



# WATERLOG

*Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends<sup>SM</sup>*



**SAFE! SMART! FUN!**



Solar eclipse photograph by Haim Zukerman

In This Issue

Commander's Corner	2
Meet...Mr. Tom's Heart	3
Meet...Mr. Tom's Heart (continued)	4
Nominations For Elected Officers	5
Who Are We and Why Are We Here?	6
Dateline Lake Murray: Eclipse Weekend	7
Eclipse Weekend, continued	8
Stars For Our Troops	9
Merit Marks	9
It Was Oh Such a Night	10
Such a Night, continued	11
The Only Submarine Sunk By Its Commode	12
Submarine Sunk, continued	13
Calvary Kids Day, 2017	14
Calvary Kids Day, continued	15
Annual Chili Cookoff	16
Thoughts	17
Bulletin Board	18
From the Bridge	19
AFTerthoughts	20

Commander's Corner

The four months since my first Commander's Corner seem to have sped by! As we accumulate years it seems that time has speeded up, period. Once December comes, many are asking "where did the year go?" In the case of ASPS members, the answer is that we were so busy with our many activities that there often weren't enough days in the week to get things done. The best activities, to my mind, were ones involving time on the water.



Cdr Mary Larsen

In addition to some very successful cruises, we've had a couple of disappointments. The biggest of these was the cancellation of the St. John's River trip. After the hours of work by Ed Troncalli and others, it was a real "downer" to have to cancel it. For my part, I'm hoping we can try it again in future.

Weather again spoiled our plans for the Spooky Leaf Cruise. Once it became clear that the weather would be very unpleasant, there was no other choice. (Darn!!)

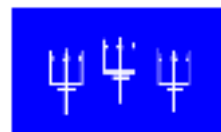
On the upbeat side, the Chili Cookoff was a tremendous success. This highly anticipated gathering seems to get bigger and better every year. Judging the chili entries and choosing the best among them gets more difficult every year too. This year the addition of a book sale made an interesting addition to the evening. It was great to see folks leaving with an armload of books. Naturally, the one I was eyeing went first. "You snooze; you lose!" Thanks to Barbara Tyson for the idea.

The Seafarers' Ball is just barely behind us. There was certainly an "interesting" twist in the arrival of snow and ice the day and evening before. We dodged the bullet in the Lake Lanier area and were able to hold the Ball. The decorations by our hard working committee were memorable. They continue to come up with greater and greater ones each year. The addition of a live DJ was a great touch. The dance floor was filled to capacity as soon as dinner was done. The Silent Auction was an interesting addition too.

In addition to our Change of Watch, the USPS Expo will be held in Orlando at the Rosen Centre in February. Orlando is only a drive away so consider attending this year. The sessions and workshops, plus the fellowship will be worth it. We should see the Civic Affairs Award announced and this year it should come to ASPS!

And, if the February doldrums get you down, consider coming on the Western Caribbean cruise with other USPS members. You'll see some interesting ports and have a chance to interact with members from other parts of the country.

Thanks to all of you for all you do. Best wishes for the holidays.



Mary

Waterlog

*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 provided to all members and advertisers, and is available to the public. All members in good standing and approved non-members 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.



Waterlog Co-Editors Rachel Shirey and Tim Tyson

Fresh (almost) from another marathon, whirlwind transatlantic flight, Haim Zukerman (or was it Batia?) thought it wise to pass on going to Lake Murray for the eclipse. But as the hour approached they decided to drive a couple of hours north just to check it out. And this is what they brought back!



# Squadron News



## Meet...Mr. Tom's Heart

Every Tuesday, at 9:30 am (give or take five minutes) at the Gatewood Road Ronald McDonald House the cry goes out, "Mr. Tom's here!" and it's all hands on deck. Tom Umstead (or "MT" as I call him) has pulled up to the house, his car loaded down with all kinds of food, flowers, and assorted toiletries for the families who are staying there. Everyone drops what they are doing and races to help him unload. They have to hurry because this is just his first stop. Wednesday it's the same thing at the Peachtree Dunwoody Ronald McDonald House. Other days it might be the Calvary Children's Home, the AFLAC Cancer Center, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta - both the Egleston and Scottish Rite Hospitals, 6 senior centers, including the Dorothy Benson Senior Complex. And this barely scratches the surface.



Some seventeen years ago Mr. Tom entered the retirement world. One day at a Publix supermarket he noticed the bakery tossing out what looked to him like perfectly good food. Upon inquiry he learned that the food in question was too old to be sold. "I believe I can find that food a good home," he told the store manager.

That one conversation has evolved into "Mr. Tom's Heart", a 501(c)(3) with some 100 volunteers who, daily, visit Publix, Kroger, Costco, Trader Joe's, and Plaid, filling their cars with diapers, shampoos, deodorants, sweet rolls, bread, cakes, pies, flowers and...just about everything except the kitchen sink (although I was at the Calvary Children's Home one day when a brand new kitchen range was delivered!). "Reading stories, lending a listening ear, or

offering a kind voice, the volunteers of Mr. Tom's Heart bring food and sundries to Ronald McDonald Houses, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, children's homes, adult day care and senior centers, homeless shelters, schools, and community centers, to name a few," reads his website. But wait, as the commercials on television say so often, there's more.

