



Harris Chain Sail & Power Squadron
The Anchor Chain Newsletter

JUNE 2011 Volume 13 Issue 6



A Unit of the United States Power Squadron – District 23



Lake County Florida – The Month of May has come and gone. The Harris Chain is moving with the reduced membership as the Snowbirds are in the air. Things have a tendency to slow down a bit. The Harris Chain is still rolling.

We can be proud of our added efforts to the National Safe Boating Week, that occurs the week before Memorial Day, every year. We at Harris Chain elected to pursue an educational track this year and our Education Department presented 2 seminars. I know that the seminars that focused on Safety were well received.

The Anchoring seminar presented by P/Lt/C Dave Hepting, AP taught even the ‘old salts’ a few new tricks. Dave broke out his bag of tricks and demonstrated the various types of anchors and the theory of their operations. The Internet has been searched and no term has been found to describe one that collects anchors. Such a term is needed as it is obvious that Dave is an anchor collector. Dave will do local classes, but air travel is out as the baggage fees would be a killer!

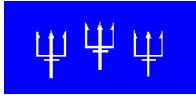
The Second seminar of Global Positioning Systems (GPS) just really showed that Mr. Murphy was a boater. Even on land boaters need to be prepared for every emergency. During the presentation at Lake Square Mall Community Room, The Power went out. Not to just the Community room, but the entire mall complex. P/C Tim Henke, AP went into battery mode and continued the presentation. Thank goodness for the life of the battery on the laptop!

P/C Joe Murray, AP and his crew are hard at work with vessel safety checks. It is obvious that their efforts are working. Recently the Lake County Sheriff’s commented that they are seeing many more vessels with VSC stickers on their boats. Also most of them are of current year! IF your boat is not wearing the current year Vessel Safety Check emblem, what are you waiting for ? Contact Joe and have him or one of his staff to meet with you and get you on the right track!

On an individual level, remember that love is in the air and that the Alligators may be more aggressive for the next few weeks. Mating season continues thru June. Be aware of any complications that this may pose. When entering boats, getting towards the shoreline from land or even during on the water boating activities alligators can interact with you. Also remember, and alligator can outrun a human for short distances. Do not test your athletic abilities. None of us are as quick as we once were.

Boat Safely and Wisely !

Commander's Message



Cdr Cathy Henke, P

First, I want to thank Ralph for conducting the May meeting in my absence. Tim & I were attending a week long seminar in Minnesota for the products that Tim represents.

The efforts, of all that participated in National Safe Boating Week are really appreciated. I attended both of the seminars that were offered, Anchoring and Using GPS. They were both wonderful. I know that a few folks missed these. We can offer them if demand warrants.

Important note: June Meeting is at Angelo's Restaurant see information below. The college is all torn up with construction and remodeling. Future meetings are slated for the Community Room at Lake Square Mall. Times and Formats to remain the same. June's meeting will be our food drive for the summer months, so bring non perishable food items to donate to the food bank.

As a group we have been presented with a challenge. National is selling books on the open market. This means that anyone can purchase our cherished learning materials. Also, anyone that orders books can also order Instructor manuals. This action is undermining the benefit of being a squadron member. D/C James DePalma, SN has drafted a referendum to send back to National talking about the effects on the local squadrons. This action will keep the Harris Chain from growing and the other squadrons. I Will keep everyone updated on this referendum and subsequent actions.



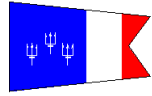
Lt/C Don Stewart, S

Squadron Executive Officer (SXO)

As usual we are looking for help in the booth for First Friday. Please let me know what month you can help in the booth either 1st shift 5:00pm-7:00pm or 2nd shift 7:00pm-9:30pm.

Members that have personal information changes such as new phone numbers, new e-mail addresses and other personal data changes need to log on to the national site. Log on to USPS.org and log in using each members number and password. The password is on your dues renewal on the same line as each ones name. On the lower left side column there is a option titled "Manage your own profile". Please update your information and then hit the update button at the bottom of the page.

If you may have questions, please contact me.



