



*Houston Sail and Power Squadron  
Annual Meeting Ballot – January 19, 2011*

**Nominees For Bridge Officers:**

Commander	Lt/C Bob Leatherwood, S
Executive Officer	<b>To Be Determined</b>
Squadron Educational Officer	Robert Campbell, S
Administrative Officer	<b>To Be Determined</b>
Secretary	Lt/C Robert W. Stevenson, JN
Treasurer	Lt/C Phyllis W. Stendebach

**Nominees For Squadron First Lieutenants:**

Assistant Squadron Educational Officer	1 <sup>st</sup> /Lt Carl A. Stendebach, Jr., JN
Assistant Secretary	<b>To Be Determined</b>
Assistant Treasurer	Lt Kathy Fussell, S

**Nominees for At-large Members of the Executive Committee: (nine)**

Lt Bill Fussell, S	P/Lt/C Robert J. Robbins, JN
P/C S. Dennis Fegan, AP	Cdr Claire McDonald, SN
Lt Kathy Fussell, S	Forrest Paddock, P
P/D/C Scott McDonald, SN	1 <sup>st</sup> /Lt Carl A. Stendebach, Jr., JN
Lt Jana Wesson, AP	

**Nominees for the Nominating Committee: (three year term)**

Lt Robert Ryland Smith, JN (one year)  
 P/C S. Dennis Fegan, AP (one year)  
 Cdr Claire McDonald, SN (Three Years)  
 P/D/C Scott McDonald, SN (Two Years)  
 P/Lt/C John Glaeser, SN (Three Years)

**Nominees for the Rules & Bylaws Committee: (three year term)**

P/D/C Karl E. Fernandes, JN (one year)  
 Lt Ed Nagle, AP (two years)  
 P/C Merton (Ozzie) Osborne, N (Three years)

**Nominees for the Auditing Committee: (three year term)**

P/Lt/C John Glaeser, SN (one year)  
 P/Lt/C William H. Mize, Jr., SN (two years)  
 P/Lt/C Robert J. Robbins, JN (Three years)

Respectfully submitted,  
 Nominating Committee

***Poop Sheet December 2010***

December 1  
 Board of Directors Meeting – Home Port

December 5  
 HSPS General Meeting – Christmas Brunch  
 Brady's Landing

December 9  
 USPS University Seminar "Using GPS" –  
 Bass Pro Shops, Pearland

December 11  
 D/21 Christmas Boat Parade Party  
 Clear Lake Hilton

December 25  
 Merry Christmas, HSPS!

January 1, 2011  
 Happy New Year, HSPS!

January 5  
 Board of Directors Meeting – Home Port

January 7-16  
 Winter Boat Show – Reliant Center

January 19  
 HSPS General Meeting – Elections  
 Spaghetti Western



## Bay Neigh

Official Monthly Publication of  
Houston Sail and Power Squadron  
A Unit of United States Power Squadrons  
District 21

## COMMANDER'S CORNER



December 2010 Bay Neigh  
Cdr Claire McDonald, SN



Editor  
Lt Jana Wesson, AP

Assistant Editor  
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**Home Port**  
6910 Bellaire Blvd #15  
Houston, Texas 77074  
www.usps-houston.org

### Bridge

Commander..... Cdr Claire M. McDonald, SN  
Executive Officer ..... Lt/C Bob Leatherwood, S  
Educational Officer ..... Lt/C Richard A. Fisher, SN  
Administrative Officer ..... TBD  
Secretary ..... Lt/C Robert W. Stevenson, JN  
Treasurer ..... Lt/C Phyllis W. Stendebach, P  
Immediate Past Cdr..... P/C James S. Hotop, JN

### Squadron's 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenants

Asst. Educational Officer. ... 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Carl A. Stendebach, Jr., JN  
Asst. Secretary ..... TBD  
Asst. Treasurer ..... TBD

### Executive Committee

All Bridge Officers...	Robbie J. Robbins, JN
S. Dennis Fegan, AP	Mary Sandoval, S
Bill Fussell, S	P/C Richard C. Snapp, AP
Kathy Fussell, S	Carl A. Stendebach, Jr., JN
Jana Wesson, AP	D/C Scott McDonald, SN

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the writers and publication herein does not imply endorsement by USPS, or the Bay Neigh.

### PRAYER

Heavenly Father,  
Yuletide comes to us again...  
Time for tots and toys,  
And for one magic moment now  
We're little girls and boys.

The young are filled with anxious hope  
And lovers bill and coo.  
New parents watch their babe at play  
For elders: Déjà vu!

Laughter echoes through the halls  
Our spirits glow anew.  
Peace and harmony abound  
And all because of you.

