



Beaver Lake BEARINGS

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A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®
Sail and Power Boating



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Commander's Comments

By Susan Unger, N

What a difference a week makes! Beaver Lake has gone from below normal for this time of year to full all in a matter of a few days. It is really amazing how fast things can turn around. The same could be true about our organization. For years we have taught boating in a classroom setting. While that knowledge is essential, it is incomplete. We have found in teaching Sail the on-the-water experience makes a big improvement in student learning and satisfaction.

Soon that same on-the-water experience will be available to students in our basic classes. Tom Unger has been speaking about the Inland Navigator certification for a while now. He spent the weekend of April 16 in Tennessee obtaining his trainer certification. This program provides on-the-water training in power boat handling in several areas including docking, anchoring, running a course and emergency stopping

Offering this experience to the public could turn our organization into a truly first class provider of boating education. No other non-profit organization offers such training. I have asked Tom to speak at our May meeting about the program and how you can get involved. Looking forward to seeing you on May 3.

Fly your USPS Ensign



Proudly

Happy 24th Birthday, BL(S)PS

By Mary McAllister, Secretary/Historian

Squadron history dates back to 6 March 1984 when 2 fishermen plucked a man from 40 degree water at Lake Taneycomo. It was this event that prompted Al Honeywell to help create a squadron in Northwest Arkansas in order to teach safe boating. Only two active charter members know first hand how far we have come. I asked Jan and Julian to share their thoughts about what Beaver Lake Squadron means to them; this is their response.

Jan Muetzel's memories-

Twenty-seven years ago while attending a meeting of the NWA Water Safety Council at Prairie Creek boat dock cafe, we listened to members Al Honeywell and Lyle Mertz. They extolled the virtues of the US Power Squadron and invited everyone interested in joining the national organization to a meeting at the Rogers Youth Center. We joined Tulsa Power Squadron and 18 months later, started our own squadron. The USPS offered three things: progressive courses in boating education, civil service projects and fraternity.

It was during this time, my husband Jack Hyson died. The support shown to me by both the Tulsa and Rogers members helped me through a very difficult time.

A year later Dean Muetzel became an instructor and helped me with my sailboat. Boating education prepared us for wonderful trips with Power Squadron members. Years later, we joined the Charltons on their 'Proud Mary' along the Intracoastal Water Way; and two trips to the BVI's with fellow squadron members.

Another part of the triangle that appealed to us was civic service to our community. Cleaning litter from a section of highway was good clean fun. In memory of Max and Lou, we established a tradition

(Continued on page 3. Please see Memories)

Meetings & Boating Activities

Admin Officer, Lt/C Deanne Mayer(klassi1@yahoo.com)

Meeting & Program Chs: AnnaLee and Kas Taylor .

Ph: 470-925-4104, e-mail: ozarkkas@hughes.net

**Please note: Dinner meeting times: 1800 (6.P.M.)
Social Time, Eat at 1830 (6:30 PM)**

Business and Speaker to follow

3 May Whole Hog Café—Fayetteville

3009 N. College Ave

Social Hr begins at 1800—Food service 1830

Individuals order off the menu: Price \$10-\$15.

Speaker: Flip Putthoff, Sports Editor of the Morning News, will present "The Great River Rumble" with slides, about boating on the Mississippi River.

14 May - Canoe Buffalo River

21 May—National Safe Boating Week begins with FREE Vessel Safety Checks at the Hwy 12 Bridge.

On land or in the water. A great time to get all your safety equipment checked out. Contact Len Oswald –925-1193 for time and place.

27 May—First TGIF of the season at the home of:

Jim and Anne Collier, 19641 Collier Lane on LaRue Peninsular, Rogers, AR **Collier's directions:** GPS coordinates: N36,20.4 W093, 56.8 Hwy 12 E to 303N, to **Left on to Laure Rd** (this is just past Rocky Br Fire Station on Left side of 303). Go approx **1.5 mi** to Old Larue Post Office (old white bldg on left) Turn **Left in front** of PO proceed 20yds to mail boxes, turn left on to Collier Lane -proceed 50yds. to end and turn right into Collier's drive. BYOB and something to share. All welcome!

18 June: Past Commanders Brunch

The fire will be lit at –0930 at the Rocky Branch Day Use Pavilion. Service of Hot pancakes and all the trimmings will start at 10A.M.

