



Harris Chain Sail & Power Squadron

The Anchor Chain Newsletter

APRIL 2011 *Volume 13 Issue 4*



A Unit of the United States Power Squadron – District 23



Orlando Florida – The Harris Chain Sail & Power Squadron came, saw and took some of the best awards in District 23. The Spring District 23 conference was held by the Central Florida group and all that attended had a wonderful time. The meetings were informative and gave direction for the future of both National and District activities. As always membership and the education of all members was stressed. Everyone is encouraged to bring a friend to an event and also show them how your education, provided by the Power Squadron classes makes you a safe and competent boater. Vessel safety checks are a great way to meet, greet and make new friends. Then invite those friends to join our ranks.

As the afternoon moved on, the subject of the awards ceremony became forefront. While all squadrons do their best and strive to succeed, the awards ceremony checks to see where you are with “The Jones’s” –the other squadrons in the district.

This newsletter, The Anchor Chain was recognized with the 2011 distinctive communicator award. Harris Chain’s Website was also recognized for it’s excellence. These awards are available to any or all squadrons for having their efforts fulfill the prescribed format.

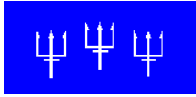
With this “minor” awards presented, the breath holding started. The results of the year-long competition started. Some weeks ago, the Commander is charged with submitting a list of reasons that their squadron should be honored with the various awards. Every Commander writes their best for some awards and others follow a mathematical computation. The awards committee is silent. Cdr Cathy Henke, P was proud to accept the following awards on behalf of Harris Chain: Albert Brent Operations Training Award, Pick Vidal Public Relations Award, Elective Courses Award. With the most coveted award, the Churchill award being the last one left, the room fell silent. The Churchill award is for the district member who was the outstanding contributor to USPS in the last year. Every squadron wants their number one member to be recognized as the MVP (most valuable player) for the year.

No drum roll is needed as everyone’s heart presents a dominating thump, thump, thump

And the 2011 winner is our own P/C Leroy “Bill” Myers, AP !!

His relentless pursuit of educational activities – Lead instructor for 3 classes last year, Current member of the executive committee member, Vessel Safety Check examiner Coordinator for the villages expo booth and everything else he handled, brought him the most coveted single member award that District 23 has to offer. Congrats MR BILL !

Commander's Message



Cdr Cathy Henke, P

I had a busy month once again. Ibini Terra and Sky Warn was March 5th, but I could only attend the Sky Warn along with Jerie and Ray Tallman, Roger Wilson, Tim and myself. The meteorologist from the Melbourne office was the presenter. We all are now advanced Sky Warn spotters. This seminar was very interesting and showed us how a super cell appears on the radar to the meteorologists.

Our outing scheduled for Saturday, March 12th had to be postponed since the morning temperatures were just above freezing. So we all met for lunch at Crazy Gator and sat on the patio, thinking we were on our boats in the middle of the lake, well dreaming.

The conference was held in Orlando at the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort. Morning session was very informative. Main topic of conversation was to contact our nearest Coast Guard Auxiliary and begin working with them. This is a directive from USPS and Coast Guard Auxiliary, National offices. The afternoon was absolutely phenomenal, or should I say WE KICKED BUTT. We walked away with 4 out of 7 awards, that involve Commander's input which all Squadrons in our district were eligible. There are 10 squadrons and about 960 members. The most prestigious award was given to Bill Myers, the Churchill Award (which we refer to this are the MVP award for the district). Out of 960 members Bill was picked to receive this award, 3 different nominations were submitted in his name. Congratulations Bill you are the BEST.

I am asking everyone to assist in helping with the Administrative Officers duties until we find a replacement. Every month we need a speaker at our general membership meetings and someone to plan an event for the month.

To complete the current committees, we need 2 members for the rules committee and 3 members for the nominating committee.

Please let me know if you are interested in either of these positions.



Cathy with V/C John Alton, SN
accepts one of our awards



P/C Bill Myers, AP accepts the Churchill
award for D23 Outstanding member
of the year - 2010



Lt/C Don Stewart, S Squadron Executive Officer (SXO)

First Friday always a great way to meet boaters who walk by and ask if they are interested in the public education classes or a free vessel safety check on their boat. We are always looking for volunteers to man the booth in downtown Eustis. Since I will be not available for May please call Cathy Henke if you are interested in working the booth.

If you have not received a roster they will be available again at the April 19th meeting.

