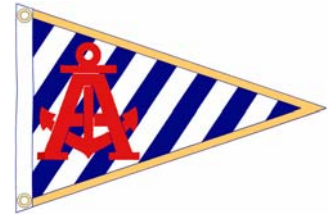


Official newsletter of the
Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron

www.usps-atlanta.org



WATERLOG



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

2005: What a Year

The Laws of Boating

Holidays in Deutscheland

2006 Featured Speakers



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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. The deadline for monthly submissions to the *Waterlog* is the 15th of each month.

Please send comments and suggestions to:-

Lt. Lisa Herndon, AP
E-mail: waterlog@usps-atlanta.org

Commander's Corner



Cdr. Jeff Wise, N

To: The members of the Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron:

Subj: Commander's Annual Report to the Membership

This has been a truly remarkable year for the Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron, and it has been my distinct honor and privilege to serve as your commander. I approached this year with three goals or objectives. First and foremost, to continue the tradition of having FUN, safely, on the water. Second, to revitalize the marketing and public relations efforts of the squadron. And finally, to manage the squadron within a tight budget, while investing in our future.

Certainly if you can measure the quality of a squadron by how much fun they're having, then Atlanta is truly great. We continued our tradition of two major boating trips per year, on-the-water events every month from April through November, meetings or parties every month, effective and varied speakers, and offering multiple public boating classes and member classes with knowledgeable instructors. And more than anything else, WE HAD FUN!

Through the tremendous efforts and skill of P/C Ed Troncilli and his marketing and public relations team, we published and distributed over 6000 ASPS-specific flyers in boating stores, marine dealers, and at three trade shows. Additionally, Capt. Greg Clark published by-lined articles in the "Lakeside on Lanier" newspaper and other publications, focusing on boating safety, but also advertising the fun and opportunities available to members of ASPS.

While the development and publication costs of the new squadron flyer were expensive and not adequately anticipated or budgeted, the efforts of all departments to trim their budgets, and the influx of new members created the largest budget surplus for the squadron in recent years. Some of this surplus was reinvested to repay some of the expenditures last year for projectors and computers. Hopefully the advertising expenditure will result in increased numbers of new members.

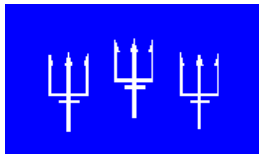
Finally, the Executive Committee with the dedication and skill of Lt/C Dave Herndon, began development of a squadron policies and procedures manual which should serve as a guide or handbook for future commanders and Executive Committees.

It has been a true honor and a treasured memory to serve as your Commander this year, but the real thanks and appreciation must go to what has to be "the world's best Bridge and Executive Committee." Their skill, enthusiasm, and dedication are the most valuable asset of this squadron and the key to our success this year.

Let me be the first to offer my congratulations and encouragement to the Newly elected Executive Committee, Bridge, and especially to our Commander Elect, Margaret Sherrod. May you have as much fun in your new positions as I have over my tenure.

Thank you again,

Jeff



Squadron Happenings

HOLIDAY PARTY WITH A TASTE OF DEUTSCHELAND



The annual ASPS holiday party was held December 17 at Kurt's Restaurant, known for its fine German cuisine. The squadron had its own separate building behind the restaurant. Holiday nutcrackers from private member collections highlighted the European flavor of the evening. Dancing to the music from a local disc jockey followed a sumptuous dinner. The silent auction (see story page 3) proved to be a great success and money maker as everyone found their favorite

item for bidding. As in past years, donations and gifts were collected to support a local family. This social event was truly a "crowning glory" to a year full of wonderful festivities and camaraderie.

"DJ Dave" led the Electric Slide as everyone danced the night away.



Enjoying a holiday feast: left to right: Mark Pfaff, Pam Napier-Pfaff, Patti Price, Dave Crumbley, Mike and Pam Litke, Jeff and Anne Batson

JANUARY MEETING REFLECTS ON A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENT AND FUN

The annual members' meeting was a time for recounting all of the events of the year. Each of the bridge officers covered their respective area of responsibility and everyone enjoyed recalling the good times throughout the year. Following are highlights of the presentations:

Executive Office Activities—Lt/C Margaret Sherrod

- New ASPS brochures – 16 members restock 40 boating locations
- Capt. Greg Clark published ASPS by-lined boating articles in local publications (*Lakeside on Lanier*, and others)
- 3 Boat Shows – 37 members represented ASPS
- Vessel Safety Checks – 11 examiners, 54 exams
- Safe Boating Week – 13 members distributed safe boating materials at 8 locations

