



UNDER THE BRIDGE

LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS

FROM THE COMMANDER

Cdr. Carol Bell, S

Greetings to All My Fellow Boaters,



Well do we think that Spring has officially arrived? I can hardly believe how fabulous our weather has been! A sure sign for me is when I see the purple martins starting to make a home in their condo! Our boating season can now begin in

earnest.

It's time to start thinking about all those spring boat chores that we should get done before taking our boats out on the water. We went to our boat with plans to take it out and of course our starboard engine would not start. Our boats have been sitting there all winter and even though we would periodically run the engines, things can still happen. Now would be a good time to schedule your spring tune up with your mechanic to avoid problems as best we can. Also make sure to have all your hoses checked as well as the clamps holding them on. Have you checked the water in your batteries lately and your coolant levels? Air conditioner vents may also need to be cleaned. Are there spare batteries for flashlights on board? Is your VHF radio working? Check your lines to see if they are all in good shape. Life jackets should all be onboard and in good condition. Are your flares expired? If so, contact Bob Albers our Executive Officer to pass them on to the Squadron for demonstration purposes. Don't forget to contact your vessel safety examiners for your free safety exam. It does not take long and could prove to be very helpful to you. There are lots of things to look into and now would be a god time to start!

The inside of our boats should also have a good cleaning. It is an opportunity to check to see if there are any leaks in closets, cupboards or

anywhere else that you don't normally see. I found some areas in our boat that had been leaking and were able to get them fixed. If I had not been cleaning the closet and checking carefully, I never would have found them.

Also check to see if the seals around your windows look good and your screens are in good repair.

Please check the calendar of Squadron events as there are a number of fun things happening throughout the year. If you like to use your boat, then please come out and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow members. Sometimes you can pick up helpful tips or new ideas to help you on the water.

The District 15 Spring Conference will be held from April 15th to the 17th in Jackson, Mississippi. This is a great time to get to meet some of the members from our neighboring Squadrons. There is a boat cruise planned for the Friday night activity on the Reservoir which should be great fun! Also it is a chance to attend the meetings and learn what goes on in your District. Please come on out and help to support the Jackson Squadron.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting and rendezvous!



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lt/C John H. Gniady, S

Happy Mardi Gras Boaters! As I pen this article



the LPSPS Boat /Float was being prepared for the first annual entry in the Krewe of Tchefoncte Parade. The parade was on Sunday the 27th of

February at 2:00 P.M. on the Tchefoncte River in Madisonville. The theme of this year's parade was Favorite Holidays. The LPSPS Boat/Float depicted Valentine's Day. John and Carol Bell's "**Still Dreaming**" was transformed into the "**Love Boat**" courtesy of Judy and Paul Warnke and a "krewe" of many. Pictures will be posted next newsletter. If you missed this event, you missed a really great time! Not to mention the really great weather. It was so good to see so many boats and spectators out enjoying Spring!

I encourage everyone to review the calendar of events scheduled for this year. Two important events are scheduled for the 26th of March. The first of two educational seminars will be held in the morning. I will leave the details to Nick Chronis our Educational Officer. Following that will be the Crawfish Boil at the lovely home of Elaine and Doug Gardner. A wonderful time was had by all last year and I wish to thank the Gardner's in advance for hosting the boil again this year. As in the past, please bring your own adult beverages, folding chairs and new this year; please bring a desert to be shared.

Speaking of calendars, a call is going out for pictures of the Squadron boats. The plan is to incorporate these with the calendar for next year to be published in the Fall. The first boating rendezvous is scheduled for April 30th. This will be an excellent opportunity to take pictures of the boats on the water. If you have pictures of your boat or other Squadron boats you might have taken previously please send them to me at JohnG@LPSPS.org.

The next LPSPS general membership meeting will be Thursday, March 10th at the Madisonville Maritime Museum. This will be a catered event and the theme will be St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's day. The cost of the meal will be \$12.00 per person, and an RSVP is required by Monday, March 7th. Please RSVP to

JohnG@LPSPS.org, or call Norma Roberts at 225-978-5638. As always, BYOB!

John H. Gniady,
Admin Officer

EDUCATION REPORT

Lt/C Nick Chronis, JN

With spring in the air, the boating season will



soon be in full swing on local waterways and in our favorite boating areas. Most of us are quite ready to put winter behind us so that we can enjoy another season of boating pleasure.

