

Official newsletter of the
Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron

www.usps-atlanta.org



WATERLOG

United States Power Squadrons
Sail and Power Boating - America's Boating Club®



Launched at the Boat Show

Getting Ready to Cruise

Welcome New Members!

New Bridge Elected



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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.

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Cover photo by Lisa Herndon. Taken at the ASPS booth at the Atlanta Boat Show with a Cingular Motorola V400 camera phone (->



Cdr Hans Meier, JN

Commander's Message

Well, the 2004-2005 Cruise is almost ended. It has been a long trip that has gone by quickly. It started one year ago at the 2004 Change of Watch on 22 February and will end on 20 February at the 2005 Change of Watch. It was at this time that I presented the **Smorgasbord Schedule of Events**. This was my vision to have attractive events for every member of the squadron young and old, new and old time members from education, to on-the-water events, to monthly meeting with programs, and cruises. The idea was that everyone could attend something and have "FUN".

My outstanding **Bridge and Executive Board** supported my vision and made it all happen. You, the membership, came out, attended the events and supported all the programs. Thank you.

Let's recap the year-long cruise and the ports of call along the way:

March

District Conference in Columbus, Ga
 General meeting with Roy Crittenden - US Coast Guard
 Operation Training Class at Troncalli's

April

General meeting and program FogHorn Grill
 Fred Myers – Tennessee River Guides
 Low Country Boil
 New Member Orientation and Instructor Appreciation

May

Georgia Coast ICW Cruise
 Anchoring Clinic and Raft-up
 General Meeting and Program Fog Horn Grill
 ICW Cruise - Multi Media Recap by our members via Pictures, Overheads, videos, charts, fliers and personal cruise songs, one being the great song written by David Herndon called "Boat Dollars"
 Safe Boating week

June

General Meeting and Program at Foghorn Grill
 Boat/US – West Marine – Brandon Smith
 Raft-up/Beach Party/Salmon cookout/Limbo contest

July

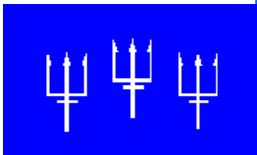
Commander's Raft-up Party at Troncalli's
 General Meeting and Program at Foghorn Grill
 Ken Hodges – Aqua Marine Care
 Tennessee River-Euchee Cruise

August

General Meeting and Program Foghorn Grill
 Mary Stegall – CPR
 Raft-up – 50's Party

September

General Meeting and Program
 Frank Taylor – Panama Canal (Ivan attendance effected)
 Sailboat Raft-up



(Continued on page 5)

Squadron Happenings

ANNUAL MEETING HELD

The Annual meeting was held at the Foghorn Grill on 20 January and featured a slide show of highlights for the year. Officers submitted their formal reports and Lt./C Frank Taylor consolidated the highlights into a slide show of pictures. Notable accomplishments from 2004 include:

- Year end membership totaled 213 Members including six new members and two transfers;
- Nine courses were offered: Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Marine Electronics, Cruise Planning, Seamanship and Engine Maintenance, a first-time offering of ChartSmart and a new rotational format for BoatSmart and an Instructor Development course;
- Eight membership meetings and numerous social activities, including a Low Country Boil, a Chili-Cook-off and the Holiday Party. There were raft-ups with themes of a Luau, the Fifties, Oktoberfest and a Leaf Cruise. On-the-water events averaged eight boats and 27 people;
- Two extended cruises on the ICW and the Tennessee River;
- Newly designed website launched;
- The *Waterlog* was awarded the Distinction in Journalism Award;
- Fourteen Vessel Safety Inspectors held inspections on four days at six marinas for a total of 45 inspections;
- ASPS representatives were at seven marine stores during Boating Safety Week;
- ASPS was represented at the North Atlanta Boat & RV Show, Atlanta Outdoor & Boating Expo, Barefoot Open and introduced a new exciting display at the 2005 Atlanta Boat Show;
- Net end of year operating cash flow was positive thanks to the silent auction at the Holiday Party.

