



# Beaver Lake BEARINGS



*A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®*

Volume XXII, No 6

*Sail & Power Boating*

October 2008

## Commanders Message - October 2008

By Cdr John Fairhead, JN

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September brought us more rain and a sharp rise in lake levels – levels rose to pool level and caused the cancellation of the annual Beaver Lake Shoreline Clean-Up, this event will be rescheduled in the Spring of 2009 says the Corps of Engineers.

At the September dinner meeting the submitted change in the by-laws was adopted. This means there will not be a Change of Watch again until October or November of 2009.

Activities in September were well attended and all in attendance had a good time. We were given an excellent presentation about the water quality, preparation, supply to surrounding communities, and costs associated with the Spring rains and extreme turbidity of the water this year, by the Beaver Lake Water Association. We all learned a lot about our lake and what it means to the area.

The Sail class is progressing nicely and the students are taking advantage of a great opportunity in the form of hands-on class extension on the weekends where they are actually sailing on the lake. This hands-on learning experience may be duplicated in future Seamanship courses as USPS National has announced there is now available insurance to cover the Squadron for such events. The **Advance Piloting** course scheduled to begin in October and the **Navigation** course is in progress.

The October-fest is *on* for Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup>. The calling committee will be in touch with details, site for this year October-fest will be at Tom & Susan Unger's cabin on Whitney Mountain. Make plans now to attend. Also the chili cook off is scheduled for November 8<sup>th</sup> at Rocky Branch Park at the day use pavilion. Plan now to participate in this last "on the

lake" event of the season. Enjoy the Fall colors from the deck of your boat. Check out the deep water anchoring in the day use area.

District 31 Fall Conference and Change of Watch to be held in Oklahoma City, hosted by Oklahoma City Sail & Power Squadron October 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. If you have not made your reservations do so.

Tom Unger represented the Squadron at the recently held USPS Governing Board Meeting in Detroit. What we can expect at the Squadron level from this meeting will be discussed in the next ExCom meetings. All are welcome to attend if you would like to be involved in these understanding and implementation discussions. This is also a good way to get involved with your Squadron and make your desires known about events in the future. We try hard to keep these meeting from 1 to 1-1/2 hours in length. The meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month beginning at 1900 (7 P.M.) promptly.

A reminder that Merit Mark recommendation are due to the Administrative Officer, Susan Unger by October 24th. If you have given service to your squadron during the year and have not reported it to the group chairman please call Susan at 479-643-2282 or e-mail her at: librarylady.com. Anyone who has made a presentation, hosted a squadron event, been involved in VSCs, instructed a subject, recruited new members, has been a caller for squadron events, etc., etc., etc. Check out the Merit Mark section in the Ops Manual but don't forget to let us know how you helped Beaver Lake Sail and Power Squadron grow and be a part of the community.

Sorry, even calculating inflation, the pay scale of one Merit Mark per member is still in force.

Do take a look at all those who have contributed so much to our Education and Fraternity and needless to say given hours of Civic Service.

Thank You.

## Up coming Beaver Lake activities

D/Lt/C Susan Unger, N, Administrative Officer

E-mail: librarylady@alltel.net

***Please note:** Reservations which need to be cancelled can be made by calling Susan Unger 643-2282 in order not to incur the dinner charge.*

### 11 October - October Fest/meeting

October Fest in the Ozark Mountains will be held at Susan and Tom Unger's Lost Bridge Cabin on Saturday, Oct 11th beginning at 1530 (3:30 P.M.). The minimal charge of \$5 per person will include brats, beverage and table settings. Members are asked to bring German-type food such as potato salad, cabbage dishes, pretzels and kuchen as well as lawn chairs. Games and mood setting polka music will add to the good time.

Directions: Hwy 62 N to Garfield then South on AR127 For 4.1 miles. Rt turn onto Lodge Road for approx. 1/2 mile to Timberline. Left on Timberline. Cabin is 3rd on left.

### 25 & 25 October District Conference - Bricktown, OK.

*For more information on all the things to do that week-end, go to the Squadron or District web site.*

### **4 November - VOTE!**

**8 November, Chili Cook-Off** At the day use pavilion at Rocky Branch Park. Members are asked to bring their favorite chili to be judged and shared. Prizes will be awarded for the hottest and the best all-round. Those not wanting to enter the chili contest can bring deserts, chips or other finger food. This will combine the on-the water activity and the normal business meeting. Bring your table service, drinks, and favorite toppings. A grill will be available if you want to bring fixings for chili dogs. Anyone needing a boat ride may contact Bob or Mary McAllister at 361-2192 or 601-5112. Mark your calendar now and come enjoy the fall weather at the lake. Our newest members are especially encouraged to join in this Saturday afternoon on the lake activity. Start to gather at 11:30, Put the pots on the grate and we'll eat about 1300 (one o'clock). *Boating safety demo.*

**9 December Christmas Buffet: Spring Street Grill, 101 N Spring Street, Springdale.** 1800 Social Hour. Cash bar(wine & beer). Dinner 1900. The menu will consist of prim rib, chicken Florentine, salads, cheddar potato bake, vegetable medley, orange rolls, dessert and beverage. Cost \$22. all inclusive. They have a nice web site and map : [www.springstreetgrill.com](http://www.springstreetgrill.com). The restaurant is located just North of Ryans Clothing store on Emma. Parking is in the rear.

