



Prevailing Wind



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The "Prevailing Wind" is the official publication of the Lakeland Sail and Power Squadron and is published monthly. All members are encouraged to submit articles, information of personal interest, and photographs of squadron activities to be considered for publication. Please send your submittal to:

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Lakeland Sail and Power Squadron, Inc.

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®

America's Boating Club®

Boating is fun... we'll show you how

October 2009



Commander's Message

Cdr. Mike Hall, AP

Fall has officially arrived in Central

Florida, on the calendar anyway. As this is being written, the forecast is for the first cold front (cool anyway) of the season to arrive in the next day or two. The days are shorter, the grass is growing slower, and the heat and humidity are promised to be lower. This is indeed a great time of year to live here! With the end of summer, those of us who have been on an extended trip have, we hope, returned home safely and are ready to resume your involvement in your Power Squadron.

The District 22 Fall Conference is upon us. The Hall's and Littrell's will be in attendance along with some of you, we hope. Conference week end is a good time to renew old acquaintances, and to pick up information about anything new happening on both the District and National levels.

The annual Roar N Soar event at Fantasy of Flight is knocking on our door. We will once again be operating our concession trailer, along with our good

friends at the Winter Haven Nautical Club. If you have not yet signed up to work a shift, or more, please get in touch with Bob Beckner to find out where your help is needed. You may e-mail Bob at becknerspecmds@aol.com, or call him at 863-686-7621 for those who do not have or use e-mail. This has become a very important event for both organizations and *your* participation is important for making it successful. Mark your calendar and call or e-mail Bob ASAP. By the way, many thanks to Bob and P/C John Valich for taking leadership of this event!

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This Month's Activities

- Oct 2 - 4 **2009 District 22 Fall Conference**
Sarasota Hyatt, Sarasota
- Oct 13 **C&R and LSPS General Meeting**
at Tom and Judy Larson's
(see Administrative Officer's article)
- Oct 24 **C&R**
(see Administrative Officer's article)
- Mondays through Nov 16
Piloting Class - 1900
Conference Room
Porter-McGrath Center
- Thursdays through Nov 5
Squadron Boating Course - 1900
Old Salt Marine
1922 US Hwy 98N, Lakeland
- Nov 5-8 **District 22 Fall C&R**
Burnt Store Marina



Administrative Officer

Lt/C Tom Larson, AP

October 13 – C&R: Monthly Meeting and Chili Cook-off. Come enjoy mild, medium, and blazing Chilis at Tom and Judy Larson's house. Sign up to bring a Chili or a side. We'll start at 18:00 for the libations, food starting at 18:30. For directions, entering your Chili, or coordinate a side dish, please **call Judy Larson at 863-393-6897.**

Calling all new members...come to the Chili Cook-off and meet all the other members, kick back, and enjoy yourselves. We'll also do a new member swearing in ceremony...so please attend.

October 24 – C&R: Day Cruise. Details to be announced. We are looking for a couple of Captains with larger boats to carry passengers on a cruise, and then raft up for dinner and sunset. If you are interested, please **call Tom at 863-393-6896** or email at tom@ona-gwynne.com.

November 5-8 District Fall C&R: Burnt Store Marina...see the Beacon 22 for details.

December 8 – Christmas Party: Don't miss this year's Christmas Party / meeting. Join us for a great meal in a private dining room at Zohra's in Lakeland. You have four choices for a fixed price. For \$25.00 per person, you can get a salad, entree, desert, and non-alcoholic beverages. Choices of entrees are:

- ❖ Grouper w/Picatta Sauce
- ❖ New York Strip Steak w/Burgundy Demi Glaze
- ❖ Pecan Encrusted Chicken
- ❖ Chicken Marsala

You can also order from the menu if you want to try something else. Beer and Wine are also available.

If you want to learn more about Zohra's, go to zohraslakeside.com.

Please make sure you let us know you are coming to the Christmas dinner. We'll need to give Zohra's a head count 4 days in advance. Please **call Judy Larson at 863-393-6897.**

Also, we'll be doing a White Elephant gift exchange. Bring a wrapped gift valued at less than \$10 for this swap.

This is going to be a great evening...don't miss it!

Burgees: We have just received a new shipment of the Lakeland Sail and Power Squadron Burgees. Cost is \$20. If you would like to purchase a Burgee, please call or email Tom at 863-393-6896, tom@ona-gwynne.com.

We welcome 5 new members to LSPS! They are Conley Thornhill from Winter Haven, and Jack and Jane Watkins and their sons Cole and Conor, also from Winter Haven. With the recent addition of Joe and Linda McDonough from Lakeland, this makes a total of 7 new members this year. We hope that the new members, and all of the rest of us, will be able to attend the chili dinner at the home of Tom and Judy Larson on the 13th of October. All will have an opportunity to meet and greet the new folks. AO Tom's article has the information concerning the dinner. By the way, for those whose spouse is not a member of LSPS, you are welcome to bring him or her to the dinner.

I know that we don't really want to think about it, but Christmas is coming soon. Tom's article also has information concerning our Christmas dinner, so mark your calendar for this event as well.

During the week end of Sept. 26-27, your Squadron provided patrol boats for "The Last Big Splash" seaplane competition at Fantasy of Flight. Doing this service for them will lower the percentage that we will have to pay Fantasy of Flight for the concessions we sell at Roar N Soar. Thanks to Dick and Jackie Littrell, Bob Beckner, and David Hutchinson from the Winter Haven Nautical Club for giving up some of your time for this good cause.

