



**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NEW ORLEANS POWER SQUADRON**

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## **Trying to Start Up Again**

*by Cdr Gregory Deis, SN-CN*

Greetings!

I hope that you all have been doing well and have stayed safe since CoVid-19 started. Since March, masks have taken on a new meaning, and new terms like "social distancing" have crept into our language. After seven months, CoVid's grip is slowly easing! We can finally meet in person. A small group of members met this past Thursday at NOYC. The highlight of the evening was when Ernie Beyer announced that he had received his 50 year membership award. When you see Ernie, please congratulate him on his many, many years of service to the United States Power Squadrons. The

meeting was short, but we got caught up on life since CoVid.

I am looking forward to a larger gathering at the November meeting. Right now, it's not clear if we will be able to have our traditional Thanksgiving meal together. Will let you know just as soon as we know.

We had several events to look forward to. On Saturday, October 24, some of us showed up at the Chapmans on Moonraker Lake in Slidell. We wore masks, brought our own chairs for social distancing and our own choice of drinks. Food was served around 1 o'clock. This was, as always, a great event. We planned to close the 2020 fishing rodeo with a fish fry on November 7. Unfortunately, that homeport rendezvous had to be cancelled because of damage to the trailer during Hurricane Zeta!

We will celebrate Christmas in Destin weekend beginning December 4th. This is always a fun weekend and a good chance to start your Christmas shopping early. We have to make reservations so call Charlie and let him know if you're interested in attending.

Stay safe stay well and I'll see you soon!



**Ern Beyer, AP**  
**receiving his 50 Year Membership Award**  
**from Cdr Greg Deis, SN at the NOPS**  
**Membership Meeting in October**  
**50 year member with 39 Merit Marks.**  
**Congratulations, Ern!**

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# TOPSIDE TALK

Nov/Dec 2020 (nbr 2020-4)

## MASTHEAD

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## TOPSIDE TALK

# New Orleans Power Squadron Nominating Committee Report 2021



Commander	P/C Gregory J. Deis, SN-CN
Executive Officer	P/D/C Don R. Ellis, SN-CN (Floor Nom)
Squadron Educational Officer	P/C Chester G. Cooke III, SN-CN
Administrative Officer	P/C Charles B. Chapman, Jr, SN-CN
Secretary	Lt/C Peter S. Gambel
Treasurer	P/C William Michael Turner, AP
Asst. Secretary	P/C Robert E. "Eddie" Brazeal, Jr AP
Asst. S.E.O.	1st/Lt Andrew Grancken
Asst. Administrative Officer	<b>OPEN</b> _____

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Peter Ingrassia Jr.  
P/C Daniel C. Ross, S  
Barry Hays, , AP

### AUDITING COMMITTEE

Chair P/C Daniel C. Ross, S  
P/Lt Clint Mouser, S

### RULES COMMITTEE

Chair 1 year R/C Cheryl Jarrell, AP  
2 years P/C William Michael Turner, AP  
3 years P/D/C Don R. , SN-CN

### Committee on Nominations

Chair 1. P/D/C Don R. Ellis, SN-CN (0 Yrs)  
2. P/C Peter H. Lang, Jr, SN (1 Yrs)  
3. Mark Juengling (3 Yrs)

### GENERAL COMMITTEES

Public Boating Chair: P/C William Michael Turner, AP

Respectfully,

P/D/C Don R. Ellis, SN-CN – NomCom Chair 2020  
P/C Peter H. Lang, Jr, SN – NomCom Member 2020

## LANOPS Officer Nominations

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

Remember These? from TOPSIDE September 2006

**BO'SN BILL SAYS** from late P/C William Harvey, AP

**Lost Lighthouses**

Have you noticed? Some of the most beautiful and historic lighthouses in America, long standing landmarks, are slowly, but surely, disappearing.

Several years ago, I finally got to visit the lighthouse on the north end of Chandeleur Island, on the barrier reef off the Louisiana and Mississippi coastline.

A long time friend and his young son and I departed from the Gulfport Yacht Harbor for a fishing trip to the famous island to find out for ourselves if the old stories were true about how big and plentiful the speckled trout caught there were.

