

SPLASH!

## Port Huron Sail and Power Squadron December 2018

It is hard to believe that 2018 is already drawing to a close. It has been a cold October and November in Michigan. Temperatures have generally been 10 to 20 degrees below average for the past eight weeks. It feels like winter should be half over but it won't even start for another three weeks.

We will be beginning a new year very soon. A chance for renewal for all of us. I wonder what the future holds for the Port Huron Squadron.

**Happy Holidays to you and your families and friends!**

**Notice of Election** Past Commander (2017) Wayne Hastings, who chaired the 2018 Nominating Committee, reported the slate of members who agreed to serve the Squadron in 2019 at the October 30<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meeting. He thanked P/C Dale Lashbrook and P/C Mike Nall who served on the Committee. The results of the Nominating Committee's efforts were published to the membership by email on Wednesday November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Second Sunday** Eleven of us gathered at Wings ETC on Quay Street on Sunday November 11<sup>th</sup>. It is a new restaurant with a full menu - not just wings! The Babins, Bradshaws, LaPortes, Mattsons, Mike Bachler, Collette Witherspoon and I enjoyed dinner together. The food was good and reasonably priced. The fellowship was even better. We were shocked to learn that parties of eight or more were subject to an unpublished automatic 18% tip and an 18% service charge. Beware.

**November 13 Executive Committee Meeting** The Executive Committee selected the 2018 recipients of the Squadron Awards from nominations made by the general membership prior to the meeting. Congratulations to:

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**Cdr Jay C. Montgomery, AP**

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Maes Award P/C Howard Sherman  
Alexander Award Robert Christoff  
Propeller Award Julya Hopkins  
Brooks Award Peter Jones and Donald Mortimer  
Longest Cruise Award Daniel Busen  
Harland Award Yvonne Babin  
The Rib John Kendrick

**November 27<sup>th</sup> General Meeting** There was a quorum of both the Executive Committee and of active members at the meeting. Secretary Mike Quaine reported that we are ready to publish a new Membership Directory for 2019. It was proposed and approved that the new directory will be in the form of a three-ring binder with easily replaceable pages. Pages will be published as changes occur rather than publishing the whole Directory once per year which was our past practice. The new Directory will also be available on line for those who prefer that format.

Instead of a speaker, we tried an on-line trivia game as a change of pace for the meeting. We found the 35 question game challenging. Everyone appeared to have fun. No one reported scoring 100 percent. Not many of us could describe or define a "funicular".

**What are these numbers?** Have you noticed a number set on all of my SPLASH columns and NewsFlash communications? Decode this month's message, send me your answer in an email (please don't share it with anyone else) and win a prize!

19 27 44 4

CDR Jay C. Montgomery, AP



**P/C Jeannie C. Hall, AP  
Executive Officer**

Port Huron Sail and Power Squadron, dba America's  
Boating Club of the Blue Water Area

***Nominating Committee Report  
2019 Officers***

Bridge Officers:

Commander - Jay Montgomery

Executive Office - Jeannie Hall

Educational Officer - Robert Christoff

Administrative Officer - none found

Secretary - Michael Quaine

Treasurer - Robert Frohm

Executive Committee:

Larry Babin

Ivan Ferriby

Richard Haas

Nancy Harland

Pete Jones

Joe Kennedy

Bob Mattson

Lon Skoglund

Confirmed by Vote of the Membership at the Annual Meeting on Dec, 7, 2018



## WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR THE PORT HURON SQUADRON?

### DECEMBER EVENTS

Friday December 7<sup>th</sup> General Membership Annual Meeting and Elections at the Great Lakes Maritime Center. Christmas party with catered dinner following.  
Reception at 6:00PM D  
Annual Meeting and Elections at 6:30PM  
Presentation of Annual Squadron Awards  
Catered dinner at 7:00PM  
Cost \$28.00 per person for dinner and beer, wine and soft drinks,  
Refer to the flyer for more details.