Education highlights—Lt/C Kevin Schoonover

- Offered CPR class
- Provided support for home study
- Completed one year of flexible weekly Boat Smart program
- Introduced one-day Boat Smart program
- Significantly boosted Boat Smart participation
- Participated in numerous outside seminars to promote boating safety, e.g., Navy, Barefoot Sailing

Administrative Dept—Frank Taylor

- **38 New Members** and 2 New Member Orientations
- ICW cruise with 31 participants
- Tennessee River cruise with 41 participants
- 7 raft-ups
- Great speakers at every meeting

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9>>>



Welcome new members! Above: Dixie Smith, who was sworn in at the January meeting. Right: Don and Cheryl Campbell! They are owners of 34 ft. Searay docked at Aqualand



Squadron Happenings

SILENT AUCTION A GREAT SUCCESS THANKS TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS (AND OUR PURCHASERS....)

Submitted by Flg/Lt. Tim Tyson

It is with great pleasure that I can report that the third annual Silent Night-Silent Auction, held at our Holiday Party, was the most successful auction yet. We were able to raise \$1520.00 !!!

I would like to thank everyone who made this possible, and recognize those organizations who continue to support us. They have made this event more than just profitable - they have made it a lot of fun. They are listed below, and they would really appreciate your business. And when you visit them, be sure to thank them for their support.

- The Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brew Pub, at (roughly) Piedmont and Peachtree.
- Hastings Nature and Garden Center, 3920 Peachtree Road.
- Maggiano's Little Italy, 3368 Peachtree Road.
- Inspirence Cooking Studio (and KitchenAid store), next to the Rock Bottom.
- Joe LoCurto's Dance Studio, Sandy Springs, 404-636-7433 (call me for directions).
- The Gallery at Belle Isle (a great gift shop), 4969 Roswell Road, across from the Kroger.
- Food 101 (a great restaurant), next to The Gallery at Belle Isle.
- Barnes and Noble (many locations, but 2900 Peachtree Road helped us out).
- Jeanne's Body Tech (a terrific gym), 3165 Peachtree Road.
- Shumate Heating and Air, 678-584-0108. Russ Patterson, manager.
- McKinnon's Louisianne Restaurant, at the corner of Maple and Peachtree.
- West Marine (several locations, all supporters, but we go to Friendship Road).
- Windsong Sailing Academy, our own Dave Crumbley.
- Charles Willis (a wonderful gift shop), 465 East Paces Ferry Road.
- Viking Culinary Arts Center (classes and kitchenware), 1745 Peachtree Road.
- The Third Coast Grille, 5713 Holiday Road (just up from Holiday Marina).
- Peridot Distinctive Gifts, 514 East Paces Ferry (at the corner of Maple and East Paces).
- Boatfanatics.com, our own Frank Taylor.

These are the companies who supported us. But let's not forget our own members who gave us items for the raffle. The items they donated represent over fifty per cent of the money we raised. We couldn't have done it, or even come close, without them. To Barbara Tyson, Roy and Mary Stegall, Charlie Cox, Dave Crumbley, Martha Fowler, Margaret Sherrod, Frank Taylor, Ed Troncalli, Hans Meier,

and Nancy Leathers,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Last but not least, Ms. Janet Costin, manager of the Dobbins Air Force Base BX, donated the very popular Soldier Bear. Most of you will be unable to shop there because a military ID is required, but the next time you pass someone in uniform, thank them for their service to our country. That would warm Janet's heart.

(Editor's note: Thanks very much to Tim Tyson who organized the Silent Auction again for us this year!)



Holiday party-goers line up for last-minute bids at the silent auction.

Nutcrackers and nautical goodies brought a festive mood to the holiday party



Auxiliary First Officer Nancy Leathers has to stretch tall for a dance with Exec Officer-elect Frank Taylor



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	Nan Putnam
Kevin Schoonover	Sheryl LaBoda	
Hans Meier	Bob Leathers	
Patti Watson	Patti Price	
Carol Jordan	Tim Tyson	
Lisa Herndon	Bob Ginsberg	



LOOKING AHEAD – 2006 MEMBERS' MEETINGS

By Lt/C David Herndon

An interesting and exciting line-up of speakers and programs is coming together for our members' meetings in 2006. All of the following speakers have committed to be there, but in some cases we have not yet confirmed the dates.

