

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®



**He got the Boat...
and the Girl**

80 miles in reverse



Time for Fall Classes

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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.

Please send comments and suggestions to:-

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E-mail: waterlog@usps-atlanta.org



Cover photo: Fisherman in dawn fog. Photo by Lisa Herndon

Commander's Corner



Cdr. Jeff Wise, N

Wow! We're already half way through my year as Commander, and I feel like we're just getting started. We've made a lot of progress, have had some outstanding events and meetings, but the best is yet to come! Stay tuned, stay involved, and have FUN! Before I get to this month's message, I want to express the heartfelt gratitude of the entire squadron to Ed and Genie for hosting us last week-end. The picnic was great, the food outstanding, and the friendships couldn't have been better.

THANK YOU! For those who didn't get the message, Genie's rain gauge measured the rain at 4½ inches in less than 1½ hours! But it's happenings like that that make for memories and the memories are even better when you're huddled together with friends.

Lisa keeps telling me that these messages are supposed to be inspiring. Sometimes the inspiration comes from the simplest of stories, and more often than not, the story is best left untouched. I received the following e-mail from P/D/C Ben Owen, SN. Those who know Ben can appreciate the message even more. For those who don't know, Ben was a crewman on a WWII troop transport.

TWO POTS

An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole which she carried across her neck. One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water.

At the end of the long walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water.

Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it could only do half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the woman one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house."

The old woman smiled, "Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water them." "For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house."

Each of us has our own unique flaw. But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding.

When I read that e-mail, I knew immediately that I had the subject of this month's Corner. I think it says a lot about the crackpots that we have in the squadron and how they make our squadron and our lives better.

Squadron Happenings

JULY MEETING—MEMORIES OF THE ICW

Frank Taylor collected approximately 2300 pictures from the ICW and had a constant slide show going throughout the night at the July general members meeting. Captains and crews shared favorite stories and Tim Tyson entertained with his second commemorative original song for the ICW cruise.

Commander Wise presented the Golden Prop award to Sheryl Laboda for her success in new member recruitment and to Roy & Mary Stegall for their leadership of the Boat Smart classes.



Cdr Wise presents Sheryl Laboda with Golden Prop for membership recruitment

Cdr. Wise also presented the following “special awards for the ICW:”

- To Glenn LaBoda: “Hey Buddy can you Spare a Gallon” Award
- To Frank Taylor: “Don’t Come Knocking if this Boat’s

Rockin’” Award

- To Frank Taylor: “Honest Officer I Thought It Was Public Water” Award
- To *Quintessence* Captain and Navigators: “But I Was in the Middle of the Channel” Award (2 years in a row)
- To Ed Troncalli “I’ve Never Run Aground...” Award
- To Roy Stegall “Does Anyone Have an Extension Cord” Award
- To Danny Tompkins: “We Measure Our Capacity in Ounces Not Gallons” Award
- To Carol Jordan: “Now Where Did My Pennant Go?” Award
- To Jim Dennison: “Always in the Middle of Things” Award
- To Jim Dennison: “The Taxpayer Awareness and U.S. Navy Oversight” Award

AUGUST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

ENGINE MAINTENANCE

The speaker for the August meeting was P/DC Bob Leathers, who teaches the Engine Maintenance class for the Squadron. Bob gave an overview of the highlights of engine maintenance, which is usually a full term course for the USPS.

JIM JORDAN BECOMES A CERTIFIED VESSEL SAFETY EXAMINER

Jim passed the written portion of the exam and has now completed his five required vessel inspections under the supervision of certified Vessel Safety Examiner (VSE), Dave Crumbley.

The VSE provides a potentially life saving service to boaters, their families and guests. If you wish to become a VSE, contact Doug Watson, the ASPS Vessel Safety Coordinator.



Jim Jordan and Dave Crumbley scrutinize the flare kit, one of the safety items listed on the VSC check list



Roy and Mary Stegall receive Golden Props Awards from Cdr Wise

Cdr Wise presents Roy Stegall with a special appreciation certificate from the U.S. Navy for his July presentation on common boating and safety problems.



New member James Weilminster takes the helm at the ASPS booth at the North Georgia

Blake and Polly Whitney enjoy the July meeting. They have boats in Florida and on Lake Lanier.