Tuesday December 11<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting at the Squadron.  
Fellowship at 7:00PM; Meeting at 7:30PM. **A quorum is 8.**  
Committee Members Please call or email if unable to attend.  
**All Squadron members are invited to attend.**

Tuesday December 25<sup>th</sup> **NO** General Membership Meeting in December.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

### JANUARY 2019 EVENTS

Tuesday January 1st

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Tuesday January 8<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting at the Squadron.  
Fellowship at 7:00PM; Meeting at 7:30PM. **A quorum is 8.**  
Committee Members PLEASE call or email if unable to attend.  
**All Squadron members are invited to attend.**

Sunday January 13<sup>th</sup> Second Sunday Where would you like to go?  
**Fellowship at 5:00PM; Dinner at 5:30PM.**

Tuesday January 29, 2019 Change of Watch Details to be announced.

### FEBRUARY EVENTS

Wednesday February 6<sup>th</sup> Electronic Navigation class begins. Registration at 6:30PM at the Squadron.

Thursday February 6<sup>th</sup> ABC class begins. Registration at 6:30PM at the Squadron.

Monday February 11<sup>th</sup> Seamanship class begins. Registration at 6:30PM at the Squadron.

Tuesday February 12<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting at the Squadron.

Tuesday February 26<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meetings RESUME.



Lt/C Robert Christoff, AP

Thanksgiving has passed and I am still thinking of all of the things that I am thankful for. At the top of the list is my assistant Bob Mattson. He was the reason I joined the Power Squadron in 2003 and he has grown to be one of my best friends. I am thankful for all of the Port Huron instructors- starting with Len LaPorte. I followed him all the way to Mackinaw and all of the ports on the way there and back. We took all of the piloting classes together and developed a little rivalry against each other (Chrysler/Ford). Don Mortimer, the experienced one whom I reference in every class that I'm teaching. Pete Jones, his claim to fame - he has taken every class the USPS offers, so rather than get bored, he joined the Sarnia Power Squadron and is taking all of the Canadian classes. Did I mention he is the Commander this year in Sarnia? Mike Bachelor, he was a school teacher in his past life and now has taught me the Power Squadron sailing class. (I will never be a sailor we all can remain calm.) Mike Nall, "The Captain", who for the last couple of summers has been behind the wheel of the Huron Lady. From what I hear, he is the best. I have a lot of respect for Dick Haas. He has helped me so much in this SEO position and has taught me a lot about teaching. Dennis Raetzel who is always seeking fun. I used to buy my son's Buster Brown shoes from his family's store. This summer he gave me a ride on his boat - I have never gone that fast on water before. Dave and Denise Brooks are so busy with so much in Port Huron, but have taught me along the way. Denise was Commander when I joined and I told her I didn't have a lot of spare time and wouldn't be able to give back to the squadron. Dave is the one who taught me how to do VSC's. Wow I'm quite a lucky guy to be the SEO and have these over qualified instructors to help me maintain my position.

Oh yes.... the education page. Well we have secured 4 seminar classes at the SCCC on Free College Day Saturday, March 16, 2019. The seminar classes are Crossing Borders, Anchoring Your Craft, Mastering the Rules of the Road, and Paddle Smart. I will keep all posted when the schedules are published. We still are scheduled for the advanced classes starting the with Electronic Navigation February 6 and Seamanship February 11 with one student signed up for both classes so far. I have the ABC Class scheduled for Feb 7 2019. We need to get the word out so I can keep my job, and the instructors busy this winter.

As we get into the month of December we have our annual Christmas Party (Dec 7) and I hope all the members plan on coming to the Maritime Center to celebrate before all of you take off for the warm ports of hibernation that you seek in the coming months. Have a very Merry Christmas this month and hope we all get what we need from Santa.

