



# ***UNDER THE BRIDGE***

## ***LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS***

### ***FROM THE COMMANDER***

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

September already! Where does the time go?



It seems like we just got started with 2007 and here we are in the last month of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. I must be having fun because time is surely flying!

We have had a number of formal and informal rendezvous' recently and some have had quite a good turnout.

The one we had at the wall in Madisonville in August was well represented by both our squadron and the New Orleans squadron. I believe everyone had a great time, and although the weather was quiet warm, we managed to stay cool with refreshments and delightful company. There are more rendezvous coming up so watch for the notices and plan on participating if you can. For those that are not able to participate we would love to hear from you so we can try to put together some events that more people can get involved in. Just give us your feedback. You can send it directly to me or to anyone else on the Bridge and it will get to the right folks.

Our next big civic event coming up is the Madisonville Wooden Boat Festival in October. This is one of the premier annual community events that we support with our volunteer time and help throughout the festival. If you can volunteer to spend a few hours of your time to help with one of the gates or our LPSPS information booth we would appreciate it. By the way, it's usually a lot of fun too! We will be looking for volunteers over the next few weeks so if someone approaches and asks if you can help, please try to.

We continue to see the effects of the hurricane events and how they have impacted boat insurance availability through the further erosion of our membership base. Thank you for

maintaining your membership with LPSPS. If you know of others that you believe would benefit by joining our squadron please have them contact Helen Trousdale, our membership chairperson, or any of the Bridge members. Remember, for the next three years they do NOT have to pass a safe boating exam to be eligible to join the Power Squadron. It continues to be up to the Bridge and Executive Committee to approve candidates for membership but now it can be done without a candidate first passing an exam. I believe that with all of the positive attributes of being an LPSPS member we should be able to attract and retain a greater level of membership. But, we can only do so with your personal help and assistance. So, again I ask you to think about who you know that you would recommend joining our squadron.

On Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> we will resume our monthly General Membership meetings. This one will be at the Madisonville Maritime Museum. Look for more information in this newsletter.

### ***SEO REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2007***

***1/Lt. L. Paul Lumpkin***

We as a squadron are experiencing growing pains, the number of members is increasing, and the education requirements are changing. Our new members are interested in taking courses, this is the reason they have joined LPSPS. We need volunteers for the 2008 Education Committee. Here is a list of the needed positions:

#### ***Assistant Education Officer for 2008***

***Support Division Chairman:*** Special Programs, Teaching Aids, and Operation Training.

***Advance Grades Chairman:*** Seamanship, Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigation, and Navigation.

**Elective Courses Chairman:** Cruise Planning, Engine Maintenance, Instructor Qualification, Marine Electronics, Sail and Weather.

**USPS Seminars Chairman:** Using VHF & VHF/DSC Marine Radio, Using GPS, How to Use a Nautical Chart, Onboard Weather Forecasting, Boat Handling Under Power, Sail Trim & Rig Tuning, Knots for Mariners, Outboard Emergencies, Using Digital Charts, and Heavy Weather Sailing. These are the Seminars presently available from National, and there are more to come.

**Vessel Safety Check Program Chairman:** VSC Training and VSC Workshops.

**Public Boating Chairman:** America's Boating Course, Squadron Boating Course, Sail, and GPS for Mariners.

**Course Information:**

Weather (Wx) starts Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup> with 15 students.

Junior Navigation (JN) will start Tuesday, September 25, with 9 students at the Maritime Museum.

Instructor Development (ID) will start when we have enough students available, please sign-up ASAP.

Paul Lumpkin  
504-450-7817  
E-mail freevsc@mchsi.com

**SECRETARY'S CORNER**  
*Lt/C Bob Albers, AP*



I think by now all of you know that I try to be creative and different in my monthly articles. This time I just got completely blown away by what I think is a fantastic idea. I wish I could claim to have thought of it myself. As with most of us, I get a ton of e-mails every day—most of which are trash. This morning I got one that is absolutely fantastic. Here it is with my whole hearted endorsement.

