



# WATERLOG

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



## SAFE! SMART! FUN!



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**Commander's Corner**



Cdr Douglas Townes, JN

'Twas the week before Christmas, when all through the club  
 Not a vessel was cruising, not even a tug;  
 The life rings were hung on the rails with care,  
 In hopes that springtime soon would be there;  
 ASPS members, all snug in their bunks;  
 With visions of sunshine and dancing in swim trunks;  
 When out of the *Waterlog* there arose such a clatter,  
 I sprang from my Lazyboy to see what was the matter.  
 Away to the computer I flew like a flash,  
 Opened my e-mail after deleting the trash.  
 The hot-off-press news from the new *Waterlog*,  
 Set it apart from all the other blogs.  
 When what to my wondering eyes did I read,  
 But a new nominated bridge with six new seeds,  
 With a Past Commander so lively but slow,  
 I knew in a month it was his time to go.  
 More rapid than porpoises this new bridge will come,  
 With new cruises, new classes and new ideas for some.  
 The nominees were listed and called out by name:  
 "Now, Woody,! Now, John! Now, **Mary!** Now, Beth!  
 On, Eric! on, Margaret! Good-bye Douglas. Your time is set!  
 To the top of the District! to the top of National!  
 Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"  
 As waves that before the wild hurricane fly,  
 Our new Bridge will mount to the far reaching sky;  
 So up on the flybridge our nominees will rise,  
 With their new roster full of dates. That's no surprise.  
 And then, in a twinkle I heard on the phone,  
 Volunteers are needed, let's turn every stone,  
 As the new year dawns, our elections will commence,  
 The votes will be counted and the pause will be tense  
 New Leaders will emerge with ideas in hand;  
 Lets support them all, on water and on land.  
 While I could continue this prose in jest  
 I am an engineer and words aren't my best  
 It is better to end this story off light  
 Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!

The Waterlog

The *Waterlog* is published at least eight times each year. It is published for the Squadron members by the staff of the Squadron Secretary and is mailed to the listed address of all current members and advertisers.



*Waterlog Editor*  
 Lt Tim Tyson, P

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

The editor 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.

**On the Cover**

Another December, another wonderful Seafarer's Ball or, as I like to call it 12/13/14 (after the date of the event, naturally). Go to page 8 for photographs of this gala. As for the Santa smiley face, go to [www.smileonastick](http://www.smileonastick). Those folks are terrific!!!

# FOREThoughts

## Meet...Santa Claus

*With so many new members, it may be time for a reprise from our 2011 December **Waterlog**. Most of us THINK we know the story of Santa Claus, but do we really? Research for this article was gathered primarily from A&E's award-winning "**Biography of Santa Claus**". Quotation marks appear when I have quoted this DVD. We hope you enjoy it.*

St. Nicholas, a 4th century bishop, was born in Patara in Asia Minor over 1700 years ago (making him nearly as old as Christ), and lived in Myra, Turkey. He is not a mythical figure but, rather, an historical one.

He was a friend to children, and there are many stories relating to this, but one in particular is memorable. It seems there was a very poor family in the town where he lived, and they had three daughters. In those days, without a generous dowry, women were not able to be married; without a husband for stability and support, they would often be sold into slavery or prostitution. St. Nicholas went by their house and threw three bags of his own gold into the windows and doorways for the girls.

One landed in a stocking that was hanging up to dry.

St. Nicholas also loved adults. Once, on a ship in a fierce storm, as the craft foundered, he asked everyone to pray. When the prayer was over, the storm ceased and the waters were calmed. Thus he became one of the Patron Saints of Seafarers.

He was "a protector of victims of injustice" (and in a bit of irony a symbol for pawnbrokers, who have used the three bags of gold as their identifying symbol).

Long after his death, and well into the middle ages, his popularity was so great that there were more churches named after him than all of the other apostles combined. By the 16th century, European children believed that St. Nicholas brought them presents "on his own Saint's Day - December 6th." German reformers feared that he was becoming more popular than Christ



and discouraged this belief by creating Christkindl (which became Chris Kringle in English), who brought children presents, but at Christmas. It was the Dutch who "sort of" stayed with the old tradition. Sinterklaas brought presents to the nice on Christmas, "while his mischievous sidekick Peter dealt with the naughty."

So who created our present Santa Claus? New Yorkers, that's who. It seems that wealthy New Yorkers in the 18th century "found their once tranquil estates surrounded by a growing underclass." With begging (and demanding things) threatening to get out of hand, a European tradition was resurrected. Sinterklaas became Santa Claus.

