



UNDER THE BRIDGE

LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS

FROM THE COMMANDER

Cdr. Douglas A. Brooks, JN

Judy Warnke has updated the Roster to include e-mail addresses. We are planning to put the roster on our web site www.LPSPS.org under the "Members Only" section. This is password protected. If you do not want your email address on the protected site please call me on my cell at 504-453-0225.



LPSPS hosted our annual Change of Watch on January 24th, at the Beau Chene Country Club. We had a large turnout of both members and guests. Everything was great and the 2009 Bridge was installed by none other than D/C Glenn Roy. Our thanks to Glenn, and to our Emcee P/C John Bell. John felt as in previous years our members could use a refresher course on "The Anchor Dance" prior to the installation of officers. I must say from my observation point he was absolutely correct. In fact, after three attempts it was apparent we needed more practice than we had time for. However, a great time was had by all and we moved on.

This past year was most rewarding for me for several reasons. First we had more participation by our members on numerous projects. As a result of that, we had a 40% increase in the number of submissions for Merit Marks over the prior year. What that says to me is that our members are really getting out and supporting our Squadron. On top of that, this year (2008) we came in either first or second for the District 15 Civic Achievement Award. We will get the results at the next District Meeting. I will let you know how we did. So overall, our squadron is not only promoting ourselves, but supporting the community in a large way. I want to take this opportunity to thank our Membership and the outgoing 2008 Bridge for a great job.

You made me very proud to be your Commander and certainly gained the respect of our District. In the closing comments by our D/C Glenn Roy, he stated that Lake Pontchartrain had made great strides over the last year and has a solid base making it one of the leading Squadrons in the District. That only happens because of you, our members.

Building on what we have accomplished over the last several years, the 2009 Bridge will still plan on having fun like we have in the past. We want to have more Rendezvous especially with the other squadrons in our District, work with other squadrons for Safe Boating week, do more Civic projects especially with the Maritime Museum and last but not least promote more education for our existing members. You know going to class with several of your friends is fun too. We have a fine SEO in Paul Lumpkin along with his assistant Nick Chronis. They have told me they will teach any class our members want. The Squadron offers more than just technical classes. There is weather, cruise planning, GPS/electronics and a whole bunch of seminars. Of course, we plan on doing some of the seminars as part of our General Meetings. Watch for those dates. So come out and plan on taking some classes this year. You will be glad you did and all of us will thank you for doing so.

If you think about it our National Slogan "Boating is fun, we will show you how. The "show you how" is Education.

Thanks again for allowing me to be your Commander last year and I look forward to another great year with your continued support and involvement.

Cdr. Doug Brooks, JN

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lt/C Carol Bell, S

Greetings to all My Fellow Boaters!



To those of you who didn't make our Change of Watch on January 24th, you missed a fabulous time! It was an opportunity to thank our outgoing bridge for a job well done and welcome in our new Bridge. There was a lot

of dancing and for those who didn't know how, lessons were given by Commander Doug Brooks and Past Commander John Bell. There were questions that needed answering and everyone had a chance to express their opinion and win a prize. The Past District Commanders who were present kept everyone in check! If you have never attended a Change of Watch function for our Squadron, please plan on attending next year!

Your new Bridge is working on our plans and goals for this year and we welcome any suggestions that our members may have. Please remember that we need lots of help with various jobs and would really appreciate any help that you can give. Just contact any of the Bridge members for a list of jobs available! One of the committees that we do need help with is Vessel Safety Checks. We will be having a short class on this topic and after a brief training session you will be ready to roll! This is a great chance to help out fellow boaters both Power Squadron members as well as the public to make sure that their boats are properly equipped with the right safety equipment. Also it provides an opportunity to promote the value of the Power Squadron's educational programs. In addition you get to go aboard many different types of boats and meet some great people as well as share some bonding time with fellow members. We will be doing vessel safety checks as part of our Safe Boating Week in May and we need to get everyone trained well before then. If you are interested in helping, please email me at jcbbell@bellsouth.net or call me at 985-264-1662. I look forward to hearing from you.

Let's make 2009 the year that if you don't normally attend our general membership meetings you will show up to at least one and find out what you have been missing! Also if it has been awhile since you volunteered to help at any of our events such as Safe Boating Week or The Wooden Boat Festival come on out, meet some new people, have some fun and do a good deed!