This is the Past Commanders way of saying **Thank You to ALL** of the Beaver Lake Sail and Power Squadron members for choosing to become part of our organization. It is a feast to behold with pancakes, sausage, ham, eggs, fresh fruit, juice and coffee all provided by the P/Cs. Nothing to bring but yourselves. Dress for the weather, plan to come hungry and enjoy the camaraderie that is very special to this group

4 July Boat Parade on Beaver Lake

16 July: Start getting your ride lined up for a great Saturday afternoon of **Geo-caching on the lake**, then cook hot dogs and s'mores over a bonfire after all have arrived safely back at Kippenbrock-Oswald cove.

TGIF— Summer fun for all:

These summer get-togethers are a fun way to get to know squadron members and also to introduce your friends to BLSPS. Brings the family, a friend or boating companion, something for the table to share, your own beverage and expect to have a pleasant evening.

The 2011 Summer schedule is as follows:

- **May 27 - Collier's Home/Dock**
- **June 24 - Conrad's Dock**
- **July 29 - Kippenbrock's Dock**
- **August 26 - Taylor's Dock/Deck**
- **September 30 - Gravelle's Deck**

Breakfast at the Baureis' (better than at Tiffany's)

Squadron members Ramona Jones, Mike McCauley, Greg Pomper, Scott Rogers and his young son were hosted to a wide variety of breakfast goodies before sitting down to learn just what the USPS , its Districts and Squadrons do.

The presentation put together by P/C Bob Baureis, the Bridge and various committee members covered the fine points of being a USPS member and threw in a little history of both the National organization and of Beaver Lake's founding. Informative and as fast paced as the changing weather.

All was said and done before the noon hour so that the twelve participants could go forth to enjoy a pleasant day on the lake, work on home projects or just laze around.

Education:

Piloting Class has begun with at least a half dozen students. Call the EdO if you would like to join the group or self study.

Cruise Planning has been cancelled until further notice.

The Sail Course is set on for late August. A teaching plan must be approved by the NEO and all insurance issues approved by National and the Squadron Exec Coms.

Many THANKS to **Tom Unger** for going thru two days of vigorous on the water training so that the squadrons in D31 can now take advantage of teaching many of the USPS courses with direct hands-on experience. Though Tom enjoyed the hospitality of living on board a nice big cruiser he was just as glad to return to all the amenities of home.

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.

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Memories, (cont from page 1) of giving the “Wiviott Award” patch by helping keep the shores of Beaver Lake Clean. One year, a stolen, almost new fishing boat worth around \$15,000 was found. Another Civic Service event we promoted was Safe Boating week. With a grant from *Boat US* and members help, we were able to distribute 60,000 flyers on boating safety. Six collapsible boats were built to teach boating safety to several school systems.

In 1989, I was nominated and became the 21st winner of the national Olin Marine Water Safety Award. This was only time the award had been given to anyone from an inland state. We were treated to the VIP suite at the Sheraton in NYC, tickets to the NY boat show and Broadway play. My award was also presented at the USPS Annual meeting at the Fontainebleau hotel in Miami Beach.

The friends you make are friends for life. And so to finish, if Boating Education, Civic Service, and Fraternity appeal to you, you can find them in the Beaver Lake Power Squadron. It’s been a way of life for us.

What the Beaver Lake Squadron Has Meant to Me

By P/D/C Julian Rolandelli

I planned early retirement years ahead and purchased a lot on beautiful Beaver Lake. Now a new house sat on the lot and my very first boat was floating lakeside, Yes, I was ready to fulfill my dream of boating! Or was I? Well, by gosh, I had lots of experience with Boy Scout canoes and rowboats! I served in the enlisted ranks of the World War II Navy. To boot, as a green Naval Officer, I was caught in a wild hurricane. It darn near capsized all eight destroyers in our flotilla.

But all this, I reasoned, did not prepare me to skipper and maintain a SMALL powerboat. So when Lyle Mertz and Clayton Hexton approached me at a shopping mall about a United States Power Squadron boat course, I signed up. On completion, I joined the N.W. Arkansas Division of the Tulsa Power Squadron. In 1987 I became a Charter Member of our Squadron.

In those early years, I completed most of the courses that USPS offered. The small boat expertise that I learned from my fellow squadron members was all that I expected it to (cont in next column)

be. What I had not expected was the camaraderie that I found in the Squadron. It was not just the fun we had in the classroom, on the water and at the meetings. It seemed the folks I met in the squadron were extra special. I liked it.