Clement Moore gave Santa Claus much more than a new name with his poem "A Visit From St. Nicholas", later called "The Night Before Christmas". In this poem, the sleigh and reindeer were introduced.

Cartoonist Thomas Nast used the poem as his blueprint for what Santa looked like. He also gave him a workshop, a "naughty and nice" list, a lap suitable for sitting on, and a home in the North Pole.

Rudolph came on the scene in 1939, when the Montgomery Ward Department Stores published a children's Christmas book. Santa's popularity was soaring. He became a popular "pitchman" for many, many products, but it was The Coca-Cola Company that gave him his present appearance.

In 1939, "as America recovered from the horrors of the second world war", Santa's star shone with the release of the movie "Miracle on 34th Street". Note: The seven year-old Natalie Wood, who played Susan Gailey in the movie, actually believed that Edmund Gwenn (Kris Kringle) WAS Santa Claus.

Back to St. Nicholas. He was buried in Demre, Turkey but, in the middle ages, his bones were taken by Italian sailors to Bari, a port city in Italy. The Turkish government has requested that the bones be returned, even though Christmas is not widely celebrated in that mostly Muslim country. Today, visitors to the Byzantine church there are met by a large Statue of Santa Claus, replete with his flowing white beard and red suit.



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T.J. CONVERY



## Nominations For Elected Offices Of The Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron, 2015-2016

In accordance with our bylaws, the Annual Meeting and election of officers and elected committees will take place on Thursday, January 15, 2015 at the 57th Fighter Group restaurant located at 3829 Clairmont Road, Atlanta, GA 30341.

The Change of Watch will take place Sunday, February 8, 2015 at the Dunwoody Country Club, 1600 Dunwoody Club Drive, Atlanta, GA.

The Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron Nominating Committee, consisting of P/C Glenn LaBoda (chair), P/C Jim Jordan, and P/C Lisa Herndon has submitted the following slate of officers for 2015:

<b>Bridge</b>			
<b>Office</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Exec. Com. Members-at-Large</b>	
Commander*	Elwood "Woody" Williams	Douglas Townes (as Past Commander)	
Executive Officer*	John Holland	Hector Colon	
Squadron Education Officer*	Eric Ringwall	Dan Dillon	
Assist. Squadron Education Officer	Meredith Randall	Mike Guler	
Administrative Officer*	Mary Larsen	Leycei Hendrix	
Assist. Administrative Officer	Scot Randall	Jack Oliaro	
Secretary*	Beth Guler	Patti Price	
Assistant Secretary	Dennis Abell	Scot Randall	
Treasurer*	Margaret Sherrod	Cindy Ringwall	
		Kevin Schoonover	
<b>General Committees</b>	<b>Nominees</b>	Susan Shirey	
Nominating	Douglas Townes (Chair)	Roy Stegall	
	Glenn LaBoda		
	Ed Troncalli	If any member, who has not been nominated, desires to run for any of the positions, he or she may be nominated by petition in writing signed by at least five active members in good standing. Such petition must be in the hands of the Squadron Secretary, Lt/C Beth Guler, no later than <b>Wednesday, 31 December 2014</b> . If vacancies exist in the properly formulated slate of nominees at the time of the election, they shall be filled by nominations from the floor duly made by active members.	
Rules	Glenn LaBoda (Chair)		
	Douglas Townes		
	Don Williams		
Audit	Jonathan Blackwood (Chair)		
	Glenn LaBoda		
	Douglas Townes		
* Bridge Officers also serve on the Executive Committee.			

# Squadron News

## Chili Cook-Off = Record Breaking Attendance

This year's Chili Cook-Off broke a record for 2014 attendance at a General Meeting and shattered previous records for the Cook-Off itself. Some 63 members were in attendance at the beautiful home of the always-gracious host and hostess Eric and Cindy Ringwall. Aside from 12 crock pots of delicious chilies, assortments of salads, corn breads, and deserts, and aside from some wonderful football-on-television/fellowship, we held a new-member orientation for eight of our newest members. Later we swore them in and renewed our Squadron vows.

After we all filled up on the chilies de jour of the day (yes, that was written just to see if you were paying attention), Cdr Townes presented the Ringwalls, P/C Ed Troncalli, and D/Lt/C Barbara Tyson with his "I Nailed It Award".

