

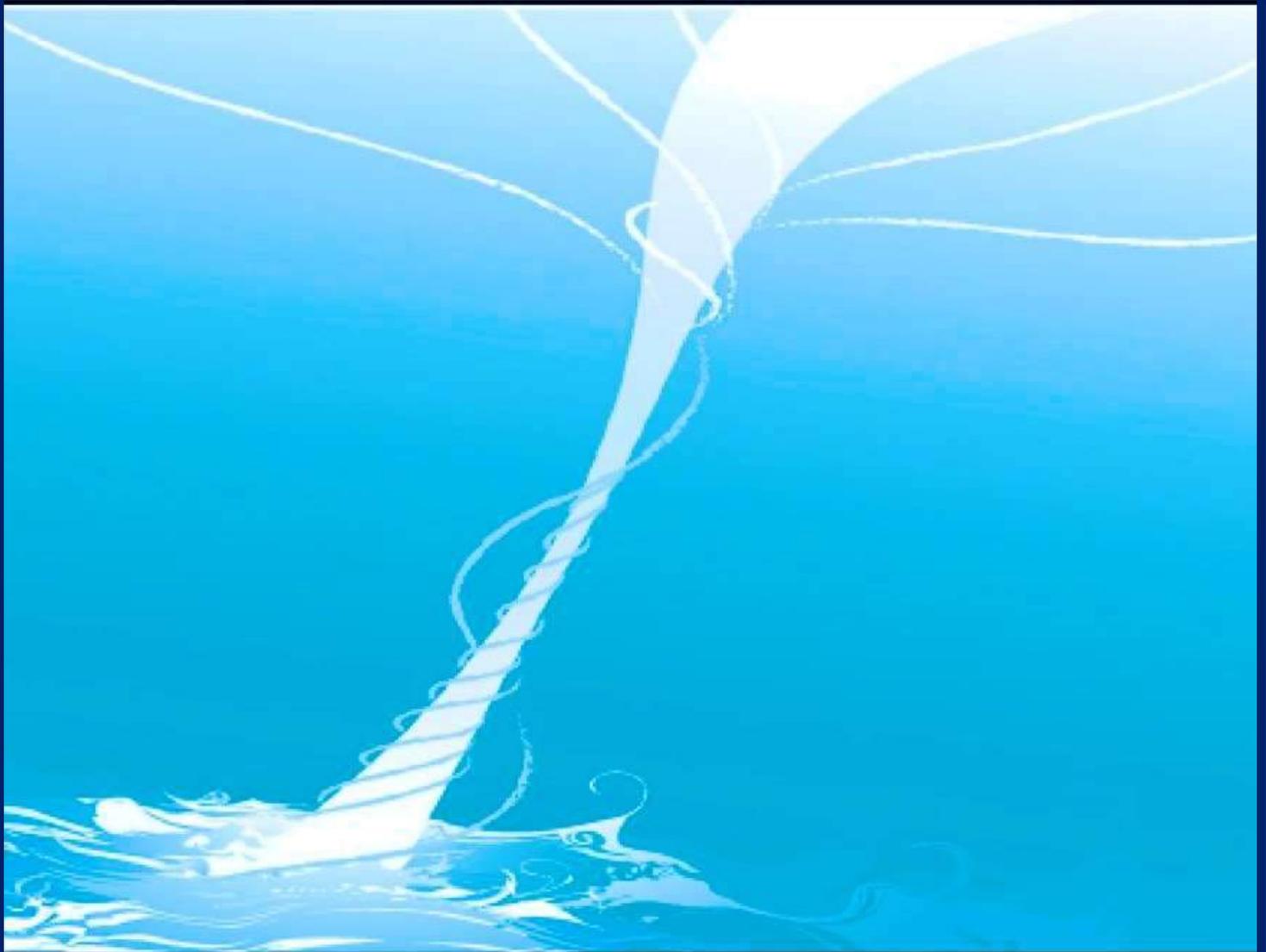


# America's Boating Club of West Michigan

For Boaters, By Boaters<sup>SM</sup>



*Grand Rapids Sail and Power Squadron*



# waterspout

Vol. 66, Issue 4, December 2019

The official newsletter of the

## **Grand Rapids Sail and Power Squadron**

1620 Olson ST NE  Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 USA

[www.grsps.org](http://www.grsps.org)





