



# **UNDER THE BRIDGE**

## **LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS**

### **FROM THE COMMANDER**

***Cdr. John B. Bell, AP***

Another year has come and gone. Fortunately for us it was relatively uneventful with respect to



hurricane activity in our region. We certainly needed the respite to continue with our rebuilding efforts. I hope everyone was able to regain some semblance of order to our lives. And now we face a new beginning as we enter 2007. Every year brings us challenges and opportunities.

This year as we look forward we should be mindful of every opportunity to further the goals of the USPS objective of safe recreational boating for all. In our area we are facing a greater number of boaters due to the influx of people from south of the lake. Many of these folks have decided to establish their roots on the Northshore. We welcome them and look forward to enjoying their company and their contributions to our neighborhoods. I have met a number of new people who are avid boaters and have invited them to check us out and consider becoming members of our squadron. I am confident we will see an expansion of our membership during 2007.

I plan on attending the USPS Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, FL on February 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Please consider this your personal invitation to join me and other members of our squadron and district at this event. If you have not previously attended one of these meetings I can assure you they are both interesting and informative. There is a full program available for your social and educational enjoyment. Further information is available on the USPS National website at [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org). The website has recently been redesigned so try it out. I went to the site navigation section and checked on the Executive Dept. From there I went to the Annual Meetings and selected Feb 24, 2007 in Jacksonville, FL. From there you can get all of

the details for events all week beginning on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Next is the New Orleans Boat Show.

Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. We assist our neighbors in the New Orleans Power Squadron in staffing the USPS booth during the show, plus you get in free to enjoy the show too. If you haven't already volunteered to take a shift please do so by contacting either Bill Dietrich or me. You can also sign up on via our website at [www.lsp.org](http://www.lsp.org).

Thanks for your continued support and participation in your Lake Pontchartrain Sail and Power Squadron. You, the membership, make it what it is....and it would not be successful without you.

### **IMPORTANT COAST GUARD NOTICE**

#### **BOATERS MUST NOT OPERATE 121.5/243 MHz EPIRBs AFTER 31 DECEMBER 2006**

The Coast Guard reminds all boaters that beginning January 1, 2007, both 121.5 and 243 MHz **Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs)** are prohibited from use in both commercial and recreational watercraft. Boaters wishing to have an emergency rescue beacon aboard their vessel must have a digital 406 MHz model.

The January 1, 2007, date to stop using 121.5 MHz EPIRBs is in preparation for February 1, 2009, when satellite processing of distress signals from all 121.5/243 MHz beacons will terminate. Following this termination date, only the 406 MHz beacons will be detected by the International Cospas-Sarsat Satellite System which provides distress alert and location data for search and rescue operations around the world.

The regulation applies to all Class A, B, and S 121.5/243 MHz EPIRBs. It does not affect 121.5/243 MHz man overboard devices which are designed to work directly with a base alerting unit only and not with the satellite system.

This change, in large part, was brought about by the unreliability of the 121.5/243 MHz beacons in

an emergency situation. Data reveals that with a 121.5 MHz beacon, only one alert out of every 50 is a genuine distress situation. This has a significant effect on expending the limited resources of search and rescue personnel and platforms.

When a 406 MHz beacon signal is received, search and rescue personnel can retrieve information from a registration database. This includes the beacon owner's contact information, emergency contact information, and vessel/aircraft identifying characteristics. Having this information allows the Coast Guard, or other rescue personnel, to respond appropriately.

In the U.S., users are required by law to directly register their beacon in the U.S. 406 MHz Beacon Registration [Database](http://www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov/) at: <http://www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov/> or by calling 1-888-212-SAVE.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Lt/C Bill Dietrich, AP*

The new year is here! It will bring with it all the normal things Plus those we take the time to make happen. In the local boating world things are happening!



The Pontchartrain Yacht Club has a new floor! Unlike the last one it's up in the air and should reduce, significantly, any flooding possibilities. Drive by and see

something new in the boating world!

There is a new organization starting in Mandeville, a local chapter of the ACBS (Antique & Classic Boating Society) , an organization for the preservation and recognition of "Antique and Classic" boats. This will only help keep the level of boating participation interesting and will also provide interested boaters who need our help in Safety and Education! Welcome to the New Year.

A quote from Jim Rohn on motivation.

**"Motivation alone is not enough, if you have an idiot and you motivate him, all you have is a motivated idiot"**

Our goal should be Educate and Motivate!

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 02 Bill McNabb     | 21 Harry Talbot      |
| 06 Chance Miller   | 22 Vincent Pisciotta |
| 06 Jim Richardson  | 23 David Campbell    |
| 10 Brian Hadaway   | 23 Peggy Roy         |
| 11 Dennis Blum     | 23 Frank Sanders     |
| 13 Wanda Mascari   | 28 Dudley Haycraft   |
| 13 Helen Trousdale | 28 Roy Mascari       |

**ADMIN'S VIEW**

*Lt/C Bob Christian, P*



As the outgoing Admin Officer, I want to thank all of the fellow members who have helped and assisted this past year. I couldn't have functioned without the great assistance and support that I have been given.