During our October meeting, to be conducted at the chili dinner, we will have at least one important item to be discussed and acted upon. Old Salt Marine, on Hwy 98 N in Lakeland, has offered to let us make their facility our home. We are currently conducting the 8 week Squadron Boating Course there, and we would also be able to have our regular meetings there as well. Please let us know your thoughts about this important item of business.

Have a great October, and we hope to see you soon!

Photos from the Labor Day Cruise to Amelia Island



P/C David Smith and Becky aboard "Awe\$um Duck" out with the big boys



P/C David Smith enjoying the early September sunset and ready to chow down on one of Bob's Big Burgers.



P/C John Valich and crew ease "Mental Floss" into her slip at Fernandina Beach Marina.



Aboard "Bob's Garage," Susan Beckner tells Bob that she is proud of him for always wearing his PFD while under way. Bob responded, "Thank you, Susan, PFDs only work if you wear them."



SEO's Message

Lt/C Judy Larson, AP

September is off and running with the start of an 8-week Squadron Boating Course and a Piloting course. Both of the courses will end in November and will be the last of the courses or seminars to be taught this year.

Our October meeting will be our annual Chili Cook-off. I will also have a box of old seminar books available for anyone who would like to take one. As always, anyone who would like one of the current learning guides just needs to let Nancy Hall or me know, so we can get it ordered for you. If we can put your order in along with one of our regular orders, you will save on the shipping costs.

My course of the month is the Boating Operator Certificate. As stated in the USPS web-site:

Background and Overview

With the Boat Operator's Certification Program, USPS will certify USPS members at various levels of recreational boating proficiency. We expect these certifications will be recognized across the boating community, both domestically and internationally. In the United States, The United States Coast Guard (USCG) has asked congress to authorize the Transportation Secretary to establish requirements for standards of proficiency for recreational boaters. We intend to have USPS certification accepted as the above stated proof and be accepted as the national certificate for the USA.

Regarding international recognition, we plan to have *certain* USPS certifications meet or exceed the requirements of UN Resolution 40, *International Certificate for the Operation of Pleasure Craft*. Under this resolution, boaters holding national certificates will be able to obtain international certification, much like licensed drivers can obtain international drivers licenses.

USPS currently plans four levels of Boat Operator Certification:

- Inland Navigator
- Coastal Navigator
- Advanced Coastal Navigator
- Offshore Navigator

Requirements

Certification at any level requires successful completion of all prescribed elements including:

- USPS courses - completions are tracked at USPS Headquarters
- USPS and/or non-USPS seminars - signed off by instructor and tracked at Headquarters
- Skill demonstrations on the water or, in some cases, ashore - signed-off by trained certifier and tracked at headquarters (some are US Sailing programs)

To be certified, a member must be at least 16 years of age, be mentally and physically capable of operating a boat, and have sufficient visual and auditory sensory ability to do so. Holding a driver's license will suffice to certify meeting these requirements.

There is a complete and thorough explanation of the requirements and benefits of this certification on the USPS web-site. See you at the next meeting!

USPS MOURNS LOSS OF WALTER CRONKITE

Lt. Bill Hempel

Senior Feature Writer

Marketing/Public relations Committee

United States Power Squadrons

Most Americans recognize that with the passing of Walter Cronkite, we lost a beloved news anchor man. However, few know that the United States Power Squadrons® lost one of its most prominent students. When not traveling the world for the next big news story, Mr. Cronkite's great passion was sailing. He held the Power Squadron in high esteem, and so to learn about boating he joined in the early 1960s. As his interest in sailing grew, he immersed himself in the USPS advanced classes studying piloting and navigation.

He found that plotting courses and difficult navigation problems made cruising the most interesting. He said "I just love playing with the Loran, radar and the sextant". On his beloved 48' Windward, "WYNTJE", from his home on Martha's Vineyard, he sailed the Caribbean in the winter and back to Massachusetts in the spring. He enjoyed the challenging waters around the Northeastern United States with his wife Mary and his Annapolis friends. He also loved sailing far flung destinations, including the West Coast, Alaska, Scandinavia and Australia.

When age slowed down his sailing trips, Mr. Cronkite donated his beloved "WYNTJE" to Associated Marine Institute, an organization devoted to providing positive impact to troubled teens. He commented: "I could have sold her, but by donating her to be used by young people, I felt it would give her a new energy and a new life". This gesture is a tribute to the character of the man.

Walter Cronkite became known as "the most trusted man in America". He surely must also be recognized as the most trusted student of the United States Power Squadrons. This prompts the following questions. "How trusted am I as a Captain?" "Have I taken classes in basic boating, or piloting, or navigation?" "Do I have the basic foundation of knowledge upon which to build a fun career as a recreational boater?" "When we go out for a day of fun boating, can my crew of family and friends trust their lives in my hands?"

If the answer to these questions is "No", then follow Walter Cronkite's lead. Go to www.USPS.org and contact your local unit of the United States Power Squadrons for information on membership and upcoming classes. How could you go wrong in following the lead of America's most trusted man? As the organization tells us:

"Boating is fun...We'll show you how!"



Walter Cronkite on his beloved 48' Windward, "WYNTJE"

www.lakelandsailandpower.info

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