



Matagorda Fishing Tournament and Rendezvous

By Cdr Bob Leatherwood, S

The annual Matagorda Fishing Rendezvous, hosted by Gary and Julie Bleish, as well as Jim and Dorothy Pirrung, was held on August 12-14. As usual, it turned out to be a fantastic event and on Saturday, the actual fishing day, there was a really nice breeze that helped to cut down the heat. If you've never been to this event, let me tell you a little about what you've missed. First of all, thanks to the hard work of the Bleishes and the Pirrungs. This was the 16th year that they've sponsored this event, and they deserve constant THANKS for their efforts in making this rendezvous one that many of us look forward to all year long. It's basically a 3 day party, and it's fabulous whether you like fishing or not. On Friday night, we all meet at a restaurant called The Riverbend. We kick back, relax with a few beers, and have a nice seafood dinner. It's right on the Colorado River, and just on the other side of the river is a clearing where 20-30 wild hogs gather. Just watching them is a treat.

Saturday morning, those who wish to, either go out fishing on boats or stay onshore and fish off Gary and Julie's dock, right in their back yard. Once the fishing ends at 5:00 pm, the preparation for the evening fish fry begins, which is definitely one of the highlights of the weekend. There's the weigh-in of the catch. Then, everyone sits around under a huge tent and relaxes with soft drinks or makes several trips to the beer keg. The dinner is great. The members attending bring side dishes and desserts. Meanwhile, Gary is frying fish, Julie is on KP, cleaning potatoes for French fries, Jim Pirrung is blackening Kingfish (which is a sight to behold), and Dorothy Pirrung is slow cooking her famous "Court Bouillon" (which is a magnificent Cajun dish, served over rice). After dinner, the trophies for the tournament are awarded. This year, the Offshore awards went to Jim Pirrung and Ken Brooks for some very nice kingfish, and the Inshore trophy went to Lt. Jana Wesson for a croaker caught off the Bleishes' dock. P/C Claire McDonald tried her hand at surf fishing for the first time and was unable to defend her title. On Sunday morning, there's a brunch served before everyone leaves for home.

I've fished there on boats, as well as on the shore, but this year, Lt Rolf Hogfeldt and I brought down two kayaks to try our luck in places where the boats couldn't go. The kayaks, called WaveWalk 500's, are a new innovation and actually aren't really kayaks at all. They look more like catamarans and are extremely stable. We're also planning on making them available to Squadron members, so if anyone would like to take them out, call Lt Rolf at 281-615-9560.

(Photos on Page 6)

Poop Sheet September 2011

- September 4
Redfish Raft-up
- September 5
Happy Labor Day, HSPS!
- September 7
Board of Directors Meeting – Home Port
- September 8
USPS University Seminar – How to Use a Chart – Home Port
- September 10
America's Boating Course – Home Port
- September 14
HSPS General Meeting – Los Tios
- September 17
VSC – Boardwalk Marina, Kemah
With Sea Scouts
- September 18
Co-op Charting – Dick Snapp/Karl Fernandes
- September 19
Fall Classes Begin – Home Port
- September 24
Adopt-A-Beach
- October 5
Board of Directors Meeting – Home Port
- October 8
VSC – Endeavour Marina, Clear Lake
With Sea Scouts
- October 10
Happy Columbus Day, HSPS!
- October 13
USPS University Seminar – Knots, Bends
and Hitches – Home Port
- October 13-16
D/21 Fall Conference – San Antonio
- October 15
HSPS General Meeting – M/V *Sam Houston*
- October 21-23
Double Bayou Rendezvous
- October 31
Happy Halloween, HSPS!

Bay Neigh

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



Editor
Lt Jana Wesson, AP

Assistant Editor

Home Port
6910 Bellaire Blvd #15
Houston, Texas 77074
www.uspshouston.org

Bridge

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

Squadron's 1st Lieutenants

Asst. Educational Officer. ... 1st/Lt Carl A. Stendebach, Jr., JN
Asst. Secretary TBD
Asst. Treasurer..... 1st/Lt Kathy Fussell, S

Executive Committee

All Bridge Officers... Robbie J. Robbins, JN
S. Dennis Fegan, AP Forrest Paddock, P
Bill Fussell, S Jana Wesson, AP
Kathy Fussell, S P/C Claire McDonald, SN
P/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

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children.

