all of your help with all the duties you perform for the club and on the board.

None of this would have been possible without the tireless efforts of our board. A heartfelt thank you goes to our leadership team, who kept and keep our club running and make our events enjoyable. To our members: thank you for your enthusiasm and support that make this club the nice community it is.

Looking Ahead

As we prepare to sail into the new year, I'm excited for what lies ahead. We have plans to create a full year schedule for classes. I believe it will be a very busy year as the Miranda law comes into effect for everybody. Let's come up with new ideas for more events and more activities.

Closing Thoughts

In boating, as in life, we know it's not just about the destination—it's about the journey. As we set our sights on new horizons, let's continue to support one another, share our adventures, and nurture the spirit of our club.

Cheers, to calm seas, strong winds, and a future as bright as the sunlit waves. May our love for boating continue to unite and inspire us.

Your Cdr. Emy Casper

The Motorboat That Wouldn't Quit

One sunny weekend, Dave and his buddy Mike decided to take their motorboat out on the lake for some fishing and fun. They loaded up snacks, fishing gear, and a cooler full of cold drinks. Everything was going smoothly until Dave decided to show off how fast his motorboat could go.

He cranked the throttle, and the boat zoomed across the water like a rocket. Mike, hanging on for dear life, yelled, "Dave, slow down!" But Dave was having too much fun. Then, suddenly, the throttle lever stuck. No matter what he did, the boat wouldn't slow down—it just kept speeding forward!

Panic set in as they approached a small, quiet beach where a group of picnickers had gathered. Dave yelled, "Jump off!" But Mike shouted back, "Are you crazy? I'm not swimming back!" Instead, Dave steered in wild circles, trying to avoid the shore while Mike brainstormed.

Finally, Mike yelled, "Cut the fuel line!" Desperate, Dave grabbed a pocket knife and leaned over the motor. Unfortunately, in his haste, he cut the wrong cord. The motor sputtered, coughed, and then... sped up even faster!

The boat launched into a rogue figure-eight pattern, sending waves everywhere and capsizing a couple of paddleboarders. Eventually, the boat ran out of fuel and came to a stop. Exhausted but relieved, Dave and Mike climbed out, only to hear slow clapping from the shore.

One of the picnickers grinned and said, "Now that's how you make an entrance. You guys do birthday parties?"

The Case of the Talking Parrot

A sailor named Pete had been sailing for decades and finally decided to retire. To mark the occasion, his shipmates threw him a grand party and gifted him a parrot that had been aboard their ship for years. The parrot had a reputation for being *very* chatty, but Pete didn't mind; he was lonely at home and welcomed the company.

As the days passed, Pete realized the parrot wasn't just chatty—it was downright rude! It swore like a sailor (fitting, perhaps) and constantly insulted him. Pete tried everything to reform the bird: he read it poetry, played soothing music, and even gave it stern lectures. Nothing worked.

One day, Pete's patience finally snapped when the parrot insulted his cooking. In a fit of frustration, he grabbed the bird and shoved it into the freezer. The parrot squawked and screeched for a few moments, and then—silence.

Worried he'd gone too far, Pete opened the freezer. The parrot stepped out calmly, fluffed its feathers, and said, "I apologize for my behavior and promise to be a model bird from now on."

Pete was stunned. Before he could respond, the parrot continued, "By the way, what exactly did the chicken do?"





Executive Office Report

Executive Officer: P/D/C Rick Hibbs

From the Exec Officer

I'm sure you all want to know about the Annual Meeting of the America's Boating Club United States Power Squadrons held the first week of February. Bridgett and I attended, as did D/C Karen Green, her husband Ken Green (both of Syracuse Squadron) and R/C Priscilla Clarke of Swiftwater Squadron. That was the D6 contingent. There are so many informative and interesting meetings that we always "divide and conquer" and then update each other over lunch, dinner or cocktails. The District Conference is our opportunity to debrief more widely to D6.

One of the major issues before the organization has been the subject of insurance. We learned more about the cause of the previous insurance carrier dropping our coverage, and how things are going with the new carrier. It turns out that the previous policy was overly vague, and didn't actually cover all that we historically thought it did. We were under the impression that we were covered in all things, and all ways, as long as we were acting for a squadron function or event. That's pretty broad and ended up costing the previous carrier a \$800,000 claim, because the coverage terms were too vague to deny. After the payout, we were cancelled.

