

Official newsletter of the
Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron

www.usps-atlanta.org



WATERLOG



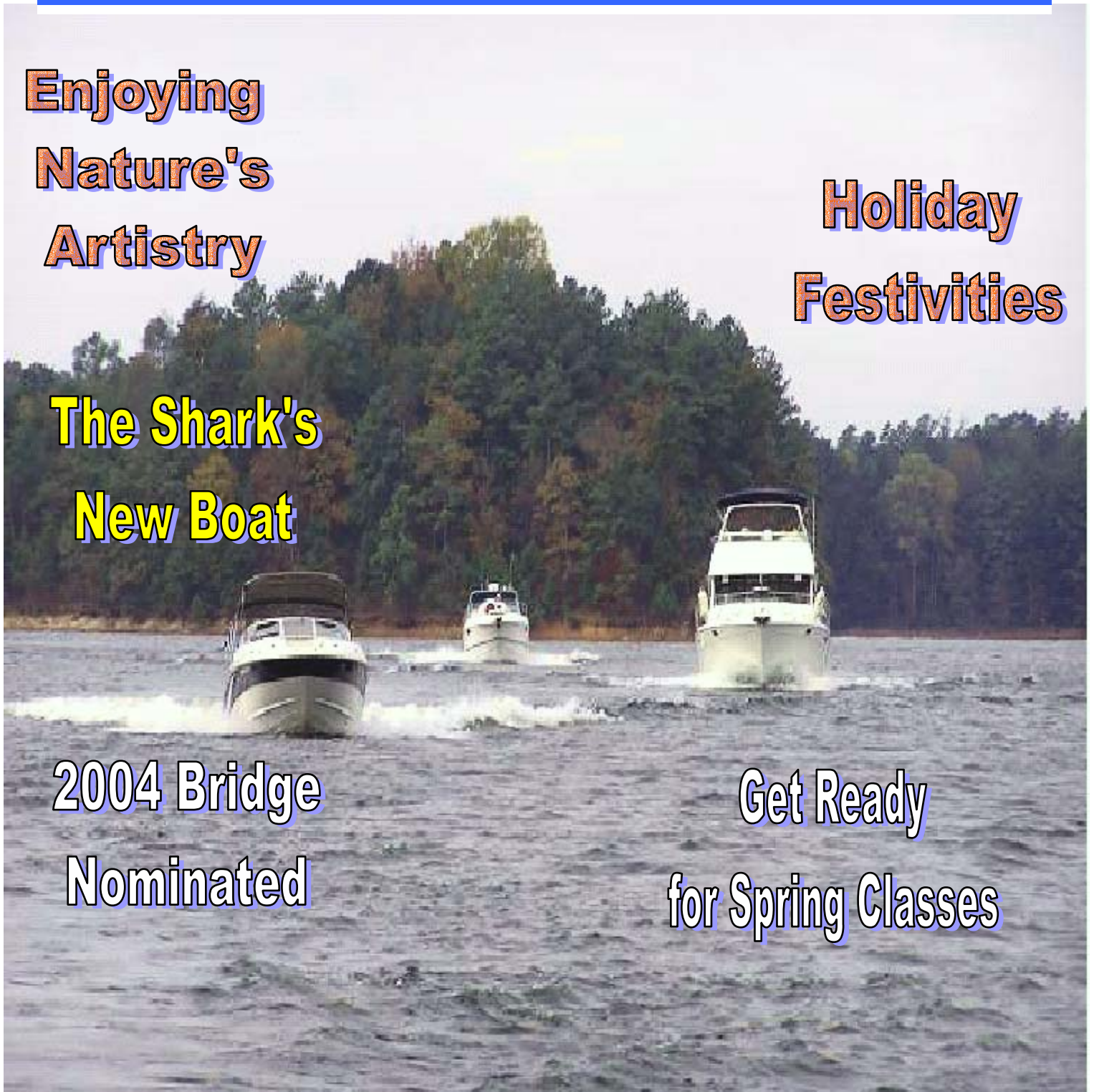
**Enjoying
Nature's
Artistry**

**Holiday
Festivities**

**The Shark's
New Boat**

**2004 Bridge
Nominated**

**Get Ready
for Spring Classes**



In This Issue

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Commander's Message | 2 |
| Happy Holidays! | 3 |
| Silent Auction | 3 |
| Fall Colors | 3 |
| Master and Commander...and Other News | 4 |
| Mmmmm, Good! | 4 |
| Nominations for 2004 Bridge | 5 |
| Auxiliary Change of Watch | 5 |
| Member Survey | 5 |
| Sign Up for Spring Classes! | 6 |
| Know Your Ships | 6 |
| Bulletin Board and Calendar | 7 |
| From the GA DNR... | 8 |
| <i>Aussie Rules</i> | 8 |
| AFTerthoughts | 9 |

The Waterlog

The Waterlog is published monthly, with at least 10 issues per year.

It is published by and for the squadron members by the staff of the Squadron Secretary and is mailed to the listed address of all current members and advertisers.

All members in good standing, and approved non-member advertisers may submit articles and items for publication. They receive no gratuity.

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

Please send comments and suggestions to:-

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Commander's Message



Cdr. Ed Troncalli, SN

A dozen members from the Atlanta Sail & Power Squadron attended the Dixie District October 2003 Fall Conference in Tunica, MS. We came home with five awards for education and membership. Our Awards Coordinator, P/C Danny Tompkins, JN, had the pleasure to show off the awards at our October General Membership Meeting (article on page 3).

Our Treasurer, Lt/C Margaret Sherrod, JN, will be the custodian of one of the trophies for at least one year for having the highest Junior Navigation score last year in District 17.

Your Atlanta Sail & Power Squadron Executive Committee voted to send a recommendation to the District Council. We requested either a change or clarification to the United States Power Squadron's® by-laws in regard to the appointment of Squadron Officers in relation to their membership type. The Council voted to accept the recommendation and write it as a resolution to be presented to National.

