

NO WAKE ZONE



Lake Mohave Power Squadron A Unit of the United States Power Squadron® Bullhead City, AZ



January, 2009

Executive Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at Re/Max Realty, 3726 Highway 95, Bullhead City.

General Dinner Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at The Terrace Restaurant at the El Rio Country Club, 1 Paseo El Rio, Mohave Valley.

All meetings start at 7:00PM



Commander's Corner

I want to wish all USPS members a very Happy New Year. I am honored to have been selected to lead the Lake Mohave Squadron in 2009. I have a great executive team. With their help and the support of our members I am looking forward to a year of enjoyment through our service to the boating community of the Mohave Valley. Hopefully at this time next year the members will feel that the trust they put in me was justified. It is my pleasure to introduce our new Executive Officer, Jo Anne Waller. During the year just completed,



Lt/C Jo Anne Waller

Jo Anne has proven herself to be a tireless campaigner for the promotion of our Squadron. She has made many friends in the civic and social communities. I am hopeful that her efforts coupled with those of our new Recruiting Committee Chairman, Al Trueman pictured below, will prove fruitful in increasing our membership.



The Lake Mohave 2009 Bridge



Pictured from L to R, Back Row: SEO, John Militello, Treas. Jean Militello, P/Cdr Pat Bramble, Sect, Linda Pensavalle, Members at Large, Al Trueman, Brenda Jameson and Ken Pierce. Front Row: XO, Jo Anne Waller, Cdr. Andy Pensavalle and Admin Ofcr. Sharon Dack

It is also my pleasure to be able to announce those people who were awarded Merit Marks in 2008. All of these members gave tirelessly in time and effort to support the goals of the United States Power Squadrons in general and the Lake Mohave Squadron in particular. They are:

**Barbara and Mike Accardo, Barbara Bramble,
Norm and Sharon Dack, Dave Evans, John Gilbert, Brenda Jameson,
John and Jean Militello, Andy and Linda Pensavalle,
Dawn Pierce, Al and Eileen Trueman, and Jo Anne Waller**



From the Exec

Colorado River Cleanup '09

In late June 2008, through the efforts of Pat Bramble our Squadron joined with the Mohave Daily News, Laughlin Tourism Committee, the Colorado River Boys and Girls Club, Arizona Game and Fish, Bullhead City Fire Department, Davis Dam and Desert Kayaks, to name a few, to form the inaugural Colorado River Clean-up '09 Committee. This event is part of the ***American Rivers National River Cleanup***. Saturday, January 10, 2009 was selected as the date, starting just below Davis Dam and going south as far as possible, depending upon the number of participants. Many months of planning ensued, subcommittees selected, Pat, Andy Pensavalle and myself attended many meetings, gave our input, made suggestions and the Squadron was placed in charge of cleanup on the water. Brian Zebrowski offered the use of his jet boat. We all met at Davis Camp early on January 10. Yours truly joined Pat and Barb Bramble, Andy and Linda Pensavalle, Norm and Sharon Dack, John Militello, Ken and Dawn Pierce and Brian Zebrowski (with Jet Boat), all armed with our bags, grabbers, gloves, snacks and water.



Commander Bramble Ready To Hit The Beach



Barb Bramble Seems To Be Asking, "Who's Idea Was This?"



Dawn Pierce (L), And Sharon Dack Out On The Prowl

Ahhhhhhh, would not the planners and organizers wish to be in touch with Mother Nature! It was COLD! Bbbuuuurrrrrrr! The wind was blowing! Bbbuuuurrrrrrr! We were freezing. The water was low and early launching was not an option. Therefore up and down the river bank we walked and, freezing or not, we had a grand time! An unbelievable amount of trash was collected from engine transmissions to shopping carts.

Launch time for Brian's boat finally arrived and difficult though it was due to the low water and windy conditions the launch was successful. Their haul included road signs, mangled pipes, lawn chairs and grocery carts, and more. Once unloaded, they went out for a second haul. It was still cold, the wind seemed stronger and the river water was rising and flowing fast. Enough said

except, Brian, you are still our Hero! Pictured below, right are left to right, Brian Zebrowski, Pat Bramble, Norm Dack, Andy Pensavalle, Ken Pierce and John Militello.



Brian Zebrowski Bringing The Boat In With Another Load



This Stuff Doesn't Float. What's It Doing In The River?



A Tired But Happy Garbage Crew

A Post Cleanup Party that evening was held at the Bullhead City Chamber of Commerce, and we all went home happy with the knowledge that we had contributed towards over 200 bags of trash, 50 bags of recyclables and a lot of other “stuff”. Happiness was also seeing the Sunday morning newspaper with Sharon “Ducky” Dack (her name was misspelled in the paper as “Duck”) and Ken Pierce on the front page, Brian, Andy and Ken on pages six and seven, with credit given to the Lake Mohave Power Squadron. (Do you think the photographer liked the yummy Elk meatloaf sandwiches Dawn Pierce fed him?)