I hope to see all of you at the upcoming C.O.W. This is our

most important event for the month of January. The C.O.W. is scheduled on January 20<sup>th</sup> at Beau Chene Country Club. Social hour begins at 6:00 P.M. It's \$35.00 per person and will be held at the Beau Chene Country Club, 6:00 pm hors d' oeuvres, 7:00 dinner and start of program. Menu includes choice of Roast Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus with lyonnaise potatoes, or Broiled Grouper topped with a shrimp cream sauce with starch and vegetable du jour, or Pork Wellington marinated tenderloin topped with herbed goat cheese fried in a pnyllo dough. Included are Beau Chene garden salad with vinaigrette dressing, baby green beans, rolls and butter, iced tea and coffee, and New York cheesecake with raspberry coulis. Music will be provided by Miss Candy.

RSVP no later than January 12, 2007 to Carol Bell at (985) 809-9805 or email her at

[jcbcbell@bellsouth.net](mailto:jcbcbell@bellsouth.net). As we all know how cranky she gets when we don't respond in a timely fashion let's work together and get our reservations in early This is a very nice event and a Class A uniform with bow tie, USPS Blazer, or suit for men. The ladies always know how to dress, so no suggestions needed for them! Last year, the food was excellent. In short we have a wonderful night planned.

We still need more recipes for the Power Squadron cookbook! Everyone is reminded to turn in your recipes at the General Meeting on February 8, 2007. The cookbook committee has worked hard on putting together the cookbook and deserves your continued support in making this a successful endeavor.

I would be remiss if I did not thank all of you fellows with strong backs and willing minds who assist in the set up and take down of the chairs and tables at our meetings. Many hands make light work!

Don't forget the New Orleans boat show is January the 10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>. Although the New Orleans Power Squadron is responsible for the booth at the Boat Show, we share in staffing and assisting the booth. Please volunteer ASAP. Contact Bill Dietrich (985-626-9730) to stand your watch. This is also a great opportunity to see some great toys and vessels. We need everyone's help that weekend.

Coincidentally, this is a very good way to get in and see the boat show and all of the great new toys while you are off duty.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

*Lt/C George Trousdale, S  
Incoming Treasurer*

Doug Brooks has done a fabulous job as Treasurer. Our coffers have risen to an all time high and LPSPS is financially prepared for any eventuality. He would be our Treasurer in perpetuity except for the fact that we need his talents at a higher level!



Thank you, Doug.

Having said that, I do appreciate your confidence in my handling your money. During my tenure, if any member in good standing wants to know ANYTHING about LPSPS money, just call me at 985-792-1335. It is my firm belief that the Treasurer should provide any and all financial information to members regularly and/or as requested.

I look forward to serving you as your Treasurer and having the pleasure of your company at all of the 2007 LPSPS activities.

**SECRETARY'S CORNER**

*Lt/C Bob Albers, AP*



First, as secretary, I need to report the significant events of our last meeting. The main business of the evening was the election of our Bridge and committee members who will serve for the 2007 year. They will officially take office on January 20, 2007 at the meeting when we will hold the

"Change of Watch".

**Elected for 2007**

**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  
Marlene Sobkowich

**Rules Committee**

Don Roman (3 years)

**Auditing Committee**

Jeff Williams (3 years)

**Nominating Committee**

Peggy Roy (1 year)  
Jeff Williams (3 years)

Now lets look to the future. We are also still looking for sailors to volunteer their boats for our great sail event which I have erroneously labeled "Regatta". I am not suggesting that we race anyone, just introduce Power Boaters to the joys of a "rag top". Let's have fun with this. Just go to the website or call me at (985)727-4665 and volunteer your boat. At this writing, we have 1 boat.

**ADMIN'S VIEW ALSO**

*Lt/C Gene Mallard, AP  
Incoming Admin Officer*

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! 2007 promises to be an exciting year for the Lake Pontchartrain Sail and Power Squadron. Your LPSPS Executive Committee is putting together an active schedule for this coming year with activities being planned for our members and guests for every month of the year. The



proposed plan and schedule will be presented at our first 2007 membership meeting for your comments/inputs and for you to put on your 2007 schedule. Expect great things! Between our monthly meetings, monthly boating activities, training sessions and other activities, such as our booth in the upcoming Boat Show, 2007 is shaping up to be an exciting year.

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



You are cordially invited to attend  
Lake Pontchartrain  
Sail & Power Squadron's  
Annual  
Change of Watch  
Saturday, 6 PM - January 20, 2007  
Beau Chene Country Club  
602 North Beau Chene Drive  
Mandeville, LA  
Choice of Entrée  
Broiled Grouper Roast Prime Beef Pork Wellington  
Cash Bar  
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED \$35 per person  
RSVP by January 13, 2006  
985-809-9805 Carol

## **ATTENTION BOATERS**

Take the  
**United States Power  
Squadrons  
BOAT SMART COURSE**

*Gain practical knowledge regarding;  
Marine Radio Telephone, Knots & Lines,  
Aids to Navigation, Navigation Rules,  
Boat Handling, and more*

**When:** *Tuesday, January 16th; Tuesday,  
January 23rd, and Tuesday, January 30th*

**Where:** *Madisonville Maritime Museum – 133 Mabel  
Dr. Madisonville*

*This is a 3 week course – one night per week  
For additional information call  
Ron Everett 985-630-2912*

*Lake Pontchartrain Sail & Power Squadron  
Advanced reservations required.*

*No Tuition Charge*

*There is a \$35 charge for class materials.*

*This course is for all mariners!*