

Rick Deering
Second Mate on the CLYDE S. VANENKEVORT
Same address on MMC as in MMLD

On the vessel for about a year, in may of 2017 when VanEnkevort bought it.

Stands the 12-6 watch. The vessel utilizes the 6 on / 6 off watch rotation.

Was on watch towards the end of the river transit through the Straits of Mackinac.

On the radio talk to the AB bow watch and ask about status of the anchors.

There is no inspection of the anchor.

A new brake pad was installed as the last one failed last year. It was inspected by ABS in the shipyard he was told.

No one told him about anchor slipping.

Would assume both anchors are cleared or secured because on the radio he says clear the anchors and the AB radios back that the anchors are clear.

When leaving the river and going to the Straits there was very high headwind. Relative wind speed of 47 MPH when came out of DeTour.

There heavy ice and shelf ice during the river transit and ice around the straits as well.

Not much ice in Detour, Pot Bay to Detour was open.

Little ice in straits and lots of spray over the bow. Went about 8 MPH through Round Island Pass. Slow down in the pass to avoid squatting.

If an anchor let go, would not be aware of it from the wheelhouse. Its 845 feet from the bow, the anhor system is entirely enclosed.

Got on watch at Moon Island, got off watch just under Mackinac Bridge.

The barge engineers could have been doing maintenance.

It's ridiculous that the ABs did not pass that they thought the starboard side anchor brake was broken again and they were not using it.

Was on watch for arrival to Indiana Harbor.

AB reported that they heard a noise from barge, then reported that the anchor was away.

Put CPP controls to zero pitch.

Asked AB for clarification, AB said we don't have an anchor.

Was NOT happy about the situation.

Said to the AB "I don't care if a fairy cleared that anchor, it was your job to check."

Not sure who cleared the anchor, probably one of the engineers.

Captain was pissed, mentioned reprimanding the AB.