Then we were treated to a presentation by guest speaker Snyder Turner, Director of the Calvary Children's Home in Powder Springs. Snyder pulled from his memory bank an assortment of stories, some uproariously funny, some that can bring a tear to the eye, and all riveting. Describing the structure of Calvary, Snyder discussed one of his guiding principles, one that might be useful for all of us: "Rules are something you break - standards are things you strive for."



Once they were "orientated" (left) our newest members were sworn into the Squadron (right).



Lt/C Eric and Lt Cindy Ringwall, P/C Ed Troncalli, and D/Lt/C Barbara Tyson receive their "I Nailed It" Awards (right).



And the Chili recipe winners are (pictured below)...Mary Stegall (2<sup>nd</sup> place), Susan Shirey (1<sup>st</sup> Place), and Robin Tanis (3<sup>rd</sup> place).



Above: Snyder Turner (right) thanks Susan and Tom Shirey for their wonderful generosity in providing their houseboat for our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Calvary Day-On-The-Lake this past September



And the line just never did seem to end.



Editorial note: Our staff hopes that we got the award placements correctly. We do know that Susan Shirey placed first with a chili recipe from her beloved mother, the late Jane Vallentyne Leaycraft.

# Squadron News

## S.O.S. (Save Our Secretary)!!!

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I please have your undivided attention. As the Spousal Unit of a Past Squadron Secretary - and current District Secretary (who also happens to be the District Winner of a fabulous Adirondack chair made from vintage Cypress Gardens water skis. But I digress), I implore - nay, I beg - you, for the sake of our beloved Mike Guler (who will hear about it just as I did should you be remiss)...

**PLEASE SEND ANY ROSTER CHANGES  
TO BETH GULER!!!!**

You cannot imagine what a pain in the posterior it is when people complain about incorrect information when all they had to do was let the Secretary know that there was a change in the first place.

That's all. Thanks.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Vessel Safety Examiners (and Wannabes) Listen Up!!!

*by Lt Tom Gastio, Vessel Safety Chair*

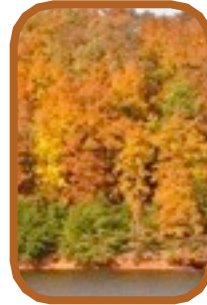
As the 2014 boating season draws to the end, I would like to thank all the Vessel Safety Examiners who helped set a Squadron record for Annual Inspections. As we prepare our calendar for the 2015 boating season I asked myself how we could improve on the 2014 numbers. I came to the conclusion that the easiest way to accomplish this task was to increase the number of vessel safety examiners in the Squadron. I would ask that any member who would like to be an examiner to Please contact me at my home, by phone, email, cell phone or approach me at a meeting or raft-up.

Performing Vessel Safety Exams can be fun, educational and rewarding, and not only for the person whose boat we examine. We also gain a wealth of knowledge from different boats. We meet interesting people along the way, most of whom are grateful for the inspection, even if they fail. My contact numbers are:

Home 678-456-8780, Cell 914-213-3018, and Email address [ysidive@gmail.com](mailto:ysidive@gmail.com).

**COME ON. LETS BREAK THE RECORD AGAIN.  
CALL ME AND BECOME A VESSEL SAFETY EXAMINER!!!!**

## And What A Year For a Fall Leaf Cruise



Pictured above are two beautiful photos of one of the loveliest fall cruises ever.

Unfortunately they were taken two years ago.



This year the weather was not the best. However, neither rough seas, cold temperatures, nor gale-sized winds can keep our Squadron's 25 heartiest (in six vessels) from their appointed rounds.

The Troncallis captured this photograph of *Calypso* as Captain Glenn LaBoda skillfully maneuvered her through the open seas of Lake Sidney Lanier.

Your editor was told that, once it was over, it was looked on as a day well spent.



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# Squadron News

## Behind the Scenes With the Boating Skills Virtual Trainer

Waterlog Exclusive Coverage

Most of you may have read an introductory article in the fall *Ensign* magazine regarding the launch of the new Boating Skills Virtual Trainer (BSVT), the simulated training unit developed by the United States Power Squadrons® and their partner, Virtual Driver



Interactive as a result of a grant by the Coast Guard. Your Waterlog editor has been able to get a more “i n - d e p t h scoop” from the national project manager, ASPS's

own R/C Lisa Herndon. P/R/C Bob Palmer asked Lisa to lead the effort in 2013 and they have been working with USPS staff to roll out the units for use by the USPS squadrons nationwide. Supporting partners include Brunswick Marine Corporation, BoatUS Foundation, Mercury Marine, Boston Whaler and the National Safe Boating Council.

