



UNDER THE BRIDGE

LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS

FROM THE COMMANDER

Cdr. John B. Bell, AP

Here it is November. Where did this year go?



Seems like we were just getting it started not too long ago. I know we have all been busy getting things put back together again and trying to get some order back into our lives. Hopefully, everyone has made significant progress and the skies are beginning to look clear and blue again.

I attended the District 15 Fall Conference meeting in Mobile, AL on October 21st. It was very interesting and informative. Chief Commander Ernie Marshburn was there and spoke several times to share his insights into challenges facing the organization and some of the initiatives are that are being pursued to address those challenges. Declining membership is one of the most significant issues we all share. I am optimistic about the ideas they are considering and some of the programs that are underway. One of the critically important programs is the USPS University. We have all heard a bit about it but we will hear much more in the coming months. A lot of new and interesting seminars are being developed to attract potential new members with interesting and relevant information that will be valuable to both new and existing squadron members. More to come on the seminars be sure and stay "tuned in".

Many thanks to all of the squadron volunteers that helped out at the 2006 Madisonville Wooden Boat Festival on October 21st and 22nd. This is our biggest annual civic event and we had quite a number of volunteers out to help. Thanks to you, we were able to man one of the high volume gates for the festival along with our own LPSPS booth. All of the proceeds from this event go directly to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation's Maritime Museum. It is their largest fundraiser and the primary source of their

annual operating budget. The museum has been very supportive of our squadron by letting us use their facilities for our public and advanced educational courses.

December is election time for the 2007 Bridge and Executive Committee. Look for the report from the Nominating Committee on page so you can cast your vote. Remember, the Bridge and Executive Committee are here to serve you, the squadron membership. They want to have the kind of squadron you want. Get involved in any capacity you can.

Thank you for your continued support and membership in the Lake Pontchartrain Sail & Power Squadron. You make it what it has been, is today, and will be tomorrow.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

02 Carol Bell	19 Walter Cure
07 Jeff Williams	19 Perry Turner
08 Jerry Huffman	20 Wayne Russ
08 Arthur Witherup	21 Marlene Sobkowich
11 Lloyd Springman	22 Michael Faust
13 Matthew McNabb	22 Michael O'Bryan
16 Ronald Everett	24 Bill Dietrich
	27 Joe Corrizo

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Lt/C Bill Dietrich, AP



Halloween is gone and it's getting close to Turkey Time! We are closing in on the end of another year; they just keep coming and going 11111, fortunately.

The Lake Pontchartrain Sail and Power Squadron has done it again! We've been of great help to the Wooden Boat Festival, by

volunteering our time and energy to a multitude of tasks. We tended gates, collected money, delivered drinks and ice, carried trash, judged boats and last but not least communicated with, docked and helped

the stars of the festival, *the boats*.

A hearty thanks to all of our members who helped in these various functions. It is our participation in these events that helps new boaters recognize a need for our services. We provide the community with a multitude of services and in the interim find time to teach new people and ourselves more about boating safety and care. Take the time to think of all the things we do to make boating more enjoyable and fun and you will enjoy our Squadron more. Many thanks for your help and participation.

When asked to partake in a new venture of the squadron, take the opportunity to teach, learn or just enjoy as the case may be and look forward to another year as I do!

EDUCATION

Lt/C Ronald Everett, AP

Our last safe boating class of the year will start on Tuesday, November 7th and continue through Tuesday, November 14th, concluding with an exam on Tuesday, November 21st. Those who attended the Wooden Boat Festival and signed up for the class were greater than space available so we will admit on a "first come - first served" basis.



ADMIN'S VIEW

Lt/C Bob Christian, P

To all of our members who turned out to support our Squadron at the Wooden Boat Festival a very big "Thank You"! In addition to helping out the Maritime Museum, our members enjoyed great camaraderie as they worked the gate.



Our November general membership meeting will be held on Thursday, November 9th at Friend's Coastal Restaurant at 407 St. Tammany St. in Madisonville. We will be in the upstairs room and have use of the balcony to enjoy the beautiful view of the Tchefuncte River. Social hour will be from 6pm to 7pm. and a cash bar will be set up in the room for us. Dinner and the meeting will start at 7pm. It will be a buffet style with the following:

- Caribbean salad with Creole Tomato dressing or Raspberry vinaigrette*
- Pork with Mango salsa*
- Blackened Catfish with key Lime Beurre blanc*

*Smashed Potatoes & Steamed Veggies
For Dessert White Chocolate Bread Pudding
Coffee and Iced Tea are included*

The price will be \$15.00 per person including tax and tip. What a bargain!!!

We need to know how many are coming, so please call Carol Bell at (985) 809-9805 no later than November 3rd to reserve your spot..

Get ready for the December general membership meeting when we will have our ever popular "Dirty Santa Event"

Also on the books is the Christmas Party in Destin ,Florida. My lovely wife Rebecca and I attended last year and had so much fun that we are going again this year. The date is Friday, Dec. 1st to Sunday, Dec.3rd.

The accommodations are wonderful. On Friday night there is a welcome party with finger food and beverages. Saturday the Ladies shop and the gents "BOAT SHOP". In the evening there is a buffet and lots more fun. On Sunday a buffet breakfast sends us on our way. Our hosts do a fabulous job and put a lot of hard work and effort into this weekend!