We are now covered for the material we teach and most meetings. There are some new wrinkles that we must follow to be covered, mostly affecting VSC examiners, and on the water instruction.

Since details continue to be ironed by the carrier and National's Executive Committee, the best advice is to contact our squadron board to discuss an event, and how to handle the insurance concerns.

There were 3 new Rear Commanders voted on at the Annual Meeting. I am one of them! I now chair the national Boat Handling Committee, having served on it the previous two years. This

committee follows two courses (*Boat Handling and Sail*), and 10 seminars. We are currently rewriting the SAIL course.

On the topic of *Vessel Safety Checks*, we have a new squadron chair, **Don Reaves!** As you are all aware, last year we lost our friend Kevin Parks, one of our examiners. As a direct result we are looking for 6 to 8 new examiners in order to replace the VSC's Kevin typically did each year! We need examiners in the Rochester area, since all our current examiners are located in the Sacketts Harbor/Henderson Harbor area. Contact Don or any other Board member to learn how to ensure safe boats on the water.

On the topic of the Greater Rochester Boat Show, we had a disappointing show this year, as show attendance was down from last year. We also had a lot of open times with no member tending to our booth. The board has determined that we will explore joint sponsoring of the booth with Iroquois Squadron or discontinuing the show altogether. Comments are welcome, text or call me at 585-750-6046.

See you soon!

R/C Rick Hibbs, SN-IN



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Administration Officer Report Lt./C Norbert Koenig

On Vacation.



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Educations Officer Report Lt/C Dr. Peter Lawrence

We have ABC3 course news!

A course is nearing completion at the Penfield Rec Center, being taught by Lt Don Reaves, SN-IN. There are 10 students in this class! We also have a course scheduled for Irondequoit Library, beginning March 3, and running on Mondays in March finishing on 3/31. As of this writing, we have 2 people signed up for that course. We also are going to try a 1 weekend (Sat and Sun) version of the course, at West Marine. So far we have 3 people signed up for that one.

This is the year that the “rubber hits the road” by the Brianna’s Law: everyone operating a power-

driven vessel must have an operator’s card certifying that they have taken a safe boating course. We haven’t determined any other courses for this year, so we are able to add more ABC3 classes if needed.

Remind all your friends and relatives that are boaters. This is the year the enforcement begins. Failure to show a certificate can result in fines up to \$250!! We are uncertain how and where operators will be checked, but it’s likely that they will.
From ASEO Rick Hibbs, SN-IN
For SEO Peter Lawrence, S



Treasurer's Report

Lt/C Bridgett Arieno, JN

Spring is in the air?? As you know, the Spring Conference is being held the weekend of April 11 – 13, 2025 at the Hampton Inn Penn Yan. It was such a great location last year, we decided to go again. We are going a little later this year, so we do not expect a blizzard again! Ann Smith is the new District Conference Chair so you will be hearing more from her soon with an article in the Deep 6. Current highlights include a visit from our Chief Commander, Ralph Bernard and his wife, Nance; a wine tasting event on Friday night, a brief overview of the Penn Yan boats and a presentation from our Marketing Director, Tammy Brown to

discuss the marketing successes from Marine SEO.

If you are dreaming about a sunny, warm summer weekend, why not consider attending the D6 Rendezvous at The Cove at Sylvan Beach on Oneida Lake the weekend of July 31 – August 3, 2025. We had a great time last year and absolutely loved the location. It is only a 2-hour drive from Rochester, so if you don't want to stay for the entire weekend, you are welcome to join us for the festivities on any day. More details to come!



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Secretary Report
Lt/C Bridgett Arieno

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General Membership Meeting **Notes**

Date: January 8th 2025

The meeting was called to order at: 19:15

Saluting of the flag - LTC Mike Lamendola

Attendance

There were 10 members and one guest in attendance.

Daniel Buerkle was our guest. He is also a past member of the Rochester Power Squadron and is considering renewing his membership.

Secretary Report

- The November membership meeting minutes were sent to Rita Parks for publication on the Chart.
- On the Change of Watch in December we had 23 attendants.
- Our current membership count is at 57.

- Reminder to all that they need to log on to the National website and check when their membership payment is due, since the change to the new system. Your email address is your sign-in, NOT your membership number.