Cdr. Meier presented Lighthouse Awards to 1st Lt. Roy Stegall and Lt. Mary Stegall for their leadership in BoatSmart, to Lt. Patti Price for chairing the Membership committee, and to Lt/C Kevin Schoonover for his work as Education Officer. Certificates of appreciation were presented to regular participants of the On-The-Water activities and those who had not been in attendance at the instructor appreciation event. Dale Atkins, SN, was presented his 25-year pin. 2004 was indeed a year of accomplishments and fun under the energetic leadership of Cdr. Hans Meier and the stage is set for a great year in 2005.

52nd CHANGE OF WATCH PLANNED

Make reservations now for the 52nd Change of Watch to be held beginning at 1200 hrs at Dunwoody Country Club on 20 February 2005. Following the elegant buffet brunch will be the installation of the 2005 Bridge of Officers.



Dale Atkins, SN, receives his 25 year pin from Cdr. Hans Meier, JN



Cdr. Hans Meier awards the Lighthouse Award to Lt./C Kevin Schoonover, Squadron Education Officer



Lt. Patti Price receives the Lighthouse Award from Cdr. Hans Meier for her activities as membership chairman



Lt.. Mary Stegall and 1st/L Roy Stegall receive the Lighthouse Award for their leadership of the BoatSmart classes

Squadron Happenings

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Bill and Pamela Convery have a 24 ft powerboat. Bill passed the Boat Smart exam Monday, 24 Jan and he is currently taking Piloting.

Jim and Robin McIntire own a Sea Ray Sundancer 240 located at Lan Mar Marina. Jim passed the Boat Smart class in November and passed and he is also taking Piloting.

Mike and Jewel Nolte passed the Boat Smart class in November. Mike is now attending Piloting class. They spent many years on sail boats in the Chesapeake Bay area and currently have a 19 ft center console power boat.

John and Becky Rodzik are sailors.

Benny, Rebecca and Jonathan V. Mortenson have a 40 ft sailboat, the *Panacea*.

David and Beth DeLorme have a 22 ft sailboat, the *Bandit*.

Dan Holland

Suzanne Anthony

GET READY TO CRUISE THE ICW

The ASPS spring trip will take place the 23-30 April 2005. The cruise will begin at St Mary's on 24 April with a cruise to Jacksonville. We will spend a day there, and depart Jacksonville on 26 April and cruise to St. Augustine. After two days there, we head back north on 29 April, and returns to St. Mary's. Make your plans now to participate in this exciting event. Inform Edy Marshall of your plans, if you need a room, if you're bringing a boat or if you need to ride in someone else's boat.

Cruise coordinator Carol Jordan will host a cruise planning meeting at their home at 840 Cramac Dr, Lawrenceville, GA 30045 at 1400 hours on 27 February.

Captains, make your reservations now at the marinas we will be visiting. You will be asked to provide the name and type of your

boat, and its length, beam, draft and electrical requirements.

St. Mary's, GA-Lang's Marina, 100 E. St. Mary's St., St. Mary's, GA 31558, phone 912-882-4452, fax 912-882-6290. Dockmaster Heidi. Fees: \$25/night for boats 25 ft or less, \$1/ft/night for boats over 25 ft, \$3.50 for power (30 or 50 amp). Reserve for 23 Apr and 29 Apr.

Jacksonville, FL-River City Brewing Co. & Marina, 835 Museum Cir, Jacksonville, FL 32207, phone 904-398-7918. Dockmaster Lee Logan. Fees: \$1.25/ft/night, \$3 for 30 amp, \$5 for 50 amp power. Reserve for 24-25 Apr.