**"In Case of Emergency"**

We all carry our cell phones with names and numbers stored in its memory but nobody, other than ourselves, knows which of these numbers belong to our closest family or friends. If we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our cell phone but wouldn't know who to call.

Yes, there are hundreds of numbers stored but which one is the person or persons to be contacted in case of an emergency? Hence this "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) Campaign. The concept of "ICE" is catching on quickly. It is a method of contact during emergency situations. As cell phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the phone number of the person or persons who should be contacted during emergency under the name "ICE" (In Case Of Emergency).

The idea was thought up by a paramedic who found that when he would arrive at the scene of an accident, there was invariably a cell phone with the patient. The problem would be that he didn't know which number to call. He therefore thought that it would be a good idea if there was a nationally recognized name for this purpose. Emergency service personnel and hospital staff would be able to quickly contact the proper person or persons by simply dialing the number(s) stored as "ICE."

For more than one contact name simply enter ICE1, ICE2 and ICE3 etc. A great idea that will make a difference! Let's start the concept of ICE by storing an ICE number or numbers in our cell phones today!

Please spread the word on this. It really could save your life, or put a loved one's mind at rest. ICE will speak for you when you are not able to.

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Randy Joseph Sparacio 01  
Michael J. Istre 09  
Billy R. Evans 11  
Leonard Paul Brewster 12  
Barry V. French 12  
Robert Edward Owens III 15  
Michael G. Alexander 16  
Russell C. Smith 18  
David Bradley Soileau 18  
William Blythe 24  
Terri Foto Williams 26  
Kenneth N. Rayer 29

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
*Lt/C George Trousdale, S*

It has been hot, but not too hot for some LPSPS members. Worm Buckets at the Prop Stop on the Tickfaw River, were the order of the day on the weekend of August 4 & 5. Bells, Roys, and Trousdales backed in to the dock and proceeded to enjoy not only the views, but also the great camaraderie. No electricity, but gensets hummed. The "muscle boat" crowd left us completely alone that evening and life was good on that beautiful, quiet river.



August 25<sup>th</sup> found LPSPS and New Orleans Sail & Power Squadron at the Madisonville wall. Many came and went, but we had almost 40 people at Morton's for lunch! Both Commanders had a few kind words for the crowd. Meetings and stories (some true, I heard!) abounded. A breeze helped as did some moderate libations. Some of our great gals brought dips and chips for all. There was also some boat touring. Don Roman invited a young lad and his father aboard. The boy was obviously on top of the world! Good show, Don.

Our finances continue to build in anticipation of some usual Fall expenses. Please call me, 985-792-1335 if you would like to know more details.

I found this article on rafting up, and thought I would pass it along.

Pearson Sailing Association of the Chesapeake Bay

**What to bring:**

1. Plenty of fenders for both sides of your boat. Fenders can never be too big and you never can have too many.
2. Plenty of dock line. At least as much as you would need to tie up at a dock. Don't forget spring lines.
3. A good anchor. If the raft has to break-up unexpectedly, make sure you are ready to deploy your anchor.