From his website [mrtomsheart.org](http://mrtomsheart.org) come tidbits like this: "The young girls experiencing chemo at Scottish Rite rarely experience a prom. MTH helped give a prom that included beauty and image services to help prepare the girls for this fun encouraging event. These donations included lovely dresses, food, flowers and a fun evening."

At this point our readership may be asking themselves, "Who is this guy?" Let's get into that.

Tom Umstead was born in Madisonville, Kentucky, "a real coal mining town," and went to school at Fort Knox, where his mother was in charge of personnel from 1939-1975. He attended Georgia Tech and graduated with the class of '56. His majors were industrial management and marketing.

Having been in the ROTC program, post-graduation he was commissioned an Army officer in the 82nd Airborne. He was stationed at Ft. Bragg, Ft. Campbell, and Ft. Bliss.

Now here comes the part that only motion pictures are made of. The day he got out of the Army he met Miss Lucretia. A good friend of his had been dating her and was about to leave on a three-and-a-half week business trip. "I'd like you to look after her," he told MT. Ever the friend Mr. Tom agreed.

But wait, getting back to the aforementioned commercials, there's more. When Mr. Tom's friend returned from the business trip he said, "OK, I'm back. You can stop taking care of her."

"No, I can't." Six months later they entered into their fifty seven year marriage.

*Continued on page 4*



**CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTING SERVICES, INC.**

FOR ALL YOUR TREE CARE NEEDS  
LICENSED AND INSURED

770.979.6116 (OFFICE/FAX)

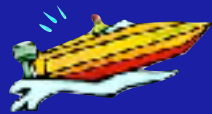
770.617.7565 (CELL)

[CCSINCTJ@COMCAST.NET](mailto:CCSINCTJ@COMCAST.NET)

Ask for "The Cabin Boy Discount"



T.J. CONVERY



# Squadron News



## *Mr. Tom's Heart, continued*

Let me describe in my own (probably and most likely inept) way Miss Lucretia. Now I'm not a wordsmith. I don't pretend to be one either. But she was HOT!!! Miss Lucretia was the full package...a lovely personality, a great wit, a mind to match no other, and, just to put some icing on the cake, a real beauty. Miss America, move over! Mr. Tom, if you can forgive me, she was a BABE!!! There, I've said it.

Mr. Tom, out of college, fresh from the Army, worked for Armstrong Cork, Bent Tree Mountain Development, Merrill-Lynch and Blue Cross ("each for 10 years") before his retirement.

And then he walked into the Publix.

MT was telling me about the Zone at the Scottish Rite Children's Hospital. "The kids there are usually through with their medications by 1:00. So what are they supposed to do for the rest of the day, especially if they are teenagers?"

Enter one Garth Brooks, who personally funded the Zone. He filled it with all kinds of games and things the kids can do for the rest of the day. "It's kind of like a clubhouse. It even has a kitchen," say MT.

So Mr. Tom's Heart stocks the Zone with food and snacks. Back to the infomercial - but wait, there's more.

Six times each year Mr. Tom's Heart arranges for the Atlanta Zoo to bring their petting zoo to the Zone. "They even pipe it through their television system for the kids who are too sick to get down there."

And he provides the prom.

You might be asking yourselves what does this have to do with our Squadron?

One day in August of 2016, I saw Mr. Tom at the Ronald McDonald House and asked if it might be possible to get some snacks donated for our Calvary Kids Day-on-the-Lake. His look told me that that was a foolish thing to ask. "Of course!" MT went to the Shirey's houseboat the day of our 3rd Calvary Day and, by his own account, he was blown away. "What a wonderful organization (referring to Calvary)." Since that day he has become something

of a fixture there ("Our Guardian Angel," said one of the Calvary houseparents),

This year he decided to make it simple and just give our Squadron a generous check for the Calvary Day. "You go out and buy what you need. Make it a great day for these kids. Make it their best day of the year!" Mr. Tom did not want the change back from the money we didn't spend, telling us to donate it to Calvary or the Ronald McDonald House.

This money will be included in our Jane Valentyne Leaycraft recycling project for the Atlanta Ronald McDonald House Charities, our recycling fund.

Earlier this year Miss Lucretia suffered a series of strokes. After the first few she would arrive with MT in his car to make the rounds and, as always, she looked her usual, elegant self. But in May another stroke proved too much for her to bear. She left this world on June 1st holding the hand of the man she loved like no other, Mr. Tom.

*Editor's note: I was hesitant to write that Mr. Tom's Heart gave us a check with which to buy food, drinks, and snacks for the Calvary kids. I didn't want this in any way to tamp down our own giving.*

*But the overriding thought that led me to mention this was you, our membership. Once you go to Mr. Tom's website, once you know who this man is and what his life has become, I have no doubt that you will want to send a contribution to Mr. Tom's Heart. No contribution is too small, and no contribution is ever too large. This is one 501(c)(3) where all of your donations go to the causes. They have no expenses.*

*Any contributions made in Miss Lucretia's name will go to fund the petting zoo visits and the proms held at the Zone at Scottish Rite, her two favorites.*

*You owe it to yourselves to go to his website. Again it is:*

[mrtomsheart.org](http://mrtomsheart.org)





## Nominations For Elected Offices Of The Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron, 2018-2019

In accordance with our bylaws, the Annual Meeting and election of officers and elected committees will take place on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at the Diner at North Point located at 2355 Mansell Road, Alpharetta, GA 30022.