Don't forget this is a great time to start checking out our boats to make sure everything is in good repair before the "official" boating season begins. Have you checked the water in your batteries lately as well as all your coolant levels? How long has it been since you ran your engines? Hose fittings can easily come loose and cause all sorts of problems. Time to clean those air conditioning vents. The list goes on and on. You know what needs to be done for your particular boat so don't put it off! One day we will wake up and it will be a beautiful sunny day and you will want to jump on your boat and go, so make sure that it doesn't let you down!

Safe Boating to All

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lt/C John Winters

After a long and rough campaign, headed by my



senior advisor Carol Bell, I have been elected to follow Carol as the Administrative Officer for 2009. Luckily Carol is moving up and not out and she has already helped me a great deal in organizing 2009. Here is a peek at the next few months.

- February 12-General Membership –Pot Luck and Elvis will be in the building
- February 22-Tchefuncte River Boat Parade. My boat will be open on River Slip. I will be able to ferry persons to other squadron boats anchored in the River.
- March 12-General Membership Catered. Lake Pontchartrain Foundation update.
- March 28- Rendezvous T-Rivers. Sheltered, bathrooms, and BBQ pits
- April 9- General Membership
- April 18- Crawfish boil

Hopefully you will all save these dates and enjoy boating as it was meant to be. Please don't hesitate to call with questions and/or fresh ideas.

EDUCATION OFFICER

Lt/C Paul Lumpkin, SN

Education Department News



We will continue with the USPS Seminars and Navigation Rules at the General Membership Meetings.

The following is a list of the 2009 training schedule. We will have classes for each of the following courses if a minimum of 6

students are enrolled in each of the courses.

LPS&PS Training Schedule for 2009

America's Boating Course

31-January-2009

6-June-2009

18-July-2009

Advanced Grades

Seamanship	10-August-2009
Piloting	25-February-2009
Advanced Piloting	13-May-2009
Junior Navigation	TBA
Navigation	1-September-2009

Elective Grades

Cruise Planning	20-January-2009
Engine Maintenance	26-May-2009
Marine Electronics	10-March-2009
Sail	11-August-2009
Vessel Safety Check	TBA
Weather	14-September-2009

Note: Dates are subject to change.

Now it's up to you to take advantage of this USPS educational opportunity. Be sure to sign up early for these classes.

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED 30 DAYS BEFORE THE CLASS STARTS!

Contact Paul Lumpkin to enroll or to request additional information on one or more of the above programs. Last day for ordering materials will be 30 days before beginning of class.

L. Paul Lumpkin, SN
LPSPS SEO
Phone: 504-450-7817
E-mail: freevsc@mchsi.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

Lt/C George Trousdale, S

It is most difficult to write an interesting article about our finances. We're in good shape financially. Now what?



I'll digress a little. Helen & I are having a ball in the Power Squadron! There are so many great people that we've come to know! They are really fun loving

people that care. A few days ago, our TV wouldn't come on. Knowing that a fellow member is a whiz at electronics, I called him. It was about 7:00 PM and after a brief description of the problem, he volunteered to come to my house – about 15 miles away! Now that's a Good Samaritan! Anyway, before he got off the phone, his wife suggested that I unplug it, and plug it back in, which I did. THAT WORKED! Amazing! So as not to embarrass him, I won't divulge his name. To give credit where credit is due, his wife is Carol Bell!

Another great story is about a lady unofficially known as the "Cruise Mistress" who is all-knowing about organizing cruises. Her appellation is the result of her coordinating all our trips to Sandestin with absolutely all details taken care of. Again, not to embarrass, her initials are Norma Roberts.

D. B. AKA Doug Brooks is the perennial man in motion. No job is too menial for him. He swan dives into his hold and throws his phone into the Tchefuncta River with abandon! I could go on and on about many of our members, but as I said I'm digressing!

Our treasury is flush, but we get the majority of our money early in the year and must conserve. But not to worry, your Executive Committee is very conservative with your money!

Good boating,

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN REPORT

Helen Trousdale

The Lake Pontchartrain Sail and Power



Squadron's web site, which is www.lpsps.org, has been updated with new information about education and about what we are all about along with a Membership Application! Just go to the site and click on the new button named "About Us". It tells our story and lists the cost to join, etc. Updated information will ensue.

We look forward to having many more members with your help!