Here are a few facts about the units you may know: The Boating Skills Virtual Trainer includes:

- Three 20” monitors
- Boating console, including wheel and Mercury Marine throttle with trim buttons, navigation lights and horn
- The ability to change wind and current conditions, as well choosing day or night scenes
- Attaches to a conference table

The following training scenarios are built-in for use with an instructor:

- Departing the Dock
- Working with Spring Lines
- Maneuvering Fairways
- Pivot Turns
- Moorings

- Docking
- Slalom
- Crossing/Overtaking/Meeting
- Emergency Stop

What you may not know is that generation-two functionality is under development and there will be ten units available by year end and a total of thirteen in early 2015. The units now have a 360 degree view and multilingual capabilities, currently in French and Spanish. “We’ll be adding more nav aids for piloting exercises as well as a beach scene for careful navigation around swimmers,” said Lisa. “This is a terrific opportunity for spouses, children and other crew who are uncomfortable practicing on the water with the captain watching to get a chance to improve their skills and build their confidence. And it’s so realistic that one of our testers got seasick!” The BSVT has been on display at the recent NASBLA and Marine Dealers conferences and is now for sale to the public. The Canadian Power Squadron purchased a unit and there have been inquiries from Australia and Guam.

“It’s been an incredible privilege to be able to be a part of this exciting project and use skills from the corporate world on projects that are fun and that I’m passionate about,” said Lisa. “The USPS HQ team is an amazing group of approachable professionals and I would encourage anyone to get involved at the national level to make things happen for all of our squadrons.” There will be a BSVT on display at the Atlanta Boat Show and our ASPS members will get a chance to see it ahead of time.... Details to follow in the DR!



Left to Right: P/R/C Bob Palmer, NEO Bob Brandenstein, and R/C Lisa Herndon at the helm of the Virtual Simulator



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# Squadron News



12/13/14...A Seafarer's Ball To Remember

Pictures tell a thousand stories.



# Squadron News

## Let's Get Educated!!!

### Winter Class Lineup Starts January 26<sup>th</sup>

The Atlanta Sail & Power Squadron presents our Winter Line-up of USPS Advanced and Elective Courses!

The Atlanta Sail & Power Squadron will be offering the following boating courses, available to both members and the public, starting on Monday, January 26th, 2015 and running approximately eight weeks to completion on consecutive Mondays evenings. Classes will begin at 7:00 pm and will end by 9:00 pm each evening. Classes will start at Dunwoody High School with additional classes being held either Online, on a boat, or at the High School, depending on the course, course instructor and participant preferences. Dunwoody High School is centrally located at 5035 Vermack Rd, Dunwoody, GA 30338.

#### **Sail**

Sail 2009 is a completely new sail course created to serve the needs of the novice and experienced sailor, as well as the non-sailor, for basic skills and knowledge.

The course starts with basic sailboat designs and nomenclature, rigging, safety, and sail processes, and then tackles the physical aspects of sailing forces and techniques, sail applications, marlinespike, helmsmanship and handling of more difficult sailing conditions, navigation rules, and an introduction to heavy weather sailing. Appendices provide an introduction to sailboat racing and sailing in Canadian waters.

#### **Cruising and Cruise Planning**

There is something very special about the thrill of cruising in new waters and the sense of accomplishment upon completing an extended cruise. To go beyond what most boaters do on a weekend, overnight, or even a week or so marina hopping requires boaters to leave their normal cruising areas and comfort zones. The Cruising and Cruise Planning course focuses on the planning and preparation necessary for safe enjoyable extended cruises on both inland and coastal waters.

Designed for members who cruise on either a sail or powerboat (owned or chartered), this course covers the following topics:

- 🚢 Cruise preparation and planning
- 🚢 Boat and Equipment
- 🚢 Anchors and Anchoring
- 🚢 Security
- 🚢 Chartering
- 🚢 Cruising Outside the United States
- 🚢 Crew and Provisioning
- 🚢 Voyage Management
- 🚢 Communications
- 🚢 Navigation
- 🚢 Weather
- 🚢 Emergencies

#### **Seamanship**

The Seamanship course is the next step after completing America's Boating Course, 3rd Edition (ABC3), taking the knowledge and skills learned there and expanding and extending them with this newly updated edition. Or you can make Seamanship the first step into building boating confidence and competence for safe and fun on-the-water adventures.