Squadron Happenings

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CONSIDERS 2006 SLATE OF OFFICERS

Much planning goes into recruiting a strong set of officers and the succession of the leadership of the ASPS. If you are interested in being considered for an executive committee position or willing to chair or serve on a committee for the 2006 officer slate, or have someone to nominate, please contact Past Commander Hans Meier .

TENNESSEE RIVER CRUISE

22-25 SEPTEMBER—IT'S NOT TOO LATE

It's not too late to sign up for the Tennessee River Cruise! Visitors and new members are welcome and will find this a great way to get to know the squadron. Carol Jordan, on-water-water activities chairperson, states that there are still 10 rooms available and 14 boats to ride on so no one is left on the dock! If you have any questions about the trip, contact Carol Jordan at got2shag@bellsouth.net or at 770-962-4725. Please indicate how many people are going in your group and whether or not you plan on taking your boat

TN River Trip 2005 dates: Thurs. Sept. 22- Sun., Sept. 25. Launch early Friday morning for a trip from South of Chattanooga to Gunterville, Alabama.

Reservations: [Covenant Cove Resort](http://www.covenantcove.com): 256-581-1000 (Pamela Lockhart, Manager); [Covenant Cove Marina](http://www.covenantcove.com): 256-582-1384
www.covenantcove.com.

Room rates: \$80/per night for members of ASPS. You must state that you are with the Atlanta Power Squadron or you will not receive this negotiated rate for the group contract.

Web site for Nickajack Lake:

<http://www.tnriver.com/TnRiver/tnr6nickajack.htm>

Web site for Gunterville Lake:

<http://www.tnriver.com/TnRiver/tnr5gunterville.htm>

Web site for Hales Bar Marina; (our mid-trip fuel stop):

<http://www.halesbarmarina.com/>

Web site for Goose Pond Colony (possible Saturday local trip) <http://www.goosepond.org/>

Web site for Goose Pond Colony golf course:

<http://www.goosepond.org/golf.htm>

Web site for Covenant Cove Resort:

<http://www.covenantcove.com/>

Alabama law requires the use of lanyards to the kill switch, so all captains should have them ready.

???AUGUST PUZZLER ???

Which word does not fit in the rest of the words and why?

| | | |
|--------|-------|-------|
| ABOARD | BOATS | SPINE |
| SHIP | GROPE | MISTY |

CPR CERTIFICATION WITH FUN AND A FEAST AT THE TRONCALLI'S



Either someone just lost a contact lens or this is a hands-on CPR training session led by Mary Stegall



???JULY PUZZLER Answer???

A group of friends enjoys a day of boating and as the sun goes down, they realize they're stranded when the motor does not start. The boat has no other means of reaching shore, and isn't equipped with a radio, but the friends do find some flares. Still, although they are within sight of hundreds of people on shore and in other boats, no one approaches to help them for at least an hour. Why does rescue take so long?

Answer: It was the fourth of July and all the boats had gathered to watch a fireworks display so no one noticed the flares....

District Happenings

2005 FALL DISTRICT 17 CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ATLANTA 14-16 OCTOBER

By Janis and Ben Owen, D17 Meeting Chairpersons

The D17 meeting will be the first meeting sponsored by the District Meetings Committee. This change in planning district meetings happened because squadrons were experiencing difficulty in putting together an event of this magnitude. Consequently, it will also be difficult for the Meetings Committee to do a good job if squadrons do not support the effort and volunteer to help. Please contact either Janis or Ben Owen if you are willing to volunteer to assist in the planning and/or hosting the different segments always involved for these meetings. Friday night will feature a “**Night in Margueritaville... Buffet, Beach and Boat songs**” with ASPS, members Lisa and David Herndon leading the sing-along.

