



**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NEW ORLEANS POWER SQUADRON**

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**NUMBER 4**

## **Help Improve Boating Experiences**

*by Cdr Greg Mulvany, SN*

As the cooler weather is now here and many of us are spending less time on our boats it might be a good time to think about what we can do to learn about how to operate our boats a little better. By better, I don't mean faster but safer, with improved boat handling and confidence that you are capable of handling most emergencies that may come your way. With less pressure to spend all our free time fishing, towing skiers or tubes or sailboat racing we might be able to spend a little one-on-one time with some of our experienced Power Squadron Mentors. We have quite a few members who are very experienced in most of the aspects of boating, everything from trailering and launching your boat to how to sail, using your electronics (plotters, fish finders, VHF or AIS) to planning trips for the weekend or longer.

I don't think that there are many of us who haven't had some of the problems below:

- Struggle launching our boats or getting them back onto the trailer
- Dropped the anchor only to swing into another boat, a sandbar or worse yet have it drag
  - Seen an incident or emergency and not been sure how to notify the Coast Guard, Wildlife and Fisheries or other authorities on our VHF
  - Been caught unprepared by squalls or bad weather
  - Banged the boat up a bit trying to come alongside the dock or get off the dock when the wind is blowing you back onto it
  - Panic a bit when you see the Coast Guard or other authorities stopping to conduct safety checks

- Not ventured very far from the familiar waters around your home dock or boat launch because you don't know what to expect out there, where you can get fuel, find protected anchorages, or avoid shoals or other hazards that might await you.

There is lots of experience available in the New Orleans Power Squadron for you to draw on. Don't let the name throw you off, many of us have sailboats so we can help you too.

Other areas in which Mentors may be able to help you are:

- learning about your boat, its capabilities and systems,
- providing input as you look into replacing or adding equipment
- troubleshooting problems. We have lots of experience as well as resources throughout the boating world. You are probably not the first person to have these problems.

Best of all this one-on-one mentoring is FREE. One of our

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# TOPSIDE TALK

October/November 2022 (nbr 2022-4)

## MASTHEAD

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## You are Invited to Attend the New Orleans Power Squadron Annual Meeting & Change of Watch Wednesday, 7 December 2022

Ridgeway of Old Metairie  
2431 Metairie Rd  
Metairie, LA 70001  
1830-2230 (6:30-10:30pm)  
\$50.00 per person

Reservations with check  
due Wednesday, 30 November 2022 to:  
Debbie Brazeal 504-458-6557  
54 Marie Drive Gretna, La. 70053

Advise Dinner Choice  
Fresh Fish Almondine or  
Creole Glazed Pork Loin or  
Blackened Chicken

1830-2200 Cash Bar  
1815-1845 Exec Mtg - 1900-2000 Annual Mtg  
2000-2100 Dinner - 2100-2230 Installation of Officers

## Boating cont'd from page 1

goals is to **Help Boaters Improve Their Boating Experience** and Mentoring is one of the ways we can achieve this goal.

I am asking all of our members to take a look at their boating experiences and let me know the areas where they would be willing to Mentor or spend a little time helping others, be they existing members, potential members or recent ABC graduates. I will compile a list of resources that we can include in our next newsletter. This is a great opportunity to live up to the Pledge of the USPS by Rendering Assistance and Promoting High Standards of Navigation and Seamanship. Please communicate your willingness to help with this program directly to me at: [GMMLAF@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GMMLAF@GMAIL.COM)

We have a rendezvous (fancy term for party for boaters) planned later this month at Moonraker Lake in Slidell. It would be a fantastic opportunity to make a day trip to a new location or even make a weekend out of it. There is dock space available and I'm sure that folks will be glad to provide the details as to how to navigate your way to the get-together.

# Pictures from the Lobster Fest

Thanks to everyone who attended the Lobster Fest, and helped to make it such a fun time! Especially Chester and my sister Marilyn who picked up the slack from Charlie and me.



# Crab Boil on the Northshore



This year's Crab Boil was on the Northshore and hosted by Cdr Greg and LizAnn Mulvany. (Eddie and Debbie still have a few more IDA repairs to handle.) Looks like everyone had a good time!



## Inflatable Life Jackets *from Compass October 2022*

When inflatable life jackets fail, the results can be deadly. Unknown bladder leaks, fabric degradation or an improperly installed carbon dioxide cylinder can render inflatable life jackets ineffective by preventing inflation or their ability to stay inflated.

Properly inspect and maintain your inflatable life jackets to ensure that all parts remain in good working order. Follow the maintenance instructions for your brand as instructions vary by manufacturer.

The following basic inspection guidelines should not replace or supersede manufacturer recommendations or instructions.