Seamanship presents material applicable to both power and sail, covering such topics as the construction and functioning of a boat, the skipper's responsibilities, preparing the boat for use, handling and maneuvering a vessel under various conditions in close quarters and on the open water, rules of the road, anchoring, emergencies, and marlinespike/basic knots. The Appendices cover boating into the waters of Canada and Mexico, the effects of weather on the boater's health, and general information on obtaining a US Coast Guard captain's license. The Student Manual 2012 Kit includes the text, a knot practice board, and the One Minute Guide to the Nautical Rules of the Road by Charlie Wing.

#### Course Fees are as follows:

Sail: Members \$68, Non-Members \$113

Cruising & Cruise Planning: Members \$59, Non-Members \$98

Seamanship: Members \$72, Non-members \$120



# ASPS Cares

## A Hearty "Welcome Back" To Pat Wise

As some of you may or may not know, there is always a place for you at Gordon Biersch- Buckhead Tuesdays during lunchtimes (or thereabouts). A few Tuesdays ago a larger-than-usual group met to greet Pat Wise who, again as you may or may not know, is recovering from the stroke she suffered this past summer. No one was surprised at her always cheerful outlook and, well, effervescence, but a lot of us were surprised at how quickly she is bouncing back.

I guess you have to stay on your toes if you live with...



*The "Tuesday Group" at Gordon Biersch, there to celebrate the happy return of Pat Wise. Oh...photo taken by Lt Tim Tyson, who accidentally turned the flash on his I-phone "Off". Don't you hate it when that happens!!!*

The problem(s) was(were), we might not always know of these events. We did not have a group who could coalesce and get the cards or calls out in an organized fashion; there was no formal group, so this was done on a "catch-as-catch-can" basis.

Earlier this year, P/C Lisa Herndon, P/Lt/C Sheryl LaBoda, and myself, Lt Tim Tyson, decided to try and band together to form what we call "ASPS Cares". Whenever we hear of members who may need a little Tango Lima Charlie (TLC for you civilian types), we try to get the word out.

In 2015, for the first time, ASPS Cares will have its own budget, albeit a small one, and we will be focusing on seeing to it that our members who need a loving touch will get just that.

Other things which may or may not fall into this arena - again, we are in the "beta testing" stages - could be projects like the Calvary Children's Home, the aluminum and recycling effort on behalf of the Ronald McDonald House, things like that.

I haven't told Lisa and Sheryl about these so I may be in trouble. However these are projects that will continue, either within the framework of ASPS Cares or as stand-alone efforts.

It has been pointed out that this is a wonderful way to become involved in our Squadron. Members who have been members for a while may have their ears to the ground and might pick up on news that others of us might not. And for our newer members...this is a great way to become involved and meet others in the Squadron, and for them to get to know you.

Anyone interested in climbing aboard, please feel free to contact Lisa, Sheryl, or Tim. It's fun, easy and rewarding.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Who Cares? ASPS Cares, That's Who

Ever since your humble editor can remember (no wise cracks, please), our Squadron has been very consistent in trying to reach out to members who may have an illness, a death in the family, senior members who might appreciate a phone call or a visit, or some important event in their lives. We would often join with others in the Squadron and network to let our members know if we had others who, for one reason or another, we might need to know about.

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# ASPS Cares

## We Might Bid Farewell, But We'll Never Say, "Good-Bye"

By Tim Tyson, **Waterlog** Editor

Last month Nancy Leathers and I went to Arlington Memorial Park in Sandy Springs to pay our respects to the family of Pat Estes on behalf of the Squadron. In speaking with her son Gil, I learned how much the ASPS meant to his parents.

Then, at the 12/13/14 Seafarer's Ball I smiled with quiet gratitude as the partygoers watched the slideshow I had put together...all one hour and six minutes, and 576 photos. There was a smattering of chuckles, some applause, and a marathon walk down memory lane. There was quiet reverence when a picture of Dave Herndon came up.

The next day I received an email from P/C Ed Troncalli informing me that Maury Roe had crossed the bar.

Now I don't intend to be maudlin, but these three events caused me to think. The Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron has meant a great deal to many people. As we get older some of us move away. Some of us become less and less active within our group. But that shouldn't mean we forget those who have contributed their energies for us, nor should it diminish their dedication.