**District 17 2005 Fall Conference
United States Power Squadrons
Hosted by the District Meetings Committee
The Marietta Garden Hotel Atlanta Northwest
1775 Parkway Place Northwest
Marietta, Georgia 30067
(770) 428-4400**

Meals Reservation Form

Name (Print) _____

Spouse/Guest (Print) _____

City, State, Zip _____ Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Friday Night, 14 October 2005

Dinner Buffet – Tossed Field Green Salad with Lime Vinaigrette
Beef Stroganoff
Poppy-Seed Noodles
Broccoli Almondine
Bread Pudding with Rum Sauce
_____ tickets @ \$17.00 per person \$ _____

Saturday Noon, 15 October 2005

Lunch Served in Julia's Café –

Potato Salad
Crisp lettuce, sliced tomatoes, onions, pickles
Assorted Deli Meats
Variety of Deli Cheeses
Assorted Freshly Baked Breads
Assorted Freshly Baked Cookies
_____ tickets @ \$12.00 per person \$ _____

Saturday Night, 15 October 2005

“Sit-down” Plated Dinner - Caesar Salad

French Green Beans with Onions and Almonds
Chicken Cordon Bleu and Beef Filet
Rice Pilaf
Apple Cobbler
_____ tickets @ \$23.00 per person \$ _____

TOTAL SUBMITTED \$ _____

NOTE: All meals are inclusive of tax and gratuity.

NOTE: All meals include freshly brewed iced tea and fresh regular and decaffeinated coffee.

Dinner reservations must be received no later than 01 October 2005

**Make checks payable to: District 17 Meetings Committee Mail check and this completed form to:
Ben Owen, SN; P. O. Box 88; Cropwell, AL 35054**



From the Bridge

THE 2005 BRIDGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2005 SQUADRON OFFICERS

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Commander | Jeff Wise | commander@usps-atlanta.org |
| Executive Officer | Margaret Sherrod | xo@usps-atlanta.org |
| Administrative Officer | Frank Taylor | admin@usps-atlanta.org |
| Secretary | David Herndon | secretary@usps-atlanta.org |
| Education Officer | Kevin Schoonover | edu@usps-atlanta.org |
| Treasurer | Sheryl LaBoda | treasurer@usps-atlanta.org |
| Assistant Treasurer | Tim Tyson | |
| Assistant Secretary | Edy Marsal | asec@usps-atlanta.org |
| 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 | |

SIGN UP FOR FALL CLASSES NOW!

By Kevin Schoonover, Education Officer

Your Education Department is offering an expanded program this Fall that includes Seamanship, Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigation, Sail, and Instructor Development. Classes will begin on **September 12th, 2005 at 7:00 PM** at the Heiskell School. You can get directions to the school and sign-up for classes electronically by going to our website, www.usps-atlanta.org, or by emailing the Squadron Education Officer at EDU@USPS-Atlanta.ORG.

The cost of the classes is as follows:

Seamanship: \$30.00
 Advanced Piloting \$60.00
 Junior Navigation: \$85.00
 Sail: \$60.00
 Instructor Development: \$45.00

Instructor Certification

USPS is a highly-regarded educational organization in the recreational boating community, dedicated to the self-education of its members and to the providing of safe boating education to the public. To this end, as of January 1, 2006, all instructors of USPS basic boating safety courses offered to the public must be certified. The easiest way of obtaining certification to teach any and all courses is by passing the USPS Instructor Development (ID) Course, now being offered this Fall. The certification is good for four years and can be renewed simply by taking a 4 hour recertification class. Members with certain pre-qualifications may request an initial four-year certification without completing the ID course. These pre-qualifications are as follows:

- Members who hold active, current teaching credentials from an accredited teaching organization
- Members who have taught for at least three years with the last five calendar years in an adult education community program or as a college instructor.