We'll have a very special treat at one of our late summer/early fall meetings. **Eileen Quinn** is a very experienced sailor with over 35,000 sea miles behind her, and a very talented songwriter and musician with four CDs currently available. She describes her songs as "music for the nautically afflicted." While Eileen has confirmed her appearance, she has not yet confirmed a date. Watch the Waterlog and DR, because you don't want to miss this one.

Our own **Dr. Mike Schneider** will be the featured speaker at our 16 March meeting. Mike will present highlights of his 3,100 mile cruise in Alaska and British Columbia. For those who saw his excellent presentation on Lake Powell last year, you know this is a meeting you'll want to attend.

John and Liz Calvert are members of our squadron who manage the Harbortown Marina on Hilton Head. They will be featured at a future meeting to speak about marina operation and marina etiquette.

Billy Matthews, from Yamaha Motor Corp. will join us at our May meeting. Please note that the May meeting is on 25 May rather than the normal third Thursday.

All the coastal cruisers in the club will want to be sure to attend the 15 June meeting to meet and hear from **Claiborne Young**. Claiborne has published a number of very popular coastal cruising guides, and maintains a website with a wealth of useful information you won't find on the charts.



*Lt/C Margaret Sherrod
Executive Officer*



Cdr. Jeff Wise



*Lt/C Frank Taylor
Administrative Officer*



*Lt/C Sheryl LaBoda,
Treasurer*



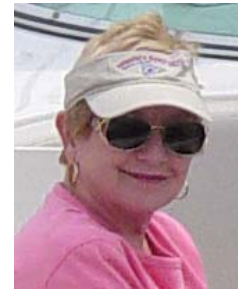
*Lt/C David Herndon
Secretary*



*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*

Jonathan Davis, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lake Lanier Operations Manager will be featured at an upcoming meeting. Other potential speakers not yet confirmed include representatives from the National Weather Service and the Sea Scouts.

Except for May, members' meetings are the third Thursday of each month at the Foghorn Grill at the intersection of Medlock Bridge Rd and Peachtree Industrial Hwy. The May meeting will be the fourth Thursday, 25 May. Plan to arrive between 1800 and 1830 to enjoy a great dinner, and look forward to a short business meeting beginning at 1900, followed by one of these interesting programs. Is there a speaker you'd like to hear or a topic you'd like to know more about? Just send an e-mail with your suggestion to admin@usps-atlanta.org

Squadron Happenings



FROM THE BRIDGE CONTINUED....

EDUCATION UPDATE JANUARY 2006

Submitted by Lt/C Kevin Schoonover

2005 – Year in Review

Over the past year, your Education Department has endeavored to meet the requirements of our clientele. This would include the public sector as well as our membership.

During this time, the staff, including ASEO 1st/Lt Roy Stegall, AP, and Boat Smart Chair Lt Mary Stegall, S, and our great group of instructors, have provided informative and relevant courses, programs, and demonstrations for your benefit and edification.

As with any dynamic organization, we continue to learn from what we have done in the past and make changes to satisfy future requirements. The following is a brief review of major Education Dept accomplishments for the year:

- Provided 7 course offerings – 4 Advanced Grade & 3 Elective Grades
- Squadron participation was down 22% from last year with 54 members taking classes
- The Boat Smart Program had a record 84 participants in 2005, from which many new members were obtained.
- We completed a full year of our continuous format, every Monday Evening, Boat Smart Program.
- We developed a new single day, all inclusive Boat Smart Program and offered it twice during the summer months of 2005.
- We provided support to home study class programs.
- We participated in numerous outside seminars to promote boating safety, i.e., U.S. Navy, Barefoot Sailing, etc.
- We provided specialized programs in GPS and CPR for our members.

This next year will certainly offer its fair share of challenges and opportunities. As always, we appreciate any and all comments concerning what we can do to meet the squadron's needs.

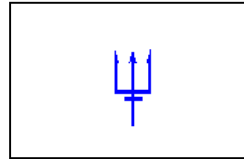
Fall Semester Results

Congratulations to the following members who have successfully completed education programs during the fall semester:

Sail: Mary Stegall, Roy Stegall

Seamanship: David DeLorme, Brian Jernigan, Pam Napier-Pfaff, Mark Pfaff, Charlie Cox, James Weilminster, Kathleen Batson, Steve Batson, Jim Brooks, Fred Anthony

The JN and AP classes are still in session. Results from those classes will be forthcoming.