By the time you read this, we'll have our new slate of officers. Doug has agreed to be Commander for another year. Please support him and our LPSPS by bringing a few good new members!

Thank you,
Helen Trousdale

Membership Committee:

Helen Trousdale, Chair
Norma Roberts
Rebecca Christian
Doris Brooks
Patsy McDonnell

Please welcome our 2009 Bridge and Committee Members:

Bridge

Commander	Doug Brooks
Executive Officer	Carol Bell
Administrative Officer	John Winters
Education Officer	Paul Lumpkin
Asst. Education	Nick Chronis
Treasurer	George Trousdale

Executive Committee

Bob Christian
Peggy Roy
Bob Owens
John Bell

Rules Committee

Bill Dietrich
Lynne Hasse
Joyce Tracy

Audit Committee

Jeff Williams
Mark Tupper
Paul Warnke

Nominating Committee

Norma Roberts
John Bell
Bill Dietrich

Budget Committee

Lynn Haase
Glen Roy
Doug Gardner

UPCOMING EVENTS

General Membership Meeting

February 12, 2009
Madisonville Maritime Museum
Social 6:00PM, Dinner 7:00PM
Elvis will be in the building

"Bring a dish to pass" & BYOB

National Governing Board Meeting

February 17-22, 2009

Tchefuncte River Boat Parade

February 22, 2009

Piloting Class

February 25, 2009

February Birthdays

Please wish our February "babies" a very Happy Birthday!

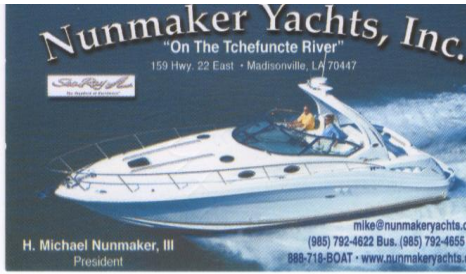
Adrian Diel	03
George Janssen	08
Charles Schaefer	11
Rachel Lasala	13
Robert Tufts	14
Clint Schexnaydre	20

In an effort to promote our Squadron, a license plate for the front of your car can be ordered for a cost of \$25. The license plate is:

- Rigid .040" Aluminum
- Rust resistant, withstands outdoor environmental conditions.
- Withstands -40 to 176 F temperatures
- If you are interested in purchasing a plate, please contact Judy Warnke @ judy.warnke@yahoo.com



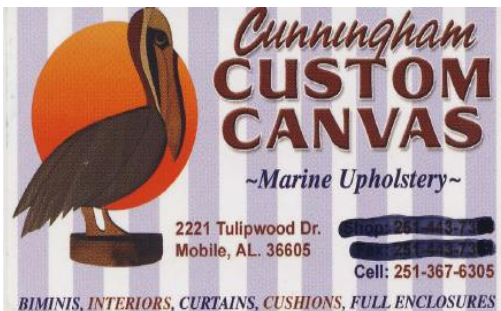
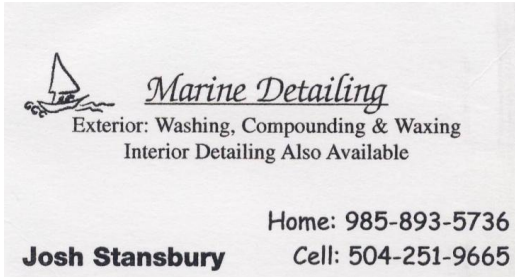
ADVERTISER'S CORNER



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



**Lake Pontchartrain Sail & Power
2008 Bridge Officers**

Commander

Cdr. Doug Brooks, JN 985-845-3309
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Administration Officer

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Education Officer

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Treasurer

Lt/C George Trousdale, S 985-792-1335
gtrousdale@att.net

Secretary

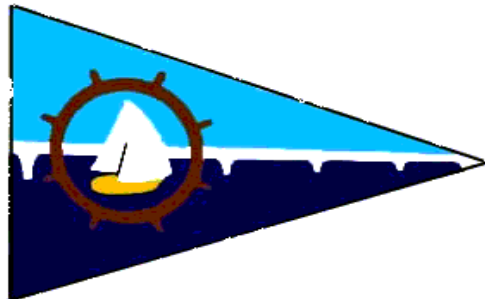
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Executive Committee Members

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Bob Christian, P
Bob Owens
Peggy Roy

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Lake Pontchartrain Sail and Power Squadron
www.lpsps.org