### Before getting underway

- Inspect the service indicator, if any, to ensure it's green. If it's red, the mechanism has been fired or fitted incorrectly.
- Check for visible signs of wear or damage. Make sure that there are no rips, tears, or holes; the seams are securely sewn; and the fabric, straps, and hardware remain strong.
- Ensure that auto-inflating components are armed and not expired. Following the manufacturer's instructions, reveal and inspect the inflation system and oral inflation tube. Check that the CO2 cylinder is firmly secured and free from rust or corrosion. If you remove the cylinder for inspection, replace it carefully and don't over-tighten.
- Repack the lifejacket following the manufacturer's instructions. Ensure that the pull-tab lanyard is accessible and unlikely to be inadvertently snagged when worn.



### Periodically or when in doubt

- Inflate the bladder using the oral tube. Leave it inflated overnight in a room with a steady temperature. If the bladder loses pressure, take the life jacket to an authorized service center for further tests. Don't attempt to repair a life jacket yourself. If pressure remains steady, deflate the life jacket by turning the inflation tube cap upside down and pressing it into the inflation tube. Gently squeeze the inflatable life jacket until you've expelled all air. Do not wring or twist the life jacket.

- Repack the life jacket following the manufacturer's instructions. Make sure the pull-tab lanyard is accessible and won't be snagged when worn.
- Store your life jacket in a dry, well-ventilated location out of direct sunlight. Rinse your life jacket with freshwater after saltwater exposure and dry it thoroughly prior to storage. If your life jacket is set for auto-inflation, remove the auto-inflation cartridge prior to rinsing. The life jacket manufacturer may have specific requirements, so read the instructions on the jacket.

–U.S. Coast Guard

Faced with the choice between changing one's mind and proving that there is no need to do so,



almost everyone gets busy on the proof.

– John Kenneth Galbraith  
(1908 - 2006)  
US (Canadian-born) Economist

## Educational Department News

SEO Chester Cooke, SN-CN

The **America's Boating Course** is not currently scheduled. When it is, Mike Turner, will be the Instructor. 504.458.1443 or [turnermb@cox.net](mailto:turnermb@cox.net)  
[www.neworleansboatingclub.org](http://www.neworleansboatingclub.org)

If you have any questions, or an interest in taking or teaching classes, please contact SEO Chester Cooke, SN-CN, at [cgcooke3@yahoo.com](mailto:cgcooke3@yahoo.com)

**Education**

- **What else we have been doing**
  - Updating Courses & Seminars
  - Virtual Classroom: Learning Management System (LMS)
    - Online Courses & Seminars
    - Blended learning
  - Online examinations (coming soon)
  - Prerecorded Seminars

**LEARN!**

**Education**

**Going Forward:**

- Implement Modernization
- Increase LMS
  - More courses & seminars
  - E course bundles
    - Asynchronous & synchronous courses
    - Blended learning
    - E examinations
- New ABC3 website

**New Education Plans from the C/C's Message to the D/15 Conference**



## A GREAT SEA STORY

from a Facebook story that  
Chester shared

The passenger steamer *SS Warrimoo* was quietly knifing its way through the waters of the mid-Pacific on its way from Vancouver to Australia. The navigator had just finished working out a star fix and brought Captain John DS. Phillips, the result. The *Warrimoo's* position was LAT 0° 31' N and LONG 179 30' W. The date was 31 December 1899. "Know what this means?" First Mate Payton broke in, "We're only a few miles from the intersection of the Equator and the International Date Line". Captain Phillips was prankish enough to take full advantage of the opportunity for achieving the navigational freak of a lifetime.

He called his navigators to the bridge to check & double check the ship's position. He changed course slightly so as to bear directly on his mark. Then he adjusted the engine speed.

The calm weather & clear night worked in his favor. At mid-night the *SS Warrimoo* lay on the Equator at exactly the point where it crossed the International Date Line! The consequences of this bizarre position were many:

The **forward part (bow)** of the ship was in the Southern Hemisphere & in the middle of summer. The **rear (stern)** was in the Northern Hemisphere & in the middle of winter. The **date in the aft** part of the ship was 31 December 1899. In **the bow (forward)** part it was 1 January 1900.

This ship was therefore not only in:

- Two different days,
- Two different months,
- Two different years,
- Two different seasons

But in two different centuries - all at the same time!

**Editor's Note:**

After reading Chester's post, I was interested, and had to check it out. *Snopes* rates the story **Unproven**, but has a nice article about the *SS Warrimoo*, which was launched in 1892, converted to a troop transport in WWI in 1914, sunk in 1918 after a collision with a French warship.

Reports in January 1900, indicate that the *Warrimoo* was in the right area at the right time for this story to **possibly be true**.

