



MISSPRINTS



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The Bridge

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Commander's Message

The Memphis Sail and Power Squadron will hold our last meeting before the Summer Break on Thursday, 5 May. Not to worry, our summer will be busy, starting with the bare boat charter in the British Virgin Islands in late May. Also Tim Robertson is planning an active summer cruise schedule for the summer. Watch your email for updates and the final times for the Joe Wheeler State Park run (we will be joined by other squadrons on this trip), a trip to Bay Springs and a late trip to the water fall for a raft up. Other events are also in the planning.

The weekend of 16-17 April was a busy time for the Squadron. We had a booth at the Aqua Marina Boat Show on Saturday and On-The-Water Certification Training on Saturday and Sunday.

Thanks to Pat Astor and Andy Nuckolls for setting up the booth at Aqua and kudos to the six members that helped man the USPS booth. Everyone appreciated Gary and Linda Wildman hosting a hospitality suite on their boat for members manning the booth.

Reese Austin did a commendable job in coordinating and setting up the On-The-Water

training which was held at Pickwick State Park Marina. Trainers and Trainees from areas of the Southeast and even the Northeastern US arrived Friday night. Class room and on-the-water training started early Saturday morning. We all dined on catfish Saturday night (see picture below). Our Squadron had seven members that completed these sessions. Reese is scheduling CPR, fire extinguisher training, pyrotechnic (flare firing) and other residual training required to complete our qualifications.

The On-The-Water Training will qualify our certified members to provide the public with valuable hands on training on the water. As this new program evolves it will be a great asset to our safe boater education program.

Merit Marks are a way of recognizing significant member contributions to the USPS. The Squadron Commander has the privilege, honor and responsibility to submit those members qualifying for Merit Marks each 15 November. The period of consideration is 1 January through 31 December each year. This requires some forecasting of duties since the submission report is due no later than

15 November. Merit Marks are given each year to members who have provided at least 12-16 hours of meaningful contribution to the USPS. Several typical areas of contribution are teaching classes, hosting an event or party, setting up cruises, working at a boat show booth, 10 or more vessel safety checks, telephone committees calls and other contributing duties. The Squadron Commander is in close contact with Bridge Members and can track their activities. Other members should keep the Squadron Commander apprised of their qualifying activities as they occur so that they can be properly logged in our data base.

I am looking forward to a summer of fun and educational cruises. See you on the water.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, 5 May

Dinner Meeting

Jim's Place Grille

3660 S Houston Levee Rd

Collierville, TN 38017

(901) 861-5000



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See us at:

www.usps.org/localusps/memphis/