PLANS FOR THE MAY 2006 ICW CRUISE

Submitted by Lt. Carol Jordan

In response to the Commander's request that we stretch ourselves this year in ex-

perience and abilities, our 2006 Spring Cruise will again find us on the ICW, but this time we'll be heading north, from Beaufort, SC to Charleston and Georgetown. The dates for this wonderful trip are Saturday, May 13 - Saturday, May 20. As we will be visiting these resort areas during their high season, expect hotels and restaurants to be more expensive.

With fuel prices higher than ever, boat captains will be trying to make their boats as fuel efficient as possible. For greater fuel efficiency, the boat must be able to get up on plane quickly and maintain a steady cruising speed. The weight and amount of luggage plays a big factor in this efficiency. Therefore, everyone is requested to limit their luggage (soft-sided only) to 2 average-sized pieces.

This will be a more rigorous trip than in previous years. It will be more challenging for both captains and crew. Therefore, all crew members will be expected to assist in piloting and navigating the boat, handling normal dock lines, spring lines and fenders, anchoring, as well as assist in groundings (it will happen) and difficult dockings (count on it).

A Captains' Fund will be set up to help defray expenses for the boat captains, as well as eliminate any uncomfortable situations in money exchanges between captain and crew. All crew members will pay into the fund, and funds will be dispersed to each captain prior to departure. This will help cover some of the fuel costs and dock fees.

This year most boats will have a total of only 4 persons aboard, so please be sure to sign up early as space will be limited by the number of boats going. This trip is shaping up to be the most beautiful and exciting trip to date. Mark your calendars now and e-mail the cruise director, Carol Jordan, at got2shag@bellsouth.net and indicate if you will be captain or crew. (Boat captains please indicate your boat's make, model, length, fuel capacity, burn rate and the number of additional crew you can accommodate.)

MEMBER SAVINGS!

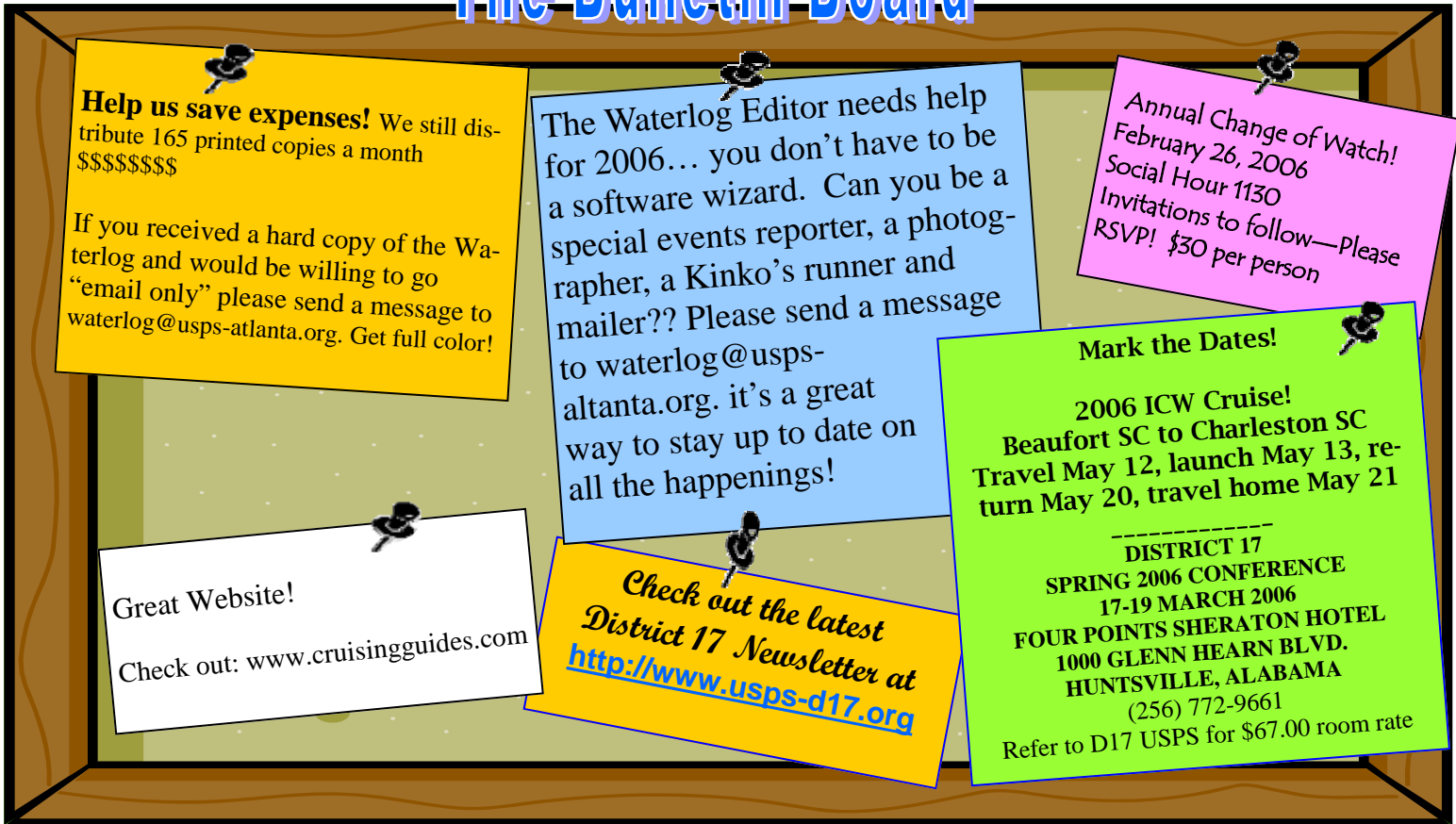
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT USPS BOAT INSURANCE?