**Jan Meeting** has been proposed as a Soup 'n Salad affair at The 1st Presbyterian Church of Rogers -26th and New Hope

## **Education Department Report,**

By Byron Lake, AP, 633-2121, [bhlake@cox.net](mailto:bhlake@cox.net)

Congratulations to 11 members for completion of Sail 101. Those completed Sail 101 are David Chrystall, Mark Goldsmith, Mark Hawkins, Vann Groseclos, April Olson, Rick Olson, Zack Olson, Ike Owens, Timmie Owens and myself, Byron Lake. Twelve members are enrolled in Sail 102 scheduled for completion on October 2.

**Advanced Piloting** is scheduled for October 16 at the Rogers Airport. Currently there are 5 members planning to take the course. For those members interested in enrolling in the course, the cost is \$40.

### **What Happened at the Meeting - in Detroit.**

Thanks to D/Lt/C Tom Unger, Educational Officer and D/P/C of D31 fro bring back a packet full of information for our members. The **BIG news is insurance coverage** for "**on-the-water training**" Basically, now, once a USPS instructor sets foot on a boat during the course of instruction, the USPS insurance becomes the primary yacht policy for that boat. USPS instructors, vessel examiners, and members performing USPS duties, as well as USPS itself, are all covered.

New Education Courses that have become available: Navigation 08 Beta, Marine Electrical Systems, Weather 08 and America's Boating Course 3rd Edition. The ABC course appears to have more depth in this 12 hour course adding introductory navigation.

A new mission statement that everyone should be able to relate too "**To promote recreational boating skills and boating safety through education, hands-on training, and civic activities while providing fellowship for members.**"

This hard copy of The Bearings has been sent via the U.S. Postal Service. If you would rather receive your Bearings electronically please e-mail the editor; [d31prolc@cox.net](mailto:d31prolc@cox.net) with your request. . *Thanks for your help.*

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## Friend or Foe? Tough to Tell

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The presentation by Admiral Thad Allen, Commandant of the United States Coast Guard explains in detail the open threat that presents itself to our waterways, ports of entry and indeed the entire coast line of the United States. The paper presents the overwhelming task of securing and patrolling our shore lines and maintaining an ever watchful eye on all shipping that enters and departs from our ports, to and from the ports of the world. To bring this monumental task into perspective, Adm. Allen states there are 13,000,000 (yes, that's 13 million) registered and 8 million non-registered recreational vessels plus another 100,000 fishing boats and thousands of other miscellaneous craft plying the waters in and around the USA.

Adm. Allen encourages all boaters to take advantage of the resource information on safe boating habits and how to detect suspicious behavior and report this information by going to the American Waterway Watch Website at ([www.americaswaterwaywatch.org/](http://www.americaswaterwaywatch.org/))

So how does this impact on Beaver Lake boaters and especially USPS members? Are we our brothers keepers? Yes, in a way we are. Americans alive today cannot recall a conflagration on our own lands, lakes or shores. The recent events of a small innocuous band of extremists which caused death and destruction in NYC some seven years ago, today seems very remote. Along with that remoteness comes the complacent attitude of "it won't or can't happen here". As a group we are being asked to be alert to suspicious or destructive activity in or around our lake -i.e. drinking water supply- or lake shore regions and report that activity to the authorities by dialing 911 on your cell phone. No, it is not likely that Beaver Dam would be attacked, but it sure would make headlines, as does any untoward happening at the world's largest chicken supplier when someone sneezes. Be alert to shore line activity. Are graffiti spraying kids "just having fun" or are they a distraction? Just where did that small oily film come from? Dead fish in Beaver Lake? Why? The USCG is asking all Americans and especially recreational boaters to be alert and lend them your eyes to help keep us all boating freely on our respective waterways.

### Web Sites:

Beaver Lake:[www.boatbeaverlake.com](http://www.boatbeaverlake.com) this site links to District 31 and the national site:[www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org)



## OUT OF THE BOX

By P/D/C Julian Rolandelli, AP, Membership Chair

Your Squadron leadership is working out of the box in these times when volunteer organizations have great difficulty maintaining membership. Historically, our most powerful factor in attracting new members- by far- has been our educational program. Recently our National Officers proposed a new way to take advantage of this unique feature. It proposed offering membership in USPS in tandem with one of our USPS courses. Our Squadron is one of the pioneers of this idea.