*Lt/C Margaret Sherrod
Executive Officer*



Cdr. Jeff Wise



*Lt/C Frank Taylor
Administrative Officer*



*Lt/C Sheryl LaBoda,
Treasurer*



*Lt/C David Herndon
Secretary*



*Lt/C Kevin Schoonover
Education Officer*



*1st/L Roy Stegall
Asst. Squadron
Education Officer*



*1st/L Edy Marsal
Asst. Secretary*



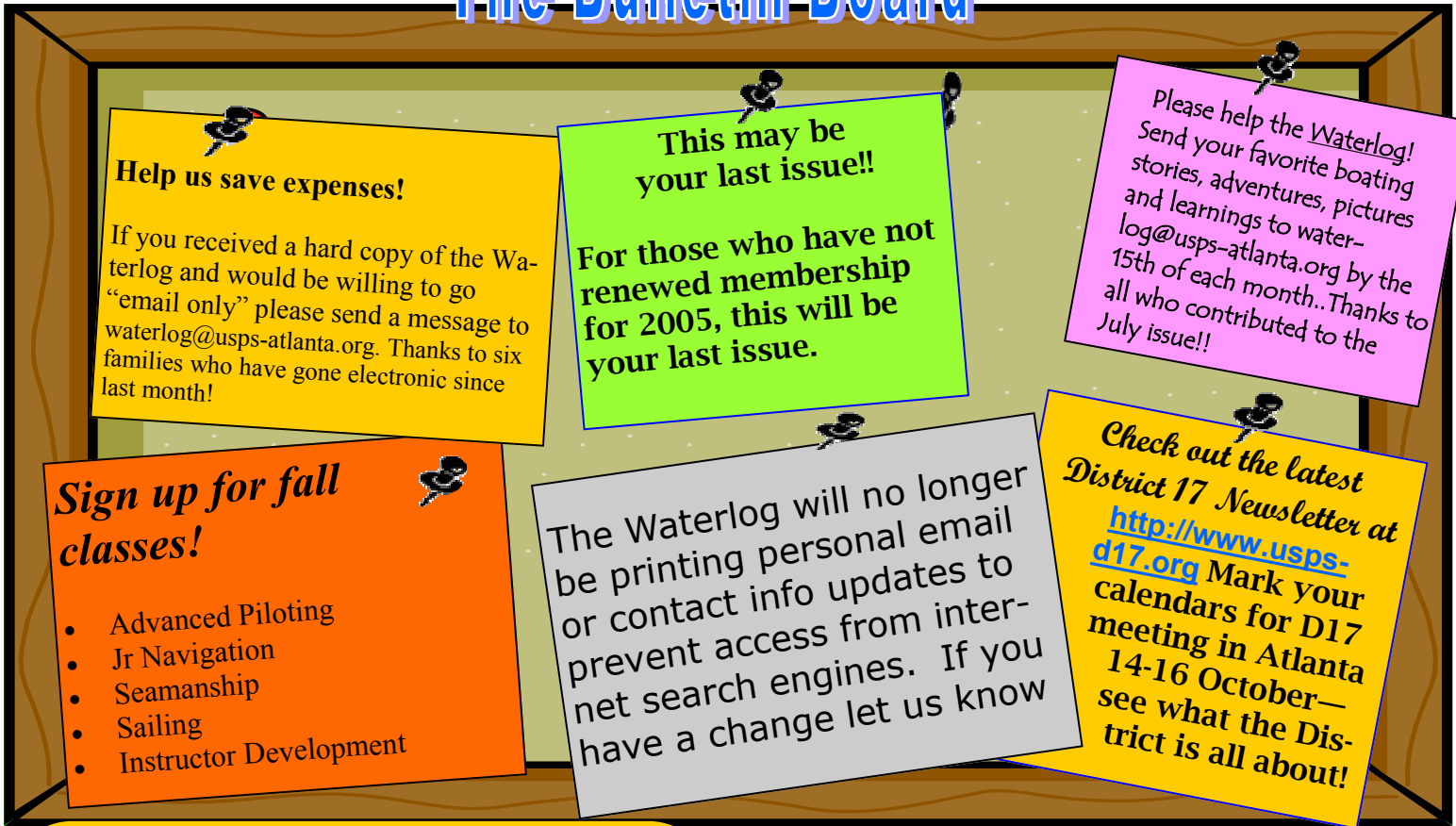
*1st/L Tim Tyson
Asst. Treasurer*

- Members who have completed either the USPS IQ Course or both the USPS IT and IA courses, and who have had significant USPS classroom or public presentation experience during the last three years.

Other members who have completed either IQ or both IT and IA but have had no significant USPS classroom or public presentation experience during the past three years must complete the four-hour ID recertification seminar to qualify for an initial four-year certification.

If you should have any questions concerning your certification level or ability to teach USPS classes, please contact the Squadron Education Officer.