SECRETARY'S CORNER

Lt/C Bob Albers, AP

Soon we will be enjoying that most joyous time of year. In preparation for the celebrations, we will be out shopping and have our minds on many things, contemplating the parties, dinners and family get-togethers. Unfortunately, there are others who take advantage of our distractions to do the terrible things which we



read about year after year. I received the following tips from a friend (Sandy Perry) in England and thought I really had to pass them on to you. The author is a woman and as such there is a definite feminine leaning to the advice, but there is enough here for men to contemplate and use also. After reading these 9 crucial tips, pass them on to someone you care about. It never hurts to be careful in this crazy world we live in.

1 Tip from *Tae Kwon Do*: The elbow is the strongest point on your body. If you are close enough to use it, do!

2. Learned this from a tourist guide in New Orleans. If a robber asks for your wallet and/or purse, DO NOT HAND IT TO HIM. Toss it away from you.... chances are that he is more interested in your wallet and/or purse than you,

and he will go for the wallet/purse. RUN LIKE MAD IN THE OTHER DIRECTION!

3. If you are ever thrown into the trunk of a car, kick out the back tail lights and stick your arm out the hole and start waving like crazy. The driver won't see you, but everybody else will. This has saved lives.

4. Women have a tendency to get into their cars after shopping, eating, working, etc., and just sit (doing their check book, or making a list, etc. DON'T DO THIS! A predator may be watching you; this is the perfect opportunity for him to get in on the passenger side, put a gun to your head, and tell you where to go.

5. AS SOON AS YOU GET INTO YOUR CAR, LOCK THE DOORS AND LEAVE.
If someone is in the car with a gun to your head DO NOT DRIVE OFF, repeat: DO NOT DRIVE OFF! Instead gun the engine and speed into anything, wrecking the car; your Air Bag will save you. If the person is in the back seat they will get the worst of it. As soon as the car crashes bail out and run. It is better than having them find your body in a remote location.

6. A few notes about getting into your car in a parking lot, or parking garage:
A) Be aware: look around you, look into your car, at the passenger side floor, and in the back seat
B) If you are parked next to a big van, enter your car from the passenger door. Most serial killers attack their victims by pulling them into their vans while the women are attempting to get into their cars.
C) Look at the car parked on the driver's side of your vehicle, and the passenger side. If a male is sitting alone in the seat nearest your car, you may want to walk back into the mall, or work, and get a guard/policeman to walk you back out.

IT IS ALWAYS BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY. (And better paranoid than dead.)

7. ALWAYS take the elevator instead of the stairs. Stairwells are horrible places to be alone and the perfect crime spot. (This is especially true at NIGHT!)

8. If the predator has a gun and you are not under his control, ALWAYS RUN! The predator will only hit you (a running target) 4 in 100 times; and even then, it most likely WILL NOT be a vital organ. RUN – preferably in a zigzag pattern!

9. Women are always trying to be sympathetic: STOP it may get you raped, or killed. Ted Bundy, the serial killer, was a good-looking, well educated man, who ALWAYS played on the sympathies of unsuspecting women. He walked with a cane, or a limp, and often asked "for help" into his vehicle or with his vehicle, which is when he abducted his next victim.

I hope none of us ever needs any of this advice, but if you ever do, remember this advice.

Nominations for 2007

In accordance with the Lake Pontchartrain Sail & Power Squadron Bylaws, the Nominating Committee recommends the following candidates for office. Each has expressed their willingness to serve LPSPS in their respective office.

Commander	John Bell
Executive Officer	Doug Brooks
Administrative Officer	Gene Mallard
Secretary	Bob Albers
Treasurer	George Trousdale
Education Officer	Ron Everett
Asst. Ed. Officer	Paul Lumpkin

Executive Committee

Bob Christian
Bill Dietrich
Carol Bell

General Committees have staggered terms to provide continuity. Those to be voted on are in bold. Due to resignations some positions may have more than one member to be elected.

Rules Committee

Art Roberts (1 year)
George Trousdale (2 years)
Don Roman (3 years)

Auditing Committee

Peggy Roy (1 year)
Allan McDonnell (2 years)
Jeff Williams (3 years)

Nominating Committee

Peggy Roy (1 year)
Marlene Sobkowich (2 years)
Jeff Williams (3 years)

Lake Pontchartrain Sail & Power Squadron
Cdr. John B. Bell, AP
20436 Narrow Road
Covington, LA 70435-0423

**It's getting late!!!
don't miss out on the fun**

2006 Christmas Weekend
Hosted by the New Orleans Power Squadron
Sundestin Beach Resort
1040 Hwy 98 E Destin Florida
1-3 December 2006

**Weekend Package Price for Two
3 Days & 2 Nights**
1 bedroom, 1½ bath Condominiums
Gulf Front \$281.00
Coastline \$263.00 Restricted View \$247.00
Above Cost Plus Taxes

Hospitality Room - All Weekend
Hosted by Maureen and Bernard Kullman

Friday Evening Welcome Party 5 - 7 PM
Hosted by Brenda and Jimmy Murphy

Saturday Evening Buffet 7 PM
(Dinner Fare to be set)

Sunday Champagne Brunch

Call Sundestin at 850-837-7093 ex 6216
**Ask for Scott Hamblin &
Power Squadron Package**

Additional information call Jim Murphy
850-650-6356

**LPSPS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**

Thursday, November 9th
Social Hour begins at 6 PM

Friend's Coastal Restaurant
407 St Tammany Street
Madisonville, LA

Buffet Menu
Caribbean Salad
Pork w/ Mango Salsa
Blackened Catfish
Smashed Potatoes – Steamed Veggies
White Chocolate Bread Pudding
Coffee & Iced Tea included

\$15 per person
Reservations are required no later than
November 3rd.
Call Carol 985-809-9805

Meet and Greet Fellow Members