**Procedure:**

1. The biggest boat is generally the anchor boat. Usually, only one big anchor is set, any more and they can get tangled (unless the end boats want to set one). A stern anchor can also be set to prevent excessive swinging although this should be used sparingly since it is usually good to let the raft swing. The captain of the anchor boat should have enough experience with his anchor and should also remember to let out plenty of rode. 7:1 is the least amount you want to set since the displacement of your boat has just multiplied by a factor of 5. Big anchors with a chain rode are a plus here, but can be a pain if you don't have a windlass.
2. Communicate (by radio or otherwise) with the raft-up boat and ask which side the captain wants you to approach. Generally the anchor boat captain will want to balance out the raft-up and will have a preference on what side you come up on. Usually you want the bigger boats in the middle and the smaller boats on the sides, but this isn't a hard and fast rule.
3. Have your fenders deployed on the proper side at the beamiest part of your boat and lines ready to hand to the boat you will be coming up along side. PSA member Ken Thorn recommends a good rule of thumb: the boat already tied up should deploy its fenders for the next the boat. Of course you may want to work this out before hand to make sure the other boats are all on the same page with this.
4. Set your stern and bow lines so that the boat is straight and even alongside the boat next to you. You want to balance the distance of your stern and bow with the boat next to you, allowing the beamiest part of your boat (usually amidships) to touch with the boat next to you (this is where the fenders come in handy). Make sure these lines are tied as securely as possible.
5. Set a spring line to allow some offset of the boat next to you. This is especially important with sailboats rafting together; you don't want to tangle spreaders with the boat next to you. In this case it is sometimes advisable to alternate stem to stern.
6. The goal is to try and make your boat one with the raft. This means you need to tie your boat as tightly as possible to the others. Any slack will allow excessive movement in a wake.
7. Excessive movement, especially in a wake situation, is often times unavoidable. This is one

reason some folks don't like to raft up and is cause for a raft-up to break up before dark. It depends on how protected the anchorage is, how many fenders you have and how tight your lines are.

8. Repeat these steps if someone is rafting up on the other side of you.

**Raft-up etiquette:**

1. Be respectful of the privacy of the boats next to you.
2. If you are in a large raft-up, getting from boat to boat can be cumbersome. Take your time. No one appreciates those who party all night only to trip over someone else's lifelines or falling into the drink or both trying to get back to their boat!
3. Also, be mindful of those curmugeons who insist on varnishing their brightwork while rafting. They don't appreciate you walking all over their newly varnished toe rail- even with your boat shoes!
4. Remember to board amidships, or where it is easiest, but cross each boat over the bow, not through the cockpit area.

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN REPORT**

*Helen Trousdale*

**Lake Pontchartrain Sail & Power Squadron**

**Membership Committee**

The Membership Committee is in full swing with recruiting a total of 14 new members!

Please wear your name tags so these honored new members can get to know you at the September 13th General Meeting. I have ordered name tags for all new members and will present them at the meeting. All new members will have a special "DOT" on their name tags. Honored new members: Bo Gambles, Margaret Fels, Jon Fels, Clint Schexnaydre, Chuck Schaefer, Thomas Pertuit, Drew Pertuit, Bob Babin, Mark Tupper (reinstatement), Garey Forster, Heather Mlynarski, Walter & Madeline Mlynarski. Gayle Joseph and Dwight Coursey are transfers from Baton Rouge. Dwight was the SEO in the Baton Rouge Power Squadron and is anxious to help Paul Lumpkin with the Education Department.

Dr. Jay Martin, Director of The Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum, will give an interesting talk about the partnership between LPSPS and the Museum. Afterwards, he will host a great film about the history of Madisonville's ship building and boating industry.

LPSPS will supply the entrée from "Sweet Daddy's" and all members, except new members, are requested to bring a covered dish or dessert.

Please be sure to make our new members welcome and remember that we are looking for good, fun loving people interested in joining our fine organization!

Helen Trousdale

**UPCOMING EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER**

**Fall Governing Board**

September 5-9, 2007  
Norfolk, VA.

**Executive Board Meeting**

September 6, 2007

**Weather Course**

Starting September 10, 2007  
Location: Pontchartrain Yacht Club  
1501 Lakeshore Dr., Mandeville  
Don Roman, Instructor (386) 453-6456

**General Membership Meeting**

6 PM, Thursday September 13, 2007  
**Madisonville Maritime Museum,**  
LPSPS is furnishing the meat from "Sweet Daddy's". Please bring a dish to pass and "BYOB"

**D15 Fall Council**

September 22, 2007  
Pascagoula, MS.

**Jr Navigation (JN) Course**

Starting September 25, 2007  
Location: to be determined  
Paul Lumpkin, SN Instructor

**Lake Maurepas Rendezvous**

September 29, 2007  
Blind River Bar

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**TOWBOAT U.S. LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN OPENS.**

Captain Mark Tupper has opened TOWBOAT U.S. on the North shore at Mariners Village Marina in Mandeville. He will be servicing the entire Pontchartrain Basin.