For responsible boaters, however, the advent of fair weather and recent news stories about on-the-water fatalities also serve to remind us that we all need to be conscious of and serious about boating safety. This sobering thought needs to be on our minds as we prepare to participate in water sports with our families and friends.

Several LPSPS members have spent part of the winter taking USPS courses to improve their boating skills; that's sure to pay dividends as they take to the water. Other LPSPS volunteers are providing valuable community service support as they instruct less experienced boaters in classes such as "*America's Boating Course*", the state-approved instruction that qualifies boaters for Louisiana operator's certification. In fact, the first such course for 2011 was presented at the Maritime Museum on February 26 in Madisonville. Other iterations of the "ABC" class will be offered as the season progresses.

Another opportunity for members (and non-members) to gain valuable knowledge is the USPS Seminar Series. Our first seminar in 2011 will address the important subject of "*On Board Weather Forecasting*". This session will provide a distillation of important weather considerations for boaters; it will be presented on Saturday morning, March 26 at the Maritime Museum in Madisonville. The informative, single session presentation is expected to take less than three hours.

The 2011 Seminar Series will also feature separate presentations on "GPS" and "Rules of the Road"; these seminars will be announced in this newsletter, the LSPSPS website and appropriate public announcements.

On a different note, if we have sufficient interest expressed in a one day "CPR" course, we will try to arrange such a course as a service to our members. Stay tuned.

FROM OUR SECRETARY
Lt/C Judy Warnke,S

Hello Everyone. Welcome to March and the warm weather that has arrived with it. I hope everyone is getting out enjoying it. A fun and crazy time was had by the hundreds who attended the Tchefuncte Boat Parade held on Sunday, February 27th. There were 13 boats/floats and thousands of throws. If you missed it, make sure to attend next year.



On February 11th, the ladies visited Blaine Kern's Mardi Gras World. We were able to dress in some costumes, enjoy some king cake and see a short film on Mardi Gras. The tour of the facility was quite nice and we were able to see some of the floats for Orpheus. The floral motif was spectacular. After the tour, we went to lunch at Acme Oyster House in the French Quarter.

The next scheduled outing will be March 25th to Houmas House in Darrow, Louisiana. We will meet in the parking lot near Target on Highway 21 at 9:30am to carpool and caravan to Darrow. The cost of the tour will be \$20 and includes the mansion and gardens. We will have lunch at Café Burnside. Please let me know by March 18th if you will be able to join us. Please contact me at 985-646-3859 or judy.warnke@yahoo.com.

Please mark your calendars with the upcoming dates for our future scheduled outings. They will be April 15th to Bellingrath Gardens, June 17th to Ocean Springs, July 15th to Corks N Canvas, August 19th Tea at Commander Bell's home, September 16th to a Glass Works. Further details on all these and more will follow shortly. Information will also be posted on our website.

MARDI GRAS WORLD



Anne Gniady, Joyce Tracey, Carol Bell, Norma Roberts, Judy Warnke



Upcoming Events

Mardi Gras

March 8, 2011

General Membership Meeting

March 10, 2011

Madisonville Maritime Museum

6:00PM Social

7:00PM Dinner

This is a catered event and you **must RSVP** by **March 7th** to JohnG@LPSPS.org or Norma Roberts 225-978-5638

As always "BYOB"

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

March 17, 2011

Ladies Rendezvous

March 25, 2011

Houmas House

Darrow, LA.

See Judy's article for detailed information

Educational seminar/Crawfish boil

March 26, 2011

Morning seminar at Madisonville Maritime Museum

Crawfish boil Doug and Elaine Gardner's

Stay tuned for more details.

New Orleans Boat Show

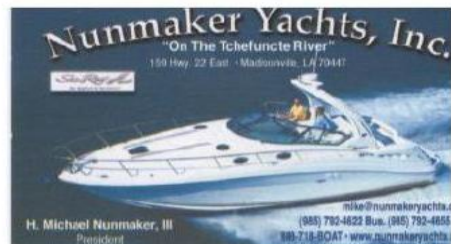
March 31, 2011

General Membership Meeting

April 14, 2011

Covered dish to pass.