The Change of Watch will take place Sunday, February 18, 2018, at the Dunwoody Country Club, 1600 Dunwoody Club Drive, Atlanta, GA.

The Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron Nominating Committee, consisting of P/C John Holland (chair), P/C Glenn LaBoda, and Ken Odum has submitted the following slate of officers for 2018-2019.

<b>Bridge</b>		
<b>Office</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Exec. Com. Members-at-Large</b>
Commander	Eric Ringwall	Mary Larsen (Past Commander)
Executive Officer	Barbara Tyson	Sheryl LaBoda
Squadron Education Officer	Margaret Sherrod	Carey Holland
Administrative Officer	Dave Fuller	Scot Randall
Secretary	Donna Odum	Doug Watson
Treasurer	Cindy Ringwall	Patti Watson
		Dennis Warren
		Nancy Warren
		John Reichmann

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 Donna Odum no later than Sunday, 31 December 2017. 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.



# Squadron News



## Who Are We, and Why Are We Here?

*For those of you who have been in our Squadron for a while, this is not news. But for our newer members yes, we are a boating club. Yes, we advocate and teach boating safety, boating education, and we do partake in all things nautical. But our Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron is much more than that. We reach out and give ourselves and our time to causes and organizations totally unrelated to any nautical activities. And this does not go unrecognized. No, we do not do it so that National recognizes us and we get seen in the "Ensign".*

*We do it because that is who we are. The following is the Executive Summary for the BoatUS Civic Service Award application for 2017.*

The passion of the Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron fuels a sense of dedication to civic engagement that powers its vast support of participation with other organizations, charity outreach programs, and boating education efforts, all while encouraging a sense of enjoyment for boating.

The squadron takes great pride in volunteering for organizations that make a difference in people's lives, including Calvary Children's Home and Ronald McDonald House charities. Both of these non-profits, and long-term partners of the squadron, focus on the quality of life for children who had a rough start in the world whether they're faced with the loss of their families or the curse of childhood disabilities or cancer.

The ASPS's goal with its continued commitment to these organizations, and others, is to provide people and children with an enhanced quality of life. The squadron raises and donates money for day-to-day expenses, but it also shows people that life has its beauty, and that's where the members' love for water comes into play. They teach these children and community members how to appreciate the small things and to discover passions by showing them their own.

Members participate on a variety of boards representing the ASPS and the USPS. They encourage and support beautification projects such as Lake Lanier Shore Sweep, the local Duluth Fall Festival that focuses on developing the downtown area, Downtown Development Authorities, and so many more.

The ASPS makes it one of their missions to engage their communities and to choose to always be a consistent face and source for volunteers. This sense of dedication directly translates into the club's membership, which is currently 223.

Each one of these projects outside of boating creates an opportunity for the squadron to engage new people and invite them to join the club. Members encourage questions; they invite the people they meet to the lake and on boating excursions to show others a boating lifestyle while teaching through their many education programs and courses.

It is the squadron's goal to obtain a membership of 230 by the end of this year and it is just six members away from meeting this goal. The squadron's efforts to grow its membership come from its involvement in the communities. The sense of passion shown when they dedicate their time to others innately attracts curiosity, and that curiosity is being converted into membership numbers.

bers.

It is the squadron's goal to be the go-to source for Lake Lanier boating safety and education, guidelines, and to be a community forum for issues such as littering and irresponsible boating. As they develop their reputation for civic support, membership will grow simply by engaging others and encouraging participation. They recruit for new members by informing and engaging, and asking for guests to come to meetings, raft-ups, and social events to experience the power of the squadron.

The members of the Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron have and will continue to demonstrate their passion for civic support, boating safety and education, and enjoyment of the boating life in the coming years. The greatness of the squadron is now and always will be the powerful dedication of its members.

Warm Winds and Deep Waters,

Lt/C Barbara Tyson  
P Lt/C Donna Odum SN  
Lt Rachel Shirey, S



*Members of our Squadron at the Etowah River during Safe Boating Week. This picture was published in the "Ensign".*



# Squadron News

## Dateline Lake Murray: Two Squadrons Eclipse the Eclipse!!!

What a weekend it was. Hosted by our friends the Lake Murray Power Squadron, a group of our members traveled to South Carolina for the eclipse. On Flotilla Friday the early birds arrived and got together for a day of getting to know each other and enjoy a pot luck dinner. Saturday saw a "Logjam Raft-Up" of some thirty-five boats rafted in a circle. Kinda cool! We were treated to a delicious barbecue dinner and a wonderful presentation by P/C Jerry Wise of the Lake Murray Squadron, who conveniently happens to be their resident astronomer (who has a built-in domed telescope atop his house!). Sunday we had a parade/tour of Lake Murray which was absolutely wonderful. This was followed by an incredible low-country boil - the pictures below tell the story - and a rerun of P/C Wise's presentation for those of us who either missed it or wanted to see it again.

And then came the day of the eclipse...