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**Cdr Jack L Draper**  
*Commander*

**(Open)**  
*Executive Officer*

**Lt/C Greg Heath**  
*Administrative Officer*

**Lt/C John Colley**  
*Education Officer*

**Lt/C Marcia A Thompson**  
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## The waterspout

The *waterspout* is published nine (9) times a year, September through May, by **Grand Rapids Sail and Power Squadron**, 1620 Olson St, NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. It is published for Squadron members by the staff of the Squadron Secretary.

The articles, advertisements, and opinions expressed therein do not necessarily reflect USPS or GRSPS policy unless so designated. Articles may be reprinted without permission if credit is given to the author, GRSPS and the *waterspout*.

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The editor reserves the right to revise, change, or reject any materials submitted to the *waterspout*, consistent with standards of accuracy, fairness, good taste, and available space, subject to the approval of the Squadron Commander.

**To Advertise In The Waterspout, Contact:**  
[Editor@GRSPS.ORG](mailto:Editor@GRSPS.ORG)



## View From The Bridge

**Jack L Draper, Sr.**  
*Squadron Commander*



## Bridge News

**Hello Everyone,**

I want to thank all the members who attended this year's Commanders Ball and Change of Watch Ceremony. We were privileged to have District Executive Officer Jan Hartesvelt in attendance as she swore in the new Bridge and Executive Committee members. Jan gave a nice speech with her vision of the future of our district and the expansion of the district's meetings as well. We will keep you posted on this as we get further information.

I also want to make you aware that the Bridge has decided not to participate in the 2020 boat show. We felt between the limited new people signed up for our classes and it has been a struggle to get enough people signed up to man the booth. We will look at this again in 2021 to see if it is something we want to participate in again.

We have our annual Christmas party on December 12<sup>th</sup> at the Swan Inn. Further information is provided in the Waterspout.

Finally, I want to wish you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday! Take this time to enjoy your family and friends. Just in case, although the January newsletter will go out before the end of the year; also have a very safe and happy holidays.

Sincerely,

Jack





## View From The Bridge

Lt/C Greg Heath  
Squadron Administrative Officer



## Administrative News

### December X'mas Dinner Meeting

*You are Invited*

### GRSPS Christmas Party

December 12, 2019  
6:00 PM Cocktails  
6:30 PM Dinner

*Bring a wrapped gift for gift exchange (\$10 limit) and an unwrapped gift for donation to the children at Dr. Blodgett - St. John's.*

**Swan Inn Restaurant**  
5182 Alpine Ave NW  
Comstock Park, MI 49321  
(616) 784-1224

*Please RSVP by December 6th to Greg Heath at [gdheath1@yahoo.com](mailto:gdheath1@yahoo.com).*

Graphics:

Border: <https://i.pinimg.com/originals/d7/be/2c/d7be2cd96a536071e332e82a17f2c243.png>

Invited: [http://p13cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_89742/Image/News/YouAreInvited.jpg](http://p13cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_89742/Image/News/YouAreInvited.jpg)





## View From The Bridge

Lt/C John Colley  
Squadron Education Officer



# Educational News

## Instructor Development Course

In the January/February 2020 time frame we will start an **INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE** and will (need) welcome your participation, support in order to offer future courses, both for our members and to the boating public. To date we have three students enrolled and hope you will join our instructors team. We will be flexible on the class dates. **FYI, there is no exam for this course.**

The following items are some instructor tips from the **INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT** course:

- Knowing the course material is of utmost importance. NOTE: the material must be presented in a way to hold the students' attention; the classroom setting is also an important factor.
- Be prepared
  - Rehearse your presentation several times
  - Gather relevant teaching aids
  - Prepare your classroom for comfort with all of the needed materials
- Look your best
  - Dress conservatively and neatly. The students' attention should be on the presentation and not the instructor's attire. Look professional.
- Be organized
  - Have all your material readily accessible.
  - Have a check list of the lesson material.
- Be punctual
  - Always begin on time. You're starting on time will show respect for the students that are there on time.
- Be enthusiastic
  - Your enthusiasm will inspire the students.
  - Actions add interest
  - Voice modulation adds a spark to the presentation
  - Eye contact will make the individual student think you are speaking to them
- Deliver with energy
  - Enthusiasm is contagious.

As mentioned, these notes are part of that course and are applicable to life in general. We are eager to hear from YOU!!

Please call either SEO John Colley, (616) 281-4924  
Or  
ASEO Don Matthews, (231) 288-2944



## Change of Watch 2019





## December 2019



Renee Mika ~ Dec 1  
Eddie Kleinfeld ~ Dec 6  
Jeanie Wilcox ~ Dec 6  
Vincent Mulford ~ Dec 12  
Vicki Proos ~ Dec 12  
Marcia Thompson ~ Dec 13  
Thomas Trimpe ~ Dec 17



**Don't miss this great party!**

If you would be interested in helping with this party, please contact Marcia Thompson at [marcia@virtually4you.us](mailto:marcia@virtually4you.us)



# Savvy Boater



## What to do after a boating accident!

If you are involved in a boating accident and the boat is still afloat and you are aboard, then the first thing to do is to determine whether you or anyone else needs medical attention. If anyone has fallen overboard, then you should assist the victim back onto the boat when possible. If the vessel has broken apart or is sinking, then climbing on floating debris and signaling for help is advised. You should have a life jacket on or accessible at all times to help you to stay afloat in the event of a boating accident. The U.S. Coast Guard reports that 70 percent of boating accident fatalities result from drowning.

Provided that everyone is still on the boat, the priority should be keeping the boat out of harm's way while providing medical assistance to those on board. The boat should be moved out of the path of oncoming vessels, and then first aid should be provided to injured people. The Coast Guard should be contacted immediately to let them know that an accident occurred, the location of the accident and what medical assistance may be necessary. In addition to making sure everyone aboard the vessel is OK, you should also check to determine if anyone aboard other vessels involved need assistance. You should never leave the scene of a boating accident, especially if anyone is in need of medical help.



Even if you do not initially believe that you were injured in the accident, it is still a good idea to see your doctor following a boating accident. Sometimes the shock of being involved in a boat wreck can mask symptoms of a serious injury. So, you and your loved ones should err on the side of caution and seek a medical opinion as soon as possible. Make sure you mention to the physician that you were involved in a boating accident, as they may want to run specific tests or perform certain procedures.

### GATHERING INFORMATION ABOUT THE BOAT ACCIDENT

Once ascertaining that everyone is OK and out of immediate danger after the boating accident, you will next need to obtain essential information from those on the other vessel as well as from any witnesses to the accident.

Information that you should gather at the accident scene includes, the:

- Names, addresses and telephone numbers of the boat operators involved in the accident.
- Names, addresses and telephone numbers of the passengers involved or aboard any of the vessels in the crash.
- Names and contact information of any eyewitnesses who may have witnessed the accident from shore or from other vessels.
- Registration or identification number of the other vessels involved in the accident.
- Insurance company names and the insurance policy numbers of those who were involved in the accident.

You may wish to take photographs of the damage to the boat and the location where the accident occurred. Getting this evidence from the scene of the boating accident can be helpful if you later need to prove that the other boat operator was responsible for the accident.