Do you know USPS gives reduced rates on your Boat Insurance for Education classes? Here is how it works. . . .

Basic Courses	Credits	Elective Courses	Credits
Seamanship	2.5%	Marine Electronics	2.5%
Piloting	2.5%	Engine Maintenance	2.5%
Advanced Piloting	2.5%	Weather	2.5%
		Sail	2.5%

Maximum credit for all three Basic courses and three or four Electives total 15% reduction in rates. "Full Certificates" (SN Grade) an additional 5%. Annual VSC Certification an additional 3%. It Pays to Be Educated!!

The Bulletin Board



Help us save expenses! We still distribute 165 printed copies a month \$\$\$\$\$\$

If you received a hard copy of the Waterlog and would be willing to go "email only" please send a message to waterlog@usps-atlanta.org. Get full color!

The Waterlog Editor needs help for 2006... you don't have to be a software wizard. Can you be a special events reporter, a photographer, a Kinko's runner and mailer?? Please send a message to waterlog@usps-atlanta.org. it's a great way to stay up to date on all the happenings!

Annual Change of Watch!
 February 26, 2006
 Social Hour 1130
 Invitations to follow—Please RSVP! \$30 per person

Mark the Dates!

2006 ICW Cruise!
 Beaufort SC to Charleston SC
 Travel May 12, launch May 13, return May 20, travel home May 21

DISTRICT 17
SPRING 2006 CONFERENCE
 17-19 MARCH 2006
 FOUR POINTS SHERATON HOTEL
 1000 GLENN HEARN BLVD.
 HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA
 (256) 772-9661
 Refer to D17 USPS for \$67.00 room rate

Great Website!
 Check out: www.cruisingguides.com

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

USPS EVENTS: JAN 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Ex-comm Mtg	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Gen'l Members Mtg	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 BoatSmart Class
29	30	31				

USPS EVENTS: FEB 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Excomm Mtg	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Gen'l Members Mtg	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Change of Watch	27	28				

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



DISTRICT 17 2006 SPRING CONFERENCE

**United States Power Squadrons
Hosted by the District Meetings Committee
And the Huntsville Squadron
The Four Points Sheraton Hotel
1000 Glenn Hearn Blvd.
Huntsville, AL 35824
(256) 772-9661**

Meals Reservation Form

Name _____
(Print) _____
Spouse/Guest _____
(Print) _____
City, State, _____
Zip _____
Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Friday Night, 17 March 2006

Dinner Buffet -

Mixed Green Salad with Dressings
Pasta Bar with Sauces
Garlic Bread
Coffee, Iced tea

_____ Tickets @ \$12.00 per person \$ _____

Saturday Noon, 18 March 2006

Lunch Served in the Bayou Grille -

“Croissant Special”
Cold Cuts of Ham and Turkey With Cheeses
Fresh Fruit Cup
Coffee, Iced tea

_____ Tickets @ \$9.50 per person \$ _____

Saturday Night, 18 March 2006

“Sit-down” Plated Dinner -

Green Salad with Dressings
Filet Mignon and Chicken Breast with Wild Rice Pilaf
Prince William Blend of Vegetables
Rolls, Butter
Assorted Desserts
Coffee, Iced Tea

_____ Tickets @ \$17.00 per person \$ _____

TOTAL SUBMITTED \$ _____

NOTE: All meals are inclusive of tax and gratuity.

