

BOAT

Pennsylvania



Sailing page 4
Canoeing page 8
Kayaking page 13
Water Skiing page 28
Powerboating pages 16, 26



The Keystone State's Official Magazine for Canoeists, Kayakers, Powerboaters, Rafters, Sailors, and Water Skiers

WEARING PFDs

Before the 1930s, the so-called life jacket was no more than a bulky, uncomfortable device found in life rafts aboard seagoing vessels. In 1932 the Fish Commission enacted its first motorboat regulation concerning equipment requirements, stating that motorboats “should be equipped with fire extinguishers, and life preservers sufficient in number to take care of the capacity of the boat.”

In 1971 the life preserver requirement was extended to include nonpowered craft. This regulation was certainly a major step in water safety, but it still did not ensure that the capsized and overboard boater would stay afloat in an emergency. Most boaters still found the devices cumbersome and chose not to wear them.

Even though the law states that most boats need only carry the device aboard for each person, the evidence is clear—we most strongly encourage all boaters to *wear* their PFDs.

Pennsylvania boating fatality statistics, which match Coast Guard data, suggest that 85 percent of those who died in boating accidents would not have perished if they had been wearing a PFD.

Furthermore, visitors to the Harrisburg headquarters, who take a look at the boating accident data, depart with the firm conviction that they will from now on wear their PFDs, not just have them available in their boats.

The Fish Commission is dedicated to maximizing optimum boating opportunities in Pennsylvania, but the Commission also regards wearing a PFD an essential ingredient in that pursuit.



Ralph W. Abele
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Fish Commission

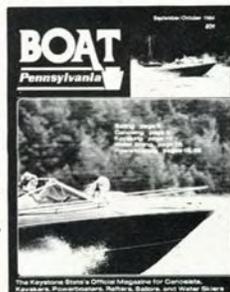
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ralph W. Abele".

BOAT

Pennsylvania

The Cover

Pennsylvania powerboaters enjoy Lake Wallenpaupack on this month's front cover, photographed by Don Carey. For practical information that all powerboaters may eventually need to know, turn to page 26.



Buying page 24



Portaging page 8



Racing page 4



Rescuing page 18



Rolling page 13

Over the Bounding Erie Main with MORC by Dave Heitzenrater

The Midget Ocean Racing Club (MORC) is alive and well and competing in Erie 4

Paddle Your Own Canoe—and Portage it, too! by Cliff Jacobson

You don't have to have Charles Atlas to portage your canoe, but you do have to lift and carry it sensibly. Here's how 8

The Eskimo Roll by Leann R. Diehl

Here are the step-by-step procedures for learning this difficult but essential kayaking maneuver 13

A Rescue Line for Small Boats by Charlie Walbridge

Here's the lowdown on buying or making your own throw-line device 16

Consider Design and Technique in Purchasing a Canoe by Greg Proteau

Canoes are designed and built to do some things better than others. Let this information help you match your needs to what's currently available 24

Towing by Virgil Chambers

Sooner or later, most boaters give or receive a tow. Follow this advice so your towing proceeds without hitches 26

Learn to Barefoot Waterski the Easy Way by Jack Davis

The author describes the latest advances in technology and gear that let you best learn this difficult technique 28

Susquehanna Enchantment by Ron Frymire

Come along with the author on one of Pennsylvania's most scenic float trips 29

Viewpoint 2
Currents 20
Safety 20
Mail 21
Calendar 22

STAFF

Editor / Art Michaels
Graphics / Ted Walke
Photographer / Russ Gettig
Circulation / Eleanor Mutch
Staff Assistant / Jayne Povleski

POSTMASTER: Send 3579 forms to Pennsylvania Fish Commission, P.O. Box 1673, Harrisburg, PA 17105-1673. Pennsylvania Angler (ISSN0031-434X). ©1984 is published monthly. Second class postage paid at Harrisburg, PA. Subscription rates: one year, \$5; three years, \$14; single copies are 80¢ each. For subscription and change of address, contact Angler Circulation, Pennsylvania Fish Commission, P.O. Box 1673, Harrisburg, PA 17105-1673. Address all other correspondence to: The Editor, Pennsylvania Angler, P.O. Box 1673, Harrisburg, PA 17105-1673. The authors' views, ideas, and advice expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinion or official position of the Pennsylvania Fish Commission or its staff.

