



# Beaver Lake BEARINGS

*The Official Publication of the Beaver Lake Sail  
and Power Squadron, Inc.*

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



Volume XXV, No.1

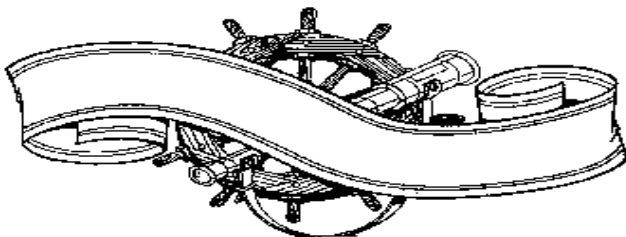
November 2011

## Hands On By P/C Susan Unger, N

No organization just runs itself. They all take hands on work by the members. The Beaver Lake Sail and Power Squadron is no exception. Besides being your commander I am also the merit marks chairman. A merit mark is the means by which we recognize hands on work for the squadron. Lots of you stepped up and did hands on work for the squadron this year. You have my thanks and a merit mark to come. I have always believed you get out of something what you put into it. So next year accept the call and volunteer your services. You and the squadron will benefit.

Speaking of hands on... USPS has recognized that learning is much more complete when there is a hands on component. Classroom learning only gets you so far. Sail is a good example. You need classroom instruction but you will not be able to run a sail boat if you aren't on one. Consequently, a hands on approach is being integrated into all our classes. This is great news, but it makes teaching much more logistically complicated. We will be working to add on-the-water sessions to our ABC and Seamanship classes this next year. We will need boats and experienced boat handlers to help with the classes. Please step up and lend a hand when you are called upon to help.

Thanks for a great year! It's been a fun, fast, and busy year for me. My best wishes go out to you and to next year's bridge.



## BLSPS Change of Watch Garners Honored Guests, New Members, and Life Members.

Trying something new in hopes of accommodating more of the squadron membership the Beaver Lake Sail and Power Squadron's Change of Watch was held as a luncheon meeting at Copeland's restaurant in Rogers. District Commander Denise Winn accompanied by her husband Kent and also District Educational Officer Jim Sweeten and wife Debbie who live in Bella Vista but are from the Grove Squadron and new members Danny and Lorena Johnson, Anita and Edwin Marshall and not last but definitely youngest was Quinton Young (accompanied his dad, Scott) were among those that filled the separate dining area to enjoy the menu offerings. District Commander Winn presented P/D/C Julian and P/C Elsie Rolandelli with their life membership pins after detailing their educational accomplishments and service to the all three divisions of USPS. Out going Cdr Susan Unger had high praise for those who had chaired the squadron departments and reminded all that the educational year had been a continuous offering of USPS courses which was taken advantage of by many squadron members. Though Beaver Lake has enjoyed an enrollment of 24 new members many were lost to non-renewal. Cdr Unger stated that "a greater effort has to be made to mentor all new members" and proctor the courses offered, thus seeing that all new members are indeed included in all squadron activities.

P/C Nancy Gibson, AP, read the list of nominations for the 2012 Bridge which was voted on and passed unanimously. The New Bridge and elective officers were pledged in by the D/C and seated.

New Commander Deanne Mayer, promised an active and interesting year ahead. She asked that all would respond positively when called upon to be active. It was also noted that the Bridge welcomes suggestions as to programs, meeting places and educational offerings for the next year.

## Meetings & Boating Activities

Admin Officer, Lt/C Mary Jean Kippenbrock,P  
(maryjkipp@hotmail.com)

Meeting & Program Chs: AnnaLee and Kas Taylor .  
Ph: 470-925-4104, e-mail: ozarkkas@hughes.net  
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**19 November—Chili Cook-Off 12 Noon—**  
**Chambers Island's Lost Dog Beach** just north of  
Rocky Branch Marina.

GPS : **N36° 21.055'and W 93°54.82'**

Chili, cornbread, sides ( chopped onion, grated  
cheese, sour cream crackers.) Finger desserts.  
What's your specialty? Get together with another  
member and head on out to enjoy the lake dressed in  
all its splendid Fall colours.

This year  
at 1130  
being  
water taxi  
from  
Branch



starting  
there is  
offered  
service  
Rocky  
Marina  
by Bob McAllister and Tom Unger. Please Call  
Mary (or Bob) at **479-361-2192** if you would like  
a ride from the Marina to Lost Dog Beach –and back  
again. Don't be shy, just ask.