The Sea of Galilee obeyed your order and returned to its former quietude; you are still the Master of land and sea.

We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control.

The Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season, we turn to You, O loving Father.

Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with the passing of time.

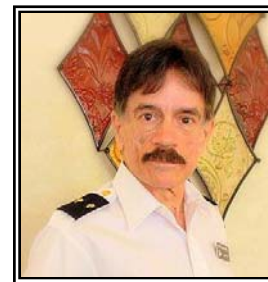
From a prayer originally dedicated to the victims of Hurricane Audrey in 1957.

- Fr. Al Volpe, Cameron Parish, LA

COMMANDER'S CORNER



September 2011 Bay Neigh
Cdr Bob Leatherwood, S

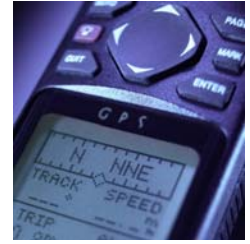


Well, we've made it to September and I know exactly what everyone is thinking. Actually it's the same thing I'm thinking. Clearly, we're all looking forward to cooler weather, and it's right around the corner. However, cool, cooler, or even downright REAL cold, we're NOT stopping or even slowing down. We have lots of things planned for the next few months and even later than that. Make no mistake, we'll be hitting the new year at a dead run and won't stop planning new things until the Change of Watch next March. I'm constantly looking ahead for new ideas of things to help the Squadron, as well as new events to shake things up and get more member participation in the social aspect of our group. We have quite a few members and it's always great when members I've never met drop by a dinner meeting or any of our other events or rendezvous. I encourage any and ALL new members to attend dinner meetings or events so that they can meet other Squadron members to share ideas. We're a very friendly group and new ideas are what help us grow and evolve. Socializing and talking together is precisely WHERE those new ideas come from, and my ear is always available for ANY members, whether they be new members or old members. I'm constantly planning, and any ideas that you might have are EXTREMELY important to me, so never hesitate to drop me an e-mail or give me a call.

Right now, the things going on are extremely exciting. Our initiative with the Sea Scouts is expanding and doing well. Our Education Dept. just held a special ABC3 class in Baytown for Sea Scouts, parents and leaders from a single Sea Scout Ship led by Skipper Eloy Valdez and we had 26 attendees! This was the largest basic boating safety class conducted by the squadron in many years. Instructors were P/D/C Scott McDonald, SN, P/Lt/C John Glaeser, SN, and P/C Denny Fegan, AP. Administration of the class and exams was led by 1st/Lt Carl Stendebach, Jr, JN, with assistance from Ray Kincaid, AP, and Lt/C Bob Stevenson, JN. Also, our PR Dept. has been hard at work sending out "Grant" letters to businesses and individuals who might possibly be interested in writing us a check to defer some of our fixed costs. Many have already gone out and more are in the works so I'm "guardedly" confident that we'll be successful in getting some outside monetary help that is badly needed. I might also suggest that if any of our members know anyone that's interested in boating safety to either send me contact information so we can send them a letter or ask them yourself. It will definitely help our Squadron and after all, all anyone can say is no.

Looking back on August, it was a world of fun, but I was really surprised at our low turnouts. We had our "Chinese Evening" on August 10th and it was a lot of fun as always. The food was good, the decorations looked great and the "Happy Buddha Bar" was rocking! Right on the heels of that dinner was the annual Matagorda Fishing Rendezvous, hosted by Gary and Julie Bleish, as well as Jim and Dorothy Pirrung. See the article on Page 1, check out the pictures and make plans for Matagorda next year if we're lucky to have a year 17 for this wonderful weekend!

In September, our dinner meeting will be at Los Tios on Westeimer, so plan on being there for fajitas, and bring your ideas with you because I'll definitely be there to listen!