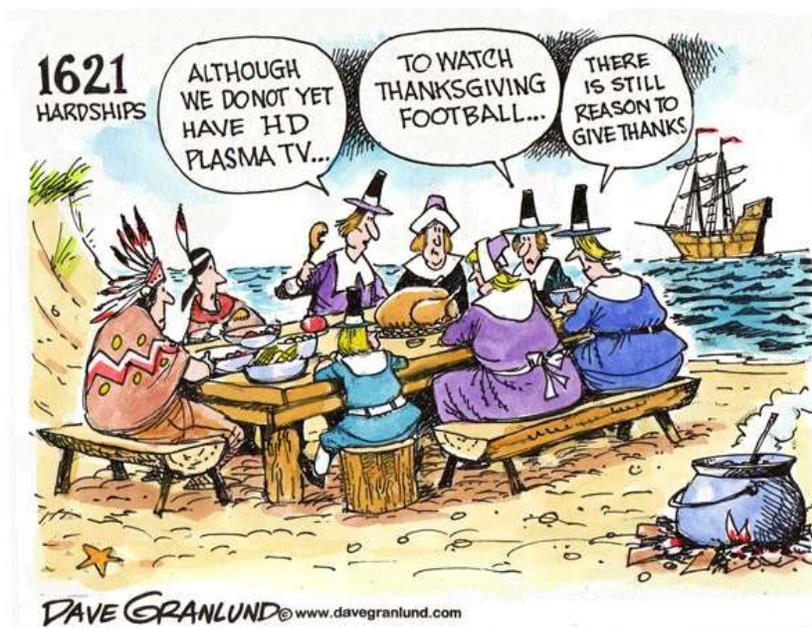
## REPORTING THE BOATING ACCIDENT

Reporting a boating accident to the U.S. Coast Guard is a good idea because an accident report from the Coast Guard may be used to help shed light on how an accident occurred. In many cases, reporting the accident is also required by federal law.

Under the federal law, a boating accident report must be filed if:

- Someone is killed
- Someone is injured badly enough to need medical care beyond the most basic first aid
- There is damage to the vessels or to property that equals or exceeds \$2,000
- There is a complete loss of a vessel or a vessel is destroyed
- Someone disappears from a vessel under circumstances that indicate an injury or death has occurred.

<https://www.joyelawfirm.com/accidents/boating-accident-lawyer/what-to-do-if-involved/>



# America's Boating Club of West Michigan



TO ADVERTISE IN THE WATERSPOUT, CONTACT:  
[EDITOR@GRSPS.ORG](mailto:EDITOR@GRSPS.ORG)

## Advertising Rates

*The Waterspout is an electronic newsletter published 9 times a year (September – May).*

### Annual Rates

#### Business Card

\$225 Members - \$450 Non-members

#### Quarter of Page

\$450 Members - \$810 Non-members

#### Half Page

\$810 Members - \$1,125 Non-members

#### Full Page

\$1,620 Members - \$2,160 Non-members

*Interesting in supporting boat safety or have a boat; join GRSPS and get member rates!*



*a Unit of the United States Power Squadron®, America's Boating Club within District 9*

The Grand Rapids Sail and Power Squadron (GRSPS) is the Grand Rapids area's Boating Club. GRSPS is focused on boating that is safe, smart and fun.

GRSPS members have access to some of the best resources available to recreational boaters.

### Contact:

**Grand Rapids Sail & Power Squadron**

**1620 Olson ST NE,**

**Grand Rapids, MI 49503**

**[www.grsps.org](http://www.grsps.org)**

**[editor@grsps.org](mailto:editor@grsps.org)**

# Commanders Club

## The Commander's Club

An Honor Roll of Special Members  
Representing a minimum gift of \$50 per year

**David and Sallie Brinks**  
**George and Carol Mandigo**

If you would like to join the Commander's Club,  
contact Jack Draper at [Commander@grsps.org](mailto:Commander@grsps.org)



## Newsletter DEADLINE

**Deadline for next  
issue is the 10th**

Submit photos from events, stories of travels, questions  
or anything you would like to see in the newsletter next  
time.

Submit photo as .jpg files at highest  
resolution.

**Send all information or questions to:**  
Editor at [editor@grsps.org](mailto:editor@grsps.org)



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