



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NEW ORLEANS POWER SQUADRON

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As I Leave Office...

by Cdr Greg Mulvany, SN

As 2023 comes to an end so does my tenure as Commander of the New Orleans Power Squadron. Our classes and participation in Rendezvous and other activities are still not back up to pre-COVID rates but there is light on the horizon. Sadly, we have lost several long-time members in the past year. These gentlemen were instrumental in the operation and direction of NOPS and we will all miss them as we move forward. We are moving forward with energetic new members and leaders who will undoubtedly help us attract members and fill our classes.

We have our Americas Boating Classes scheduled throughout the year to help new boaters get their State required Operator Permits as well as a refresher for existing operators.

Greg Deis sent out a survey to members asking what types of activities they would like to see the squadron focus on and the majority of requests were for On-The-Water Rendezvous and social gatherings at the Trailer/Dock. The Training classes/Seminars most requested were GPS, Coastal Navigation, Marine Electronics and Engine Maintenance.

We have had several on-the-water Rendezvous every year but have not had a very good turnout. Let's all make a conscious effort to get out on the water and participate in these events in 2024.

<https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/courses/cruising-and-cruise-planning>
<https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/courses/navigation/marine-navigation-course>
<https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/courses/boat-systems/engine-maintenance>
<https://americasboatingclub.org/index.php/learn/select-type-of-boating/all>

We have a Cruising and **Cruise Planning** Class scheduled to start in January and are in the process of scheduling a **Marine Navigation** Class in the spring. The Marine Navigation Class incorporates the use of the GPS and Plotter as well as charting as needed for safe local inland and coastal navigation. If enough folks are interested in the **Engine Maintenance** Class we will try to get one scheduled.

As I prepare to step down as Commander I have one last request for all members. Please go to the **Boating Education Page** and browse through the Classes and Seminars. Are there some that you are interested in or that you think would make you a better or safer boater? Let ME know so we can work to get them scheduled.

Links for all of the highlighted courses are shown below.

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TOPSIDE TALK

November/December 2023 (nbr 2023-4)

MASTHEAD

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- Open -

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You are Invited to Attend the New Orleans Power Squadron Annual Meeting & Change of Watch Thursday, 7 December 2023

Ridgeway of Old Metairie

2431 Metairie Rd

Metairie, LA 70001

1830-2230 (6:30-10:30pm)

\$50.00 per person

Reservations with check
due Thursday, 30 November 2023 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

Cocktail Attire or Uniform A

Reservations for Change of Watch are due very soon.
Make sure you get your check and dinner choice to Debbie Brazeal by Thursday, 30 November.

See page 3 for the Nominations for both NOPS and LANOPS officers for 2024.

2024 Nominating Committee Report

Bridge Officers

Commander	Tiffany Eyer
Executive Officer	Gregory J Deis, SN-CN
Educational Officer	Chester G. Cooke III, SN-CN
Administrative Officer	Kevin Eyer, AP
Secretary	Barry Hayes, AP
Treasurer	Mike Turner, AP
Asst. Secretary	Eddie Brazeal, AP
Asst. SEO	Gregory M. Mulvany, SN
Asst. Administrative Officer	Open_____

Executive Committee

- 1) Gregory M. Mulvany, SN
- 2) Peter Ingrassia, Jr
- 3) Gary J. Toche

Auditing Committee

Daniel Ross, S Chair
Eddie Brazeal, AP

Rules Committee

- 1 year Mike Turner, AP, Chair
2 years Kevin Eyer, AP
3 years Cheryl Jarrell, AP

Committee on Nominations

- 1) Mike Turner, AP, Chair
- 2) Open
- 3) Open

Public Boating Chair: Mike Turner, AP

Respectfully Submitted:
PIC Daniel Ross, S
PIC Mike Turner, AP

LANOPS Officer Nominations

President Carolyn "Sissy" Chapman
Vice President Marlene Cooke
Secretary Lila Beyer
Treasurer Marlene Cooke

Moonshine & Moonbeams on Moonraker Lake



Top left, Aubrey, JC, Eddie;
top right, Sissy and Marlene;
left, Aubrey's 42 foot Grand
Banks Trawler; right, red
beans on the menu; below,
Debbie, Kim, Marlene,
Doris.



Left, Eddie,
Debbie,
JC; right,
Tracy.



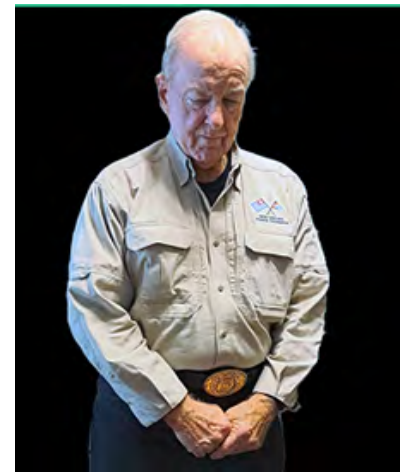
Thanksgiving Celebration and Meeting Pics



Thanks to LANOPS for providing the Thanksgiving goodies.