St. Augustine, FL-St. Augustine Municipal Marina, 111 Avenida Menendez, St. Augustine, FL 32084, phone 904-825-1026, fax 904-825-1025. Call Carl Esposito for reservations. Dockmaster Alex Bray. Fees: \$1.60/ft/night (\$32 minimum), \$5 for 30 amp, \$8 for 50 amp power. Reserve for 26-28 April.



CROSSING OF THE BAR

A member of the ASPS since 20 January 1990, Gerald "Jerry" Ballard, N, 58, was tragically killed when his plane crashed into a Florida house in January. He was the only person aboard the plane and there were no other injuries. Jerry's wife, Jeanie is also a member of the ASPS and resides in Gainesville. Their boat, the *Jay Be* is kept in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. In lieu of flowers, the family asked that donations be sent to Joseph Sams School, 280 Brandywine Road, Fayetteville, Georgia 30214. www.josephsams.org

Squadron Happenings

ATLANTA BOAT SHOW INCLUDES SOCIALIZING WITH THE KNOXVILLE SQUADRON

The ASPS booth at the Atlanta Boat Show, 12-16 January, had the special draw of a handcrafted fully outfitted boat and boat dock, thanks to the woodworking of Cdr Hans Meier and the fine detailing of Lt. Glenn LaBoda. Squadron members manned the booth, giving out information about upcoming BoatSmart classes and the activities of the USPS. The booth attracted a good amount of traffic and generated a new list of BoatSmart students.



Lt. Glenn LaBoda, Boatshow Chairman, mans the newly decorated booth at the Atlanta Boat Show, featuring the handmade boat shown on the cover of this *Waterlog*

Members of the Squadron socialized with the visiting Knoxville Squadron on 15 January at the Cheesecake Factory.

THE WATERLOG RECOGNIZED FOR DISTINCTION IN JOURNALISM 2004

For the third year in a row, The *Waterlog* received the Distinction in Journalism award from the United States Power Squadron. The *Waterlog* is published at least 10 times a year and is complemented by a smaller version named the *WaterTwig* for Squadron announcements. The co-editors, Lts. Lisa and David Herndon, AP, extend their appreciation to the members of the Squadron who have contributed articles and pictures throughout the year. David will be moving to the office of Secretary with the Change of Watch in February and will continue his contribution as feature writer of the AFTerthoughts and Lisa will assume the responsibilities of Editor.

**2005 AUXILIARY
HAPPENINGS**



The Auxiliary is now under the command of First Officer Nancy Leathers and they have a full calendar of events planned. The Auxiliary is open to anyone who would like to join. The membership dues are \$10 per year and there will be five meetings in 2005. The first meeting is 22 February at the Art Institute of Atlanta for a multi-course luncheon served by its culinary students. Contact Nancy for details.

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

(Cont'd from page 2)

October

Oktoberfest Raft-up

General Meeting and Program

Frank Taylor – Panama Canal Encore Presentation

District Conference – Nashville TN

Novemeber

Fall Leaf Cruise up the Chattahoochee to the Olympic Rowing Venue and Raft-up

Annual Chili Cook-off at the home of James & Janet Dennison

December

Annual Holiday Party at the Roswell Founder's Club

January

Atlanta Boat Show

Squadron Annual Meeting

Intermixed with all the above were outstanding educational classes in the Winter and Fall along with a new style of teaching Boat Smart class offered every Monday night in three parts. Vessel Safety Check Program was also included in the offerings.

This was only one year in the 52-year rich history for the Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron and the 50-year history of District 17. A new and better year is just around the bend. Come join us at the 2005 Change of Watch and start the new voyage from the beginning.

Thank you so much for your support and a great Cruise as the Commander of Atlanta Sail and Power 2004-2005.

All hands on Deck! Cast the out the lines!

We need to dock, so we can get the itinerary for the next Cruise year from the New Bridge and Executive committee. This Watch has now come to an end.

Thanks for the adventure!