# Squadron News

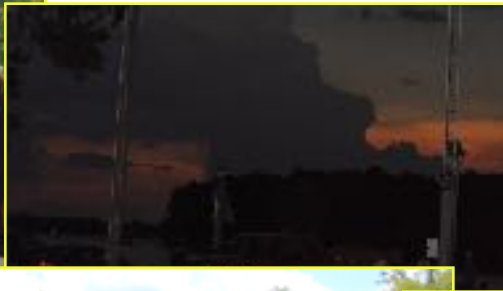


We had our eclipse glasses at the ready. Dave Fuller bummed some of the polymer film those glasses were made of from (who else) Mike Guler. He cleverly adapted them to a couple of soft coozies that, when fitted over our camera lenses, allowed us to photograph the eclipse. It was all looking great, the sun getting evermore edged out by the shadow of the moon when...a friggin' cloud eclipsed the eclipse!!! Can you believe it?

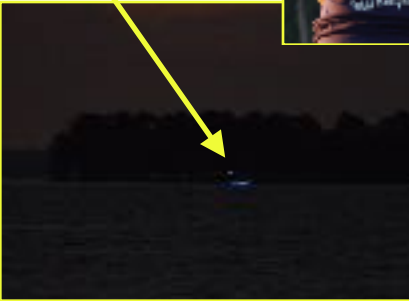
Sheryl was heartbroken, but she need not have been. It was among the best weekends our Squadron has ever spent, and her hard work made it happen. If we never did another thing with the Squadron, this weekend would stand out in a very major way.

High fives, kudos, and accolades to you Sheryl. Damn fine job you did. Excellent.

This is a boat with its lights on in the afternoon during the total eclipse!



The time - 2:42 p.m.  
There place - Lake Murray  
The eclipse - to your left  
←



*A boatload of thanks (yes, I had to get nautical on you) to the Lake Murray Power Squadron, not only for their gracious hospitality - which was over the top - but for providing the pictures you see on these two pages. There were more but we just didn't have the space.*



**SUBARU of Kennesaw**  
905 Ernest Barrett Pkwy NW, Kennesaw, GA 30144 • 770-419-9800



**troncalli** CHRYSLER Jeep SUBARU Think. Feel. Drive.

818 Atlanta Highway, Cumming, GA • 678-244-4100 • www.troncalli.com  
"Where Customers Send Their Friends"®





# Squadron News



## Stars For Our Troops

Those of you who know Tom Gastio know that, when something interests him, he becomes a passionate advocate. Just look at his record with Vessel Safety Checks. When Tom approached me and told me about the "Stars For Our Troops", he practically exploded with enthusiasm.

The program works this way: if you happen to have an American flag WITH EMBROIDERED, NOT SILK SCREENED, STARS (recommended flag size is 3' x 5'), and you need to retire the flag you send it to:

Susan w/Stars for our Troops  
c/o/GFW  
715 Columbia Turnpike  
East Greenbush, NY. 12061

Volunteers there will carefully - and lovingly - cut each star from the flag before properly disposing of the stripes. Each star is then placed in a tiny plastic bag with a card that reads: *"I am part of our American flag that has flown over the U.S.A. I can no longer fly. The sun and winds have caused me to become tattered and torn. Please carry me as a reminder that you are not forgotten."*

These packages are sent to **active** servicemen and servicewomen around the world. Should you desire to have one sent to a friend or relative, the best place for information is their website: [www.stars-fourtroops.org](http://www.stars-fourtroops.org).

Tom, thanks for this idea. No doubt many of our members will be interested in this most worthwhile program.



\*\*\*\*\*

## Merit Marks

Merit Marks for 2017 have been awarded and, since we have so many newly minted members it was thought that the introduction, written by our Merit Mark chairman P/C Ed Troncalli in 2011.

*"A Merit Mark is a coveted award presented to a member by the Chief Commander in recognition of substantial personal ef-*

*fort to further the interests, programs and objectives of the United States Power Squadrons, its districts and squadrons. It is, by and large, the only official recognition members receive for their efforts. Only one merit mark may be awarded in a year to a member, no matter how extensive the contribution. A certificate is issued, and a special insignia may be worn on the USPS uniform.*

*Recommendations for merit marks are made by squadrons, districts, rear and vice commanders to the chief commander.*

*No one who deserves recognition is overlooked.*

*The criteria to earn a merit mark are flexible. In most cases our members work on various projects throughout the year accumulating credit toward a merit mark such as hosting events, cruise planning, boat show volunteer, education assistance and participating in committee meetings. There are some scenarios such as teaching several classes or performing at least ten vessel safety checks that will qualify a member for a merit mark."*

The following ASPS members were awarded Merit Marks:

Jeff Baker  
Tammra Baker  
Jonathan Blackwood  
Keith Blanton  
Edith Collins  
Hector Colon  
T.J. Convery  
Dave Crumbley  
Anita Feliciano  
Bonnie Fried  
Dave Fuller  
Nan Ellen Fuller  
Tom Gastio  
Beth Guler  
Mike Guler  
John Holland  
Cary Holland  
Glenn LaBoda  
Sheryl LaBoda  
Gary Meinken  
Richard Morrison  
George Norton  
Paula Norton  
Brandon Odum  
Donna Odum  
Ken Odum  
Mary Means Odum  
Jack Oliaro  
Maureen Oliaro  
Alease Perry

