



Beaver Lake BEARINGS

The Official Publication of the Beaver Lake Sail and Power Squadron - A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®
Sail and Power Boating



Volume XXI, No. X

March 2009

Commanders Message

March 2009

By Cdr John Fairhead, JN

E-mail: arkansawyer101@aol.com 925-1178

It has been too long since we have had the opportunity to publish a *Beaver Lake Bearing*. This has not been by design, but due to holidays and our infamous ice storm.

I regret that I did not have the opportunity to wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year at a more opportune time, but none the less, **Happy New Year**.

A lot has transpired since the last *Bearings*, and we have a lot in front of us for 2009. Please look at the activity calendar that will be coming to you in a few weeks and mark those items you can attend and/or help with regardless if it is an education course, dinner meeting, TGIF etc.

Boat Shows are the winter activity of choice for organizers in our part of the world. The Tulsa Boat show that is supported by all Squadrons in District 31 was not attended as well as in the past or as expected, there is some talk at the District level that the show may be discontinued as a USPS District 31 event in the future – too early to tell for sure at this time, but I really expect that the District will participate in at least one or two more shows. Our own NWA Boat Show was also not as well attended as we had hoped for, however we did have on Saturday and Sunday over **50 individuals** submit their name and email address that showed an interest in the Squadron – frankly the interest was skewed mostly once again to a sail class. **Thanks for a super effort by the Boat Show Chairman Kip Powers.** We were successful in this last year and were able to pick up some new members from the Sail class that John Nelson and Len Oswald so professionally designed and executed. So the future of our boat show is showing signs of being a worthwhile endeavor – this year we had 23 members

and 5 Sea Scouts man the booth for the times the show was open.

March 3rd, we will have our dinner meeting in Fayetteville at the Whole Hog Cafe in Fiesta Square. Looks like a great meal at a very reasonable price.

Steve Churchill (name spelled much different than this) from Hobbs Wildlife Management will give us a talk about their new facilities, and I expect tell us about ice damage. Plan to attend.

Watch for the **GPS for Ladies** and the **Engine Maintenance** classes that are being organized. We will probably not discriminate against men for the GPS class however we can ask them to sit in the rear of the classroom and remain quiet.

The auto-inflatable PFD's that Squadron vessel examiners were given by Homeland Security were worn at both the Tulsa and NWA boat show (requirement of Homeland Security to wear them when we are in public doing public service) and had a great response in attracting individuals and eliciting conversation. We do have 2009 VSC stickers, so let us know when and where you want your boat inspected.

Due to some unforeseen distractions, the Squadron direction and focus for 2009 has not been as aggressively planned as I envisioned. I express regret for this and will see that this situation is rectified without delay.



Up coming Beaver Lake Meetings and programs.

D/Lt/C Susan Unger, N, Administrative Officer
E-mail: librarylady@alltel.net

Please note: *If it is necessary to cancel your reservation, please be sure to call Susan Unger-643-2282*

3 March: Enjoy a great barbecue buffet at the **Whole Hog Café, 3009 N. College (Fiesta Square) in Fayetteville.**

The buffet come with a choice of two meats and three sides, bread and a drink . All this for **\$11 per person!** This price includes tax and gratuity.

Steve Chyrchel (pronounced: Churchill), Park Interpreter at the Hobbs State Park will present a program on the park.

This will be a very informative evening for all our history buffs.

April 7th Catfish John's

601 W Hudson Blvd (aka Rt 102), Rogers

Gather at 1830 (**Note change of time to 6:30 PM**) Order from the menu: Individual checks.

May 5th. Mexican Pot Luck supper.

at the Charltons Brightwood Office

Gather at 6—eat at 7.

TELL US: what, where and when ? Do YOU have a suggestion for our monthly dinner meetings or a lake activity. Now is the time for all BLSPS members to make suggestions. E-mail your suggestions to Susan Unger. Thanks for your help.

Education Dept:

P/C Byron Lake, JN (925-4036)

e-mail: Bhlake@cox.net

Our Educational Officer has had a busy start for the new year. Being ice-bound, living in the dark, traveling to the District Council meeting in Tulsa, keeping up with what's new in USPS education, scheduling classes of interest and standing a watch at the recent Rogers boat show we are fortunate to have such a congenial guy on the Bridge.

Planned Educational Courses:

GPS for Women—March 21st 0900-1200 AND the second session— March 23re 1830-2100 at the Rogers Chamber of Commerce Building, 317 West Walnut St, Rogers. Call Byron to register. Class limited to 25 students.

Cost: \$25 for non-members and \$20 for members.

Engine Maintenance begins April 20th

It's great to know what to look for before the engine conks out or how not to get taken by the local repairman.

Cost: \$125 which includes one year membership or \$40 for current members of BLSPS. Time and place to be announced. Sign up with the EO by March 20th in order to ensure that enough new manuals will arrive on time.