Education News
Lt/C Robert Campbell, JN

Advanced Grade and Elective Course News

Time to sign up for Fall classes! Call or e-mail Robert Campbell to register (713-594-1876, seo.hsps@comcast.net).

Classes will begin week of September 19th and meet one night per week (7-9 PM) for eight to ten weeks. A certification exam is taken at the end of the class. Specific days for each class is yet to be determined. The course offerings this fall are as follows:

Course	Class Day, and Registration Date	Instructor	Member Books and Tuition
Seamanship	TBD	Rick Fisher	\$60.00
Piloting	TBD	Scott McDonald	\$60.00
Navigation	TBD	John Glaeser	\$150.00
Marine Electrical Systems	TBD	Bill Haddock	\$60.00

Public Boating Safety Course News

Wow! The special ABC3 class held August 20th for Sea Scout Ship 208 at St. Mark's Methodist Church in Baytown was a huge success. Records show we had 10 adults and 16 youth attending. This is the largest ABC3 class we have had in some time, and it was the first joint HSPS/BSA event resulting from **Bob Stevenson's** and **Chris Leavitt's** Scout initiatives. In a follow-up phone call after the class Ship 208 Skipper **Eloy Valdes** couldn't thank me enough. He gave us high praise for the quality of instruction and the professional conduct of our staff. Ship 208 is a newly formed Sea Scout crew and St. Mark's was requiring training for all individuals involved since they were sponsoring the group. Ship 208 were recently given a 26' Westerly sailboat and were very excited about their new boat! We really made a big impact on these youth and the adults that are helping them. A special thank you is due to **Carl Stendebach**, who takes care of all of the details and make our ABC3 class happen. **Ray Kinkaid**, **Chris Leavitt**, and **Bob Stevenson** helped Carl with logistics. Instructors were **John Glaeser**, **Scott McDonald**, and **Denny Fegan**. This was a lot of extra effort on everybody's part in the middle of the summer. If you see one of these guys, be sure to tell them "Thank You". They deserve it.



Our next regularly scheduled ABC3 class is Saturday, September 10th at Home Port.

(Continued on Page 5)

August 2011 Executive Committee Meeting
Houston Sail and Power Squadron

Roster 2011: Ed Nagel's plan for the mid-year update will be discussed at the September meeting.

Executive Department: Cdr/XO/AO Robert Leatherwood, S

- **Cooperative Charting:** Nothing to report from P/C Dick Snapp, AP. Next Co-Op charting event is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 18th. However, Larry Behrmann would like to move it off of Sunday so some Sea Scouts can participate. He will discuss this with Dick.
- **Vessel Safety Checks:** Report from P/C Bill Haddock, AP: 175 checks have been completed this year, with 134 boats passing as of 7-12-2011.
 - Upcoming event: Saturday, September 17 at the Kemah Boardwalk Marina There are a couple of Sea Scouts who would like to participate. Larry Behrmann will talk with Bill about scheduling the training they need.
- **Public Relations:**
 - **Initiatives with Sea Scouts** Report on July 20th Fleet Meeting by Chris Leavitt:
 - Chris attended the July Fleet Meeting and provided information on upcoming HSPS course offerings. The BSA insurance issue and continued ownership of boats by Sea Scout Ships is still up in the air.
 - Report on PR items "in the works" by Cdr Bob Leatherwood, S:
 - Marine Max marina management has indicated a willingness to work with HSPS in making our flyers available. For the past month Cdr Bob Leatherwood has been attempting without success to contact the Manager to investigate whether Galveston Bay Sail and Power Squadron will be doing anything with Marine Max.
 - Update on plans being made to videotape portions of classes. Experimenting with the camera and the software is coming along well. Credits, graphics and text can be added! The videotapes will be posted online on the squadron website, Facebook page, and Sail Angle. They may also be put on YouTube.
- **Website**
 - The "Events" section of the home page has been updated as of August 1st.
- **Software:**
 - Discussion on a new approach from Microsoft that allows us more flexibility in when and how much MS software we buy via TechSoup. Also, newly available MS operating system software.
 - The GoToMeeting conferencing software license has expired. The Squadron doesn't use the capability enough to warrant paying the monthly fee. Larry Behrmann will investigate potential use of his personal conferencing software for meetings among HSPS members. Bob Stevenson will investigate conferencing capability from USPS.

