



WATERLOG



LUAU AND RAFT-UP 13 JULY 2002



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The Editor reserves the right to revise, change or reject any materials submitted to the Waterlog, consistent with standards of accuracy, fairness, and good taste, subject to the approval of the Squadron Commander.

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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

ASPS is in the process of wrapping up one of our best membership renewal seasons in a long time. At this point, we have renewed over 81% of the renewal notices that went out. And we still have some members who we know will renew as soon as they "get back in town". In a volunteer organization our size, these are very good numbers.

These results can be attributed to a number of areas. I like to think that it shows we are delivering value to our squadron members and it is being recognized. Value means offering quality opportunities in various areas. Hopefully, everyone can find something good and fun in which to participate..

Education/Classes are at the heart of our organization. Join in, be at the Heiskell School September 9th. Many members are becoming involved with our community outreach through our Boat Smart courses and our Vessel Safety Check program. Many are enjoying great meetings with fellowship and interesting speakers. And especially this year, boating, boating and more boating.

EDUCATION UPDATE

Fall Classes

Our Fall 2002 schedule of squadron classes will start at 1900 (7:00 PM) on 9 September at the Heiskell School. The school is located on Northside Drive in Atlanta. Directions to the school can be found in the Roster and on the ASPS website. We are planning to offer the following courses:

Seamanship (S) - to be co-instructed by P/C Don E. Williams, SN, and Lt Kevin Schoonover, AP

Advanced Piloting (AP) - to be instructed by P/C David A. Sewell, JN

Navigation (N) - to be instructed by P/C L. Shelton Sawyer, SN

Engine Maintenance (EM) - to be instructed by Lt Elliot Hammer, S

A brief synopsis of the courses follows:

Seamanship - This is the recommended first course for new members, both power boaters and sailors. Students learn practical marlinespike, navigation rules, hull design and performance, responsibilities of the skipper, boat care, operating a boat under normal and abnormal conditions, what to do in various emergencies and weather conditions, nautical customs and common courtesy on the water. This course provides a needed introduction to the USPS Education Program and a strong foundation for members going on to other Advanced Grade courses and/or Cruise Planning or Sail.

Advanced Piloting - This is the final part of the inland and coastal navigation series. It emphasizes the use of modern electronic navigation systems and other advanced techniques for finding position. Among topics covered are: tides and currents and their effects on piloting, finding position using bearings and angles; simple use of the mariner's sextant; and, electronic navigation — radar, loran, GPS, etc. Prerequisites: Seamanship and Piloting.

Navigation - This is the second part of the study of offshore navigation. It further develops the student's understanding of celestial theory. The student is introduced to additional sight reduction techniques and develops greater skill and precision in sight taking, positioning and the orderly methods of carrying on the day's work of a navigator at sea. Of particular interest and importance is the study of offshore navigation using minimal data and/or equipment, such as when on a disabled vessel or lifeboat. Prerequisite: substantial completion of the Junior Navigation course.

Since the last report, I have received word that Marcia Ann Cohn, P has successfully completed the Piloting course. We hope to see her, along with the other students from her class, in the AP class this fall.

I hope to see you in one of the classes we are offering this September. Please contact me to sign up for a class if you have any questions.

P/C Richard Morrison, SN

EO

0-966-8711 (home)

Commander's message (continued from page 2)

The opportunities are there. Join in. Be a part of it. Please feel free to give me a call if you ever think you might have an interest in any area and would like some one on one information.

"Laissez les bonne temps roulet"
Cdr Danny Tompkins, JN

OPERATIONS TRAINING CLASS

When: Sunday 18 Aug 2002

**Where: Ed Troncalli's Home, 7705 Harbour Walk
Cumming, GA 30041
(770) 884-7299**

A great opportunity has been presented to ASPS. Our own P/C Laura Woodward, SN and P/Lt/C Mike Woodward, SN are coming to Atlanta to present the USPS Operations Training Class. Laura was commander of ASPS in 1996 before moving to Florida.

This Operations Training Class will be a series of three two-hour sessions that will give a fairly detailed explanation of how the USPS works from the Squadron to the National level. Laura is currently a member of the National Operations Training Committee. So this is a great opportunity to learn about the USPS from one of the people who wrote the book. Plus Laura is a lot of fun and will make this very interesting. Also, this is an opportunity to get the OT designation on your educational certificate and after your name in the Squadron Roster.