Meal reservations must be received no later than 05 March 2006.

Make checks payable to: District 17 Meetings Committee

Mail check and this completed form to :
Ben Owen, P. O. Box 454; Pell City, AL 35125
Ben’s E-mail Address: N7LBW@juno.com

DISTRICT 17 SQUADRONS CHANGE OF WATCH

Following are the dates for changes of watch within the district and the names of the new commanders.

<u>Squadron</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Incoming Commander</u>
Asheville	January 25	John Smith, S
Atlanta	February 26	Margaret Sherrod, JN
Huntsville	February 18	Harold D. DeHart, P
Johnson City	January 28	Sean Herron, AP
Knoxville	February 25	Robert S. Allen, P
Memphis	February 2	Maggie Poston, S
Muscogee	January 29	Charles E. Hall, Sr., S
Music City	February 12	Lyle Fuson, AP
Oak Ridge	March 11	Mac Hogle, AP
Rome	March 4	TBA
Vulcan	February 23	TBA

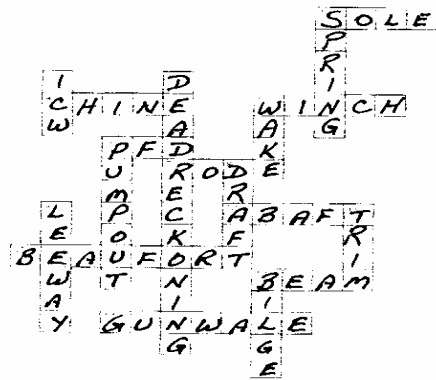
The District 17 Change of Watch is scheduled 17-19 March in Huntsville, Alabama. Our District Executive Officer, Tom Carey will be sworn in as our District Commander

???NOVEMBER PUZZLER ???

Across

Word-a-nautics

1



Nautical floor

- 4** Intersection of the topsides and the bottom
- 5** Mechanical device for hauling line
- 6** Life saving device (abbr)
- 7** Anchor line
- 10** Toward the stern
- 12** Inventor of the seaman’s wind scale, or a picturesque town in SC or NC
- 13** Jim _____, or the measure across a vessel
- 14** Toe rail

Down

- 1** Season of renewal, or control for fore and aft motion at the dock
- 2** Boaters coastal highway (abbr)
- 3** Position estimated by vessel speed, heading and elapsed time (2 wds)
- 5** Waves resulting from the passage of a hull, or become conscious
- 6** Don’t forget to do it after a cruise (2 wds)
- 8** Sailors plan for it and 18-yr olds register for it
- 9** Drift due to wind or current
- 11** A quick haircut, or the manner in which a vessel floats
- 13** Pumps are needed here

??? JANUARY PUZZLER ???

January Puzzler - The Science of Boating

- 1. The positive terminal of a battery is called the _____.
- 2. Watts = _____ x _____.
- 3. The formula for converting Celsius to Fahrenheit is $F = _C + _$
- 4. Regions in latitudes 30° N and S with high atmospheric pressure and light winds are called _____.



Life on the Water

THE LAWS OF BOATING

By Lt./C David Herndon, AP

Beginning physics students hardly have time to get their notebooks opened and their i-Pods properly tuned before their professors are expounding on the Laws of Thermodynamics. The Art History majors among you might have missed this thrilling episode in the college academic experience. Such is your loss – but then, the engineers out there probably missed those rousing lectures on Dadaism that really got the heart racing. I guess there is equilibrium in the universe.

Need a refresher? OK, here goes. The laws of thermodynamics describe how energy, in the form of heat or work, can be exchanged between physical systems. A simple example: put a pan of water on the stove, and turn on the burner. The heat energy from the burner is “added” to the energy of the water, exciting the water molecules and eventually converting the water in the pan to steam – the Second Law in action! There, that wasn’t so bad, was it?

So what does this have to do with boating? Absolutely nothing. I just wanted to see if I could trick you into reading this much about something so fantastically boring.