Our own Administrative Officer, Lt/C Jeff Wise, SN, was recognized for his brilliant contribution for creating a District 17 web site. See it at: usps-D17.org. As the site matures, we will have the ability to be better informed on the District's plans for its 50th Anniversary coming up in 2004 and all of the other projects in the works.

The next District 17 Council Meeting will be in Columbus, Georgia; 12-14 March 2004. Plan to attend and broaden your horizons as to the workings of the United States Power Squadrons®. A big bonus to these meetings is that the N-Club meets on Sunday morning. P/C Mickey Hayes is the club president. You can count on an interesting program regardless of your Grade.

The Squadron Roster is about ready to go to press. **Please send in your Member Survey printed in this Waterlog even if all the old information is correct** so that we will know it is correct. We would also appreciate it if you would review the entire 2003 Roster and advise us if there are any errors that would not be picked up on the Member Surveys. Thanks!

Let us all congratulate and support the new Officers of the Atlanta Sail & Power Squadron Auxiliary.

First Officer: Cathy Gruber
Second Officer: Jeanette Hodgskin
Secretary: Norma Van Nostrand
Treasurer: Faith Todd

Watch for the Auxiliary activity announcements. The Auxiliary is another Power Squadron opportunity.

Congratulations are in order to P/D/C Bob Leathers. He has earned the distinction of being a 25-YEAR MEMBER. He was our Commander in 1987 and has served in many positions but has always been a member of our Squadron throughout the 25 years. Thanks, Bob, for your dedicated service!

I had the great pleasure to present the Commander's Helm Award at our October General Membership Meeting to Vessel Safety Chm., Lt. Frank Taylor, and Boat Smart Chm. Lt. Nancy Spraker, for exceptional dedication. Thanks Frank and Nancy for jobs well done!

(Cont'd on page 3)



Squadron Happenings

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!



The season is here and the holiday spirit is taking hold. Come join your fellow members of the Atlanta Squadron at the Holiday Party. Bring your family and friends.