Ed and Genie Troncalli have graciously volunteered their home for this class. Please see the DR for a map and directions to their house by land or water. A light lunch will be provided. So, RSVP to Cdr Danny Tompkins as soon as possible for a fun and informative day. If you would like additional information please call Danny Tompkins (770) 992-4118.



COMING EVENTS

- 01 Aug Executive Committee meeting
Old Hickory House
5490 Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd.
Dunwoody, GA
1830 Dutch treat dinner
1900 meeting
all members welcome
- 10 Aug scavenger hunt and raft-up
see this page
- 17 Aug Lobster boil (clam bake)
see page 5
- 18 Aug Operations Training Class
see details on this page

**SCAVANGER HUNT AND
RAFT-UP 10 AUG 2002**

This will be our GPS event. I will post on the weekly DR the locations (by latitude & longitude) 8 or 10 waypoints in the week prior to the raft-up. The idea of this event is for each boat taking part to go to these locations and identify the marker or facility, and write down this information on a sheet of paper. The answers will be handed in at the raft-up for scoring. We have several nice prizes for the best scores.

The raft-up will take place in King of Spain cove (some know it as Naked Man's cove.) The location is directly across the lake from marker #22. So be there for some great fun and chit-chat, and also to see how you fare with the GPS.

Remember that the raft-up starts at 1600. I should have my anchor down about 1400 so come on out anytime after that. Also this raft-up has the same format as previous ones. Bring goodies and drinks as before. Also, be ready to set your anchor if the boat you are rafting to does not have its anchor out.

See you on the water
R.M. "Mac" Barrier
On-the-water chairperson
Phone (770) 641-7524

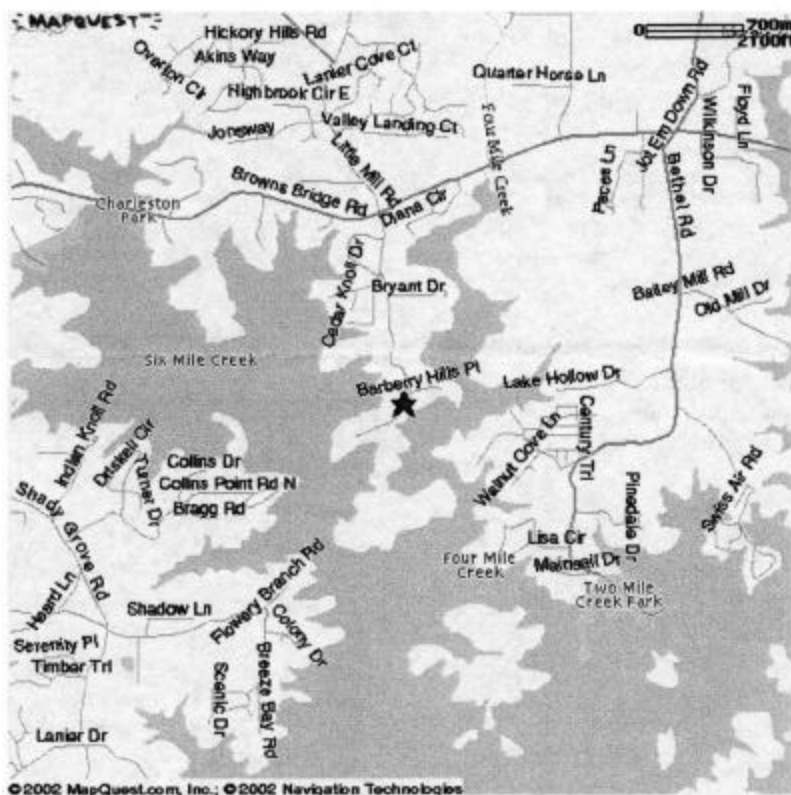
LOBSTER BOIL (CLAM BAKE) 17 AUG 2002

First of all, all who can, meet at John Fowler's home for beach clean up at 1400 on Friday 16 Aug.