Amen  
P/C Scott D. McDonald

The holidays are upon us. I sincerely hope that everyone had a peaceful and hearty Thanksgiving celebration. Scott and I welcomed Fiona home from Trinity University. It's hard to believe that she is almost halfway through her sophomore year. It looks like we have a future accountant on our hands. Joey is so busy at the University of Tulsa that he chose to spend his holiday in Tulsa, but we look forward to seeing him home at Christmas.

Take a good long look at the ballot for our next watch year published in this *Bay Neigh*. Please say thanks to all these great members who have stepped up to help when you see them next. If you notice any positions that still need filling, consider stepping up yourself. The more hands we have on deck the easier and better the work gets done. Commander Bob Leatherwood is going to be our best Commander ever, and he deserves a strong team behind him. He definitely will need to step out of the party-making business for at least a year and it may take five of us to replace all of his imagination and energy ...but we can do it! We strive to have volunteers for all positions by the time we have our annual election meeting in January. The new watch year does not begin until April, so there is ample time to fill all positions and for those elected and appointed to become comfortable wearing new hats.

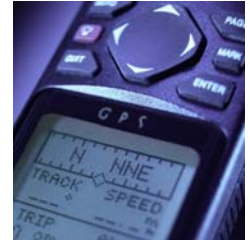
Bob and I are thinking outside the box for new water activities next year – kayaking anyone? Let us know your great ideas. Few can top Denny Fegan for amazing, hair-raising dinner meeting presentations, but you may know of a speaker we should not miss, just let us know. As we all get more used to working with SailAngle, we will be able to communicate with each other even more effectively and efficiently. We will continue to offer as many of our courses as we can find members to take. It's exciting that a number of members have expressed an interest in becoming teachers. The more teachers we have, the more courses and seminars we can offer. Thanks to Dick Snapp and Karl Fernandes, Houston continues to be a leader in Co-op Charting, and our waters are safer because of it. Houston's strength is its members (including you), and this will continue into next year.

The November fishing event was a hoot! Did we catch a lot of fish? Well, no. Did we catch any fish? Well, almost! Did any of this matter? Not at all! It was a gorgeous day on Clear Lake. The sun was shining. The air was cool and there was a light breeze. We could not have asked for more – except bigger flounder ...and the good news is that they are still out there growing for another day. And if you hear a rumor that Robbie Robbins' boat is a luxury yacht compared with our little runabout ...well, we don't believe rumors do we? It was a great day on the water.

Make sure to put our Holiday Brunch (Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>) at Brady's Landing on your calendar. Aside from a great meal, you'll get the first chance to sign up for watches at our booth at the big Houston Boat Show in early January (7<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>).

Scott and I wish you all peaceful and fulfilling holidays. Great joy to you and yours!





**Education News**  
**Lt/C Rick Fisher, SN**

**Tentative Spring 2011 CLASS SCHEDULE**

\*\*\*\*\* Classes Available to Members and Non-Members\*\*\*\*\*

Course	Class Day, and Registration Date	Instructor	Member Books and Tuition	Non-Member Books and Tuition
Seamanship	Monday, February 21	Rick Fisher	\$60.00	\$90.00
Advanced Piloting	Tuesday, February 22	Bob Stevenson	\$65.00	\$97.50
Marine Communications Systems	Thursday, February 24	Bill Haddock	\$60.00	\$90.00

***USPS Instructor Development***

With the growing portfolio of classes and seminars we are holding, we need additional instructors to join the instructor team at Houston Sail and Power Squadron. Please consider volunteering your time and sharing your knowledge by becoming a USPS certified instructor.

P/D/C Karl Fernandes will hold a free Instructor Development class spread over 3 nights beginning on Thursday January 13<sup>th</sup> at Home Port. As part of the class, you will make a number of short presentations to your fellow students, and develop and present a simple lesson plan. Following the class, you will be asked to team teach a class with an experienced HSPS instructor.

Email me or Karl Fernandes [Karl.Fernandes@LoneStar.edu](mailto:Karl.Fernandes@LoneStar.edu) to sign up.

***Public Boating News***

We held our last America's Boating Course of the year on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Six people participated, and all had high scores on both the USPS and the TPWD exams.

The next America's Boating Course class is Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.

***Seminars***

Our November 11<sup>th</sup> seminar at the Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World was "How to Read a Marine Chart".

Our last seminar of 2010 will be on Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, and the topic will be "Using a GPS".

The GPS seminar comes with a student workbook, and a plasticized *Quick Reference* guide. Registration begins at 6:45 pm with the seminar concluding at 8:45 pm. This Bass Pro Shop series features the seminars required for the USPS Boat Operators Certification program, specifically the Inland Navigator certification. Cost for each seminar is \$35 per person.

Once again, call me (281) 734-4443 or email [Rick@ChampionMarineSurveys.com](mailto:Rick@ChampionMarineSurveys.com) to sign up for a course, or tell me how I can assist you in furthering your boating education.