America's Boating Course: April 13-tentative.

A civic service by the Beaver Lake Squadron, will need volunteer cookie bakers, greeters and proctors and a Course Chairman to keep tract of all this good stuff. Call Byron if you are willing to help. Definitive Time and Place to be announced.

A **Sail Class** is being planned for early June, depending on the instructors. Once again this will be offered with a one year USPS/BLSPS membership. Last year's class was 6-8 weeks long and held on the lake with hands on experience.

The Beaver Lake Bearings is the Official publication of the Beaver Lake Sail & Power Squadron. Information is freely provided and edited for space and correction of content. Articles without By lines may be attributed to the editor. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and not official comment of USPS.

Editor: P/C Elsie Rolandelli, AP, d31prolc@cox.net
26 Bracebridge Rd, Rogers, AR 72756; 479-925-2855

District 31 Conference—Broken Arrow, OK
27 and 28 March 2009



Youth Poster Contest

Thanks to Jan Muetzel, who received her 25 year pin at the Christmas dinner, there are two co-chairs for the YPC-'09. Art teacher **April Olsen** (cell ph. 721-8414) and **Tammie Owens (644-5696)**, have acquiesced to take the program to their local schools. Youth who sign up for the USPS Poster Contest, will receive a registration form and poster board. There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in each age group.

Forms and material are provided by the squadron. This limited assignment requires an announcement at most dinner meetings and harassing your fellow members to get the kids and grandkids or any other kids involved in a fun project.

Judging will take place at the 26 June TGIF. The top three posters in each age group will go to the Summer District Council meeting on 25 July. The District winning posters go on to the Sept 9-17 Governing Board in Kansas City for the final judging.

Since Spring break for the Rogers schools is March 23-27 and 2 June is the last day of school this should provide some busy time for those with itchy fingers and "nothing to do".



The five squadrons of D31 will gather at Broken Arrow, OK to find out what went on at the USPS Annual meeting in Anaheim, CA, what's new in the education department, what the all day session of Marketing and Public Relations addressed and just what we as members can do to attract new and veteran boaters to our squadrons. This sounds like a big order but the "break out sessions" planned for the morning should produce some good suggestions that can be implemented now and in the future months to come.

Our squadron Commander and the Educational Officer cannot cover all that is going on at once. True we are fortunate to have Tom and Susan Unger as District Bridge members but they will probably be group leaders hoping to have lots of listeners. This is a good time to find out what the District does and offers in the whole scheme of USPS. If you would like to find out some of the how, who, what, when and wheres of USPS, offer to be a squadron representative (us old guys are tired from cleaning up after the BIG STORM). This is a hands on learning session just ripe for some new ideas and suggestions.

The investment of time and cost has been kept low in order to encourage more members to participate. Call John Fairhead and volunteer to be part of the group.

Thanks to Denise Winn of Grand Lake Squadron for the registration and information forms are on page 4.

Come and join in the camaraderie.

Repeat Reminder

Cell phone numbers went public Nov. 1. That means all cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sales calls. You will be charged for these calls.

To prevent this, call the following number from your cell phone: **888-382-1222**.

It is the national "do not call list". It blocks your number for 5 years. You must call from the cell phone number you want to have blocked.

(Our Thanks to member Delight Reeves for sending this information.

USPS D/31 Spring Conference

27 - 28 March 2009



Clarion Hotel
2600 N Aspen
Broken Arrow, OK
(918) 258-7085



For those of you wishing to spend the night make reservations directly with the hotel, ask for local reservations and tell them you are attending the D/31 USPS Spring Conference and ask for the special \$59.00 per night rate. The \$59 + tax rate applies to rooms with two queen beds or one king size bed. Reservation cutoff special rate is 14 March 2009.

Conference Schedule

OPTIONAL

Friday, 27 March 1700 - 1900 Registration in Hospitality Suite
1900 - ? Play Night at Cherokee Casino



Saturday, 28 March 0800 - 0900 Registration
0900 - 1030 Conference
1030 - 1200 The "AL SHOW" - an invigorating breakout session
1200 - 1330 Luncheon and Entertainment
1330 - 1400 The "AL SHOW" results
1400 - 1445 Boat Handling Seminar presented by P/D/C Tom Unger, SN



Visit the D/31 website for more information on this conference at www.usps.org/lc/d31

USPS D/31 Spring Conference Registration Form

27-28 March 2009

(please print)

Rank Last Name First Name Grade

Rank Last Name First Name Grade

Address

City State Zip Code Phone

Squadron Email Address

Number of individuals attending the conference _____ @ \$15.00 ea \$_____ Total Enclosed
(Indicate here _____ if you will need a vegetarian plate and how many)

Please make checks out to USPS D/31 Spring Conference. Send your completed registration form and payment to arrive **no later that 14 March 2009.**

Send to:
D/Lt/C Susan Unger, N
18931 Briarfield Rd
Elkins, AR 72727