From a story by David Mikkelson  
Published 2 January 2019

<https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/ss-warrimoo/>  
Adjacent picture also from the *Snopes* report.

# Flotsam and Jetsam

## Update Your Preferences

Do you get too many emails from us? Did you drop off a list that you miss? It's easy to check and update your email preferences; just click "READ MORE" below.  
-Yvonne Hill [READ MORE](#)

## Recertification

We know that renewing your Certified Instructor status by attending a Recertification Seminar isn't always possible, so you now have a one-time self-paced online renewal option. To take advantage of this, complete this [APPLICATION](#) and then submit it to [IDCOM@usps.org](mailto:IDCOM@usps.org). Once enrolled, instructors will receive a password and a link to the materials. Instructors will watch a narrated presentation, complete three worksheet exercises, and fill in and return a reflection guide for review. Remember, this is a one-time option; we highly encourage instructors to attend and participate with other instructors in a classroom or virtual Recertification Seminar.

## Upcoming National Meetings

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Rosen Plaza at 9700 International Dr, Orlando, FL 32819 on February 19-26, 2023, room rate \$169.

The Fall GB is scheduled for Kansas City, MO, August 27-September 4, 2023, no further details available.



## Help Wanted—America's Boating Channel

America's Boating Channel has been awarded a new U.S. Coast Guard grant that will run through September 2025. We now have more opportunities than ever for volunteers to help with field production, viewership promotion, Smart TV development, and inlet drone videos. No experience necessary—we provide training. Join us for a stimulating, rewarding, and fun experience. Contact me for more information.

[marty.lafferty@americasboatingchannel.com](mailto:marty.lafferty@americasboatingchannel.com)

## Membership Involvement Retention Action Plan

A Membership Involvement Retention Action Plan is essential for increasing your club's membership. By developing an action plan, your squadron will be well on the way to increasing its growth and retention this year and next. Your plan should be broad enough to cover all aspects of the organization: education, social activities, and civic service. Please contact me if you need further assistance or more information on implementing a plan for your club or squadron. -Wayne Lambert  
[wjlambert@comcast.net](mailto:wjlambert@comcast.net)

## C/C's Message to D/15 Conference

C/C Craig Fraser, SN-IN recorded a presentation for all fall district conferences. Our shared goal is *Membership is Job One!* Current topics are:

**1. Reorganization** - The Region idea has been dropped. Districts will be kept, but fewer officers will be required. Implementing improved effectiveness and services for all National Departments and Committees. Electronic voting will be set up for national meetings so that squadron commanders can vote even if they can't attend. This voting will be tested at the Annual Meeting in Orlando. All voting will be remote, whether the member is there or remote.

**2. Education** - Courses and seminars are being updated and setup for online learning. And online examinations will be coming soon. Also developing E course bundles and a new ABC3 website.

**3. District Simplification** - Each district shall be presided over by a district commander who shall, as a minimum, be assisted by a district educational officer, and a district secretary/treasurer. The complete wording for the Article 6 ByLaws for District Reorganization were included in the Fall issue of CAN 15 <https://www.usps.org/localusps/d15/can-f22.pdf> on page 2.

Article 6 along with changes to Article 7 – Squadron Organization were approved at the Raleigh Governing Board.

The Rules Committee will publish new model bylaws for Districts and Clubs/Squadrons by Thanksgiving.

## Congratulations to P/D/C Barry Pipes, JN

Barry of Baton Rouge S&PS was presented his 50 year membership, emeritus award by D/C Taylor Baldrige, P, at the recent district conference.



**Flotsam** from page 7

**Moonbeams in Paradise**  
**October 29, 2022**



As in the past few years, we will have dinner at Nathan's restaurant on Friday evening October 28th. We will leave the house at 6:00 for the restaurant for anyone who needs a ride.



If you choose to go direct, the address is 36440 Old Bayou Liberty road. After dinner, those who choose can come to the house for libations. If you are planning to come on Friday, reservations must be made early (call Sissy).

On Saturday, we will serve lunch at approximately 1:00 PM followed by relaxation and libation. Lunch will consist of Spaghetti & meat sauce, garlic bread, salad, and dessert. It will cost \$15.00 per person. As always, bring your choice of drink and chairs.

If you plan to come by boat, let me know so I can arrange dock space.

Call Charles or Sissy Chapman or email [sonights@bellsouth.net](mailto:sonights@bellsouth.net) with your reservation plans.

**More conference pictures**

Lunch was brought in from Jimmy Johns and the cost was picked up by District 15. And thanks to Judy and Dan Ross there was a cake for dessert to help celebrate my birthday.

On Saturday night, those of us remaining in Baton Rouge, enjoyed pizza, an LSU win over Auburn, and leftover birthday cake!