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

Marine Engine Repair

Light Engine Industrial & Pleasure

ROB

(985)-285-0373



2011 Bridge Officers

March Birthdays

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

Doris Brooks	02
Timothy MatsonHood	02
Lynne Hase	05
Otis Favre	07
Allan McDonnal, Sr.	09
Karen McNabb	15
Joel Champagne	16
Howard Kiser	19
Mark Tupper	22
Bob Albers	24
Patricia Feisel-Lumpkin	28



Commander

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Education Officer

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Treasurer

Lt/C John Winters, 504-957-7011
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Secretary

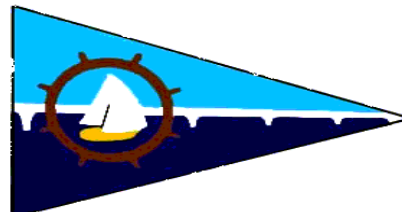
Lt/C Judy Warnke, S 985-633-1626
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Executive Committee Members

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Bob Christian, P
P/D/C Bill Dietrich, JN
P/C Doug Brooks, JN
George Trousdale, S

Newsletter editor

Lt Christine Williams, P
985-624-3813
sailont@aol.com



Lake Pontchartrain Sail and Power Squadron
www.lpsps.org

2011 LPSPS Calendar of Events

January 2011

- 10 Bridge Executive Mtg.
- 22 Change of Watch

February 2011

- 1-6 USPS Annual Meeting, Buena Vista, Florida
- 2 Bridge Executive Mtg.
- 10 General Membership Mtg. Covered dish, Theme Valentine's, Guest speaker(tbd)
- 11 New Orleans Mardi Gras World Ladies' Tour
- 19 Krewe of Bilge Boat Parade Slidell, Louisiana
- 26 America's Boating Course
- 27 LPSPS Boat for Krewe of Tchefoncte Boat Parade

March 2011

- 2 Bridge Executive Mtg.
- 8 Mardi Gras
- 10 General Membership Mtg. Catered, Theme St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's , Educational program (tbd)
- 12 Spring Council Meeting
- 25 Ladies' Tour, Houmas House
- 26 Educational Seminar/Crawfish Boil
- 31 New Orleans Boat Show

April 2011

- 6 Bridge Executive Mtg.
- 14 General Membership Mtg. Covered dish, Theme tbd, Guest speaker (tbd)
- 15 Ladies' Tour, Bellingrath Gardens
- 15-17 District 15 Conference, Jackson, MS
- 30 Rendezvous at Bayou Lacombe

May 2011

- 4 Bridge Executive Mtg.
- 6-8 LPSPS Cat Island rendezvous
- 12 General Membership Mtg. Catered, Theme (tbd) Educational program (tbd)
- 20 Ladies' Tour of Foley Outlet Mall
- 21-27 Boating Safety Week
- 21 Vessel Safety Inspections
- 22 Flare Off
- 27-29 Moonraker Lake, rendezvous with NOPS
- 30 Memorial Day

June 2011

- 1 Bridge Executive Mtg.
- 9 General Membership Mtg. Covered dish, Theme (tbd) Guest speaker (tbd)
- 17 Ladies' Tour, Ocean Springs, MS.

July 2011

No Membership Meeting

2-4 Rendezvous at Pontchartrain
Yacht Club dock area, by boat
or car

2 Membership Appreciation Day
Picnic

4 Independence Day

15 Ladies' Tour Corks & Canvas

23 Educational Seminar/ Cookout

August 2011

No Membership Meeting

13 Land rendezvous, New Orleans
D Day Museum Movie

19 Ladies Tea- Commander Bells'

20- 21 NOPS Tchefuncte Wall Raft Up

31 Bridge Executive Mtg.

September 2011

8 General Membership Mtg.
Catered, Theme tailgate, Guest
speaker (tbd)

14-17 Governing Board North Carolina

16 Ladies' Trip to N.O Glassworks

17-18 Rendezvous Lake Pontchartrain
(Lat and Long tbd)

October, 2011

5 Bridge Executive Mtg.

13 General Membership Mtg.
Covered dish, Theme October
Fest, Guest speaker (tbd)

7-9 District 15 Fall Conference in
New Orleans

15-16 Madisonville Wooden Boat
Festival

November, 2011

2 Bridge Executive Mtg.

10 General Membership Mtg.
Covered dish, Theme Veterans
Day Educational program (tbd)

19 Rendezvous Tchefuncte Wall
and Jambalaya Cook Off

30 Bridge Executive Mtg.

December, 2011

8 General Membership Mtg.
Catered, Bridge election,
Theme, Dirty Santa

25 Merry Christmas!