Foremost are the instructors who volunteered to teach the Sail Course both in the classroom and on the water. A word about instructors is appropriate here. You know the saying, which came first, the chicken or the egg? Is education or membership our most important program? The correct answer is both. For without an inflow of new members, an instructor staff cannot be maintained. Without that staff there is no education program. This has been a major factor in keeping me as your Membership Officer for 17 consecutive years. But my time is running out. I am hoping a volunteer assistant will step up so that there is a smooth, effective transition and new ideas for this important function.

Yes, we must attract new members. But new members do not become instructors by osmosis. It is you and me- all of us- who must engage and enthruse new members to become full participants in our activities and ultimately assume leadership roles. If each of us leaves it to "the other guy" our Squadron eventually will simply fade away- no question about it.

## WELCOME ABOARD -

### OUR NEW MEMBERS!

By P/D/C Julian Rolandelli, AP

This report confirms that part 1 of the critical “inflow” is happening again. Our “In Tandem” program has attracted 10 new members to our Squadron.

**VANN GROSECLOS**, a Sea Scout in “Ship 13” sponsored by our Squadron also is a Boat Smart graduate. A 16-year-old sophomore at Bentonville High, Vann is headed for a career in maritime commerce. Already he is researching to apply at maritime schools. As a 9 year old, Vann found himself sailing in a 90’ whale boat among giant ocean swells on the Oregon coast. Most passengers were quite seasick. But Vann was doing just fine as the captain spent an hour giving him a tour of the ship’s equipment on the bridge. In later years, he and his family sailed the Mediterranean and Caribbean Seas, further perking his interest. Next came qualifying as a keel boater in the Gulf off of Florida with U.S. Sailing, followed by coastal cruising in Rockland, Maine with the American Sailing Association. You can see he is a serious maritime student. In line with this, he is eager to learn about weather, kayaking and the great outdoors.

**MARK GOLDSMITH**, his wife, **WENDY**, son **GRAYSON** and daughter **MICHAELA** are 4 new members. Both Mark and Grayson are Boat Smart graduates. Mark and Wendy- both raised in southern Indiana- met while attending Purdue University. They have been married 21 years. Walmart brought Mark to NW Arkansas where he is Director of Storm Water Compliance in the Real Estate Division. While he is out supervising his crew in the world of water engineering, Wendy works as a computer lab manager at Old High Middle School in Bentonville. In their spare time, they enjoy camping and fishing together. Grayson is a senior at Bentonville High planning a career in the art of commercial animation. Having earned his Eagle Scout award in Indiana, he continued in Scouting by joining Ship 13 here. His dad says he also plays a wicked guitar. Michaela is the typical modern day youngster, an 11-year-old sixth grader, head over heels in swimming, soccer and gymnastics.

**IKE and TIMMIE OWENS** were born and raised in Decatur. Ike has been with Walmart for some 20 years in the pharmacy distribution side of the business. Thirteen years ago, the couple also bought a 23-acre farm to work with Peterson Farms raising poultry. Their two poultry houses now hold over 40,000 birds!

From the get-go, both Ike and Timmie personally competed in sports. Ike served as President in local Little League Baseball and also coached football while Timmie coached basketball. The Owens often would travel to watch the Chicago Cubs play. These trips also served to arouse their children’s interest in sports. Ike and Timmie still occasionally travel to see the Cubs and enjoy their season tickets to UA football and basketball games. As have Elsie and I, they are likely to run into other squadron members like Jim Collins, the Fairhead Group and the Kippenbocks while attending these games. The Owens have a 26-year-old daughter, Alicia, who is a Financial Analyst living in Portland, Maine. Son, Kevin, 24 years old, is completing his studies at the UA.

**RICK OLSON**, wife **APRIL** and son **GRAYSON** are all Boat Smart graduates. Originally from Iowa, they later found themselves working at a hardware store owned by April’s Mom and Dad in downtown Rogers next to Shofners. From there, Rick became a disc jockey at KKEG. Then on to Baton Rouge-still in radio- but where April began her teaching career. It was back to Rogers in 2001. Now April teaches at Bentonville’s Baker Elementary School while Rick is with Walmart’s in the Building Control Department. The Olsons consider Scouting as their main hobby. Rick was a Cub Master, April a Den Leader and Grayson a Tiger Scout. Both older Olsons are Troop 122 Assistant Scoutmasters, Troop Committee Members and merit badge counselors for the Boy Scouts. Grayson and the family also enjoyed Venture Scouting at Sea Base, sailing out of the Florida Keys. Six scouts, two adults and the owner/skipper sailed 43’ boats, scuba diving the coral reefs along the way, on the Atlantic side of Florida at Key West. So there you are, Beaver Lakers! Ten fine new members that are looking to you for education and excitement in boating.

Lets get them involved!