Bob Poole  
Patti Price  
Meredith Randall  
Scotty Randall;  
Cindy Ringwall  
Eric Ringwall  
Kevin Schoonover  
Terry Schoonover  
Margaret Sherrod  
Calvin Shirey  
Rachel Shirey  
Susan Shirey  
Tom Shirey  
Mary Stegall  
Roy Stegall  
Frank Taylor  
Douglas Townes  
Ed Troncalli  
Genie Troncalli  
Barbara Tyson  
Tim Tyson  
Charles Von Hoven  
Dennis Warren  
Nancy Warren  
Doug Watson  
Parri Watson  
Don Williams  
Jimmy Wilson  
Lisa Herndon Wilson  
Jeff Wise

# Squadron News

## It Was A Night, Oh, Such A Night

So, after the “flurries” of snow that were predicted turned into multiple inches, were we in for another “Snowmageddon”? Say it ain’t so. And indeed it wasn’t (at least for almost all of us). Cary Holland, TPIC (the person in charge) of the decorations and table arrangements did her usual phenomenal job with the able assistance of Paula Norton and Terry Schoonover. Kevin Schoonover a beautiful archway under which our guests were photographed, again by Kevin Schoonover. John Holland was just there to help whenever and wherever he was needed, and oh, did he ever help!

Our delicious appetizers, dinner, and desserts were all coordinated by the Feliciano’s, Anita and Tony, who also handled the table settings. All in all it was simply another truly wonderful evening and a wonderful way to enjoy each other as we go into the holiday season.



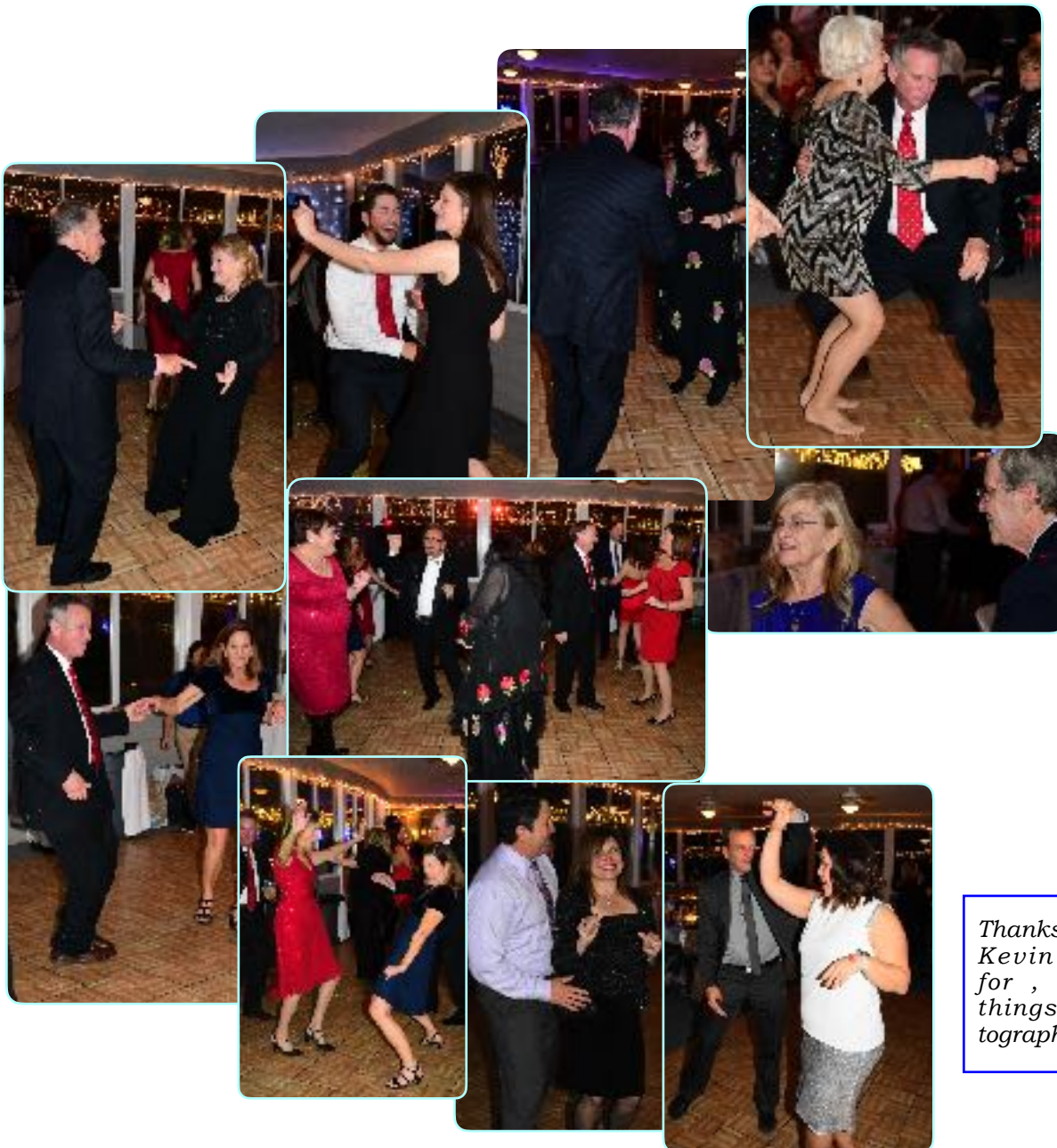
# Squadron News

## We Could Have Danced All Night

And we might have if we weren't worried about the driving conditions. DJ Chad was there to attend to our musical wishes and we danced, danced, danced.