Upon arriving, we met several men who had set up a camp on the island, and had been fishing there for a few days. They made the trip from their home in Montgomery, Alabama and they weren't disappointed. We could hardly believe the size of the specks caught! Five pounders and over! We were happy they left a few

for us to catch. The day after arriving, I couldn't resist the urge to climb to the top of the lighthouse.

The light offered a spectacular sight from the top, stretching out before me was the semi-circular shape of the island and reefs, the lagoons, the abundant birds, and the various hues of the sea, dark to light blue and beautiful aquamarine.

I always wanted to return there, but never did. Now, no one will ever see that panoramic scene again because Hurricane Katrina ripped the Chandeleur Islands apart without even leaving a trace of the great, tall steal lighthouse that had withstood many past storms. The loss of the mighty Chandeleur lighthouse and more, should be a reminder to all when we hear, "I am going to ride this one out in my house or boat." I don't believe we will be hearing that said much anymore in this area.



Second Chandeleur Island Lighthouse  
Photograph courtesy U.S. Coast Guard



Chandeleur Lighthouse Pre-1998

# Bo'sn Bill Lighthouses cont'd from page 3

In 1941 and 1942, I was stationed in Burwood, Louisiana on Southwest Pass of the Mississippi River near the Gulf of Mexico. Across the river from the naval base on the Westbank was the remains of an old leaning abandoned brick lighthouse, and a few hundred yards away was another lighthouse rising high above the marsh on a steel structure.

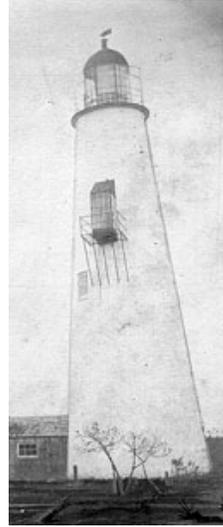
At age 22, it was an easy climb up the stairway to the light. I had often seen this bright rotating light from sea and was curious to see how big the light itself must be to transmit a beam so far offshore. To my surprise the light itself was provided by only a 75-watt bulb in the center of a turntable. On the outer edge of the turntable were a group of thick glass hexagonal prisms, which dispersed the light. That is how simple it was.

Today, there is no visible evidence of the naval base or the US Engineers village.

The abandoned lighthouses at Southwest Pass were replaced in 1965 by the most modern major light on the gulf. It consists of a six-sided, two-story building, with a smaller, similarly shaped tower projecting upward from its center. This superstructure, a boat dock and a helicopter landing pad, rest on concrete pilings anchored on the gulf floor.

The most recognizable, and most at risk lighthouse is the New Canal (former USCG station) at Westend. At the time of Katrina, the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation was working to acquire the New Canal Lighthouse to restore and preserve it for historic and environmental education purposes.

**Southwest Pass 1840**



**Southwest Pass 1873**



**Southwest Pass 1965**



**New Canal Lighthouse (former USCG station) Pre-Katrina**



**Left, New Canal, August 2006  
Above, New Canal Lighthouse Museum, 2018**

## Educational Department News

SEO Tracy Hamlin, N  
ASEO Chester Cooke, SN-CN

A one day **America's Boating Course** was held on 12 September 2020 at the New Orleans Yacht Club. Space was limited, preregistration was required.

Mike Turner

Instructor, America's Boating Course  
New Orleans Power Squadron  
504.458.1443

[www.neworleansboatingclub.org](http://www.neworleansboatingclub.org)

If you have any questions, or an interest in taking or teaching classes, please contact me, Tracy Hamlin, SEO, at [hamlinhs@bellsouth.net](mailto:hamlinhs@bellsouth.net) or 504-430-7689, or ASEO Chester Cooke, SN-CN, who can be reached at [cgcooke3@yahoo.com](mailto:cgcooke3@yahoo.com)

### America's Boating Compass

The second video in the new Knots to Know series on how to tie a clove hitch is now available. Every month, America's Boating Compass releases a new video to demonstrate basic knot tying for new and beginning boaters thanks to a grant from the USPS Educational Fund. Subscribe to **America's Boating Compass**

<https://boatingcompass.org/subscribe/>

and our YouTube Channel to receive a notification when a new video is posted. Currently available titles:

#### How to dock a boat safely

Docking your boat safely includes planning ahead and briefing your crew.

#### Winter lay-up tips for your boat

Prepare your boat for winter storage to start next season off right.