When: **Saturday 20 Dec 2003** Where: Historic Roswell Founders Club, 65 Sloan St., Roswell, GA
 Cocktails 1830-1930 (6:30-7:30), Formal Dinner at 1930 (7:30)

There will be music and dancing, a silent auction and door prizes.

RSVP at your earliest convenience at the website usps-atlanta.org or call Lt Patti Watson at 770-458-1649. **Don't miss it!**



SILENT AUCTION

We will add a new dimension to the Squadron Christmas Party this year—a silent auction! This will be a perfect opportunity to pick up the Christmas present you wanted but couldn't find. It will also be a great fund raiser for our Power Squadron. If you have a business, or if you know of a business that would like to donate a gift or a service to this worthy cause, please contact Lt Tim Tyson, S. Let Tim know prior to any solicitation of the business to ensure they are not contacted multiple times, and to make arrangements to receive the items.

Put on your thinking caps, and we'll see you at the party!!

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

(cont'd from page 2)

We have two new 1st Lts. that were sworn in by D/C Gary Meinken at our Oct. General Membership Meeting. They are going to be a BIG help to the Bridge. 1stLt. Roy Stegall is our new Asst. Squadron Education Officer and 1st/Lt. Sheryl Laboda is our new Asst. Treasurer.

The October "Up the River" Squadron On-The-Water event was a success as expected since Lt. Doug Watson planned it. The only problem is that it was the last Squadron On-The-Water event planned this season. At least we can look forward to sweet dreams on those cold winter nights anticipating the next boating season.

A special thanks to the Nominating Committee; P/C Danny Tompkins, JN, P/C Don Williams SN and P/C John Fowler, SN; for the excellent slate of nominations for the Squadron's 2004 Officers. In the last issue of the *Waterlog*, the call was made to the members to volunteer as Officers of the Squadron. Thanks to all of you who volunteered. I feel confident that you, the volunteers, made a good decision to really get involved in the Squadron.

Enthusiastically,

Ed Troncalli, SN

FALL COLORS

On Saturday, 1 November, the Atlanta Squadron headed north up the Chattahoochee to view the fall colors. The day began with a breakfast with Elvis at the Lantern Inn. Although there were no Elvis sightings, there was plenty of good food to start the day off right. After doing as much damage to the buffet as possible, the crews assembled at the various vessels and began the cruise upriver. At the end of an enjoyable cruise, the boats rafted up and shared lunch.



The Lantern Inn Breakfast Club



Heading upriver



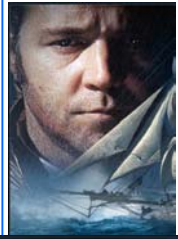
The Three Capitanos



Food, fun and fellowship on the water



Squadron Happenings



RUSSELL CROWE
MASTER and COMMANDER
THE FAR SIDE OF THE WORLD



The HMS Rose

MASTER and COMMANDER, and Other News

The original *HMS Rose* was built in England and commissioned in 1757. The *Rose* cruised the American coast during the Revolutionary War and met her end off the coast of Savannah in 1779. A replica of the *Rose* was built in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia some years ago. It is the world's largest active wooden sailing vessel. At 179 ft LOA and a main mast 130 ft tall, the *Rose* displaces 130 tons. Owned by Fox Studios, the ship is currently appearing in the 20th Century fox film *Master and Commander: Far Side of the World* starring Russell Crowe and directed by Peter Weir. She is docked in San Diego.

However, in August 1998 the *Rose* was used as a sail training vessel. Atlanta Squadron's own (Master and) Commander Ed Troncalli, SN, served on a crew of 34 trainees that sailed the *Rose* from New York Harbor to Boston by way of Provincetown. At the general membership meeting on 23 Oct, Cdr Troncalli shared his experiences on that voyage with an exciting and interesting video

presentation that combined a trailer for *Master and Commander...* with his own videotape from the cruise.