**Condolances to the Family of Marie Harvey**

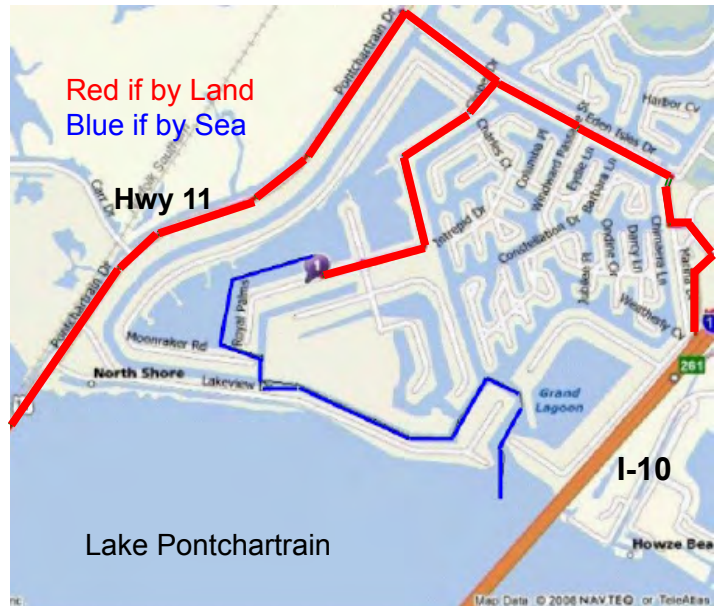
Marie Harvey passed away on September 29, 2022 at the age of 94. Marie spent her last hours peacefully surrounded by family, reminiscing, telling stories and having all of her last wishes granted. Marie was a beautiful person who had such a passion and zest for life. She lived an active



lifestyle until she no longer could. She enjoyed dancing, singing, and playing in card clubs.

She was the beloved wife of the late P/C Bill Harvey Jr., for 29 years before his passing in 2013.

Marie was a retired employee of Whitney National Bank in the Safety Deposit Department. She was a former owner of a beauty salon in Old Algiers Point, and also worked as a substitute teacher for the Jefferson Parish School Board. She was a native of Old Algiers. Marie was a proud member of many organizations including the Ladies Auxiliary of New Orleans Power Squadron.



Moonraker Lake near Docks (from google, not GPS):  
Lat 30° 13' 20.91" Long 89° 48' 38.91"



## Picture from our Past

Back Row

Row 3

Row 2

Row 1



In the last issue of TOPSIDE TALK, I included this picture that looks like some past commanders from a Founders' Day. No names, no date, but maybe 1990 and I do recognize a lot of the guys. I used this picture and compared it with the P/C pictures on the web. This is what I figured out.

I have assumed that seating arrangements were as we do them now.

Row 1, from left:

- 1972 Milton Burdine, SN
- 1971 Charles Chambers, AP  
Not sure about this, but it fits with the dates.
- 1970 Morris Klinger, SN
- Don't know
- 1957 George Dureau, JN

Row 2, from left:

- 1980 Ed Baxter, S
- 1979 Hen Blackwell, SN
- 1978 Ted Pittman, SN
- 1977 Max Sofer, AP
- 1976 Bobby Heintz, AP

Row 3, from left:

- 1981 Bill Tutt, SN
- 1983 Richard Brune, SN
- 1984 Ed Steed, AP
- 1985 Marion LaNasa, AP
- 1987 Dave Speeg, S

Back Row, from left:

- 1988 Pete Lang, SN
- 1989 Frank Drexel, SN



**Guest speaker at the September meeting was Paul Barnard** the Recreational Boating Safety Program Manager with the USCG District 8. Paul has 34 years of Coast Guard experience serving as Rescue Boat Coxswain, Federal Law Enforcement Officer, Search and Rescue (SAR) Coordinator, Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Program Manager, and Recreational Boating Safety Program Manager.

More Meeting Pictures on page 10

## September Meeting Pics



LANOPS Members



Social before the meeting



Paul Barnard USCG District 8

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING 20 October - 17 November 1800 Social, Meeting - NOYC

### October

- 20 Membership Meeting  
- Nominations due
- 29 Moonbeams
- 31 Halloween

### November

- 5 Fish Fry - **\*\*\*Cancelled\*\*\***
- 6 Daylight Savings Ends
- 10 Exec Meeting
- 17 General Membership Meeting
- 24 Thanksgiving

### December

- 7 Annual Meeting/Elections  
- Change of Watch
- 25 Christmas

### January 2023

- 1 New Year's Day
- 12 Exec Meeting
- 19 General Membership Meeting



Captive Audience!