P/C Bill Myers, AP **Villages Outdoor Expo Final Report**

The Villages Outdoor Expo was held on Saturday, May 21, 2011, starting at 9:00 AM. Bill Myers and Roger Wilson met at the La Hacienda Recreation Center at 7:00AM on Saturday, and set up the Harris Chain display (Harris Chain Banner, Vessel Inspection Banner, Popeye & Olive Oyl Vessel Safety Check Cutout, boating accident newspaper article display board, and numerous handouts for the general public). Our display was ready by 8:30 AM, and the doors opened at 9:00 AM. Our primary effort was to promote our Squadron and our safe boating courses. The booth was indoors, in an air-conditioned room. At 12 Noon, Joe Murray and Duff Lewis arrived to help for the afternoon session. Manning the booth consisted of talking to visitors, describing what the Power Squadron is, and how we try to improve boating safety through Vessel Safety Checks and our public Safe Boating Courses. If visitors were interested in the courses, we recorded their name and phone number so we could contact them when we have our next course. We also gave out many brochures listing our next ABC Course on Saturday, July 9, 2011, so that people could go to our website or call the squadron phone number to register for this course.



Lt/C Ralph Shrivalle, AP **Squadron Education Officer (SEO)**

The Seamanship class is heading into the last week and then we'll have five more knot tying seaman. Good luck guys.

Tuesday, May 24 we had our first of two Seminars during safe boating week. It was presented by Dave Hepting who added quite a bit from his past experiences, A very good seminar.

Thursday, May 26 our second seminar (GPS) was presented by our Past Commander, Tim Henke. Now we will have more boaters that can electronically navigate (but don't forget the charts!! Would have been better if mother nature did not send us a storm and the entire mall lost power for about 30 minutes. But we made it through thank goodness for the battery backup on the laptop.

On Monday, June 13, our Cruise Planning course will get underway. I understand this is a fun course that everyone should have. We have a total of fifteen openings for this class.

On Saturday, July 9 we'll have our next ABC class. Need to heavily promote this class on first Fridays, posters and news media. (And by word of mouth from our members).

After that, our only scheduled courses are Piloting, a ten week course starting Wednesday, October 3 and our last ABC course, Saturday October 8.



Lt/C Jerie Tallman, P

Squadron Secretary

Hey, Captain! Does the Harris Chain Sail & Power Squadron colorful burgee fly above your boat? If not, be sure to stop by the Ship's Store at the next general meeting. Purchase one of these quality stitched nylon fabric burgees in red, white and blue displaying our Harris Chain logo. Cost of the burgee is \$38.70, including FL state sales tax.

And don't forget, the Harris Chain Squadron logo design sticker for your car window is also available at \$3.00 each. 'Fly' each burgee proudly to show your membership in this national organization that is dedicated to teaching boating education and safety while out on the water.

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Cruise Planning to begin on Monday, June 13

Cost \$40.00 this will be an 6 week class

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

The manual includes a comprehensive cruise planning timeline. The course can be comfortably taught in eight two-hour classroom sessions including time for review and the exam, but each instructor will determine the pace of the course.

CHECK OUT

HARRIS CHAIN Sail & Power Squadron ON FACEBOOK

Search: Harris Chain Click on LIKE
and write on the wall.

www.facebook.com



The Anchor Chain - A multi-format, monthly publication of the Harris Chain Sail and Power Squadron. A Unit of the United States Power Squadron.

Editor - Submit an article at HarrisEditor@aol.com

The Anchor Chain is in search of a new editor. If you may be interested in undertaking this important role, Please contact Cdr Cathy Henke, P

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Harris Chain Sail & Power Squadron 2011 Bridge

Cdr Cathy Henke, P Commander
Lt/C Don Stewart, S Executive Officer SXO
Vacant _Administrative Officer SAO
Lt/C Ralph Shrivalle, AP Education Officer SEO
Lt/C Jerie Tallman, P Secretary
Lt/C Roger Wilson, Treasurer

June's MEETING PLACE

Angelo's Italian Restaurant

2270 Vindale Road

Tavares, FL 32778

(441 in Tavares across from Buzzard Beach)

6:30pm Meet for Dinner

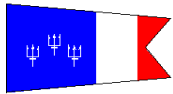
7:30pm Business meeting

REMEMBER - - Food Drive - - Bring non perishable food goods to the meeting.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO THE "JUNE BABIES"