Mark your calendars, Villages Expo is fast approaching and will need volunteers to man the booth on Saturday, May 21st, this is an all day event so we will be asking everyone to work a 2 hours shift. Please call or email Cathy Henke.



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

Sailing Course finals are in and should be back next week.

The ABC (America’s Boating Course) will take off this Saturday (March 26) at 0800. Anyone interested in monitoring or proctoring the class is welcome to sit in. For this course, we have six instructors to distribute their knowledge. **Curt Niemen-Deputy Sheriff, Cdr Cathy Henke, P, P/C Tim Henke, AP, 1st/Lt Phil Ponticello, S, Ada Arthur, S, Lt/C Ralph Shrivalle, AP.** We had thirteen students that attend. The course was held at the Venetian Gardens-Communication Building.

The **Seamanship Course** will begin Monday, April 4th with two very able instructors; P/Lt/C **Dave Hepting, AP** and P/C **Kerry Kline, AP**. Both of these men are able bodied sailors who can answer all seamanship questions. Any one who would like to learn a little (or a lot) more about boating skills, should attend this class. It’s an eight week class held each Monday night for two entertaining hours. (You won’t be bored!!) This course will also be in the west room of the Venetian Gardens recreational building from 1900 to 2100 hours.

National Boating Week is coming up in May. Anyone having suggestions can contact me or Cdr Cathy Henke. This should be a great opportunity for our power squadron to be visible to the public.



It’s cardboard boat making time !

Member Everett Warzecha made a great presentation regarding his experience with building cardboard boats. We need to assemble a team that will construct a cardboard boat for this years District Picnic May 7th, 2011. Contact Cathy to be part of the team.

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

MEETING NOTICE

Lake Sumter Community College -- Leesburg Campus

Liberal Arts Building Room 6

Tuesday, April 19, 2011

6:30pm doors open

7:00pm Crappie Fisherman (with a Demo in the parking lot)

8:00pm Business meeting

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO
THE "APRIL BABIES"

3RD P/Lt/C Lisa Spencer, S

8th Carl Lamb, AP

14th Gayle Gansz, AP

17th Mary Jo Jones

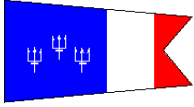
26th Bonnie Booher, S

28th Emily Cook

30th David Rossiter



Also received the awards for 2010 - no artwork available as of yet



P/C Joe Murray, AP Vessel Safety Check



We had a very successful March for vessel inspections. Thanks to Bill Booher for setting up and Charlie Kline for coordinating a VSC day at Bonfire Community. Joe Rzewuski, Bill Booher, and I completed 24 inspections. Only two did not pass, thanks primarily to a community meeting set up previous to the VSC during which inspection points were reviewed. Almost all boat owners already knew what we were looking for and had the equipment out.

Tim and Cathy Henke and Bill Booher were at "Buzzards Beach" on Sunday, March 20th, and Tim completed 7 inspections. Bill later compared Buzzards favorably to Venetian Cove. There were more family outings at Buzzards, compared to more bass tournament boats to Venetian Cove, probably due to the Dead River and Mt. Dora canal availability.

We currently have 52 completed inspections, with 45 passing the inspection.

We were hoping for another Saturday session at a marina close to Bonfire, but the timing was not good for the owners with spring breaks here.

Our next outing would be Sunday, April 17, but as that is Palm Sunday, I suggest Saturday, April 9th or Sunday, April 10 be selected. We should include Buzzards Beach that day, even if we don't go to Venetian Cove.

Please let me know if you are available on Saturday, April 9th or Sunday, April 10.

Joe Murray

Letter from Sail Angle

Dear Joseph Murray,

Bob Miller from your Safety Committee (VSC & RBS) Group sent you a new group message inside SailAngle.com!

Subject: Deflation damage to Mustang Jackets

Recent events have cause us to request help from Mustang Survival. The situation is that a couple of squadrons. in order to avoid the expense of replacing the CO2 cartridges, had been demonstrating their USCG supplied inflatable life jackets by manually inflating and deflating them. In two specific instances the oral inflation valves seemed to malfunction. This resulted in not being able to inflate the jackets with the oral inflation tube.

We contacted Mustang Survival who asked that we return the jackets for evaluation and repair if necessary. Mustang just sent us replacement jackets that included a special "Oral Inflation and Deflation Instructions" sheet. The substance of the instructions are that the oral inflation valve can easily be damage if anything other than the oral inflator cap is used to deflate the jacket.