Lt/C Rick Fisher, SN  
 Squadron Education Officer

***Around the Corner***  
***Lt/C Bob Leatherwood, S, XO***

December!!! Wow, it's hard to believe that it's here but it definitely **IS** and the holidays are upon us. The weather has been pretty spectacular, and I know I've been taking **EVERY** opportunity to get outside and enjoy it, both on land AND on the water.

The November dinner meeting was the second annual "**Roman/Italian Night**" and was a success and a lot of fun with a group of close to 30 people attending. The food was wonderful and there was plenty of it! **D/C Scott McDonald** brought plenty of his incredible, homemade lasagna which always manages to disappear. Scott even makes his own pasta, which makes it even more special. We also had plenty of other offerings from Olive Garden Restaurant, along with several kinds of olives and other Italian snack foods to round out a really nice dinner. *Bay Neigh* Editor **Lt Jana Wesson** and husband **Lawrence Wesson** were on hand, dressed in full roman attire, helping to make the evening more fun and add an air of authenticity to it. Many thanks Jana and Lawrence for taking the time and effort to add to everyone's enjoyment of the evening. Also, the last "**Hal Cunningham Delicious Home Made Dessert Contest**" of the season was held. Although we had fewer entrants this time around, we were not suffering from lack of desserts. November winners were **Betsy Crowe** in 3rd place, **Cdr Claire McDonald** in second place and a sweeping victory by **Pat Hagerman**, taking a well-deserved **FIRST PLACE**. Thanks to all 3 in keeping with the spirit of the contest.

I'm also happy to report that the annual "**Flounder Fishing**" event **DID** take place this year, thanks to some spectacular weather, as well as the tireless efforts of **Cdr Claire McDonald**, who's about as competitive a fisher person (?) you'd ever want to meet. **Cdr Claire McDonald**, **D/C Scott McDonald**, **Robert Robbins**, **Lt/C Bob Leatherwood** and my Kayak buddy, **Rolf Hogfeldt** were there, manning the fishing poles. Now then, although I **CAN'T** say that there was a winner **OR** that any fish were actually caught, I **CAN** say that there was indeed at least one **FLOUNDER SIGHTING** by "eagle eye" **Cdr McDonald**, always on the lookout for the next fish! After a few hours of fishing, we had a nice lunch at the "**Classic Cafe**" and then all headed home safely to fish another day!!!

I certainly hope that everyone had a great Thanksgiving and I'm sure our upcoming Sunday brunch on the water at **Brady's Landing** will be wonderful as usual, if it hasn't already been held by the time this issue is posted, I also hope to see everyone at the annual "**Christmas Boat Parade**" on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> at the **Nassau Bay Hilton** in Clear Lake. With that in mind and the holidays well underway, I'd like to wish everyone a very "**MERRY CHRISTMAS**" and "**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**" this year.

...**AND** by all means, please make plans to attend the election dinner meeting on Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> at the "**Spaghetti Western**" restaurant. It's a really fun venue and a chance to cast your votes for the upcoming watch year!

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***Fishing on Clear Lake***  
***Photos by Lt/C Bob Leatherwood, S***



**November 2010 Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Houston Sail and Power Squadron**

**Executive Department: Lt/C Robert Leatherwood, S**

- **Cooperative Charting:** Report from P/C Dick Snapp, AP: HSPS is in fifth place and Galveston Bay is in third place nationally. Cdr McDonald, Lt/C Leatherwood, and D/C McDonald attended the D/21 Co-op Charting event on S. Padre Island.
- **Vessel Safety Checks:** Report from P/C Bill Haddock, AP: 199 checks completed, with 131 vessels passing. Next event will be 11/6 at April Plaza Marina on Lake Conroe.
- **Winter Boat Show:** Event will be held January 7-16. The show will close one hour earlier this year. First opportunity to sign up for a booth watch will be at the HSPS Christmas Brunch.

**Education Department: Lt/C Rick Fisher, SN**

- **Member Courses:** Update on enrollments in Fall classes:
  - Operations Training – Six people attended
  - Engine Maintenance – Fussell – exam in 2 weeks
  - Instructor Development – January 13<sup>th</sup> – four people are planning to attend so far
- **Public Courses:**
  - **Seminars** – Bass Pro Shop Pearland
    - November 11<sup>th</sup> – How To Use A Chart – Rick Fisher instructor
    - December 9<sup>th</sup> – Using GPS – Rick Fisher instructor
  - **ABC3**
    - November 13<sup>th</sup>
    - February 12<sup>th</sup>