1st Keith Rowe, P
10th Carol Garvin
15th Lt Victor Fernandez
20th P/Lt/C Walter Gordon, AP
22nd P/C Sidney Pitcher, S





P/C Joe Murray, AP
Vessel Safety Check, Chairman



We have completed 68 vessel inspections so far in 2011, with 57 passing and receiving decals. All active inspectors have obtained the required minimum 5 inspections for 2011, and are eligible for continued inspections in 2012. Our next scheduled outing will be Sunday, June 19th, at the launch sites. I'll send a reminder to the inspectors a few days ahead of time.



Burgees are **HERE!** Fly your Burgee when you are out on the water. \$ 38.70 each



Decals \$3.00 each

All Items will be on sale at the Monthly meeting!



Lt/C Joseph F. Sackett, SN
District 23 Administrative Officer
GALAXY
June 2011

The spring council meeting and picnic was another great success. Breakfast at La Cita County Club was well attended (more arrived than signed up). We must improve our signing up skills as a courtesy to the hosts. The club adapted quite well and there was food for all – thanks to Lucy's ability to coordinate the unregistered arrivals.

Cdr William Fehr presented the topic of the unilateral decision of Headquarters to sell the USPS course textbooks directly to members and possibly to nonmembers. This decision to bypass the squadrons will have an impact on member recruitment and retention. It is likely that the squadrons will be asked to fill the gap in answering questions and maybe administering examinations. These issues are not clear at this time. The financial side will vary with each squadron. Some squadrons use their course fees (JN and N) to underwrite the costs of maintaining their sextants.

The general view following discussion was that Squadrons and Districts should have Headquarters rescind their decision to bypass DEO, SEO, and Squadrons. This policy undercuts our squadron's major teaching program with a negative financial result for most squadrons.

D/C James DePalma, SN plans to survey all districts. He also has asked all of the squadrons in District 23 to present the issue to their Executive Committees and general membership. It is hoped that squadrons will resolve to oppose the new policy and give our District Commander the support to resist the policy at the Fall Governing Board meeting.

The Fall Governing Board Meeting is to be held in Greensboro, NC, 12-17 September. Your District 23 Bridge encourages as many as possible to attend this most important meeting. I believe that the future of our Squadron education programs is at great risk. If our education mission is diverted, the lifeblood of many squadrons will disappear with untold bad consequences.

On a happy note, the picnic, music, boat race, and weather were all a great success. P/C H. Greig Lindner, P must be congratulated on another well coordinated picnic and raffle.

Please prepare for the District 23 Fall Conference, September 30-November 1, 2011 Hosted by the Ponce de Leon Sail Inlet and Power Squadron. Link for the announcement and registration form are on District web site: <http://www.uspsd23.org/>.

P/C Elaine Reichert, AP is the conference coordinator with many years experience. It will be another grand event. The highlight opening event will be Margaritaville evening September 30. I will see you there.



This month's Chief Commander's letter coincides with the **National Safe Boating Week**, so I want to update you on the official position of the USPS regarding wearing lifejackets and the federally mandated education. It is interesting to note that in 2004 at a Governing Board meeting, a motion was made and passed:

“Be it resolved that based on current United States Coast Guard accident and fatality statistics, United States Power Squadrons supports USCG efforts to significantly increase PFD (lifejacket) wear by all boaters, especially those in small, open boats.”

The USCG originally wanted mandatory life jacket wear in open boats 26 feet and under, but the National Boating Safety Advisory Committee (advisors to the Coast Guard) felt that it would be easier to achieve mandatory life jacket wear in open boats under 18 feet, while still maintaining over 80% of the risk coverage.

This is why at your spring conferences the question was asked - - **“would you support such a mandate”** - - and your answer was yes. With 29 Districts responding, a total of 1718 votes were cast with 1292 (75.20%) supporting the mandatory wearing of lifejackets in open boats under 18 feet. The official [USPS Life Jacket Position Paper](#) can be downloaded [here](#).