The Mustang instruction sheet is downloadable from the SailAngle Safety Committee File Cabinet in the Safety Notices and Recalls folder. The direct link is http://www.sailangle.com/uploads/group/files/2183/b081a3fff41b_oral%20inflater%20instructions.jpg

Please download these instructions to avoid damaging the oral inflation valves in any inflatable life jackets.



Join us for a cruise up the Ocklawaha River to Moss Bluff

When: April 16 at 9:30 am

Where: Meet at the mouth of Haines Creek in Lake Eustis

Who: All members and guests *(boat space available for those without boats)*

What: A great cruise and a picnic!

The squadron will furnish the fried chicken and lemonade. Please bring a side dish AND a dessert to be shared. Also your own beverage, if you desire something other than lemonade. We will have some ice but feel free to bring more!

We will cruise up the Ocklawaha River to Moss Bluff where we'll go through the Buckman Lock (if time allows) with elevation changes of 19.2 feet. Our picnic will take place at the recreation area which has tables and restrooms.

Please RSVP to Ada Arthur at adaa70@gmail.com or call 843-276-4154. Your response will help us determine how much chicken we'll need!



If you have never been through a large lock it is a wonderful experience. .



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!



USPS Monthly Broadcast
April 2011

Get Ready for National Safe Boating Week

Squadrons should be planning one or more events during National Safe Boating Week, 21–27 May 2011. Teach an ABC3 course, conduct VSC events or anything along these lines. Visit the [National Safe Boating Council](#) and the [North American Safe Boating Campaign](#) websites for additional ideas and materials. — [Daniel Joyce](#)

Update Your Resume Online

National, districts and squadrons use resumes to find candidates for positions. You can always update your own resume. From the [USPS site index](#), click on “Nominations,” and then click on “Enter/Update Resume.” Enter your certificate number and ZIP code or PIN. To view other resumes, click “View/List Resumes.” Your certificate number is tied to your position and will determine what you can see. Email me with questions. — [Howard Yoas](#)

Attend the 2011 Governing Board in Greensboro

All USPS members are invited to attend the 2011 Governing Board in Greensboro, N.C., from 11 to 18 Sept. Highlights include the Governing Board Meeting, departmental open meetings, informational displays, educational seminars, leadership training, sightseeing tours, fun luncheons and socials, a nightclub act, and a golf tournament. See the Spring 2011 issue of The Ensign for more information. — [Donald C. Clark](#)

New Cooperative Charting Program Available

If you've ever tried to locate a light number using the USCG Light List, a new program, “Nearest Light,” will help you find a USCG light number much faster. Courtesy of Austin Power Squadron member Clint O'Connor, this Windows application and manual can be downloaded in SailAngle by logging into the Cooperative Charting group. It is also available from the [Cooperative Charting Committee website](#). — [Jim Strothers](#)

Take Advantage of Website Evaluations

The Communications Committee's goal is to work with webmasters to improve the overall image and functionality of USPS websites. Besides being an instrument of information for members, a squadron's website is one of the first things the public sees. On the Communications Committee website, you can find the [2011 Evaluation Form](#), which includes a checklist our advisers use when reviewing websites as well as reviewing guidelines. Reviews are conducted several times a year. If you have questions or comments, please contact your adviser (find your adviser [here](#)) or [Bob Boal](#). — [Brenda Joyce](#)

The Ship's Store Can Help You Save

Many grocery stores will deduct 5 cents from your order when you use your own shopping bag. Order the [Stow-N-Go Tote](#) from the Ship's Store; it packs small and holds a lot when open. Take a look at other [new](#) and [travel-related](#) items for gifts or yourself. — [Ann Frenz](#)

Life Jacket Cylinders for Demonstrations Now Available

The National Water Safety Congress will provide inflatable life jacket cylinders to all squadrons for demonstration purposes at a reduced rate. The cylinders are manufacturer's seconds that can't be sold at retail but are usable and safe. Districts and squadrons should email me their cylinder manufacturer, and I'll get the prices. For example, the Mustang VSC Life Jacket model number MD3003 takes an ISI 3.5-oz. cartridge—that's the detail I need for ordering. Pricing will depend on quantity, and I'll “gang” orders to get better pricing. —

[Tom Kemp](#)

Laser Fire Extinguisher Reports Due

Would all districts and squadrons that have used the laser fire extinguisher in 2011 please send me a **brief** report of how it was used and any favorable comments? Include pictures if you have any. We will use these reports to keep the Coast Guard informed of the program's success. — [Tom Kemp](#)