PS: Special thanks to the **Commander's Lighthouse Award** recipients. They were the navigational aids and guiding lights in making this year's cruise and the many ports of call successful.



From the Bridge

INTRODUCING THE 2005 BRIDGE

In accordance with our bylaws, the annual meeting and election of officers and elected committees took place on Thursday, 20 January 2005 at the Foghorn Grill. The 52nd Change of Watch will take place Sunday, 20 February 2005. The Atlanta Squadron Nominating Committee, consisting of P/C Ed Troncalli, P/C Danny Tompkins and P/C Don Williams, submitted the following slate of officers for 2005 and the slate was approved. Nan Putnam and Bob Ginsberg were presented by petition. Edy Marsal was presented at the meeting and approved. Tim Tyson was presented after the meeting and approved electronically.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2005

SQUADRON OFFICERS

Commander	Jeff Wise
Executive Officer	Margaret Sherrod
Administrative Officer	Frank Taylor
Secretary	David Herndon
Education Officer	Kevin Schoonover
Treasurer	Sheryl LaBoda
Assistant Treasurer	Tim Tyson
Assistant Secretary	Edy Marsal
Asst Education Officer	Roy Stegall

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Cdr Jeff Wise, Chairman	
Lt/C Margaret Sherrod, Vice Chairman	
Frank Taylor	David Herndon
Kevin Schoonover	Sheryl LaBoda
Hans Meier	Bob Leathers
Patti Watson	Patti Price
Carol Jordan	Tim Tyson
Lisa Herndon	Bob Ginsberg
Nan Putnam	

GENERAL COMMITTEES

Audit Committee

Chair: Lt Beth Guler
Michael Guler

Nominations Committee

P/C Hans A. Meier
P/C Edward P. Troncalli
P/C Daniel R. Tompkins

Rules Committee

P/C Hans A. Meier
P/C Edward P. Troncalli
P/C Daniel R. Tompkins



*Lt/C Jeff Wise, N
Executive Officer*



*Lt/C Margaret Sherrod, JN
Administrative Officer*



*Lt/C Sheryl Laboda, S
Treasurer*



*Lt/C Frank Taylor, P
Secretary*



*Lt/C Kevin Schoonover, AP
Education Officer*

???JANUARY PUZZLER ANSWER???

Santa needed a break after all the work he put into Christmas 2004. Mrs. Claus suggested that they take a few days off and relax. He came across a travel brochure with discount fares to the Democratic Republic of Coleslawvania and decided that was the place. He and Mrs Claus took the plane to Timbuktu, where they made the connecting flight to Coleslawvania. While on the plane, they realized that none of the passengers spoke English, and they spoke no Coleslawvanian. Later as they were trying to get a cab from the airport to their hotel, the language barrier proved insurmountable. They were not able to make themselves understood to anyone. Just when they were about to resign themselves to spending the night in the airport, Mrs. Claus recognized someone and said, "Oh, there's someone who was on our plane who can help us!" And she was right. How did she know immediately that this person could speak English if none of her fellow passengers could do so and she had not exchanged a word with the person she recognized?

ANSWER: She recognized the pilot by their uniform and realized that pilots always have to speak English

???FEBRUARY PUZZLER???

What English word changes from masculine to feminine and plural to singular (yes, plural to singular) with addition of an "s" at the end of the word?

The Bulletin Board

Check out the latest
District 17 Newsletter at
<http://www.usps-d17.org>

HELP WANTED
The Squadron is looking for a new webmaster. If you have the skills to maintain and occasionally update the squadron website, and can spare a couple of hours each month, we need your help. Please contact David Herndon at secretary@usps-atlanta.com

USPS EVENTS: FEB 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 ExComm	11	12
13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18	19
20 52nd COW	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

USPS EVENTS: MAR 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 ExComm	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 General Meeting	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	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