The issue of federally mandated education was less controversial and out of 1650 votes cast, you the membership cast 1439 “yes” votes for an 87.21% approval. The educational standard as set forth by [NASBLA](#) is a bare minimum requirement and the USCG would like to see a higher standard. As part of their strategic plan, they would also like to see advanced training such as what we currently offer to the public.

We have decided to lobby for these positions and that raises an issue some of our membership have with lobbying and our 501(c)(3) status as a non-profit organization. According to the rules, we can lobby on any public policy issue, of which mandatory lifejacket wear is one. Second, as an educational organization we are unlimited in our ability to lobby on educational issues. Thus, we are in excellent position to actively engage in lobbying for these two issues.

Safe Boating Week is nearly upon us, and this gives me the opportunity to encourage you to take part in this activity. We would like to hear from Squadron Commanders about activities your squadron will participate in - - take photos and we will post the events and photos in the [USPS National Group on SailAngle](#).

Please have a fun-filled safe boating season.

Warmest personal regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank A. Dvorak".

Frank A. Dvorak, SN
Chief Commander

JUNE 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 First Friday Eustis 5-9 pm Volunteers Needed	4
5	6	7 Bridge Meeting Commanders Home 7pm	8	9	10	11
12	13 Cruise Planning starts Lake Square Mall Community Room 7pm	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Cruise Planning	21 Monthly Meeting at Angelo's Italian Restaurant see newsletter for info	22	23	24	25
26 Outing on Lake Harris 1pm challenges on the water, raft up lunch	27 Cruise Planning	28	29	30		

July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 First Friday Eustis 5-9 pm Volunteers Needed	2
3	4 No Classes Happy 4th of July !	5 Bridge Meeting Commanders Home 7pm	6	7	8	9 ABC Basic Boating Class
9	10 Cruise Planning	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Cruise Planning	18 Monthly Meeting at Lake Square Mall Community Room	19	20	21	22 Outing Hickory Pt, Dress up your Hotdog
23	24 Cruise Planning	24	26	27	28	29
30	31 Cruise Planning					



USPS DISTRICT 23 2011 FALL CONFERENCE

30 September & October 1 & 2 2011

Clarion Hotel - 350 East International Speedway Blvd Deland, Florida 32724

Room Reservations must be received no later than Thursday, 15 September 2011 to guarantee rate through hotel
Late reservations on a space available basis

LASTNAME _____ FIRST _____ RANK _____ GRADE _____

LASTNAME _____ FIRST _____ RANK _____ GRADE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE () _____ E-MAIL _____ SQUADRON _____

DATE OF ARRIVAL _____ DATE OF DEPARTURE _____ # Of Persons _____

The USPS rate for the event is \$69.00 + 12.5% tax per room per night.

If paid directly by check to Ponce by 9/10/2011, tax exempt status will be in force, but no special requests will be taken except for handicapped rooms - Check in time is 1500; checkout is 1100.

For individual reservations call the Clarion at 386 - 738 - 5200 Mon-Fri, 0900-1700 and ask for USPS Rate :

For tax exemption, mail with meal reservations and make checks payable to Ponce de Leon S & P Squadron to:

P/C Linda Allen, SN

438 Bouchelle Drive # 301 New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169

Telephone: 386 - 423 - 1945 email: chulin@ucnsb.net

MEAL RESERVATION FORM

Meal reservations must be received no later than 10 September 2011

LAST NAME _____ FIRST _____ RANK _____ GRADE _____

LAST NAME _____ FIRST _____ RANK _____ GRADE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE () _____ E-MAIL _____ SQUADRON _____

If a special diet is required for health reasons, please let us know

Number attending Cost

Friday Evening - Pacific Rim Festival Buffet @ \$32.00 _____ \$ _____

Saturday Plated - Trio Salad (Tuna, Chicken, Potato Salads) with fresh fruit, bread and dessert @ \$16 .00 _____ \$ _____

Saturday Banquet choice/choices:

Prime Rib _____ Mahi Mahi (with Macadamia nuts & Mango relish) _____ @ \$30 .00 _____ \$ _____

“N” Club Breakfast @ \$14..00 _____ \$ _____

Total for meals \$ _____

Total of room (through Ponce) \$ _____

Total amount of check \$ _____