The Bulletin Board



USPS EVENTS: SEPT 2005

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Excomm Mtg | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 General Membership mtg | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 TN cruise | 24 TN cruise |
| 25 TN cruise | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

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

USPS EVENTS: OCT 2005

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Raft Up |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Excomm Mtg | 14 D17 in Atlanta "Marguerita ville" night | 15 D17 in Atlanta |
| 16 D17 in Atlanta | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 General Membership mtg | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |



Life on the Water

TOMMY THOMPSON FINDS RHONDA...AND MARY

When Tommy Thompson went scanning the Internet for “the Next Boat,” little did he know that he would not only find the boat of his dreams, but also a wonderful companion who shared the history and love for his boat.



Salty was in the boatyard for about ten years before Tommy found her online... right around the corner at Aqualand

Tommy was always boat shopping. He had a thirty-foot Bahama Islander sailboat named *Rhonda-Roo* after his daughter, and was planning some serious time on the ICW. While browsing for boats online one day, he found a real “fixer-upper,” a trawler that had been in the boatyard for about ten years. He knew it would take a lot of hard work, but he sensed that *Salty* had something special about her that would be worth all of the “sweat equity.” She was a thirty-two foot trawler with an eleven foot beam, with special characteristics

and personality such as a wood-burning stove. Tommy purchased the boat in September 2003 and started his work, doing all of the interior work and all of the exterior refinishing except for a professional paint-job. He launched her in September 2004, renaming the boat *Rhonda* after he read of two other boats named *Salty*.

Tommy called the previous owner to ask about the original paperwork and some of the parts that had been stowed away from the boatyard for safety through the years. That is when he met Mary Simpson who, with her husband, had built *Salty* over seven years in San Diego, and had spent many



Rhonda's interior features warm wood and a wood-burning stove



Rhonda's helm

happy years aboard the trawler before her husband passed away. Mary had kept the original log for *Salty* and shared them with Tommy ... and then accepted his invitation for dinner.

Rhonda carries 270 gallons of diesel fuel for a range of approximately 1500 miles. With 140 gallons of water, a Perkins four cylinder engine and a circulating furnace, she sleeps four and will be the perfect boat for that eventual ICW cruise up to Lake Champlain in Tommy's future. And who knows? Maybe Mary would like a trip to Lake Champlain too....



Above, Tommy and Mary at the July raft-up. Left, Squadron members wave from the bow of Rhonda



Tommy Thompson at the helm, with Mary Simpkins on the bow, finds smooth sailing aboard Rhonda



Life on the Water

AN OREGON FISHERMAN TOOK HIS CRIPPLED BOAT 80 MILES BACK TO LAND — BACKWARD

Fox News—August 21, 2005

Jim Peterson and his deckhand Jeremy Welsh were tuna fishing off the Oregon coast a couple of weeks ago when the transmission seized up on the *Alice M.*, a 38-foot, 60-year-old wooden trawler. Peterson, 61, and Welsh, 34, were able to get the boat running again, but only in reverse, reports The Register-Guard of Eugene, Ore. The pair could have radioed the Coast Guard for a tow, but decided instead to head for the port of Newport — they were too far from the *Alice M.*'s home port in Coos Bay — bass-ackward [*sic*].

"It was odd, watching the wake roll out the front windows," said Peterson. "Like watching a movie in reverse."

Steering a fishing boat under normal circumstances isn't easy. Backward is harder. "The rudder isn't made for it," explained Welsh. "You go in a direction for 15 minutes, then you'd have to stop, zigzag around and correct yourself. ... It was an ordeal." With their top speed of seven knots cut in half, the wrong-way duo, sleeping off and on, made the trip back to land in a mere 39 hours. "I've talked to some old-timers," said Peterson. "Nobody's ever heard of anybody doing that before."

Early in the morning of Aug. 13, they'd reached the mouth of Yaquina Bay where Newport sits, but slept a few more hours before crossing the choppy shore waters. Just as the local fishing fleet put out to sea, the *Alice M.* entered the bay, facing the same way as its fellow commercial boats, but moving in the opposite direction.