Recertification Seminar CD Available

The revised Instructor Recertification seminar CD is available from headquarters. The order number is 07-76-102. — [Art Mollica](#)

Promote the Youth Poster Contest in Your Community

With the theme "Be A Survivor—Wear It," the 2011 Boarman Youth Poster Contest is under way. This year, we have added some information to help you educate children about boating safety. It's easy to participate. There's no need to make a presentation unless you want to—just provide the submission form and some poster paper with the instructions. See how many children your squadron can get involved in the poster contest. [Email us](#) if you have any questions. — [Connie Beckman](#)

Alternatives to Copper Antifouling Paints

The Unified Port of San Diego has released its final report evaluating alternatives to copper-based antifouling hull paints. The report does a nice job comparing paint costs, clean-up performance, durability and reduction in environmental impact. The report is available [here](#), and the hull paint selection matrix is [here](#). Boaters who help reduce the influx of heavy metals into the marine environment directly reduce marina maintenance costs for dredge spoils management while improving the well-being of the ecosystem. — [Skip Woodruff](#)

A Newsletter Is Born

The Marketing/PR Committee has a brand-new online newsletter, [Keeping UP](#). Each issue will contain the tools to make your squadron the go-to organization you want it to be: "Bright Ideas" for free publicity; the latest programs from the Educational Department; and links to PR contests, more than 50 reusable boating safety articles, and the marketing/public relations online resources guidebook. — [Greg Scotten](#)

Save 50 Percent on BoatU.S. Membership

All USPS members receive 50 percent off BoatU.S. membership and a 10 percent discount on BoatU.S. towing services. Additionally, anyone who completes a USPS boating course is also entitled to free BoatU.S. membership for one year. Contact BoatU.S. directly, and use promo code GA80000P. — [Joe Balbo](#)

Soundings Offers Discounts to USPS Members

USPS members receive a reduced subscription rate and other benefits from Soundings magazine. Learn more about these benefits [here](#).

USPS Chief Commander's Message – March 2011

Dear Fellow Members,

The theme for this month's Chief Commander letter is Spring Re-Commissioning and Boating Safety; important issues for all of us.

But first, I want to update you on our friends and members in Tokyo. I sent a Group Message via SailAngle.com to the members of the **Tokyo Sail & Power Squadron** to let them know that we were thinking about them and to ask how we could help. I can report that as of today's date there are no reported Squadron fatalities, but not all of the members are accounted for yet. We do know that one member lost their home and that a number of vessels were damaged, but none lost. As we gain more information, I will make it available.

We've all seen photos of the devastation and USPS National has established a Tokyo Sail & Power Squadron (TSPS) Disaster Relief Fund and SailAngle has arranged for a PayPal account where you can make a voluntary charitable contribution through April 2011. At the end of April, all the contributions will be forwarded to the TSPS Commander for distribution.

This is one example of how SailAngle is helping USPS communicate better. If you aren't using SailAngle, I encourage you to give it a try, it's a powerful website custom developed for the USPS.

Spring is the time when we all get ready to go boating! But please think about safety on the water before you re-commission and there is no better way to start than with the [USPS Vessel Safety Check \(VSC\) program](#). Review the [VSC manual](#); it will help you become a safer boater.

Contact your Squadron Commander to arrange for a courtesy examination of your boat by a trained Vessel Examiner (VE). Following the examination the VE will provide you with a written copy of the evaluation and vessels that pass will be able to display the distinctive VSC decal. The Coast Guard and Auxiliary instantly recognize the VSC decal and while it won't prevent a boarding, it generally makes the boarding a more pleasant experience.

Before you hit the water this summer also think about obtaining a Boat Operator's Certificate (BOC). Specially trained examiners will certify USPS members at four different levels of recreational boating proficiency: [Inland Navigator](#); [Coastal Navigator](#); Advanced Coastal Navigator; and Offshore Navigator.

The USCG has petitioned Congress to authorize the Transportation Secretary to establish federal standards of proficiency for recreational boaters. We intend to have the USPS BOC accepted as the national certificate for the USA. Be a leader and obtain your BOC before it is mandated. You'll be safer for it.

Lastly, many of the local Squadrons are offering a series of **USPS Seminars**. The first in the series are on [GPS](#) and VHF with Digital Selective Calling (DSC). I encourage you to attend one or both of these seminars; they are full of important safety information.

If you have a hand-held GPS, but never quite mastered setting waypoints, saving routes and marking your favorite fishing spots, the seminar on GPS is your ticket.