: **Tuesday, 6 December** : Holiday dress will be in  
order for the **Squadron Christmas party.** To be  
held at Corona's; 143040 Hwy 12E, Rogers, AR  
(formerly Prairie Creek Steak & Seafood)

Social Hour @ 1800 Dinner at 6:30pm

Menu: Buffett to include Broasted Chicken, Sea-  
food Fettuccine, and Burgundy Beef Tips. Also in-  
cluded is a complete salad bar, vegetables, assorted  
desserts, and tea/coffee.

Cost:\$15/person based on maximum reservations.  
There will be a cash bar.

Traditionally, we take donations for the NWA Chil-  
dren's Shelter at this event. I'll have a donation box  
and a small Xmas tree with nautical ornaments on it  
set up.

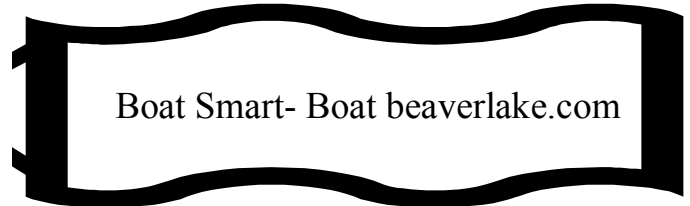
10 January has been suggested at a Soup and Salad  
nite at the FUMC of Rogers.

Let the AO or Cdr know if you have other sugges-  
tions for meetings in the coming year. They aim to  
please and any reasonable suggestion will be consid-  
ered. Deadline for your input—Nov 27th See con-  
tact numbers above.



## BANNERS! ... For, On, Near, About

The new DXO has already been busy contacting marina  
owners and others about displaying an interest inspiring  
banner that would advertise the wares of the Beaver  
Lake Sail and Power Squadron. Have you got a catchy  
phrase or simple line drawing that would inspire a  
question or two? ( Like what was a boat doing at the  
recent Hammond Center Business Expo? Answer below)



Mike McCauley is looking at all ideas and hopes to  
have those banners flying at the beginning of the next  
boating season.

Call Mike at **272-2334** or send you idea via  
e-mail to: [mccauley13@hotmail.com](mailto:mccauley13@hotmail.com)

( Answer: Advertising, of course)

The Beaver Lake Bearings is the Official publication of the  
Beaver Lake Sail & Power Squadron. Information is freely  
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Articles without By-lines may be attributed to the Editor.  
Opinions expressed are those of the writer and not official  
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## District 31 Fall Conference

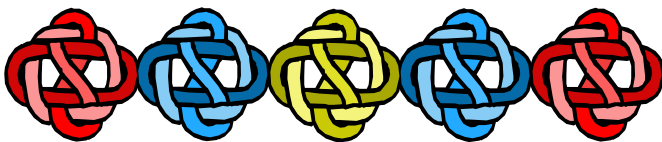
### Hands On Education

By P/C Susan Unger, N, Asst EdO

The District 31 Fall Conference is all about education. Our squadron received the district educational achievement award for the third year in a row. This award is for the squadron having the most students completing a class. It is a great compliment to our Educational Officer P/C Byron Lake, JN and to all our members who teach classes.

The national representative at the conference was the National Educational Officer, Bob Sweet, SN. Bob has literally written the book on USPS education authoring *GPS for Mariners*, *The Weekend Navigator* and his new book *Powerboat Handling Illustrated*. He is responsible for re-vamping USPS education and putting more emphasis on hands on learning. The new book will help us provide an on-the-water experience in our power boat classes similar to that in our Sail class. This should dramatically improve our students' learning experience.

Bob also brought along a fun demonstration on anchor types. USPS has three kits of ten different designs of miniature anchors. You can test their holding ability in a box of sand. It's amazing how differently they work. I've reserved a kit for our use at our next boat show. I think it will be a fun addition to our booth. USPS also has a device called a Bullex that offers a simulation of using a fire extinguisher. It can also be borrowed and we might think about it for the next year. I think these hands on demonstrations will get more people to visit and stay longer at our booth.