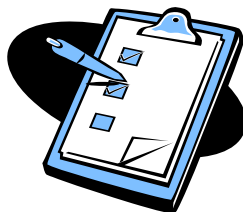
THE SUB THAT HIT THE MOUNTAIN



The USS San Francisco submarine ran aground on an underwater mountain that was not shown on its outdated charts

PLANNING TO CRUISE THE ICW

The Atlanta Squadron's second annual ICW cruise is coming up at the end of April. Even though that's several weeks away, now is the time to begin planning and getting ready. Here are a few items you can start preparing now during the cold, dark days of winter that will make that spring cruise even brighter:



Update your charts. Make sure you have an updated set of charts for the ICW and offshore for the area between St. Mary's and St. Augustine. If you don't have charts, get them. If you do have charts, check the Notice to Mariners and mark any changes, danger areas, etc. An hour or so spent on this at the kitchen table now may avoid several hours stuck on a sandbar in April.

Study your charts. Whether you have cruised this area before or this is your first time, take the time to study your charts thoroughly in advance. Get a general mental picture of the overall route in your mind. Make notes of any tight passages, tricky entrances, shallow areas, or other dangers. Study any passages across sounds or other open water where the day marks may be widely spaced. If the course headings for these passages are not already marked, plot them now. Remember, it never looks quite the same on the water as you expect it to from the chart, so it's a good idea to have a clear idea of general headings, what to expect at certain points, etc. Spend some time on that now, then review and refresh the information a couple of weeks before the cruise.

Study the tide tables. Equally important with knowing the charts is knowing the tides. Given the poor condition of the ICW, it will be

important to limit our cruising to the time intervals of about three hours before and after high tide. A good web site for tide information is <http://tbone.biol.sc.edu/tide/tideshow.cgi>. A sample printout is shown below.

St. Marys Entrance, North Jetty, Georgia

23 April 2005 - 29 April 2005

30.7200° N, 81.4450° W

2005-04-24	03:20 EDT	-0.04 feet	Low Tide
2005-04-24	06:09 EDT	Full Moon	
2005-04-24	06:48 EDT	Sunrise	
2005-04-24	09:00 EDT	5.94 feet	High Tide
2005-04-24	15:19 EDT	-0.12 feet	Low Tide
2005-04-24	19:59 EDT	Sunset	

Plan what to pack. Begin thinking about what clothes to take along. Remember that there is not a lot of storage space on the boats.

Limit yourself to a single bag if possible. Two smaller bags will usually stow easier than one large one. Soft side, duffle type bags will stow easier than rigid suitcases. We will be on the water for approximately a week, but don't think you have to pack for a week. Washers and dryers are common fixtures at marinas. Packing for three or four days and doing a load of laundry along the way is a better plan than taking two bags. A very important item to bring is foul weather gear. We will almost certainly encounter rain along the way, and it is important to be prepared for it. If you have foul weather gear, bring it. If you don't have it, it's worth the investment. Also bring along a box each of quart and gallon zip-lock plastic bags. These are always useful for organizing small miscellaneous items and keeping things dry.

Make your reservations early. Call the marinas to reserve your slip, and the motels to reserve your room now. Remember to keep your confirmation numbers with your other cruise paperwork—charts, etc.

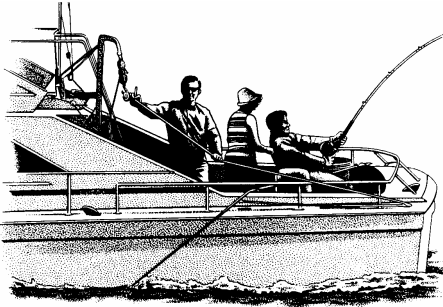
Remember boating etiquette. If you are taking your boat, be a good host. If you are riding on someone else's boat, be a good guest. A good host will make sure that the boat is clean and well-maintained, that everyone's gear is stowed safely, that there is adequate safety equipment in good condition for everyone on board, and that everyone clearly understands their responsibilities in general and in case of emergency. A good guest will be considerate of the limited storage space available on board; will readily share the costs of food, fuel, dockage and any maintenance required; will be prepared to serve as navigator, docking assistant, or other tasks as requested by the captain. Most important, when on the water, the captain is called captain for a reason: it is because he or she is the person in charge. Even though someone else may be at the helm, the captain still commands the vessel, and is accountable for its performance and safety. Captains, understand your responsibility and use it wisely. Guests, honor the captain's requests and give advice only when asked, or to avoid imminent danger.