Good to see Pete. Cdr Greg picked him up.



Chester leading the members in prayer.



Swearing in a new member.
And everyone had an enjoyable time!



**Educational
Department News**
SEO Chester Cooke, SN-CN

Mike Turner is trying to arrange an **America's Boating Course** for March. If you know anyone interested, contact Mike.

turnermb@cox.net or 504.458.1443

www.neworleansboatingclub.org

Cdr Greg Mulvany held a Cruise Planning Seminar and had 23 participants.

Greg will be teaching the full Cruise Planning class starting Wednesday 10 Jan 2024, 6 pm at the NOPS trailer. It will be in person and via zoom. For more information contact Greg Mulvany at (504) 377-8357 or email...gmmlaf@gmail.com

With the new Bridge members as well as other new and older members, page 12-8 of the USPS Operations Manuel shows the Flags for Squadron and District Officers. It is reprinted on the following page.

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

Cruise Planning – Jan 10, 2024



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 Cruising and 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 Cruising and Cruise Planning Course will be taught in eight two-hour sessions including time for review and completion of a multiple choice, closed book, exam.

The course will be taught in the New Orleans Power Squadron education trailer on Wednesday evenings starting on 10 January and finishing on 6 March. There will be no class on 14 Feb, the day after Mardi Gras.

The instructors of the course are experienced boaters who cruised fulltime on their boat for almost 7 years. It is their hope that you will be able to enjoy the cruising life too, even if only for a few days at a time.

THE 4 STAGES OF LIFE

1. You believe in Santa Claus.
2. You don't believe in Santa Claus.
3. You are Santa Claus.
4. You look like Santa Claus.

- John Rankin, Musician
From his holiday newsletter

Flags for officers are as set forth below. Where specifications call for tridents, these are to be in the proportions as designated. A long-staffed trident is three-quarters of the hoist of the flag in length, an intermediate-staffed trident is five-eighths the hoist and a short-staffed trident is one-half the hoist. A "delta-trident" is an intermediate-staffed trident with a Greek delta superimposed in lieu of the normal crossbar.

12.18 Squadron officers

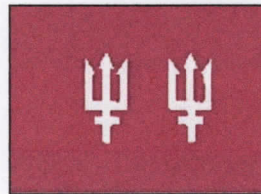
• **Commanders**

display a blue rectangular flag with three vertical white short-staffed tridents, arranged centrally at the corners of an imaginary isosceles triangle whose base is one-half the fly of the flag and whose altitude is one-quarter of the base.



• **Lieutenant commanders**

display a red flag with two white short-staffed tridents, placed vertically and centrally, with the distance between centers of the shafts of the tridents equal to one-third the fly of the flag.



• **First lieutenants**

display a white rectangular flag with one blue short-staffed trident placed vertically and centrally.



• **Lieutenants and aides to the commander**

display a white tapered swallowtail flag with one red short-staffed trident placed vertically and centrally.



• **Flag lieutenants** display a white tapered swallowtail flag on which is depicted a red speaking trumpet,



mouthpiece upward, of a length five-eighths the hoist, placed vertically and centrally.

- **Fleet captains** display a white tapered swallowtail flag on which is depicted a red fouled anchor of a length five-eighths the hoist, placed centrally and vertically, ring upward.



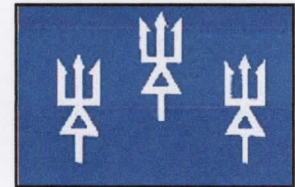
- **Port captains** display a white tapered swallowtail flag on which is depicted a red lighthouse, of a length five-eighths the hoist, placed centrally.



12.19 District officers

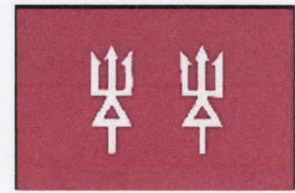
• **District commanders**

display a blue rectangular flag with three vertical white delta tridents arranged centrally at the corners of an imaginary isosceles triangle whose base is one-half the fly of the flag and whose altitude is one-quarter of the base.



• **District lieutenant commanders**

display a red rectangular flag with two white delta tridents placed vertically and centrally, with the distance between centers of the shafts of the tridents equal to one-third the fly of the flag.



- **District first lieutenants** display a white rectangular flag with one blue delta trident, placed vertically and centrally.



Flotsam and Jetsam

2024 Annual Meeting

Friday, February 02, 2024 - Monday, February 12, 2024 at Rosen Plaza Orlando, 9700 International Drive, Orlando FL 32819. Telephone: 407-996-9700, the rate is \$179.00.

https://www.usps.org/php/reservations/meetinginfo.php?mtg_id=46

Staying at the hotel helps us be able to have meetings. We require a lot of meeting space. Staying at the hotel and eating at the group dinners helps us save money to rent the meeting room space our members require. We appreciate your support in order to keep the expenses down and the communication high!