To join call 800-888-4869 or call Mark Tupper at 985-373-6330

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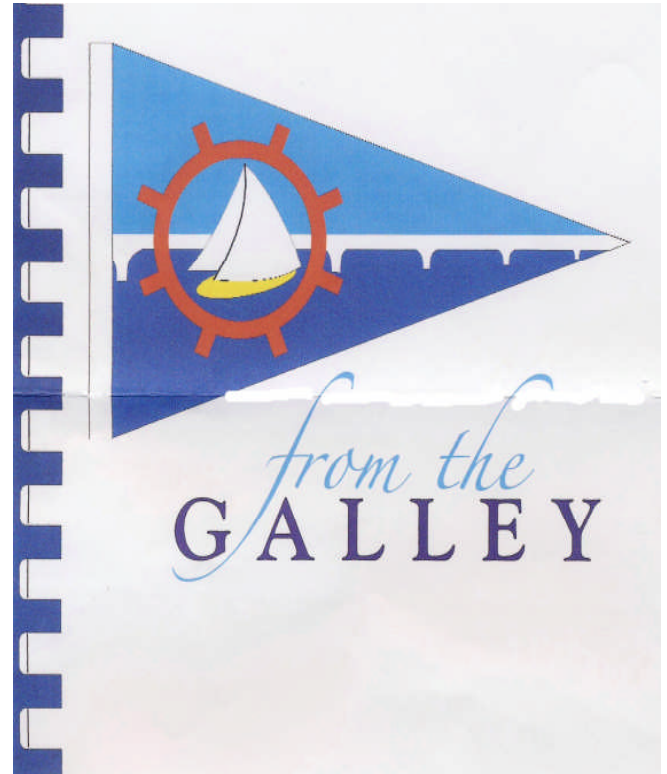
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LPSPS Cookbook now available!



**LPSPS Cookbook Reminder**

The new LPSPS Cookbook, "From the Galley" will be available at the Sept. 13th meeting. Don't forget to come prepared to purchase some of the books for yourself, family and friends. Several people who had submitted recipes have already purchased books for their children and grandchildren as keepsakes. They'll make great Christmas gifts, if you can wait that long. The cookbooks sell for \$15.00. We can accept cash or checks made out to LPSPS. Sorry no credit cards. Proceeds will be used for LPSPS boating safety education.

Some of the recipes from the cookbook will be prepared by the committee for your sampling at the meeting. Come, enjoy, and then take the recipes home for yourself in "From the Galley".

The Cookbook Committee

Editors note:

If any member would like something published, please feel free to email me at [sailont@aol.com](mailto:sailont@aol.com)

Christine Williams

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

### Lake Pontchartrain Sail & Power 2007 Bridge Officers

Commander

Cdr. John Bell, AP 985-809-9805  
[jbellecc@bellsouth.net](mailto:jbellecc@bellsouth.net)

Executive Officer

Lt/C Doug Brooks, AP 985-845-3309  
[dbrooks@cpdrum.com](mailto:dbrooks@cpdrum.com)

Education Officer

Lt/C Ron Everett, AP 985-630-2912  
[RonEverett39@aol.com](mailto:RonEverett39@aol.com)

Admin Officer

Lt/C Gene Mallard, AP 985-641-6251  
[GMallard@TMLS.Textron.com](mailto:GMallard@TMLS.Textron.com)

Treasurer

Lt/C George Trousdale, S 985-792-1335  
[gwt413@charter.net](mailto:gwt413@charter.net)

Secretary

Lt/C Bob Albers, AP 985-727-4665  
[rcalbers@bellsouth.net](mailto:rcalbers@bellsouth.net)

### Executive Committee Members

P/C Marlene Sobkowich  
Bob Christian  
P/D/C Bill Dietrich  
Carol Bell