"One guy asked me what was wrong," Peterson said. "I told him I forgot something." The yield from the trip was 13 tuna and a great story. "I've gotten drinks bought for me [at home] from people I don't even know, just because I was on the boat," said Welsh. He added that he and Peterson had been offered a new transmission for half price. Peterson was still 100 miles north in Newport Thursday, filleting his catch and getting re-oriented. "It was hard to get used to just walking on the dock, forward," he said. "Things were coming at me too fast."

COAST GUARD WARNS PUBLIC OF DANGERS ASSOCIATED WITH UNDERAGE, INEXPERIENCED PWC OPERATORS

Boat Smart Newsletter Reprinted from 2004 August



The Coast Guard is urging parents to ensure their children are educated about boating safety before operating or riding personal watercraft, commonly called jet skis. Adults who rent, lend, or borrow personal watercraft must know and follow Federal and State boating laws, and heed the Coast Guard's "You're in Command" message to

be responsible for the safety of all those who operate or ride. Recent personal watercraft fatalities on Lake Tahoe involving children under the age of sixteen have raised Coast Guard concern and led to this appeal to adults and parents.

"Too often we are seeing instances where an adult will rent a personal watercraft and then allow friends and family to operate it with little or no regard to age or boating education and training," said Capt. Scott Evans, the Coast Guard's chief of the office of boating safety. "Parents should also be aware of the dangers of having young children riding as passengers, especially those that are too small to have their feet fit firmly into the foot well of the personal watercraft."

Coast Guard statistics for 2003 show 40% of injuries reported on personal watercraft involved children ages 19 and under. In 2003, 112 children ages 12 and under were reported injured in personal watercraft accidents. Additionally, 380 children ages 13-19 were reported injured in personal watercraft accidents, compared to 280 children injured in open motorboats, the next greatest number involving the same age group.

"When riding in the front of the craft, a small child can become a missile or be crushed into the handlebars in a collision or when encountering a large wave," said Evans. "When riding on the back of the craft, small children can easily lose their grip and fall off. Parents must consciously decide whether their child should ride aboard a personal watercraft, and must warn them against riding with inexperienced and uneducated operators."

For teens, personal watercraft are the entry-level boat. They are considered fun, stylish, and appeal to the excitement factor that typifies this age group. Studies have indicated the possibility that children age 14 and under may not have the cognitive ability to make split-second decisions in an emergency, nor may they have the necessary coordination skills to use the controls precisely.

The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators has developed a model act for state legislatures proposing a minimum personal watercraft operator age of 16. The Personal Watercraft Industry Association has also endorsed a minimum operator age of 16. Most states have a personal watercraft minimum operator age, but that age varies from state to state. Parents need to be aware of the state boating laws where the boating activity is taking place and ensure their children are aware of them.





AFTerthoughts

RAINDROPS KEEP FALLIN' ON MY HEAD

Well, here we are. It's the time of year when you start to reflect on the great boating season that's rapidly coming to an end, put the final touches on that special fall cruise you've been planning, or maybe think about the major repairs you want to have done over the winter.

I don't know about you, but it seems different this year. We're running way behind on our committed objective to be on the water an average of one time a week year round. Could it be the fact that it has rained more days than not since April? It seems someone forgot to turn off the spigot when the April showers were complete.

Instead of the usual twenty or more times we would normally have been out on the water during spring and summer, we've made only about half that number—and we got rained on during many of those excursions. Catching 4-1/2 inches in 1-1/2 hours at the Troncalli's party was just typical of the season. This year my bilge pumps saw more action than my engine.

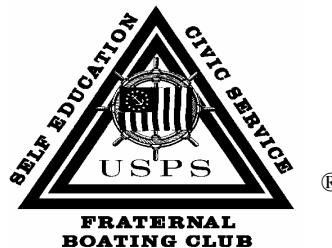
I've discovered this has not been good for my attitude. I've commented in this column several times about the therapeutic and restorative effect of a day - or even a couple of hours - on the water. Somehow sitting in my den watching the rain pour down, or even sitting at the dock watching the lightning pop all around, just isn't the same.

What a contrast to the summer of 2003! Remember those endless days without even a cloud in the sky—and the lake level 12-13 feet below its current level. It's all a trade-off, I guess.

Here's hoping for a great fall season.

Happy boating!

Lisa Herndon
Atlanta, GA 30319



STAMP