Atlanta Squadron's collection of awards

Cdr Troncalli also reported on the District meeting held in Tunica, MS. The Atlanta Squadron brought home five awards:

- **Outstanding Growth in Membership**: awarded for a 4.4% increase through May 2003, compared to the national goal of 3%.
- **Bowsprit Award**: Awarded by National to the District. Each Squadron will receive a certificate.
- **Joseph M. Sewell Navigator Memorial Trophy**: awarded for outstanding achievement in the Navigation course. This trophy is in memory of Joe Sewell, a former member of the Atlanta Squadron, and was designed by P/C Don Williams, SN.
- **Prince Henry Award**: awarded for the most Navigator grade A achievements (3rd year).
- **Dixie Navigation Club Navigator of the Year**: awarded for outstanding achievement in navigation skills. This year's award went to Lt/C Margaret Sherrod, JN, for scoring the highest grade on the Jr Navigation exam.



Lt/C Sherrod receives the Navigator of the Year Award from P/C Danny Tomkins, JN

Commander's Helm Awards were presented to Lt Frank Taylor for his service as Vessel Safety Chair, and to Lt Nancy Spraker for her leadership of the BoatSmart program. Frank and his team completed more than sixty inspections and trained four new inspectors. In the most recent BoatSmart course, Nancy reported that nine students completed the course and passed the test.

Mmmm, GOOD!

There's nothing better than a steaming bowl of hot homemade chili to knock the chill off an autumn night—unless it's another bowl of someone else's delicious concoction. The members met and ate their fill on Friday, 14 November, at the annual Chili Cookoff. Chief Chili Judges James Dennison, Lisa and David Herndon had to make several rounds before determining the winner of the 2003 Best Chili Award. Patti Watson took home the honors, but there was a five-or-six-way tie for second place.

Lt /C Hans Meier set up a continuous slide show of our on-the-water events for the year. James Dennison narrated a video tape of a boat salvage operation he witnessed recently on a beach in Florida. resulting from a jet boat becoming swamped just offshore and washing up on the beach. It was a great real-life example of the First Rule of Boating: Water on the outside.



Squadron Happenings

NOMINATIONS FOR 2004 BRIDGE

In accordance with our bylaws, the annual meeting and election of officers and elected committees will take place on Saturday, 24 January 2004 at the Dunwoody Driving Club. The 51st Change of Watch will take place Sunday, 22 February 2004. The Atlanta Squadron Nominating Committee, consisting of P/C Danny Tompkins, JN; P/C Don Williams, SN; and P/C John Fowler, SN, has submitted the following slate of officers for 2004.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2004

SQUADRON OFFICERS

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Commander | Hans Meier |
| Executive Officer | Jeff Wise |
| Administrative Officer | Margaret Sherrod |
| Secretary | Frank Taylor |
| Education Officer | Kevin Schoonover |
| Treasurer | Sheryl LaBoda |

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Cdr. Hans Meier, Chairman | | |
| Lt/C Jeffrey D. Wise, Vice Chairman | | |
| Margaret Sherrod | Frank Taylor | Kevin Schoonover |
| Sheryl LaBoda | Ed Troncalli | Lisa Herndon |
| Doug Watson | Keith Blanton | Pattie Price |
| Robert Leathers | Mac Barrier | Elliot Hammer |
| | Randy Tahsler | |

GENERAL COMMITTEES

AUDIT COMMITTEE

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Beth Guler, AP | Chairman |
| Michael Guler, JN | Vice Chairman |

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| P/C Ed Troncalli, SN | 3 Years |
| P/C Danny Tompkins, JN | 2 Years |
| P/C Don Williams, SN | 1 Year |

RULES COMMITTEE

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| P/C Ed Troncalli, SN | 3 Years |
| P/C Danny Tompkins, JN | 2 Years |
| P/C Don Williams, SN | 1 Year |

If any member who has not been nominated desires to run for any of the open positions, he or she may be nominated by a written petition designating the candidate and the office signed by five or more members of the squadron who are in good standing. Such petition must be in the hands of the Squadron Secretary, Lt/C Keith Blanton no later than Friday, 9 January 2004, fifteen days prior to the election. No nominations from the floor will be allowed unless all nominees for a given position withdraw.