Colorado River Law Enforcement Association Conference

On January 21 and 22, 2009, John Militello and I attended the 2009 Colorado River Law Enforcement Association (CRLEA) conference held at the Aquarius Hotel and Casino in Laughlin, Nevada. CRLEA is an association of local, state and federal law enforcement officials and their civilian counterparts from the states bordering the Colorado River that work together to reduce boating accidents and to improve boating safety through interstate cooperation, boating laws and education of the public.

The conference focused mainly on public safety and watercraft law enforcement along the Colorado River. CRLEA representatives presented updated information regarding boating safety and the factors that contribute to accidents: types of watercraft, alcohol vs. non-alcohol related accidents, and other pertinent information. A “Hot Topic/Problems/Issues” Group Discussion was held and some topics were the implementation and funding of dive programs, OUI/BUI FST (Operating Under the Influence/Boating Under the Influence and Field Sobriety Tests), successes and failures, Standup Paddleboards and drowning prevention. Vendors and Sponsors each gave a brief overview of their product(s), explaining how implementation could enhance and improve areas of public safety. Overviews included the Rad-57 (for measuring carbon monoxide poisoning), emergency response systems, including night vision, aluminum chambered boats, newer/faster engines, lighting systems, diving suits, and more. The day concluded with a report on recent officer involved accidents and an in-depth review of the use of inflatable life jackets and training (including whether they are Type V's or Type II's).

The second day started with a guide for law enforcement personnel on how to survive media interviews, mandatory boating education status and OUI FST Validation studies (noting that it was a bit difficult to take a sobriety test on a boat or dock). An excellent highlight of the conference was the presentation of studies involving carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning and related fatalities case studies. CO poisoning is dangerous, quick to happen and heavy emphasis should be placed on the causes, prevention and emergency treatment of this colorless, odorless “Silent Killer”. The last presentation involved law enforcement use of PWCs and special classes involving understanding and handling characteristics of PWCs and their application for law enforcement from border to beach patrol.

Both John and I found this conference to be extremely interesting and would highly recommend that anyone interested in public safety, boating education and awareness attend the 2010 CRLEA conference which is currently scheduled for January 20-21, 2010 again at the Aquarius in Laughlin. Mark your Calendars!.....Jo Anne Waller



Administrative Officer’s Report

CHANGE OF WATCH

The Squadron's January 14th Change of Watch dinner was a special occasion for many reasons. Importantly, was the attendance of our special guest D/Lt/C Katherine Law, who administered the oath of office to the new commander and bridge. D/C Bill Johnson and D/Lt/C Connie Johnson drove from Phoenix to join our event at the Riverside Casino in Laughlin.



A Nautical Theme Table



Pat Bramble Turning The Squadron Over To Andy Pensavalle



Andy Honoring Pat and Barb Bramble

After a lovely dinner of Chicken Cordon Bleu or Swiss Style New York Strip Steak outgoing Cdr. Pat Bramble stepped to the podium to bid farewell to his Commander's position.

He honored several members with certificates and tokens of his appreciation for their “over and above” contributions to the squadron. Cdr. Bramble presented Andy with the gavel and a

picture of his new Bridge, and Andy presented Pat and his wife Barb with tokens of appreciation for their dedication from the squadron.



D/C Law Administering The Oath To The Incoming Bridge



Attendees At The Change Of Watch

Lt/C. Linda Pensavalle shared a great video the squadron's 2008 year in review. What fun it was, to see the many adventures and misadventures we all shared. As a bonus, she made the members a copy to take home. Thanks Linda for the many hours spent on this project.

Thanks to all our members for the wonderful turnout!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 28: Dock Party at Katherine Landing Marina. Mark your calendars!
You will be receiving a notice with further information by e-mail

IMPORTANT REQUEST!!!!!! In the future, I would really appreciate your responding when an e-mail notice of an event sent to you. That is the only way I have of knowing that you got the information and it will save you from getting a follow up telephone call from me. Thanks in advance....Sharon Dack

February Birthdays



Our only February birthday celebrant is our squadron secretary **Linda Pensavalle**. She will be celebrating on the 22nd. Linda's Zodiac sign is Pisces. There may be more than one fish in the ocean, but they don't get any better, fight harder or test the equipment more than this one. At least that is what her husband has told me.

This and That

For those of you who are Boat US members you may have read in the January edition about the game section at www.BoatUS.com/games. If not you may want to check it out. They have a boat docking game that tests your ability to handle a boat. These are not small runabouts or pontoon boats you can drive onto a beach, but off shore boats that really take some skill to handle. The game allows you to navigate given certain wind and current conditions and specific objectives. I found it to be quite challenging and entertaining.

In Closing

2009 is shaping up to be a very challenging year in many aspects of every day life. The economy.....well, it sucks! People are cutting back and for many, those cutbacks include some drastic surgery on leisure time activities. There are a lot of boats out there for sale. We have to make membership in the USPS interesting enough to keep the people we have, and hopefully add a few more. Those of us in the Lake Mohave Squadron are very lucky. We have a beautiful lake and river nearby. Most of us are in a position to spend a lot of time on the water if we like. Bring a friend along. Anyone who enjoys the water, the sun and good company are potential members.