*Ed. Note: This year the only teaching aid entered at the District Conference was a simple knot demonstration done on one inch PVC pipe. Congratulations to its creator who was from the Oklahoma Sail and Power Squadron for taking the time and making the effort.*

## Educational Officer's Report

By P/C Byron Lake, P/EdO

The Sail Class has completed all instructions. Their examinations were due on the 29th of Nov. Two members of this class are on a sailing trip in the Gulf at the present time. The class consisted of 14 members (*Evelyn and Jack Cross, Paula Martucci, Craig McCrory, Dale and Denise Rice, Molly Saxon, Daniel Sherry, Thomas Wooten, Danny Johnson, Edwin and Anita Marshall, Alan Reid, Tomek Siwiec- pronounced Shevitz*) and all are new to the Squadron. (*Young and bright Adam Siwiec monitored the class with some lecture stopping questions.*) The Sail class has been one of the greatest means of gaining new members. It is now up to the existing Squadron membership to work with these new members to retain their membership. There are educational classes that most would be interested in taking, but it requires a dedicated effort from all members to encourage this to happen.

The **American Boating Course** will be offered in January, 2012.

*(Editor could not resist listing names of Sail Class Students, above in italics)*



### Looking Ahead.

Keep in mind that the **Winter Council** will be 25 February 2012 at the Bass Pro Shop in Broken Arrow. The Council will use one of the Bass Pro meeting rooms and Danny Goss says it is a great place have lunch. Good food! The meeting is open to all D31 members.

The **Spring Conference** will be at the Clarion in Broken Arrow –30 March and 1 April. All are welcome, especially those who would like to know more about the ins and outs of USPS.

And on the shores of Beaver Lake we need to promote **National Safe Boating Week** during **19 thru 25 May 2012**.

Look for the **Calendar of Events** in a future issue of the **Bearings**.



## I Beaver Lake Sail and Power Squadron!

By **Anita Marshall**, NM. Creator of BLSPS FB page

Greetings, Squadron members! While many of you may know we have sailed into the information age with a Facebook page, you may not know how to find it, or what you can do to help improve the visibility of BLSPS online.

**Did you know you can find our page whether or not you have a Facebook account?** Open your favorite internet search engine (Google, Bing, Yahoo, etc.) and type in “Beaver Lake Sail and Power Squadron”. **Scroll down and click on the link that has FACEBOOK after the title.** If you have a Facebook account, here is the most important step: find the “LIKE” button next to the title at the top of the page and **CLICK ON IT!** If prompted, go ahead and sign in to FB to get the “like” to go through. We need as many people to “like” the page as possible to increase our online visibility. It will also send status updates and pictures to your FB page so you can keep up with all the fun things we are doing. LIKEers can also upload pictures and video to the page!

Facebook member can also help get our numbers up by suggesting the page to your friends. Here’s how: On the BLSPS Facebook page, look on the left hand side for a list of blue links. Click on the last one that says “share”. A pop-up box will appear. You can choose who to share it with by using the drop down menu at the top of the box (by default it will “share” to your own wall). You can type a note about the page, or just click the blue “share page” button. And presto – all your friends will see the link to our super cool page!

*(Ed Note: Many thanks to Anita for volunteering to bring BLSPS into the electronic age.)*



## Monitors = Member Retention

By P/D/C Julian Rolandelli, AP

As I watched the proceedings at our Change of Watch, the outstanding job Susan Unger has done during her tenure as commander struck home. She didn’t just try to keep the ship afloat but looked for ways to improve it.

Then Byron Lake gave his annual report and my thoughts wondered. The Education Officer has the second most intensive job in the squadron. Byron served for 3 years! He and his instructors kept courses going month after month, all year. This resulted in better boaters and in better member retention.

However, our instruction team cannot be expected to shoulder the entire responsibility for member retention. How do we assimilate new members into the Squadron? All of us, when new, feel as strangers among the membership. In the past, one big way this has been overcome was by squadron members (plural!) monitoring every “1st time student” class. Mingle with students, display camaraderie, talk up the many other activities our Squadron has to offer! The more members new students meet, the more activities they attend, the greater the retention. But recently, there are no monitors. How would you feel if you, the instructor, were the only seasoned Squadron member in the room? Perhaps a bit abandoned? With 95 members in our Squadron, 3 or 4 of us giving up 2 hours one night, a few times a year would be no big deal. I urge our newly elected officers to ask each of you to monitor classes. Hopefully, each of you will respond. By helping to make your Squadron better, you too will feel rewarded.

**A Note to All:** Now that you have read the Bearings from beginning to end, PLEASE, make a copy of upcoming events and stick it on the frig. We really would like to see more of our friends at the meetings.

*Be Thankful for whatever good health, wealth and happiness that comes your way and not too sad that there will be no January issue of the Beaver Lake Bearings. Happy Holiday, The Editor.*