SQUADRON AUXILIARY CHANGES WATCH

The Change of Watch (COW) for the Atlanta Squadron Auxiliary took place on Thursday, 20 November, at the Ansley Golf Club. R/P/C Earl Moon, SN, conducted the swearing-in ceremony for the new bridge consisting on First Officer Cathy Gruber, S; Second Officer Jeanette Hodgskin; Secretary Norma Van Nostrand, S; and Treasurer Faith Todd, P.

The next meeting of the Auxiliary will be in March or April. Watch for details on the *DR* and in the *Waterkrog*.

MEMBER SURVEY

Please complete and return your survey right away so the ASPS Roster Committee can prepare the next squadron roster in a timely and efficient manner. Please clip the form below, complete the requested information and mail it to the Squadron Secretary at: Lt/C Keith Blanton, P. O. Box 767849, Roswell, GA 30076. Alternatively, the squadron secretary can be reached by phone at (678) 773-0328, and by email at kb@maxrd.com

First Name: _____ MI ____ Last name: _____

Member Nbr: _____ Type Membership: _____

Member Since: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ ZIP _____

Home tel: ____ - ____ - _____ Bus tel: ____ - ____ - _____

Mobile tel: ____ - ____ - _____ Boat tel: ____ - ____ - _____

E-mail: _____ @ _____ . _____

Spouse: _____ Birthday: _____

Rank _____ Grade: _____ Merit Marks: _____

Awards: _____

Committees: _____

Electives (circle courses completed): CP EM IQ ME OT S W

Boat name: _____ Type: _____

Home Port: _____

Certifications: _____

Ham Operator? Y N Call sign _____

Mail to: Lt/C Keith Blanton,
P. O. Box 767849,
Roswell, GA 30076



From the Bridge



Education Officer

Sign Up For Spring Classes Now!!

Even though everyone is busy thinking about the upcoming holiday season with all the eating, partying, and good cheer, it's also time to consider improving your boating education. Yes, right after we make, and probably break, our New Year's resolutions, Spring Boating Classes begin. This is a great time to think about expanding

your knowledge with an elective course or maybe taking that next advanced course. Besides, you have already winterized your boat and it's probably too cold to go out on the water anyway!! This Spring, beginning on Monday, 5 January, we will be offering three classes. They are Piloting, Marine Electronics, and Cruise Planning. A brief description of the courses is as follows:

Piloting

Instructors: G. Michael Smith & Ryan Troncalli

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Finding Your Way | Charts & Publications |
| Aids to Navigation | The Mariner's Compass |
| Determining Deviation | Bearings |
| Plotting & Labeling | The Art of Positioning |
| A Weekend Cruise | |

Marine Electronics (New Curriculum)

Instructor: Ed Troncalli

- Boat Electrical Systems
- Marine Radio Communication
- Marine Navigation Equipment

Cruise Planning

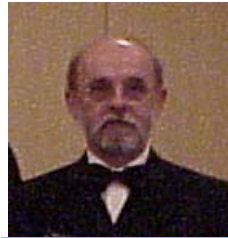
Instructor: Bob Ginsberg

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Planning your voyage | Financing your voyage |
| The Boat & How it is Equipped | Crew Selection |
| Provisioning | Navigation Planning |
| Weather-Information Sources | Communications |
| Entering & Clearing Foreign Ports | Anchors & Anchoring |
| Voyage Management | Emergencies Afloat |
| Medical Emergencies | Security |

So pick your source of education and sign up now on the Atlanta Sail & Power Squadron Website, usps-atlanta.org.

New Education Team Member

The Education Department would like to recognize and welcome Lt. Roy Stegall to the position of Assistant Squadron Education Officer. Roy is relatively new to the squadron, but not to boating. His past experience and energy level will be warmly accepted as we move into our next Squadron year. Roy will assist me in planning educational activities, creating new teaching aides, and in executing a new Boat Smart format.