Pat and Ben  
Estes

Life Member Ben Estes was drawn to the Squadron, "because of the education and his love for safe boating, not so much for the social aspect. But the social aspect grew out of that," Gil told me. Ben was Chairman of the National Rules Committee and chaired the National Nominations Committee. He also served as the District 17 Legal Officer. Pat was an influential force in the Ladies Auxiliary and was, according to Gil, "totally devoted to

my dad." On the way back from Arlington Nancy Leathers told me stories of her dedication to the auxiliary.

Twenty-three year member Maury Roe, a veteran of the Royal Canadian Army, began working for the Coca-Cola Company as a salesman in the Fountain Sales Department, retiring as a Senior Vice President of Coca-Cola International after a 41 year career. He was a member of the University Yacht Club who had sailed the waters off California, Florida, Texas and Lake Lanier, which he loved so much. "Genie and I had the honor of knowing this very special member and will miss him," said P/C Ed Troncalli. Wayne Flanagan and Faith Olsen bought their 45 foot Island Packet from Maury. "He was a genuine and giving person who would do almost anything to get up a game of cribbage," Wayne recalled. "Even when he became less active in the Squadron he always recognized the importance of our organization."

When I received the 2009 Nelle Moon award, it dawned on me: how many of us who know what the

Nelle Moon Award is don't know who Nelle (and Earl) Moon were? It is because of all of the interesting things we **DON'T** know about our members that "Meet the...", found on page 3 of each issue, was born. And I can't begin to tell you how many members have said they love reading it.

So if you are asked for an interview, just grin and bear it. You are probably more interesting - and loved - than you know.



Maury Roe

## Changes

*AFTerthoughts, by Dave Herndon, November, 2004*

The leaves are about gone from the trees and the year is evenly divisible by four, so in case you just returned from an interstellar space voyage and were not aware, there was an election recently. A record number of us got up early and stood in line at the polls to exercise our precious right to select the men and women who will lead us for the next few years.

"Off Broadway" versions of this quadrennial national drama are playing out in clubs, churches and other organizations across the land as new slates of officers are nominated and new budgets are proposed. Even some corporations are getting into the act this year with major reorganizations.

Organizational changes are like the seasonal changes: they are usually refreshing, not always pretty, but absolutely necessary. We mourn that which passes: "Why can't it be May all year round?"

We look forward to that which approaches: "This summer we're going to take that cruise in the Caribbean we've been talking about."

Likewise, we celebrate and appreciate the service of those who have led our organizations to this place. "How will we survive without Joe in charge?" And we look forward to the guidance of the new leaders soon to take the reins. "Sally is a natural choice to chair that committee."

I am frequently amused at the rhetoric that surrounds a Presidential election. Pundits proclaim that Western civilization as we know it will end in immediate decay or as a smoking hole if we don't vote for their candidate of choice. Yet somehow we survive. Hey, we even survived Millard Fillmore.

Once we've made our choices at the polls, in the board meetings and in the committee rooms, then comes the hard part of the job as a citizen of a democracy. We are obligated to actually follow the leaders we select. Maybe you didn't realize it, but that's the real source of our strength. The men and women we select are only as good as we choose to make them.

Leaders-elect, we promise you our strength. We're counting on you. Happy boating!

# On the Water

## Recycled By The Ocean.

An article was sent to Lt Tom Gastio who emailed it to the **Waterlog**. Intrigued, your editor did a bit of research and uncovered this delicious story.

In the early 1900s, Fort Bragg, California, residents threw their household garbage over the cliffs above what is now Glass Beach.

It is hard to imagine this happening today, but back then people weren't as enlightened to the effects of their actions. Old cars, and household garbage, which of course included large amounts of glass, were thrown onto the beach, which was then owned by the Union Lumber Company.

Beginning in 1949, the area around Glass Beach became a public dump, and locals referred to it as "The Dumps". Sometimes fires were lit to reduce the size of the trash pile (up to 30 feet high). However the California State Water Resources Control Board and city leaders closed the area in 1967.

Various cleanup programs were undertaken through the years to try and correct the damage, but without success.

Over the next 30 years the pounding waves cleaned the beach, breaking down everything but glass and pottery. The waves washed the trash up and down, back and forth.

Tons of polished, broken glass were created by the pounding surf. These smoothed, colored glass pieces then settled along the sea shore in millions, and a magnificent beach was formed.

The name was changed from "The Dumps" to what we currently know as "Glass Beach".

The sea glass that was created is the product of a very long and interesting process. It can take anywhere from 10 to 30 years to make sea glass, the name for

any piece of glass that finds its way to the ocean and tumbles around in the water long enough to frost and smooth its surface.