As has been our custom we had two boxes set out: one for collections for the Calvary Children's Home's Scholarship and General Funds, the other for donations to buy the kid's Christmas presents. We also had a silent auction to supplement our recycling drain to benefit the Atlanta Ronald McDonald Houses.

To see more, go to page 17.



*Thanks go out to P/C Kevin Schoonover for , among other things, these photographs.*



# Squadron News



## U-1206: The Only Submarine Ever Sunk By Its Commode

By Mark Powell

When you've gotta go, you've gotta go. Even when you're 200 feet underwater.

But 70 years ago, answering Nature's Call actually sent a submarine to the bottom of the ocean. You have to hear this bizarre tale to believe it. And I swear every word is true.

Submersibles have been destroyed a host of ways over the years. Depth charges, naval and aerial bombings, collisions, even mechanical troubles have all dispatched them to Davy Jones' Locker.

But one holds the, uh, *distinction* of being the only sub done in by its own potty.

U-1206 was the pride of Nazi Germany's navy when she went into service in March 1944. Some 50 officers and men were assigned to her as she set out to destroy Allied shipping.

Daily life aboard a U-boat was rough. They were built for combat performance, not human comfort. Men had to make their way around machinery and weaponry as best they could for months at a time. The food was bad, the air was stale and smelled of diesel exhaust fumes and guys who had gone too long without showering.

Then there was the matter of the "head," naval slang for the restroom. U-boats had only two - and one was often used to store extra food for the long undersea voyages. That's right, all 50 men had to share one -and only one-restroom.

But U-1206 boasted a creature comfort most other submarines didn't have: a brand new, state-of-the-art high pressure toilet that could

be flushed while submerged at great depths. That was very important, because when 50 guys are using the same facility, you want all the flushing you can get.

Without going into Techno Babble, the pressure system was extremely complex. Leave it to the Germans to devise a flushing mechanism that was so complicated, an engineer "specialist" had to be present every time it was used.

And it worked well ... until Saturday, April 14, 1945. U-1206 had left occupied Norway eight days earlier

and was cruising off the coast off Peterhead, Scotland when something happened. Kapitänleutnant Karl Adolf Schlitt (you had to be very careful pronouncing that name) was commanding a U-Boat for the very first time. Naturally, that would drive up a man's sense of self-importance.

But it's possible Schlitt (I really love writing that name) may have carried cockiness a bit too far, because there are differing versions of what happened next.

The skipper's official report says the intricate water pressure system sprang a leak. Oh, it leaked alright. But the crew told a completely different story.

They said Captain Schlitt had an inflated view of his mechanical competence. He didn't need any "specialist" to tell him how to work the new-fangled system, by golly. He could read the manual and make it flush all by himself.

Except, he couldn't.

When he pulled the chain, the sub began filling with water from the ocean combined with raw sewage from its storage compartment. Talk about a mess! Schlitt cried for help. But nobody could figure out how how to stop the rapidly spreading slop.

It eventually reached the U-boat's batteries. Saltwater and battery acid combined to create dangerous chlorine gas (one of several gases that had been used in World War I's deadly trench attacks).

With toxic fumes quickly filling the boat, Schlitt had no choice but to order U-1206 to surface and open the hatch. Which is the most dangerous thing a submarine can do in wartime.

It didn't take the Brits long to spot the sub and attack her from the air. One crew member was killed, and U-1206 was so badly damaged she couldn't dive. So Schlitt had her scuttled, and then gave the order to abandon ship.

Three men drowned during the evacuation. Nearby British ships picked up 36 others. The remaining 10 made it to shore in a lifeboat and were quickly captured.

In a way, U-1206's demise was a fitting metaphor for its homeland's sinking condition, because Nazi Germany itself was going down the crapper just then. Within a fortnight, Hitler fired a bullet into his brain and the Third Reich went out of business a week later.



*Continued on page 13*



# Squadron News

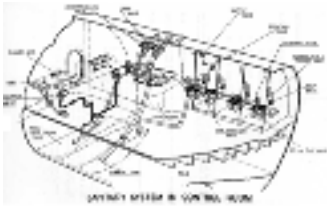


## *Submarine , continued*

Nobody knows what happened to the skipper after the war. Schlitt slunk home in shame and disappeared from history.

Divers working on a pipeline stumbled upon the U-boat's remains in the 1970s. She sits silently rusting on the bottom of the sea today, the only submarine ever sunk because someone had to take a dump.

There's not any glory in going down that way. But it was poetic justice, for there wasn't any glory in the cause she served, either



Divers working on a pipeline stumbled upon the U-boat's remains in the 1970s. She sits silently rusting on the bottom of the sea today, the only submarine ever sunk because someone had to take a dump.

There's not any glory in going down that way. But it was poetic justice, for there wasn't any glory in the cause she served, either.

*Editor's note: Checking in to our hotel on the Eclipse Weekend at Lake Murray I picked up a copy of "The Lake Murray Fish Wrapper" and looked through it. This article caught my immediate attention and, when I had finished reading it, knew that it HAD to go in our "Waterlog". Upon returning to Atlanta I contacted Mark Powell who gave his permission to reprint it with one small caveat... would we please print the name of his website so our readership can read more "Holy Cow History?" Absolutely, and here it is:*

[www.Jmarkpowell.com](http://www.Jmarkpowell.com)

Thanks a million, Mark.