Lt/C Hans Meier, JN
Executive Officer
xo@usps-atlanta.org



Lt/C Keith Blanton, P
Secretary
secretary@usps-atlanta.org



Lt/C Margaret Sherrod, JN
treasurer@usps-atlanta.org



Lt/C Jeff Wise, N
Administrative Officer
admin@usps-atlanta.org

KNOW YOUR SHIPS

Trivia Quiz

1. Which of these famous ships was sunk by a German torpedo in May 1915?
 - a. Lusitania
 - b. Britannic
 - c. Mauritania
 - d. Titanic
2. Which of these ships was highjacked?
 - a. Charlotte Dundas
 - b. Achille Lauro
 - c. Rainbow Warrior
 - d. Grand Princess
3. Which of these passenger liners caught fire and was destroyed in New York Harbor in 1941?
 - a. Normandie
 - b. Queen Elizabeth
 - c. Queen Mary
 - d. France

Answers: 1. a. The Lusitania, owned by Cunard Lines went down with 1200 lives. Her sinking was instrumental in bringing the U.S. into WWI.
2. b. The ship was highjacked by the PLO in Oct 1985.
3. a.

The Bulletin Board



Holiday Party
 Saturday 20 Dec, 2003 at the Founders Club in Roswell. In celebration of our 50th year, it will be a special gala event. Mark your calendars, invite your family and friends and make your reservations asap. RSVP at usps-Atlanta.org, or call Patti Watson at 770-458-1649.

USPS ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the USPS will be held at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, FL 14-18 January 2004. Please see the December 2003 issue of *The Ensign*, pages 40-43, for details on events and reservations forms.



Note that the deadline for hotel reservations is 10 December, and the deadline for meeting activities reservations is 20 December.

Members Who Are Shut-In

If you become aware of members who are ill, convalescing, or just in need of a visit, please contact our chaplain, John Speiser. John can be reached at 770-514-8788, or by e-mail at chaplain@usps-atlanta.org

USPS EVENTS: DECEMBER 2003

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|------------------|----------------|-----|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Ex Comm Mtg | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Hanukkah; Holiday party |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Christmas | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 New Years Eve | | | |

USPS EVENTS: JANUARY 2004

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|----------------------|-----|------------------------|
| | | | | 1 New Years Day | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Ex Comm Mtg | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 Spring classes begin | 13 | 14 | 15 Atlanta Boat Show | 16 | 17 USPS Annual Meeting |
| 18 USPS Annual Mtg; Atln Boat Show | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Annual Mbrs Meeting |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

General Membership Meeting at the Foghorn Grill, 3230 Medlock Bridge Rd, Norcross, GA

ExComm Meetings at the Hickory House, 5490 Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody, GA



Life on the Water



The Aussie Rules

AUSSIE RULES

Life must be tough for "The Shark." See what kind of boat golf could bring you?

Greg Norman, "The Shark", recently took delivery of his new toy, named *Aussie Rules*, which he helped design. At 228 feet in length, it's the world's largest aluminum and composite private yacht. He had it built for only \$70 million. The company meant to build it for him "at cost" in return for the excellent advertising of having him as an owner, but they actually lost money on it. When he first cruised into Sydney Harbor, onlookers remarked, "It's massive! Nearly three times the size of the ferries in the Harbor!"

Besides being opulent, it is also built for Jacques Cousteau-type fun and exploration. There is on-board diving equipment for 30 people including a decompression chamber and two huge compressors. Dives of all types can be accomplished by operating the Nitrox mixing panel onboard, enabling each guest's air tank to be customized with a mixture of gases.

To get the people out to those choice dive spots, or maybe just for having a bit of a splash, the following additional "small" boats are kept onboard:

- A 42-ft Custom Built "Game Fisher" can be launched and retrieved from the deck. Perfect for a 4-person overnight fishing expedition. Has a gourmet galley for cooking up the catch while it's still fresh.
- A 30-ft SeeVee for a quick afternoon fishing trip.
- A 22-ft Novurania Equator with a meager 800 horsepower so you can get to the best diving sites ahead of everyone else. It has beach landing capability as well.
- Two 18-ft Hewes Bonerfishers for those special occasions when Greg and a close friend may wish to maneuver over the sand flats in Key West, FL
- A 13-ft Narwhal Rescue Boat in case someone falls off one of those other boats
- And just for the hell of it, four Yamaha Waverunners!