Once it makes its way into the ocean, the glass is broken up into shards and is tumbled around in the water, where sand and other rocks act like sandpaper to smooth out the rough edges.



Sometimes, as the sea glass passed through the fires, it became fire glass, the rarest of sea glass, with certain inclusions, just like precious gems.

In 1998, the private owner of the property determined that Glass Beach (actually three glass beach sites) should belong to the public. This began a five year process with the California Coastal Conservancy and the California Integrated Waste Management Board for the cleanup and sale of the property to the state. Following completion of the clean up, the California Department of Parks and Recreation purchased the 38-acre Glass Beach property, and it was incorporated into MacKerricher State Park in October 2002. Within a period of a few years Glass Beach won fame, attracting a large number of tourists every year.

Way back in time, people wanted to dump their glass products on this shore; now they might try to get one of these pieces to take home as a souvenir. **It is ironic but true that where once it was legal to dispose the glass on the shore, it now is a crime to remove it.**

Visiting Glass Beach today (six hours north of San Francisco by the ocean route, 4 hours via highway) is a unique experience, and the Glass Festival is held annually on Memorial Day weekend. What makes it even more remarkable, are the sounds produced by the glass pebbles as they are being washed away by the gentle waves.

Sources for this article include *Wikipedia*, [www.tripadvisor.com](http://www.tripadvisor.com), and [www.fortbragg.com](http://www.fortbragg.com).



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# Member's Quarters



## And While We're Discussing Recycling...

What began as a campaign to collect pop-tops for the Ronald McDonald House is rapidly evolving into a full-scale recycling campaign to benefit this wonderful program.

Several of you had brought in your pop-tops (which we still want!), and then James Dennison inquired about scrap aluminum. Hmm, we thought, why not?

Then Scotty Randall gave a some aluminum pieces. All were taken to Marietta Recycling, owned by two wonderful people, Steve and Muriel Stewart, no strangers to making charitable donations themselves. Soon our "war chest" grew to over \$70.00. Bear in mind that this was just from pop-tops and scrap aluminum.

Pictured is a list of everything MRC will accept. The money collected is being held until we have a large enough amount to make a worthwhile contribution to the Ronald McDonald House from our Squadron. Then we will begin anew. This could easily be an ongoing project.

All recyclable materials can be delivered to Tim Tyson, and arrangements can easily be made for him to pick them up from you.

What a terrific way to support the environment and, at the same time, reach out to a wonderful cause.

**MRC**  
marietta recycling corp.  
770.425.6600  
311 Marble Mill Rd. Marietta, GA. 30060

Accepted Materials  
Steel - Vehicles, Lawn Mowers, Fencing, Appliances, Grills, ETC...  
Copper - Wire, HVAC, Plumbing, Christmas Lights, EXT Cords  
Brass - Fittings, Fixtures, Bronze  
Aluminum - Cans, Gutters, Blinds, Lawn Furniture  
Car Parts - Lead Acid Batteries, Rotors & Drums, ETC...  
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We accept all metal recyclable material, please call for pricing.

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311 Marble Mill Rd.  
Marietta, Ga. 30060

Accepted Materials  
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&  
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\*\*\*\*\*

## I'll Probably Get Into Trouble For This But...What Else Is New!

Observant readers may have noticed a reference on page 7 to "R/C Lisa Herndon". Not a typo. Our P/C is now an R/C because of her active and invaluable participation with the Virtual Trainer program.

Congratulations to a wonderful and hard working asset - not only to our Squadron but to the USPS at large - and a dear, dear friend.

**Gordon Biersch**  
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*Please read this, as there are accepted recyclables that you may not have thought of.*



# Bulletin Board



## Calvary Christmas Update

As of Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, our Squadron has collected \$1,850 for the Calvary Children's Home (scholarship and general funds) and \$460 (including gift cards) towards Christmas presents for the kids.

It's never too late to donate. Simply contact Tim Tyson.

And we hope you have a safe and wonderful holiday season.



## Boat Show Date Change

Please note that the ASPS Roster has incorrect dates for the Atlanta Boat Show. The actual dates were changed **after** Roster press time. The correct dates are Thursday, January 15 through Sunday, January 18.



## Calvary Kids Birthdays

Jennifer M. - December 16<sup>th</sup>

No January Birthdays

Skylar A. - February 2<sup>nd</sup>

Kai L. - February 3<sup>rd</sup>

The Twins...Island (pronounced Elon) and Christian D - February 14<sup>th</sup>

Our Squadron wishes you all a very happy birthday!!! We're all so very proud of you.