Lt/C Robert Christoff, AP

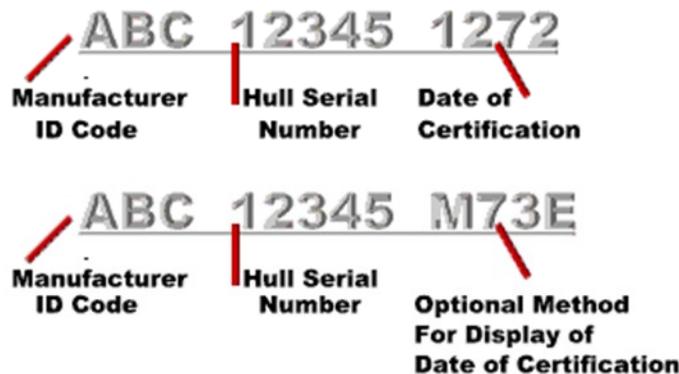


## Hull ID Numbers From BoatSafe.com

### Play the Numbers Game (What's a HIN?)

Did you ever wonder what that strange series of letters and numbers on the transom of your boat are. Well, if you have taken the [Nautical Know How course](#) you know they are Hull Identification Numbers (HIN) and that they are required. But, what do they mean?

All boats manufactured or imported on or after November 1, 1972 must bear a HIN. The HIN is a 12 character serial number that uniquely identifies your boat. The HIN has an important safety purpose. It enables manufacturers to clearly identify for boat owners the boats that are involved in a defect notification and recall campaign. A HIN is not the same as a State registration number, which may be required to be displayed on the bow of your boat. The HIN is a Federal requirement; your boat's registration number is a State requirement similar to the license plate on your car. The HIN, however, is required to be shown on the State certificate of registration.



Aug A	Nov D	Feb G	May J
Sep B	Dec E	Mar H	Jun K
Oct C	Jan F	Apr I	Jul L

### \*Key to Month of Model Year

**Figure 1 - HIN Formats Before August 1, 1984**

The boat manufacturer must display two identical hull identification numbers, no less than one-fourth of an inch high, on each boat hull. The primary HIN must be permanently affixed (so that it can be seen from outside the boat) to the starboard side of the transom within two inches of the top of the transom, gunwale, or hull/deck joint, whichever is lowest. On boats without transoms or on boats on which it would be impractical to the transom, the HIN must be affixed to the starboard outboard side of the hull, aft within one foot of the stern and within two inches of of the top of hull side, gunwale, or hull/deck joint, whichever is lowest. The starboard outboard side of the hull aft is the preferred HIN location for many manufacturers. On catamarans and pontoon boats the HIN must be affixed on the aft crossbeam within one foot of the starboard hull attachment.

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Jan A	Apr D	Jul G	Oct J
Feb B	May E	Aug H	Nov K
Mar C	Jun F	Sep I	Dec L

**Figure 2 - HIN Format After August 1, 1984**

Boats manufactured or imported on or after August 1, 1984, also have a duplicate secondary HIN affixed somewhere on an unexposed location inside the boat or beneath a fitting or item of hardware. The purpose is to help authorities identify your boat if a thief or vandals remove or damage the primary HIN on the transom. It is illegal for anyone (manufacturer, dealer, distributor, or owner) to alter or remove a HIN without the express written authorization of the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard.

The regulations prescribe the format of the HIN. The first three characters are a MIC (Manufacturer Identification Code) assigned by the Coast Guard to the manufacturer or the person importing the boat; characters four through eight are a serial number assigned by the manufacturer; the last four characters indicate the month and year the boat was built, and the model year. Prior to August 1, 1984, the manufacturer had the option of expressing this in the form of a model year designation.

The Coast Guard maintains a searchable database of MICs if you want to check yours out - [click here](#). Individuals building boats for their own use and not for the purposes of sale are what are referred to as "backyard boat builders." They must obtain a 12 character HIN from their State boating agency. The Manufacturer Identification Code at the beginning of the HIN for a "home built" boat is an abbreviation for the State followed by a "Z" which indicates that it is a State identification.

Respectfully yours,  
P/C Mark S. Krainbrink, AP

**Your 2018 Flag Officers**

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