Check it out at <http://www.shark.com/aussierules/index.php>

(The editors are indebted to Tim Corbin and Donna Dodson of the Lake Murray Power Squadron for this article.)



I thought all cruisers had an on-board cinema...

FROM THE GA DNR...

The office of W. Ray Luce, Division Director of the Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Natural Resources has distributed the following letter, which is transcribed below:

17 Sept 2003

Georgia Marine and Naval Community:

I am writing...to introduce myself to the Georgia marine and naval community. My name is Jason Burns and I am the new Underwater Archaeologist within the GA Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Division. I came to Georgia from Florida where I received my BA (U. of FL) and MA (U. of W.FL) degrees and was recently the Director of Conservation/Underwater Archaeologist for the Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program... I have been diving for over ten years and have a background in not only underwater archaeology, but also in archaeological conservation. [I] have worked on projects [including] the raising of the CSS Hunley in Charleston, the recording of the CSS Alabama off the coast of France and the excavation of the 16th century Emanuel Point ship in Pensacola Bay...

I am...setting up Georgia's new underwater archaeology program...I have revamped [the] underwater archaeology webpage and will be continually updating and making the site more user-friendly. Please visit the site at: <http://gashpo.org/dnr/histpres/division/underwater-archaeology.html>. I look forward to working with the community in Georgia to build an underwater archaeology program and to meeting everybody as I get into the State's waters. If you have any questions about Georgia underwater archaeology or to report a submerged or threatened site in Georgia's waters, please contact me...

Sincerely

Jason Burns, MA, RPA; Underwater Archaeologist; Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Division; 156 Trinity Ave. SW, Suite 101; Atlanta, GA 30303 404-656-6007; Jason_Burns@dnr.state.ga.us



The Galley



AFTerthoughts



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

By David Herndon



I found myself staring at the calendar on my desk today wondering how it was possible that another year is nearly history. I can barely even remember June and I'm pretty sure we didn't have an April this year. Nevertheless, it's now December and time to reflect on the year past and prepare for the future.

It's also the holiday season. We have just celebrated Thanksgiving, the time when we contemplate our blessings. Soon it will be Christmas and Hanukkah, a season of giving and sharing. Then, after but a few days, it will be the New Year and time to prepare and plan for another *annus mirabilis*.

To me, one of the (few) good things about getting older is that these wonderful holidays seem to come around sooner each year. Although I'm working from nearly 2-1/2 decades of experience at being thirty, I haven't changed much from my childhood and young adolescent years. Sometime within a few hours of pushing back from the Thanksgiving feast table, I start getting excited about what the next month has in store. I start thinking about appropriate gifts, planning surprises, looking for time to decorate the house, scheduling the parties and open houses, coordinating with siblings on times to visit family in other states...and on it goes.

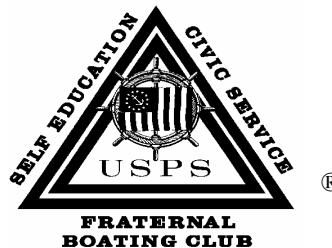
If someone were to tell me in July I had to do all that stuff, I'd make it clear to him or her exactly how crazy I thought they were. But in December it's different; it's enjoyable. This is truly a wonderful time of year.

As we spend time with our families inside, sheltered from the cold and dreary weather, it's also a good time to reflect on those special pleasures that come from warm, sunny days spent on the water. And while you're at it, give some thought to the maintenance and improvements your boat needs for upcoming nautical adventures.

Most importantly, enjoy the time to give thanks, to share and to plan with family and friends.

Best Wishes for a
safe and enjoyable
Holiday Season!

Lisa & David Herndon
1332 Cambridge Ct.
Atlanta, GA 30319



STAMP