For information on sending birthday cards, please contact Tim Tyson



## Friends of the **Waterlog**



Tim and Barbara Tyson  
 P/D/C Bob, Nancy, and Robert Leathers  
 Anonymous Donor  
 Elwood "Woody" and Jade Williams  
 P/D/C Norm Oien  
 P/C Dave Herndon, N, F.o.W. Emeritus  
 P/C Don and Judy Williams  
 Sam Troncalli, AP, F.o.W. Emeritus  
 P/Lt/C Sheryl and Lt/C Glenn LaBoda  
 The Troncalli Family  
 Consolidated Contracting Services (T.J. Convery)  
 Gordon Biersch - Buckhead  
 Martha Fowler  
 Greene Classic Limousines (Bill Conn)  
 Carefree Boat Club  
 P/R/C Louis Hohenstein  
 P/D/C Bob Ginsberg  
 P/C Lisa Herndon  
 Randy and Barbara Tahsler  
 Fred and Sara Morris

To learn more about becoming a "Friend of the **Waterlog**", please contact your editor, Tim Tyson  
 We are grateful for your support.

# From the Bridge



Cdr Douglas Townes



Lt/C Woody Williams,  
Executive Officer



Lt/C Eric Ringwall,  
Education Officer



Lt/C John Holland,  
Administrative Officer



Lt/C Margaret  
Sherrod,  
Treasurer



Lt/C Beth Guler,  
Secretary



1st/Lt Meredith  
Randall,  
Assistant  
Education Officer



1st/Lt Scot Randall,  
Assistant Administrative  
Officer



1st/Lt Dennis  
Abell, Assistant  
Secretary

*Important to Read!!!*

## Calendar

January 4<sup>th</sup>: The Best Day of the Year. Your editor will celebrate the dismantling of Priscilla, the Pink Pig at Lenox Square. Parking available for the Apple Store.

January 7<sup>th</sup>: Executive Committee Meeting at Aldo's in Sandy Springs. Please note that **this meeting will be held on a Wednesday.**

January 15<sup>th</sup>: Annual Meeting for the election of officers. To be held at the 57<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group Restaurant.

January 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>: The Atlanta Boat Show, Georgia World Congress Center. Please refer to the Bulletin Board, page 14.

January 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>: Annual USPS National Meeting, Jacksonville, Florida.

January 26<sup>th</sup>: Winter classes begin. Please refer to page 9.

February 5<sup>th</sup>: Executive Committee Meeting, Aldo's in Sandy Springs.

February 8<sup>th</sup>: Change of Watch, Dunwoody Country Club.



# Afterthoughts

Just before Thanksgiving my telephone rang. "Is this Tim Tyson?" "This is he." "Tim, this is Dr. Haber. (I had asked him to telephone me, as we were to be driving to Ohio). "You have cancer."

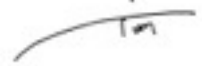
Why, you might be asking yourselves, would Tim write this in what is supposed to be the happiest issue of the *Waterlog* year? Simple. Very simple, and for several reasons.

The least important is that, for better or worse, I tend to be a fairly visible presence in our Squadron. As we all know - or should know - when a story is told from one person to the next it tends to take on a life of its own. Bottom line...I'm not going to die from this, and rumors that I already have would be totally premature.

But the most important reason is this: a year or so ago I wrote an article in which I said that women are far smarter than men is a host of areas. Women will ask for directions, while men will run out of gas trying to find out where they are. Women, sensing changes in their health, will see a doctor, while men will try to tough it out. Prostate cancer (which I have) is similar to melanoma (which my childhood friend Carl Bradbury died from) in that, if detected in time, both are easily curable. I have been seeing my urologist for almost two years and he caught it. "You are not going to die from this," he emphasized. Carl ignored his melanoma and died 28 years ago.

I have never felt closer to a group of people than I do to you. I plan on us sharing a lot of laughs (and raft-ups, parties, chili cook-offs, COWs, and laughs. Did I already say that?) in the future. Please, especially you men, as the time for New Years resolutions approaches, **please** resolve to see your doctor regularly.

Oh, and colonoscopies? Piece of cake. Prostate biopsies? Nothing to 'em. Living a good, long life with you as my friends? Priceless.



---

Tim Tyson  
2481 King Arthur Circle  
Atlanta, GA 30345