Soon I realized that having been given so much by so many, I needed to give something back. So I went through the ranks on the Squadron Bridge and then with a push by my old mentor - Read Near, through the ranks of the District 31 Bridge as well. This exposed me to members of the other seven squadrons in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Memphis as well as members throughout the U.S. that I met at Governing Boards and National Meetings. They too seemed extra special. Of course, all of this good stuff was made even better because my wife, Elsie, also took to USPS full throttle. If anything, she was even more enthused than I was.

Except for the first couple of years when Read Near was Membership Chairman, I have held that position in the squadron- even when I served as Commander of District 31. I urge those of you who read this to welcome the opportunity that leadership positions offer you in our Squadron. The hard part is saying yes. You learn as you go. Once you do that, the rest is easy because you will find that giving is even more fun than taking.

The Beaver Lake Squadron- and the lake we boat on- made my retirement here the best years of my life. My five children and thirteen grand children helped that happen. Now the time has come to move on. That will take Elsie and I to McKinney, Texas where we have just built a new home. It is less than five miles from where our son’s family lives. Let me take this opportunity to thank all the folks in our squadron for their friendship down through the years- especially those who have chipped in to make the squadron do what it has to do. When the time arrives that we “sail” away, it will be with a sincere goodbye and a wish that only good things lay ahead for each of you fellow squadron members.

Ed Note: The Beaver Lake Power Squadron received its charter on 16 May, 1987 from Chief Commander Richard Miner, N., at the Kansas City Governing Board. The squadron was incorporated in 1988 and finally added the word Sail to its title in 1998.

**New Members
Welcome Aboard !**

**Please add the following New Members
to your Beaver Lake Roster.**

Fitzgerald, Jon and Courtney
48 Portsmouth Dr, Bella Vista, AR 75715
Phone: 433-4989
E-mail: JonFitzgerald@yahoo.com

**Gill, Ward and Kimberly.....and their three
daughters **Madison,**
Haley and
Kelsey Prowell**
7 04 N 27th St, Rogers, AR 72756
Phone: 631-5920
E-mail: wpgill@cox.net

Pomper, Greg and Suzanne
2716 W. Lilac St, Rogers, AR 72758
Phone: 986-0292
E-mail: GregPomper@CS.com



Fair Warning! Get ready to pack your bags.

for the D31 “Educational’ Conference”

Enjoy a pleasant fall weekend at the Clarion Inn for a room rate of only \$59.95 + tax per night, find out what’s new in USPS education and celebrate the 10th year anniversary of a very tenacious squadron with some very special long time USPS/D31 members.

Though Oct 14, 15, & 16 seem a long way off it will be here in a minute. Fair warning! Mark your calendar now.

The challenge has been issued! Can Beaver Lake have more than 12 members in attendance? Grand Lake needs to have 22 of their membership present at the Conference. Oklahoma City 20 and our host Norman who will not be counted in the competition has been challenged to have at least 10 of their 17 members front and center.

SPRING CONFERENCE 2011

Excerpts from D/C Larry Stout’s report,

“USPS is taking the lead in providing on-the-water training for the public. Programs are in place to certify instructors so this program can grow over the next few years. One of the goals of the bridge this year is to provide opportunities for each squadron to have a member certified as an on-the-water trainer. The Council also has instructed our DEO Jim Sweeten, SN to submit the state courses in Oklahoma and Arkansas to the USPS NEdO Bob Sweet, SN, for approval.....

The USPS Board of Directors approved enrollment of all members into Sail Angle unless a member has chosen to opt out. Be sure to visit this site for the latest USPS news. A great read is the speech that Dusty McCoy, CEO of Brunswick gave at the annual meeting on the boating industry and trends in boating. Also try clicking on file cabinet at your group location (USPS, District or your squadron) to look at the content. Over time, the district will make more use of this method for communication with (its) members.

Since we are a boating organization, D31 will be joining D21 in August for a Rendezvous at Lake Texoma. Then in September, D31 is presenting an opportunity to boat down the Arkansas River from Muskogee and through at least one lock. Of course it is your option if you want to continue on the waterway to the Gulf and the oceans beyond.

It was also reported that 1216 new members joined USPS via their web site as unattached or “cyber squadron” members and that 544 of those members had taken the on line America’s Boating Course.

The most popular seminar is now “Anchoring”..... That the USCG is lobbying for mandatory life jacket use for all boaters and is proposing federal standards for mandatory boating education in all states.

Ed Note: This article has been edited to fit in space available. The full report may be read in the **Spring Issue of the Daymark** or go to the squadron web site: **boatbeaverlake.com** and use the appropriate link)