#### Knots to Know: Square knot

Use a square knot for light-duty tasks, such as reefing or furling sails.

#### How to trailer a boat

Like driving a vehicle without a tow, learning to tow a boat trailer becomes intuitive with practice.

#### Knots to Know: Clove hitch

The clove hitch is excellent for temporary attachments.

#### How to navigate a boat

Good navigators rely on GPS as well as charts to get to where they want to go.

**ABC Class at NOYC,**  
instructors  
**Mike Turner and Michael Whealdon**  
**9 students**



In all affairs it's a healthy thing now and then to hang a question mark on the things you have long taken for granted...

— Bertrand Russell  
(1872 - 1970) British author, mathematician, & philosopher



# LANOPS Moonbeams at Moonraker

Hosted by Sissy and Charles Chapman

On October 24th, the LANOPS Moonbeam celebration was held at the Chapmans' on Moonraker Lake.



Left, Chester;  
right, Greg and Cheri;  
below, Pete.



Above, J.C. and Shirley;  
Below, Sissy and Darlene.



Above, Sisy and Marlene;  
Below, Kelly, Keith and Charlie.



## Flotsam and Jetsam

### USPS National Meetings

Now's the time to begin planning for the 2021 Annual Meeting in Ponte Vedra, Florida. We are once again at the Sawgrass Marriott Resort & Spa, a truly beautiful place to gather with your boating friends. Meeting dates are Feb. 14–21, 2021, and registration details are available on the National Meetings website. [https://www.usps.org/php/reservations\\_new/meetings.php?mtg\\_id=36](https://www.usps.org/php/reservations_new/meetings.php?mtg_id=36) Take advantage of a Valentine's Day early arrival and visit St. Augustine, founded in 1565. The nation's oldest city has something for everyone. America's Boating Club also has something for everyone, too, so come join us in Ponte Vedra! We missed out on the 2020 Fall Governing Board Meeting, but it could not be helped—safety first on land or on the water. More details will be forthcoming, so save the date and join us! And by the way, we are looking for a few good people to help with national meetings. Let us know if you have some time to spare, we could sure use your help!

–Arlene Anderson [arlene.anderson47@yahoo.com](mailto:arlene.anderson47@yahoo.com)

### Save the Date: Giving Tuesday Is Dec. 1

Better boating begins with skilled boaters. America's Boating Club gives boaters the skills they need to have fun on the water while keeping our waterways safe for people and marine life. But we can't do that without you. This year, for Giving Tuesday, we hope you will consider donating to America's Boating Club to help us make boating better. Stay tuned for more information! Go to: <https://www.givingtuesday.org> – C/C Mary Paige Abbott

And from Mary Catherine Berube, HQ Exec Dir, Our giving website, [GiveABC.org](http://GiveABC.org), is up and accepting donations now.

To donate offline, you can mail your check to United States Power Squadrons, PO Box 30423, Raleigh, NC 27622. Make sure to let us know that your donation is for Giving Tuesday and please include your member number, so we can record and acknowledge your generosity.

### Headquarters Inventory: Nov 23 - Dec 2

The Shipping Department at Headquarters will be closed for annual inventory on Monday, November 23, and will resume operations on Wednesday, December 2.

### New Environmental Trifold Brochure Available

The updated Environmental Best Practices trifold brochure has been added to the brochure order form. The form is at <https://www.usps.org/usps-forms> The brochure item number is 09-09-117. The brochures

are free, but there is a shipping and handling charge. Be sure to get some of these new brochures to pass out during public events and for new member packets. – Steve Gatton [sgatton33@comcast.net](mailto:sgatton33@comcast.net)

### The History Behind Prince Henry Is Amazing

Where was Prince Henry born? Why do districts have statuettes of Prince Henry? Why is he a part of USPS history? We are currently compiling information about Prince Henry and his involvement with USPS. You'll be able to read more about him in the future. Information about Prince Henry and his involvement with USPS is being compiled now. –Margaret K. (Peggy) Miller

[Pegymiller74344@aol.com](mailto:Pegymiller74344@aol.com)



### Vessel Safety Examiner Data Due

It is time to compile the annual VSC awards data. The Safety Committee would like to remind you that all VSC examination data needs to be inputted by Nov. 30, 2020, to be counted for award entitlement. Please check the data on the national website now to ensure it is correct. If it is not, please contact your squadron or district VSC chair or your commander. Thank you all for your patience this year. –Chip Meany [curmgn@gmail.com](mailto:curmgn@gmail.com)