\*\*\*\*\*

## The Jane Vallentyne Leaycraft Project Roars Full Speed Ahead!!!

For our newer members, let us briefly expand upon what this project is and how it began. In 2014, as we struggled to coordinate members, boats, and all of the

thing necessary for a Calvary Kids Day-On-The-Lake, Tom and Susan Shirey decided to make life simple for us. "Why don't you just use our houseboat?"

Thus began this annual event. We were just beginning our very first recycling project to benefit the Atlanta Ronald McDonald House and Tom mentioned in passing that Susan's mother, Jane Vallentyne Leaycraft, was very active in supporting that charity.

What better way to thank them for the use of their Palace-On-the-Water than to name this recycling project after Susan's beloved mother? All of the money collected goes to the Atlanta Ronald McDonald House Charities (ARMHC), so it is a perfect fit.

In 2015, our first year of recycling, we presented ARMCH with a check for \$150.00. In 2016, with the help of a couple of generous donations, that amount exploded to \$1,000.00. This year, with donations, recycling efforts, and a silent auction at our annual Seafarer's Ball, we have raised, at last count, \$1,700.00 (and the year ain't over, baby!).

So let's begin 2018 with our blinders on, thinking straight ahead, about recycling everything we can. Feel free to bring your aluminum (we get .50/lb), your tin cans (.04/lb), any and all metals to our meetings and give them to Tim Tyson. You might think, "it's not really worth saving. He'll only get thirty-five cents."

Two things to ponder: First, you don't get to \$1,700 without first getting thirty-five cents. Second, where would you rather see it (your aluminum, tin, wire, metals, etc.), in a land fill or being recycled. Let's work to help Mother Earth.

**Randall Tahsler and Company**  
representing the health insurance industry

**Randall Tahsler**  
Agent and Broker

- Medicare Supplement Plans
- Medicare Advantage Plans
- Part D Prescription Drug Plans
- Individual and Family Major Medical Plans
- Long Term Care Plans
- [www.randalltahslerandcompany.net](http://www.randalltahslerandcompany.net)

- Office: 770 977 2303
- Fax: 770 977 2302
- Cell: 470 554 8500
- [randalltahsler@att.net](mailto:randalltahsler@att.net)



# Squadron News

## 4th Calvary Kids Day-On-the-Lake...Every Picture Tells a Story

These kids are stealthy. They sneak into your hearts and steal your love. This year was just one more example of who we are and why we do what we do. It doesn't make much sense to waste space on words except to write that it is safe to say that, on this day, tubing is probably the most photographed of the activities we offer. Thank you Tammra Baker. So we will devote the next page to tubing photos. Thanks go out to Jeff and Tammra Baker, Tom Gastio, the Warrens, and Bob Poole, for your boats and jet skis. And thanks to all of you who helped to make this another memorable day, both for the kids and for us. There are so many of you that I will not begin to name names. You know who you are and so do all of us.

And many thanks to Barbara Tyson and Tammra Baker for the photographs.



# Gordon Biersch

BREWERY • RESTAURANT

PRIVATE DINING  
 ROOM ♦ OUTDOOR  
 DINING ♦ SATUR-  
 DAY AND SUNDAY  
 BRUNCHES ♦  
 HAND CRAFTED  
 BEER ♦ DAILY  
 DRINK SPECIALS ♦  
 SERVING PREMIUM



LIQUOR ♦ TEN  
 LUNCHES UNDER  
 \$10 (INCLUDING  
 BEVERAGE) ♦  
 PASSPORT RE-  
 WARDS PROGRAM  
 ♦ STEIN CLUB  
 MEMBERSHIPS

# Squadron News





# Squadron News

## How Does It Get Any Better Than This???? Our Chili Cookoff

Once again we had the creme de le creme of culinary events. Our annual Chili Cookoff held again at the exclusive digs of our Eric and Cindy Ringwall. This year our Squadron (thank you Barbara Tyson) held a nautical book sale to raise money for the hurricane victims in Puerto Rico. We thought we had done well until we began shaking the collection box and money kept falling out. At the end of the evening we had collected a tad over \$500, which will be delivered to our Puerto Rico Power Squadron for distribution where they feel it is most needed. To top it off Brian Busby gave another wonderful talk about the wonderful things they do at the Calvary Children's Home. All in all it was another fabulous evening.



Clockwise from 2300 hours - As new members are sworn in we renew our vows; more of our renewed vows; our book sale; Tom Gastio receives the Nelle B. Moon Award plaque; Brian Busby of the Calvary Children's Home; Ken and Donna Odum receive their Certificate of Educational Achievement Awards.





# Thoughts



We've had a great year, as this, our first ever twenty page issue has shown. We may think of ourselves as a boating club, an organization dedicated to boating education and devoted to promoting boating safety. And that we are indeed. But we are so much more. We reach out to our community: the Calvary Children's Home, whose scholarship fund we started and who's kids we give Christmas presents to each year; the Atlanta Ronald McDonald House Charities; the hurricane victims in Puerto Rico. **In 2017 we raised almost \$6,000 for various charities and causes!** When there is a shoreline that needs to be swept of trash and debris the Lake Lanier Association can count on us. We have given toys at Christmas to the children of Atlanta servicemen and women. Eric, Ed and others have helped train NROTC students on the ways of the waters. We do this, not for recognition by National. Heck, we'd do it if we were just a loosely knit group of friends. We do this because that is who we are and this is what we are made of.