Ever wonder what that little red button is on that new VHF you just bought? The seminar on VHF-DSC will explain it and the process to obtain your MMSI number.

In closing, I want to remind you of the challenge that Dusty McCoy, CEO of [Brunswick Corporation](#), made at the USPS Annual Meeting in Orlando. He challenged each of us to invite just one person to go boating with us. Dusty believes, and I agree, that will increase the number of boaters.

Now, I have a challenge as well; **invite one non-USPS boating acquaintance to attend a local Squadron meeting or seminar**. I'm convinced this will help us grow boating and grow our membership.

Warmest personal regards,



Frank A. Dvorak, SN

Chief Commander



D23 GALAXY

D/C James J. DePalma, SN

Our change of watch is complete and I am privileged to be Commander of District 23. First, I must congratulate and thank our Central Florida Squadron and especially Barbara Estevez and Kat Feder for a job well done. They have certainly raised the bar and I'm sure future District meetings will continue to be a pleasure. If you missed this past weekend, you simply missed a great time and a very important District function. P/D/C Bob Becker has turned over this command in excellent condition and I will do my best to maintain it and improve it as well.

Our next District event is our Spring Council and Picnic on May 7 at Lacita Country Club and picnic hosted by Titusville Sail & Power Squadron. The cardboard boat race will be the highlight of the day, I'm sure. More on this event in next month's Galaxy from D/A/O Joe Sackett.

This year our Civic activities will be focused on working with the USCG Flotillas in our areas in accordance with the commitment made by C/C Frank Dvorak. D23 is in a unique position. We alone have the specialized skills for this task and I'm certain the Auxiliary will be very appreciative of our assistance.

Our incoming D/E/O Dick Conrad is planning the next Education Seminar and I'm sure it will be very worthwhile. He's following P/R/C Walt Fields who certainly improved our Education Program and I know Dick will do a great job as well. The OTW capability of our programs is not shared by any other organization and I expect the Auxiliary will be taking advantage of the invitation we have extended to them. This OTW capability alone should increase our attraction to new members. The Seminar offerings continue to be increased and remain a great way to attract the Public.

Vessel Inspections continue to go well and should continue to increase. USCG will shortly announce a program for Inland Lakes and Waterways which will present many opportunities for Vessel Safety Checks by our members. In addition it will give Central Florida, Gainesville, Harris Chain and Ocala Squadrons several great PR opportunities.

It will be a very busy year and I'm sure your Bridge is up to the challenge. We are counting on your cooperation.

In closing I must sadly acknowledge the recent passing of P/R/C Richard Schnoor, SN. Dick served USPS, D23 and Cocoa Beach SPS for many years in many positions. His passing leaves a great void. He will be missed. Please include him in your prayers. Our condolences go to his widow, Mary Jane, who is also a very active member.

APRIL 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 First Friday Eustis 5- 9 pm Volunteers needed	2
3	4 Seamanship Class Venetian Gardens 7-9 pm	5 Bridge Meeting At Commanders Home 7 PM	6	7 Leesburg Bike Week	8 Leesburg Bike Week	9 Leesburg Bike Week
10 Leesburg Bike Week	11 Seamanship Class Venetian Gardens 7-9 pm	12	13	14	15	16 Cruise to Moss Bluff—Ralph and Ada will lead the cruise. See Ad
17 VSC Venetian Gardens, Leesburg and Buzzard Beach, Tavares, if available contact Joe Murray	18 Seamanship Class Venetian Gardens 7-9 pm	19 Squadron Meeting LSCC Liberal Arts Bldg Room 6 Crappie Fishing Demo	20	21	22	23
24	25 Seamanship Class Venetian Gardens 7-9 pm	26	27	28	29	30

MAY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Seamanship Class Venetian Gardens 7-9 pm	3 Bridge Meeting At Commanders Home 7 PM	4	5	6 First Friday Eustis 5- 9 pm Volunteers needed	7 District Meeting and Cardboard Race Titusville.
8	9 Seamanship Class Venetian Gardens 7-9 pm	10	11	12	13	14
15 VSC Venetian Gardens, Leesburg and Buzzard Beach, Tavares, if available contact Joe Murray	16 Seamanship Class Venetian Gardens 7-9 pm	17 Squadron Meeting LSCC Liberal Arts Bldg Room 6	18	19	20	21 Villages Expo
22 Safe Boating Week Starts	23 Seamanship Class Venetian Gardens 7-9 pm	24	25	26	27	28
29 Safe Boating Week Ends	30 Memorial Day BOAT SAFELY !	31				