Pennsylvania Fish Commission

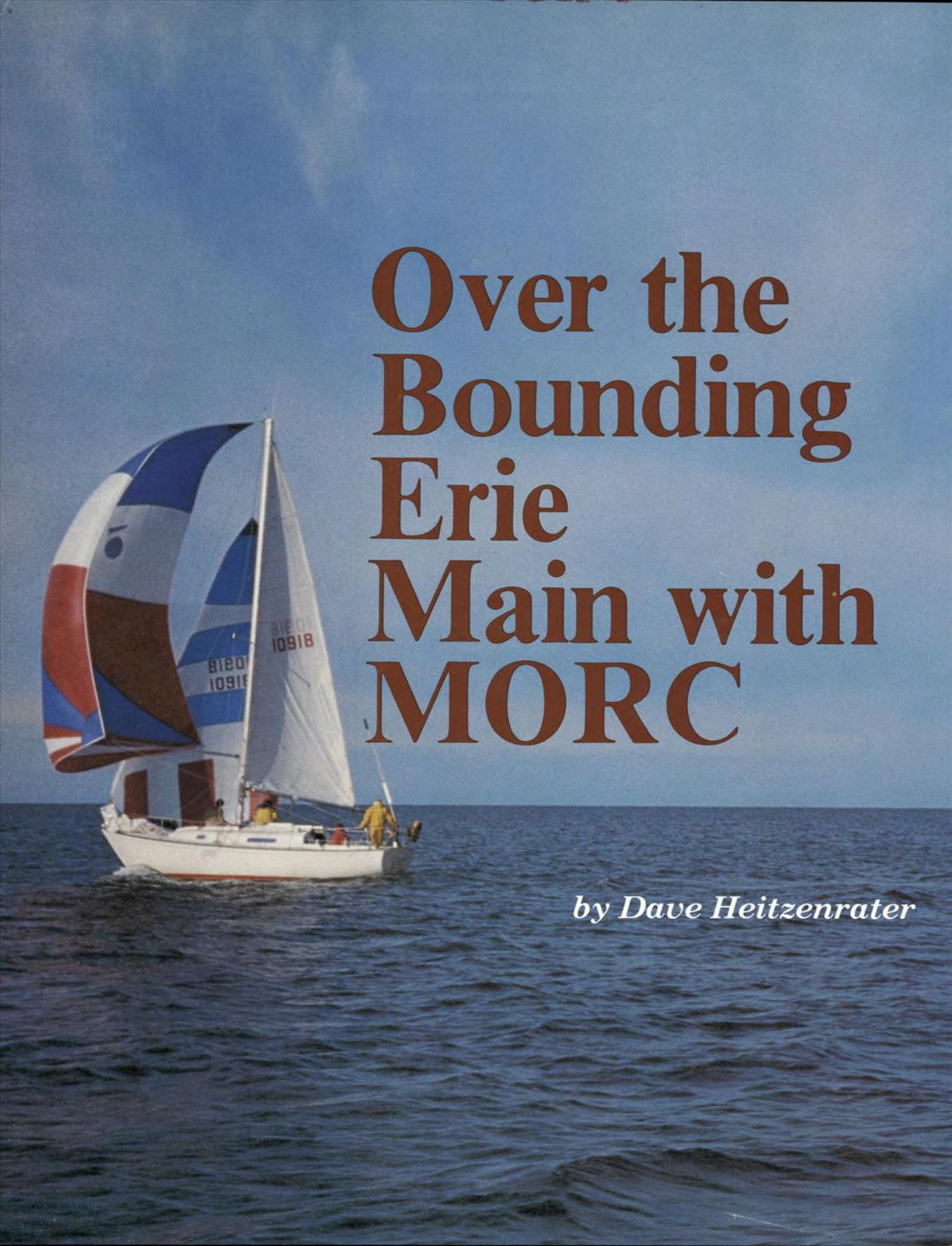
Ross J. Huhn, *President*
 Saltsburg
 Marilyn A. Black, *Vice President*
 Meadville

Walter F. Gibbs
 Titusville
 Leonard A. Green
 Carlisle
 Calvin J. Kern
 Whitehall
 Robert L. Martin
 Bellefonte

Theodore T. Metzger
 Johnstown
 Joan R. Plumly
 Jenkintown
 Jerome E. Southerton
 Honesdale
 J. Wayne Yorks
 Benton

Boating Advisory Board

Clayton Buchanan, *Chairman*
 Pittsburgh
 Nicholas Apfl
 Fairless Hills
 Charles Chattaway
 Monongahela
 Sherwood Krum
 Hawley
 Leon Lyon
 Bellefonte



Over the Bounding Erie Main with MORC

by Dave Heitzenrater