The online agenda and events and activities schedule will soon be available for you to browse and begin building your schedule for your trip to Orlando.

Sessions you can use at the 2024 Annual Meeting

With the 2024 Annual Meeting fast approaching, Executive Department committees are offering sessions designed to help districts and squadrons add value for their members.

Vessel Safety Check Program: Vessel exams provide a great public service. Learn how you can increase your membership using this unique one-on-one service. This session covers recent program changes and explains how vessel examiners can become organizational ambassadors.

Squadron and District Events: The Events Worth Going To session provides an opportunity to learn the details of successful events, which deliver the experiences, companionship and fun many members are looking for.

Environmental Projects: In addition to being valuable to your community, environmental projects give you an opportunity to tell your local community who you are. This seminar provides project ideas for individuals, squadrons, and supporting civic and regulatory organizations. Learn how to take the next step, get media coverage, local recognition, and grow your membership.

Building Local Partnerships: The Public Affairs Committee explains how to become successful through building and sustaining local partnerships and leveraging national memorandums of understanding. Learn the benefits of local collaborations and how to create a publicity blitz to help you increase awareness of your local club and classes and increase your membership. You'll also learn how to get the most out of social media. Keeping members engaged is key to member satisfaction.

Cooperative Charting Program: Learn how this program offers expanded opportunities for member

involvement. See how marina surveys and geodetic recoveries can bring members together, increase satisfaction and engage members while providing an important public service.

Communication Tools: During this special hands-on workshop, you learn how to use PowerPoint and Google Docs to prepare effective presentations with the use of graphics and other tools. Don't miss these and other workshops and seminars scheduled for the 2024 Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida.

-Randy Stow smlstow@gmail.com

(Editor's Note: Many sessions are often available virtually. While this hasn't been announced, if info becomes available, I will email to members. cj)

Everything You Wanted to Know About USPS can be found in the Operations Manual:

<https://www.usps.org/operations-manual/downloads>

From the most recent update:

G.4 USPS Position on Boating Education and Operator Licensing-USPS, the largest private boating organization, continues to believe that voluntary boating education is the best and most efficient method of promoting boating safety. The current USPS Boating Course (approved by NASBLA) or its equivalent should be considered the minimum standard. USPS will continue to vigorously promote, advertise, and teach the Boating Course to the public and will continue to encourage all governmental organizations and agencies to accept this educational standard. USPS will continue to cooperate with all governmental and safety organizations to promote boating education and safety.

1) The members of United States Power Squadrons believe the best way to achieve boating safety is through boater education;

2) USPS members support state mandatory boating education for young boaters and personal watercraft operators;

3) USPS members believe that any state licensing of recreational boat operators should be based upon strong educational requirements;

4) USPS members believe that all boating safety courses should be NASBLA approved and include proctored examinations; and

5) USPS members will continue to provide educational support in all states.

Thanks to Chester Cooke for handling Merit Marks for 2023. He turned in the NOPS members who provided significant effort in keeping our squadron working successfully for all of us.

Crab Boil Pictures



Thanks to Debbie and Eddie for hosting us at their camp in Barataria. The weather was good, the crabs were delicious, the sides were tasty, too. And everyone had a great time socializing!

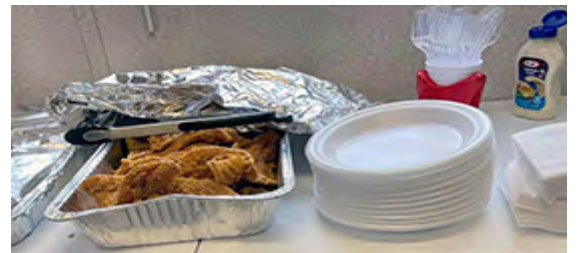


Pictures from the Fish Fry



Great turnout for the Fish Fry this year. It was threatening rain so we setup in the trailer instead of in the yard.

We were lucky to have LizAnn's dad Earl join us. At 104, he is the oldest living WWII Vet in Louisiana. It was an honor to have him with us.



2024 Calendar
Will be Available in the
Next Issue of
TOPSIDE TALK

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

18 Jan - 15 Feb

1800 Social, Meeting - NOYC

December

- 7 Annual Meeting/Elections
-Change of Watch
Ridgeway of Old Metairie
- 25 *Christmas*

January 2024

- 1 *New Years Day*
- 10 Cruise Planning Class
- 11 Exec Meeting
- 18 General Membership Meeting

February 2024

- 2-12 USPS Annual Meeting, Orlando
- 8 Exec Meeting
- 13 *Mardi Gras*
- 15 General Membership Meeting



New members, Aubrey and Kim Tycer, were sworn in at the September meeting by Chester Cooke.