**Administrative Department:**

- **Membership:** Report from Scott McDonald: We have one new member. A second new member is a family membership (father and son). A Sea Scout is interested in joining. 12/1/2010 is the date that the new member fee of \$25 will no longer be charged. 1/1/11 is the date that we can begin offering 6 month trial memberships.
- **Public Relations:**
  - HSPS' new banner was up at South Padre Island.
  - HSPS will qualify for the Co-op Ad Program – \$246. [Ed: Information after the meeting is that the program has exhausted its funds for the year already.]
- **Upcoming Dinner Meetings:**
  - November 10<sup>th</sup> – Roman Night at homeport – Wear your toga.
  - December 5<sup>th</sup> – Holiday brunch at Brady's Landing
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - November 20<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) – Fishing on Clear Lake, weather permitting
  - December 11<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) – D/21 Christmas Boat Parade party at the Clear Lake Hilton. A reservation form is in the Bay Neigh to complete and send in.
  - Denny Fegan will contact Oak Island to see if the new channel is deep enough for pleasure boats.

**Treasurer's Department: Lt/C Phyllis W. Stendebach, P**

- **Financial Report:** Submitted
- **Additional Topics:**
  - There was a brief discussion concerning pricing of dinner meetings for children, but no action was taken.
  - D/C Scott McDonald reported that a District budget has been passed, reflecting a planned deficit.

**Secretary's Department: Lt/C Bob Stevenson, JN**

- **Squadron Newsletter:**
  - Squadron Newsletter: November Bay Neigh was posted 10/27/10 and mailed on 11/1/10.

**November 2010 Executive Committee Meeting**  
(Continued from Page 5)

**Commander's Department: Cdr Claire M. McDonald, SN**

- Merit Mark recommendations will be submitted on November 15.
- Nominating Committee reported that there is still no volunteer for the Executive Officer or Administrative Officer positions. Claire requested assistance from the members of the E Board in contacting potential candidates, and will send names to be contacted to each member of the E Board. Claire offered to function as Arrangements Chair if that would be helpful in obtaining a volunteer to be Administrative Officer.
- There will be training for Executive Officers and Administrative Officers in Plano, TX in the spring, conducted by D/21 and USPS National.
- The D/21 incoming officers meeting will be held in January in the vicinity of Clear Lake.
- The Sail Angle auto-enroll program will move forward soon.
- Claire and D/C Scott McDonald reported on events at the D/21 Fall Conference.
- The D/21 Spring Conference will be hosted by Galveston Bay and will be from 4/7-9.
- The Squadron History Report for this year has been e-mailed to those officers responsible for the data. They should begin gathering and entering that now, although the report is not due until after the Change of Watch. A reminder will be sent close to the due date.

**Roman Night at Home Port**

*Photos by Lt/C Bob Leatherwood, S and Lt Jana Wesson, AP*



**Roman Night at Home Port**  
(Continued from Page 6)



**Sponsors**

The Squadron is seeking tax-deductible donations to help defray the cost of boating safety course materials to the public as well as to help fund other necessary Squadron expenses. We can accept as donations cash or items the Squadron needs – as long as they do not result in a tax problem for the Squadron or donor. Sponsors can be companies, individuals in business, or simply individuals (including Members) who wish to help. All donors/Sponsors will be listed on the HSPS website. Please send a check or recommend potential company sponsors to Commander Claire McDonald, SN. Make checks payable to HSPS. There is no cutoff date for the donations or suggestions for Sponsors. The search for annual Sponsors will continue indefinitely.



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Contact *Bay Neigh* Business Manager  
Ken Brooks

e-mail: kwbrooks@ix.netcom.com

## Bay Neigh Articles

If you have a story or experience that would be of interest to our members, please E-Mail pictures and stories to Jana Wesson at [beakboatgirl@me.com](mailto:beakboatgirl@me.com)

Houston Sail and Power Squadron  
6910 Bellaire Blvd #15  
Houston, Texas 77074

## December Birthdays

Phil D. Lester	12/2
Ray L. Kinkaid	12/7
Claire M. McDonald	12/12
Robert W. Leatherwood	12/14
Susan Stevenson	12/16
Kenneth W. Brooks	12/17
Frank H. Beneke Jr.	12/23
Carl A. Stendebach Jr.	12/23



**Our Always-popular Holiday Brunch will be at  
Brady's Landing on the Houston Ship Channel**

**Come join us in celebrating the season!**

**What:** Holiday Brunch  
**When:** Sunday, December 5, 2010 at 11 AM  
**Where:** Brady's Landing Restaurant  
8505 Cypress St., Houston, TX 77015  
**Menu:** The buffet features over 100 items, including hot breakfast items, hot brunch entrées, a fresh seafood bar, international themed stations and complementary champagne and mimosas.  
**Cost:** \$33.00 per person; \$16.00 person under 12

**Please RSVP by Friday, December 3rd.**  
**[icemangems@att.net](mailto:icemangems@att.net)**  
Or call Bob Leatherwood at (281) 879-6005