Second, all who can, meet at the "Adopted Island" (at marker 4 SM) to clean up, swim and have a social time, at 1100 on 17 Aug. Anyone needing a ride contact Martha Fowler (770) 781-4427.

Third, the Lobster Boil will take place at John Fowler's home, 6340 Barberry Hill Dr., Gainesville, GA (see map below). Gather at 1300. Eat at 1400 - whenever. Lobster \$20.00 or hot dogs \$5.00. RSVP to John Fowler email John_3946@bellsouth.net, home phone (770) 781-4427, or by mail at 6340 Barberry Hill Dr., Gainesville, GA 30506-4745. Come by water or by land. **RSVPs must be received by 10 Aug or no lobster for you.**

Please bring chairs and, if possible, tables to make your feast more enjoyable. Lobsters, clams, corn, drinks, plates, cups, butter, salt & pepper to be provided.



URGENTLY NEEDED

There is an urgent need for a Squadron Historian.

**If you are capable and willing to take on this job
Please contact Ed Troncalli (770) 844-7289**

OUR TRIP TO THE ABACOS

By Cathy and Bill Gruber

(continued from the previous issue)

While at Marsh Harbour we got an invitation from a man named Bill to enjoy happy hour aboard *Blue Rondo*, a boat anchored next to us. Dennis, Mary and Mimi joined us. It turned out that they were all friends who went to the Catholic church there. Then we had supper at the Jib Room. They had a music group that was very entertaining. One fellow played the saw — very clever, and very well done! Another man danced the Limbo with other people joining in, until the pole got down to waist high. The tip jar was passed, and the pole kept getting lower. When it was only 16 inches off the ground the performer got real low and danced under it !!! IT WAS AMAZING.

We decided to sail to Hope Town on Elbow Cay, but again, we had to motor. However, as we got close we were able to do some sailing before heading into the harbor. I remembered why I like sailing — it is so quiet, so smooth, so relaxing! You just can not be in a hurry. There were a lot of boats in the harbor so we anchored with two anchors. This was new to me. On Saturday we considered taking the ferry to Man-O-War for the big flea market, but decided against it. It began to rain and continued for most of the day — so we were glad we chose not to go. We had lunch at a restaurant where we invited a couple, Tom and Sandy, to join us. She used to be a teacher and said, "I just LOVE 6th graders." My sentiments exactly!! Small World!

On Sunday we heard that there would be a church service under a big tree. It was a park with a big Bayou tree and home-made benches. The service started out like a Mass but after the homily, we realized that it was a Communion Service. After that we dinghied over to the Hope Town Lodge, where we had lunch. I noticed some people all dressed up and a baby in an old-fashioned christening gown. They were baptizing the baby on the beach. I thought they would put the baby in the ocean (very symbolic) but they just poured some water over his head.

When we heard the weather report, we decided to stay another day. Actually, it was a beautiful day with hot sun, chilly winds, and very puffy clouds. We dinghied over to the red and white candy-striped lighthouse and climbed to the top. From there you could see all of Marsh Harbour, Man-O-War, the ocean, the Sea of Abaco, and all the various depths with shades of blue and green. We thought about heading back to Marsh Harbour that afternoon, but then decided to stick with our original plan : to relax here. We had lunch at Capt. Jack's and when we went to pay the bill realized we had left our credit card at the Lodge the day before. When we returned, they had our card ready for us. I knew there was a reason we did not leave on Monday.

We went back to Marsh Harbour on Tuesday and spent a couple of days making phone calls, doing laundry, relaxing and saying good-bye to our new friends. Finally, on Thursday we started for home. On our way to Guana Cay we were able to sail. It was fun! We walked across the island to Nipper's on a bluff overlooking the ocean. You could see the waves crashing over the reefs, not very far out in the ocean.

Whale Cay is an island which most need to go around, into the ocean, as they make their way to and from Great Turtle Cay. If the waves and wind are high, there is trouble. Back when we were on our way East we were able to go by way of Don't Rock because it was high tide. This time, however, it was mean low water with just a depth of 1-2 feet. Bill had put the keel down as a feeler, and we did hit bottom. So we did a "180" and headed out to sea. Bill quickly put in the coordinates for Whale Cay Passage, and, luckily, the sea conditions were good and we did fine, even in our little 25 footer.

(to be continued)