And sadly this year we have had to say good-bye to some friends. Woody and Jade are enjoying their new home in North Carolina, and Doug and Elaine are enjoying their lives in Florida and Hiawassee. Gone, not forgotten, and sorely missed. Merry Christmas, guys.

And there are those we won't see again, at least not in this lifetime. We said good-bye to Gary Meinken. This was a shock and a cold reminder of how fleeting this thing we call life really is. We all have stories about Gary and none can be told without a smile. We gave him a nice send-off at the University Yacht Club, wearing his trademark Bermuda shorts (which some wore with their uniform jackets).

And just last week we learned that Louis Hohenstein, P/R/C Louis Hohenstein, 57 year member with 33 merit marks Louis Hohenstein, crossed the bar after a two-year battle with Lou Gehrig's Disease.

I'm not exactly sure how I feel as I write this. Am I happy? Am I sad? Well, truth be told, I'm both. But above all of that I am proud. So very, very proud. I don't know why I was put on this earth or how I came to be surrounded by such a totally wonderful group of people. Whether it's the folks I work with at the Ronald McDonald House or the folks I play with - you. Whether it is my neighbors, my family, my sister...I am humbled beyond words to say how much it means to me to be in your company. Seriously rarified air, to say the least.

With that in mind, I want to wish all of you a very merry Christmas and a very happy Hanukkah. And may your new year bring you more pleasure and reward than you could ever think possible.

Life is pretty darned good.





# Bulletin Board



## UNTIL WE RETURN

By ENS Kristen Ringwall

Our grey hull is forcing its way through the ocean  
 Dark waves crash upon us, protesting our motion  
 Their white fingers grasp at our steel and our glass  
 As on through the mountains  
**WE HEAVE, WE HEAVE**

Three hundred souls, slicing through valleys  
 Grease-blackened calluses serving as tallies  
 Of days on this broiling, ill-tempered mass  
 As on through the mountains  
**WE HEAVE, WE HEAVE**

And then, in an instant, the roar becomes silent  
 Stone melts into sapphire, the air fades to violet  
 The sun slips below as we slide across silk  
 For a moment we forget  
**TO HEAVE, TO HEAVE**

These few stolen moments, eyes cast toward the sky  
 Watching planets and stars, even ages pass by  
 'Til the earth rolls around, and the seas come alive  
 We forge again onward  
**WE HEAVE, WE HEAVE**

We the three hundred, we heave on our own  
 Within these steel walls, hearts stretching toward home  
 As a bigger thought pushes this metal through water  
 Toward waves that are higher, toward wind that is hotter  
 Toward hatred and greed and those wishing us pain  
 We know we are just- though we're wishing the same  
 The righteous right fist of the land of the free  
 And until we return,  
**WE HEAVE, WE HEAVE**

*Kristen Ringwall is an Ensign aboard the USS Howard (DDG-83) on deployment to the Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea. Her organizational role is the Main Propulsion Officer in which she reports to the ship's Chief Engineer and is responsible for the ship's Gas Turbine Main Engines and all propulsion related equipment. Her division includes 20 enlisted personnel who operate and maintain these critical systems 24/7.*



# From the Bridge



## 2017 Bridge Officers

Meredith Randall, Assistant SEO, Scot Randall, Assistant AO, Sheryl LaBoda, Assistant Secretary, Cindy Ringwall, Treasurer, Donna Odum, Secretary, Barbara Tyson, Administrative Officer, Margaret Sherrod, SEO, Eric Ringwall, Executive Officer, Mary Larsen, Commander.

## Calendar

January 11 - Executive Committee Meeting, Aldo's in Sandy Springs

January 18 - Annual Business Meeting - The Diner at North Point

January 18-21 - Atlanta Boat Show

January 22 - Winter classes begin. See your DR

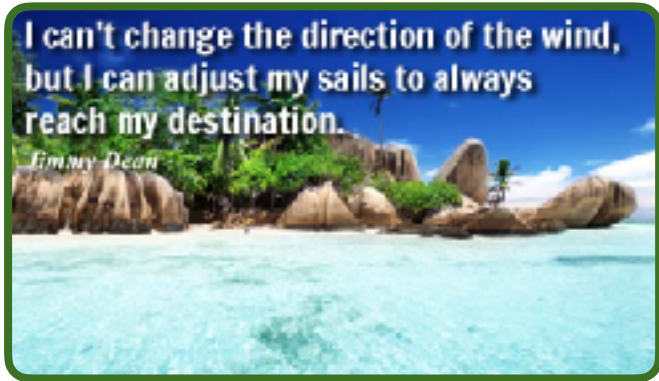
January 27-28 - Cabella's Powersports Open House in Acworth

February 8 - Executive Committee Meeting, Aldo's in Sandy Springs

February 18 - Change of Watch, Dunwoody Country Club



# AFTerthoughts



May your Christmas be merry and your new year be filled with everything you want. You deserve it.

---

Tim Tyson  
2481 King Arthur Circle  
Atlanta, GA 30345