Just kidding... actually there is a connection, albeit a tenuous one, between the Laws of Thermodynamics and the Laws of Boating –or if there is not, there should be.

The Laws of Boating describe how energy, in the form of fun on the water and repairs at the dock, can be exchanged between boat owners and their boats.

The Zeroth Law of Boating: Boats in the Water

(Yes, dear friends, there is a “Zeroth” Law of Thermodynamics that logically precedes the First Law. I didn’t make the rules, I’m just reporting here, but I’m guessing there was one of those rare Art History majors with a sense of humor involved in the naming somewhere along the line)

In order for the transformation of human energy into boating fun to take place, the boat must be in the water. It simply doesn’t work if the boat is on the trailer in the driveway, still in the showroom, or rotting in the field out behind the barn.

There is a corollary to this law that allows for those poor tortured souls who have taken on the building of a boat. This corollary states that the quantity of boating fun actually derived is equal to the amount of energy, time and money expended divided by the speed of light in millimeters per parsec. This quantity of fun can be roughly estimated by multiplying the length of the boat by the number of times you got dizzy from sniffing epoxy and dividing the result by the number of times your spouse asks when you’ll be done – in other words, not much.

The First Law of Boating: Water on the Outside

According to this law, the amount of boating fun experienced is inversely proportional to the amount of water found inside the boat. Taken to its logical end, this law clearly states that when the boat is full of water (that is, “sunk” in nautical terms), the amount of boating

fun approaches absolute zero.

The Second Law of Boating (which is actually the third law for those of you keeping score):
Weather is Important

The quantity of boating fun is directly proportional to the ambient temperature of the boating area, and inversely proportional to the amount of precipitation falling. While one can derive from this law that boating is a lot more fun in the summer, keep in mind that is the general case. There are special cases called “thunderstorms” that can really wreck your day on the water.

Boating is a lot simpler in Australia. The TV weatherpersons Down Under almost always describe the weather as “Fine” or “Not fine”. No complicated occluded fronts or dew points for the Aussies. It’s either fine or not fine. You go boating on fine days and you stay at the dock on not fine days.

The Third Law of Boating: You Just Can’t Beat a Sunset on the Water

Any explanation required here? If so, you should first seek professional help and then list your boat for sale as soon as possible.



The Safety Net

Submitted by Lt. Charlie Fox
Safety Officer

This year National Safe Boating Week will be 20-26 May. Our “in store” day will be Saturday 20 May. I need volunteers to man each of the boating stores for a two hour shift starting at 1000 or 1300. Please get back with me with your preferred time slot and store location. I can be reached by phone at 770-888-9338, or by e-mail at ChasFCox@msn.com.

GENERAL MEETING 2005 YEAR IN REVIEW

Continued from Page 4

Secretary- David Herndon

- *The Waterlog* newsletter, Lisa Herndon, editor—10 issues published, distributed to members and posted to website
- Conducted Membership Involvement survey
- Membership Roster
- Policies and Procedures Manual initiated

Treasurer—Sheryl LaBoda

- 2005 net operating surplus of \$2,177.97.
- Funds from the silent auction were used to help procure capital investments (3 video projectors and 2 laptop computers) for our Education Department.

What a fun year this has been with lots of new faces, great times and safe boating!



AFTerthoughts

NEW BEGINNINGS

And so another new year begins. With the change of calendars comes all those plans and resolutions that will make us better people by the next time we pop the New Year's Eve champagne. Sometimes those plans work and those resolutions stick—and sometimes they don't.

The plans and resolution list at our house is especially lengthy for 2006. We have the enviable job of helping someone else pick out a new boat that we'll get to use a lot. That's exciting.

Then there is a daughter's college graduation and a nephew's wedding in the spring. To get ready for the wedding, there's a family weight loss challenge underway. I'm sworn to secrecy on the results to date, but let's just say I'll probably need to readjust the trim tabs the next time we take the boat out.

We've also started to think seriously about the next phase of life—retirement. Now that we can begin to see light at the end of the college expense tunnel, we want to find that perfect place somewhere in the Low Country, on the marsh near a deep water river or creek, preferably looking westward.

We're looking forward to trailering our boat to explore some new water this summer—to Lake Hartwell, Lake Jocassee, Lake Murray, or maybe even to Kentucky Lake.

What do your plans and resolutions look like for '06? May they include a lot of time on the water making great memories for the years that follow.

Happy boating!

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