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Official newsletter of the Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron

www.usps-atlanta.org



Editor's note: the *Watertwig* is an abbreviated version of the squadron newsletter, the *Waterlog*, which was published 10 times in 2006. The *Watertwig* publications will be used to augment lengthier publications with timely announcements and updates. *Waterlog* editors are Lt. Lisa Herndon and Lt./C David Herndon.



Cdr. Margaret Sherrod, JN

The Commander's Annual Report to the Membership

The past year has been an exceedingly successful one for the Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron by many measures. It has been my pleasure and distinct privilege to serve as the squadron's Commander during this time. I have been very fortunate to follow several very dynamic Commanders who oversaw the initiation of many activities to interject more FUN into the squadron. I believed it to be my primary responsibility to continue and, if possible, to extend these initiatives further. Specifically, my objectives have focused on Continuing "The Power of Fun", increasing member involvement in every activity of the squadron and doing so in a fiscally responsible manner.

Two areas, though, remain fundamental to our success – Education and Marketing/Public Relations. We must continue to do these well to attract and maintain new members. In 2006 we extended our prior Marketing initiatives – having a presence at boat shows and during National Safe Boating Week to promote boating safety and our Boat Smart program, distributing our ASPS brochures through boating outlets, and publishing by-lined articles in *Lakeside on Lanier* – by locally developing mini seminars that

were presented at boat stores to introduce the public to the squadron's superb educational offerings. In the Vessel Safety program, a wonderful tool for marketing the squadron, we surpassed prior year figures in both examinations and certified examiners and with 14 examiners we are positioned well for a successful season next year. Most of the educational offerings are being or have been significantly revised or restructured with occasional glitches along the way. But they remain world-class and will become even more so in the near future.

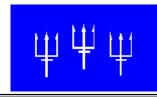
When you look at the statistics, members consistently found things they considered "FUN" to do with other squadron members. We had two successful high adventure trips including a coastal cruise on the Intra-coastal Waterway from Savannah to Charleston and a Tennessee River cruise from Watts Bar Lake to Knoxville. We extended our local on-the-water events to more themed activities and had record participation throughout the year. Every month we had a meeting or gathering most with entertaining and/or educational programs and, again, we had record attendance at many of them! We also had record participation at our multiple public boating classes and at our member classes. And, while having FUN with our fellow members we attracted more new members than in recent years!

While I have been truly honored to serve as your Commander this year, the real accomplishments have been by my strong and dedicated Bridge supported by an involved and knowledgeable Executive Committee. I am very thankful for having served with them! They are the members who, at this time, have stepped forward with skill and enthusiasm to guide our squadron and to make it successful.

I offer my congratulations and best wishes to the nominees for the Executive Committee, Bridge and especially to Commander-Elect Frank Taylor. My heartfelt wish is that you are even more successful in 2007.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cdr Margaret M. Sherrod, JN



SQUADRON WELCOMES 2007 SLATE OF OFFI-CERS AT ITS ANNUAL CHANGE OF WATCH

The 54th Annual Squadron Change of Watch will be a Sunday Brunch, February 18at the Dunwoody Country Club. Social hour with cash bar begins at 1130 followed by lunch buffet at 1230. Dress is Uniform "A" or suitable attire. Please RSVP by Noon 13 February to Sheryl LaBoda.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OTHER IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS!

February 22-24—National USPS Meeting in Jacksonville—this is the closest national meeting geographically in years—don't miss it!

March 15—General Membership meeting at the Foghorn Grill

April 28– May 6—This year's ICW trip will be on the west coast of Florida (GICW). We will be starting in the Tampa area and heading south to Ft. Meyers!! It is going to be one of the most exciting trips that we have done. If you are familiar with that area of the gulf, then you know that there is a lot to do and see. If you are a boat captain and you are considering taking your boat on the trip, we need to hear from you. Please contact Doug and Patti Watson. Also, for those of you that do not have a boat or do not have one that is trailerable, we have found a company in the Tampa area where you can rent a cruiser or a trawler for the trip. If you are considering using a rental boat, you need to get your reservations in early before they are all booked up. We look forward to seeing you on the water for great time!!

FOR SALE - GREAT LAKE AND ICW CRUISER!

1993 Bayliner 2452 "Gideon" with 2006 Loadmaster aluminum trailer. \$17,000 for the package. It's ready-to-go for the ICW ! Contact Roy Stegall





THE WATERLOG STAFF WELCOMES MIKE AND BETH GULER

Mike and Beth Guler have joined the staff of the *Waterlog* and will be seen around squadron events as roving reporters with cameras in hand. Mike

and Beth will be writing articles and assisting with publication development—a heartfelt thanks and welcome aboard from the editors!

Also, **thanks to Patti Watson** for her help in *Waterlog* distribution in 2006. Patti made sure that the hard copies of the Waterlog were printed, labeled and distributed on time. Thanks also to all of the 2006 contributors who submitted articles and photos to make your *Waterlog* more interesting

Lisa and David Herndon Atlanta, GA 30319



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