### Submit Your Photos for The Ensign Spring 2021 Photo Contest

As we look forward to future outings on the water, The Ensign magazine wants to see your favorite boating photos from years past. They can be from any decade or year, as long as you're the one who snapped the photo. The winners will feature in the Spring 2021 issue. The deadline is Dec. 31. Please email your submissions to [ensign@hq.usps.org](mailto:ensign@hq.usps.org) –Amy Townsend Read more: <http://theensign.org/submit/photocontest>

### Jingle all the way

... and I mean more coin in your pocket! Beginning November 15 and concluding at midnight on New Year's Eve, take advantage of our Ship's Store Holiday Sale! You'll receive a 10% discount on all in-stock Ship's Store apparel and gift items including our new stemless wine "glass" and briefcase. Stock up on gifts for yourself and all your America's Boating Club friends. Happy Holidays! –Claire McDonald Read more: <http://store.shopusps.org>

# It Was a Real Meeting!

Covid's grip is slowly easing! We finally met in person on Thursday, 15 October at NOYC. The business meeting began at 1900. We started socializing at 1800, but there were some rules that we had to follow:

1. We all had to wear masks unless we were drinking or eating.
2. Any drink orders from the bar had to include a food order (hot dogs and nachos were available).
3. For this first in person meeting, no outside drinks or food could be consumed.

It was great seeing everyone! We hope to do it again in November, but don't yet know if we will be able to have our usual Thanksgiving meal. Stay tuned.

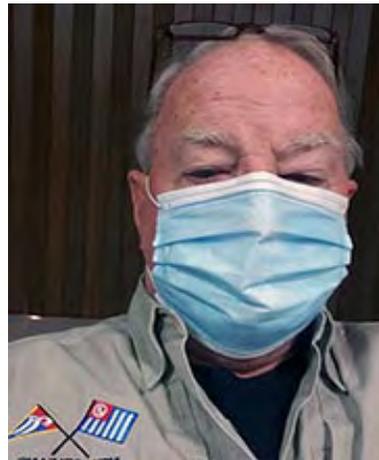
Regards,  
Cdr Greg



Cdr Greg,  
left;  
below, 50-  
yr member  
Ern and  
Lila



Left, Eddie;  
above, Don; below, Charlie;  
right, Mike



Left, Dan; center, Chester; right, Mark



### Christmas in Destin - A Preview

P/C Charles Chapman, SN

To all who have made the D/15 Christmas in Destin weekend and to those who might be thinking of attending, here is some preliminary information on the weekend.

The date is the 4, 5 & 6 of December in Destin at Sundestin resort. The usual routine is two nights and three days at the resort.

If are interested in attending, please call, or email, and let me know.



## MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**19 November Meeting**

**10 December Meeting**

1800 Social, 1900 Meeting ?

New Orleans Yacht Club

### November

- 12 Exec Meeting
- 19 General Membership Meeting
- 26 Thanksgiving

### December

- 4-6 Christmas in Destin
- 10 Annual Meeting
- 25 Christmas

### January 2021

- 1 New Year's Day
- 14 Exec Meeting
- 21 General Membership Meeting

### February 2021

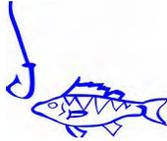
- 16-21 USPS Annual Meeting - Ponte Vedra, FL

### Fishing Rodeo ended 11 October

Because Hurricane Zeta caused damage to the trailer, the Fish Fry, Rodeo Awards and door prize drawings were cancelled. They will take place at the next General Meeting. Clint Mouser only received one Fishing Affidavit, and the winner is

**Kristen Cooke - Redfish - 29 lbs 9 oz**

This means that Kristen won 1st Place Redfish, Fisherman of the Year, and, I guess, smallest fish, too! Congrats to Kristen, nice catch!



## Cleaning up the NOPS Trailer After Zeta!



Big shout out of T H A N K S to Commander Greg Deis, Mike Turner, Dan Ross, Greg Mulvany, David Webber and Chester Cooke for helping to clean up the NOPS Trailer and get the items moved to our storage facility.