Commander's Report – Emy Casper

- The Rochester Boat show is this month starting on 31st through February 2nd. The sign-up sheet was distributed and everyone in attendance signed up for a time.
- Also, in February we have the upcoming Founder's Day on February 7th at RYC. This will be again combining with the Iroquois squadron.
- All committees and board jobs have been updated on the new IMIS system on the National website.
- As you know there were an issue with the insurance for the squadron stemming from loss on the National level and we were looking at different options for coverage. However, this is now resolved and we have an insurance as of December 2nd.

“As of Dec. 2, 2024, all districts and squadrons will have general liability and liability for officers. This includes activities that carry out the mission of America's Boating Club | United States Power Squadrons, including teaching classes, rendezvous and squadron functions. At present, this would not include fundraisers. We are assured insurance for on-the-water training, Cooperative Charting and Vessel Safety Checks will be in force within 30 days. The insurance broker will be setting up an online venue where squadrons and districts can go to obtain very reasonably priced event insurance for the small number of events that might not be covered under the main policies. As you can imagine, the premium for this coverage is more than in prior years; however, it was very important for the Board to find a company who would provide this coverage for everyone. Ralph Bernard -**Chief Commander**“

Moreover, there will be separate policies for each activity. As of December, we were waiting for coverage for on the water activities. This is currently not covered. What is also not covered are holiday parties and fundraisers. However, we can obtain insurance for a cost of \$50 to a \$150 range for each event. We will have media liability coverage. HQ building and properties are covered. The name of the insurance is called Core Insurance Group out of Shelby Township, MI. As the information of all insurance's changes, it will be updated on National website under the treasurer url page. Everyone can log on and check it out.

- News on the progress of the new AIMS system.

Executive Officer's Report – Rick Hibbs

- West Marine now will allow us to teach ABC classes there.
- We will create a flyer the ABC class for the boat show and we will emphasize that we offer books to keep comparing to other vendors that does not provide books.
- The Boat Show booth will have a TV set up to show the America's Boating Club Channel with videos of boat fails to attract attention to our booth. We will have brochures to advertise our organization, a list of upcoming classes and a raffle to win a free ABC class.

Education Officer – Peter Lawrence

ABC class will be held in Penfield Rec. Center on starting February 11 at 6:00 pm. Don Reaves will be the instructor. It will be four 2- hour sessions followed by exam.

- Bill Towner posted the information about the class on the Meet up Page. Are there any members that would like to take the class?
- The board is still working on the schedule for the 2025 a school plan with courses and dates, and locations to be identified.

Administrative Officer's Report – Bert Koenig

- Will work the engraving the Past Commander and F.Ritter Shamway awards.
- Will order new name tag for Peter Lawrence.
- Will order P/C flag for Bert, Faye, and Bill.
- The updated burgee was approved by National Soon we will order the new burgee. How many people want to have it. Please raise your hand so we can take count.

Treasurer's Report – Bridgett Arieno

- All known bills are paid.

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

All members need to validate their merit marks in the new Members website.

Thank you everyone for your participation and support.

The meeting was adjourned at 21:00

“Getting Salty”

***The Rochester Sail and Power Squadron Presents: Dan and Sandy Kerpelman
on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at***

GYC from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Come listen to a story about how two amazing voyages transformed a couple of Great Lakes sailors into ocean cruisers.

1. Down East Circle – from Rochester, New York to Portland, Maine via the St. Lawrence River and the Canadian Maritimes (2023)
2. East Coast – from Port Everglades, Florida to Portland, Maine on the outside (2024)

Key Points include:

- Motivation for the voyages
- How we prepared (including changing boats midway)
- Images, highlights and challenges along the way
- Learnings, best practices & resources for others interested in cruising





Editor's Report
Lt. Rita Parks

The following are the dates for submission of reports, articles, flyers etc for the 2024 issues of *The Chart*.

- January/February 2025 submit to me by December 28th
- March/April 2025 submit to me by February 26th
- May/June 2025 submit to me by April 26th
- July/August 2025 submit to me by June 28th
- September/October 2025 submit to me by August 28th
- November/December 2025 submit to me by October 28th

I will still send out reminders, but I thought you might like to mark your calendars in advance.

The next issue is the MAY/JUNE 2025 issue, please have all reports and articles to me by APRIL 26TH, Thank You

[Click here to enter text.](#)