A well planned cruise is a safe and enjoyable cruise. And don't forget, on the water you can never have too much ice or too many spare batteries.



Life on the Water

STUDY REVEALS WHY ANGLERS DON'T WEAR LIFE JACKETS



Two focus groups of anglers commissioned by the BoatU.S Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water reveal the top three reasons sportsmen don't wear life jackets while boating – and why some choose to wear them.

“The number one reason for not wearing a life jacket was lack of comfort”, said Chris Edmonston, Director of Boating Safety Programs at the BoatUS Foundation. “Anglers believe that life jackets are too hot, too uncomfortable, and too bulky. What is surprising, however, is their low awareness of the new class of lightweight, comfortable inflatable life jackets that have been on the market for several years now. Unfortunately, many sportsmen still see life jackets as that boxy orange foam one they wore as kids,” he continued.

Inflatable life jackets, which weigh as little as 13 ounces, come in camouflage and nautical colors, yet provide more buoyancy when inflated than a traditional foam-filled jacket. “Manufacturers see sportsmen as a viable market,” said Edmonston. “They’ve succeeded in creating styles that don’t interfere with shooting or casting.”

The second most common reason for not wearing a jacket was that this group rarely sees professional on TV wearing their life jackets.

The third most common reason for not wearing a life jacket was that sportsmen feel comfortable with their swimming ability. “A dangerous mistake which has led to many deaths,” said Edmonston.

So what causes some boaters to choose to wear a jacket? A close call on the water by a friend or family members was the number one reason given in the study. “Sometimes it takes a truly frightening event for a boater to understand the importance of wearing a life jacket,” said Edmonston. “It’s like wearing a seat belt. It isn’t going to help you after tragedy strikes.” The second reason to wear a life jacket was to present a positive role model for children or grandchildren. The third reason given was that it’s simply a common sense precaution.

--reprinted from Operation Boat Smart

NAUTICAL GLOSSARY

A boat is *underway* when not *anchored*, *aground* or *made fast* to shore. When getting underway from a dock, the mooring lines are *cast off*.

A boat sitting still in the water, but not at anchor or docked, is *not making way*. When it begins to move under its own power, it begins to *make way*. Going forward, it makes *headway*; going in reverse it makes *sternway*; moving sideways under the influence of wind or current makes *leeway*. Water that is moved aside by the

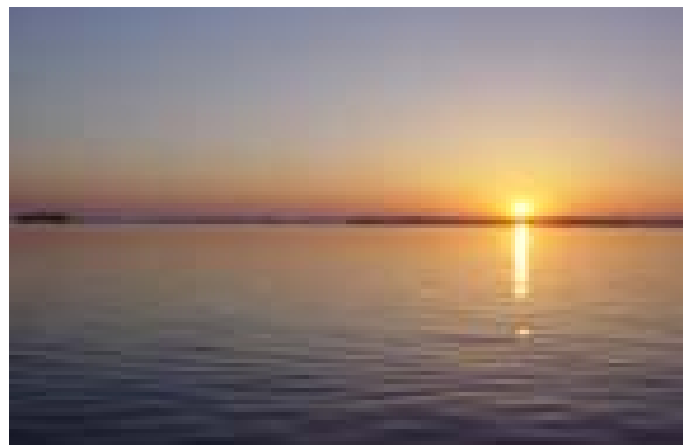
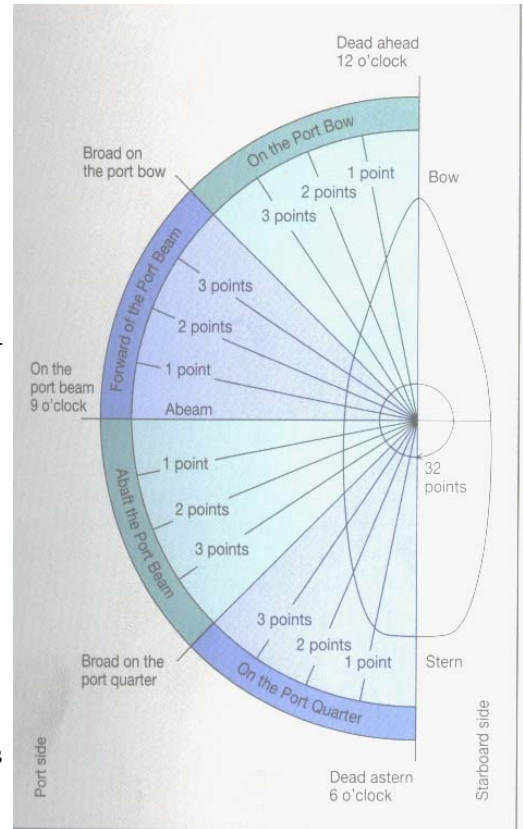
passage of a boat is the *wake*.

Objects or other boats directly ahead are said to be *dead ahead*; if directly behind they are *dead astern*. Anything that is 90 degrees to the right or left is *abeam* to starboard or port respectively. Objects at 45 degrees to the bow are said to be *broad off* the appropriate bow.

A more accurate method of describing surrounding objects is to use *relative bearings*. The traditional 32-point system divides the circles in which the boat is centered into divisions of 11.25° ($360^\circ/32=11.25^\circ$). See diagram at right.

A similar system that’s easier to remember relies on an analog clock face. Another boat may be described as “3 points off the port beam” or at “8 o’clock.”

When underway at sea, a boat’s hull experiences five separate motions in addition to headway. *Pitch* is a fore-and-aft rocking motion, while *roll* is a rotational movement to either side. A boat may *yaw*, or swing to port or starboard off course. A wave lifting a boat vertically, is said to *heave*. If it is a sideways horizontal motion, it is said to *sway*. Yawing is often caused by a *following sea* when the waves come up behind the boat. If a yaw gets out of control, the boat may *broach* and swing parallel to the waves.





AFTerthoughts

The Atlanta squadron has a bright future.

It is very encouraging to introduce so many new members in this issue. After a year with more activities and events than any in recent times, all members, new and old, can look forward to a lot of fun together in 2005. We have significantly upgraded our education offerings to incorporate new techniques and technology. We're planning some great on-the-water events and cruises. And we will continue to emphasize boat safety through courses and vessel safety checks.

In last month's *Waterlog* we reported and editorialized on the dramatic decline in membership in the national organization, especially in the past two years. There certainly are many reasons for boaters choosing to not retain their membership in an organization that promotes boating education, boat safety and fun on the water. We suggested some of those reasons in the last issue.

That, however, is a subject for another essay. The point here is to ensure that the members we have now remain as members, and encourage their boating friends to join as well. It is our collective responsibility to ensure we all continue to enjoy the fellowship of our fellow members while availing ourselves of the opportunities offered by the local and national Power Squadron.

Despite its somewhat archaic approach to organization, its convoluted rules for membership and its rather slow adoption of technology, the squadron remains the best choice for boaters looking to learn or improve their skills. The squadron recognizes its challenges and is adapting. We'll all get better together.

This year's leadership has a great agenda that will only make us stronger and more successful. Do your part to participate in events, to practice your technique, and to party with your fellow boaters.

Lisa & David Herndon
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STAMP