Education Department: Lt/C Robert Campbell, JN

- **Classes:**
 - Six Sea Scout students are taking the summer Seamanship course.
 - **Seminars:** Hurricanes and Boats – Aug. 11th – Denny Fegan. Cdr Bob Leatherwood will post details on Craig's List.
 - **Report and discussion about special ABC 3 class in Baytown on Aug 20:** One Sea Scout Ship has 17 commitments to attend, and expects 12 more. A flyer has been produced for distribution to other Ships. Pre-registration and payment is being required ahead of time to ensure the appropriate materials are available.
 - **Update on initiative with Leisure Learning by Robert Campbell:** A proposal is en route from the manager. Negotiations will begin when it has been received.
 - Fall Classes begin on September 19th. Those to be held are Seamanship (Rick Fisher) and Piloting (Scott McDonald). In addition, Navigation (John Glaeser) and the 3rd part of Marine Electronics (Bill Haddock) may be conducted.
- **Boat Operator Certification:** Robert Campbell's boat will be used for on the water training. Fire Fighting training will be held at the Maritime Center at San Jacinto College.

Administrative Department: Cdr/XO/AO Robert Leatherwood, S

- **Membership:** No report from Scott McDonald, who was attending the Bi-District Texoma Rendezvous.
- **Bay Area Park Rendezvous:** Discussion and planning of a District Paddling Event/Cookout at Bay Area Park in the fall being organized by Cdr Bob Leatherwood, S. Received approval for the Nov. 5th date from D/C Jerry Madden, S. RV parking not an issue. An ad hoc committee will be formed to perform detailed planning, including the number of grills needed, their sources, and food planning.

August 2011 Executive Committee Meeting
(Continued from Page 4)

- **Upcoming Dinner Meetings:**
 - Oriental Evening on Aug. 10th
 - Sept. 14th Dinner Meeting at Los Tios.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Bi-District Rendezvous on Lake Texoma - August 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th.
 - Matagorda Fishing Tournament and Fish Fry – August 12th, 13th, and 14th. Gary and Julie Bleisch and Jim and Dorothy Pirrung hosting.
 - Discussion about Redfish Raft Up – Sept. 4th. Sea Scouts are invited to participate on their own boats. Denny Fegan is coordinating the event.
 - Governing Board Meeting in Greensboro – Sept. 14th-18th
 - Adopt-a-Beach Cleanup – Sept. 24th (Saturday). Claire McDonald will coordinate the event. Sea Scouts will be participating.

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

- **Financial Report:** Financial report was submitted and discussed.
- **Electric Usage:** Running both Home Port A/C units at the same time has produced a jump in the rate charged and a significant increase in expense. A sign will be posted warning people not to run both simultaneously until a switch can be installed that will only permit one to be run at a time.
- **Discussion:** The gross receipts ceiling for most small tax-exempt organizations (including HSPS) was raised from \$25,000 to \$75,000 before a longer tax form is required.

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

- **Squadron Newsletter:**
 - Was mailed on Aug. 2nd and posted on the website.

Commander's Department: Cdr/XO/AO Robert Leatherwood, S

- **Update on the Kroger Neighbor-to-Neighbor program handouts:** Kroger at Hwy 6 has been contacted and agreed to permit handing-out the flyers and water bottles. Permission is at the Manager's discretion for each Kroger.

Unfinished Business

- The Nominating Committee is beginning work to formally build an election slate to fill the officer and committee positions for the next watch year. Informal approaches have been undertaken since the beginning of this watch year. Success of this effort is critical to the Squadron's viability. The Squadron currently has no line of succession to fill Bridge positions other than Squadron Educational Officer and Treasurer when the current Bridge is dismissed in March. If there are no volunteers to lead the Squadron, drastic action will be required.

Education News
(Continued from Page 3)

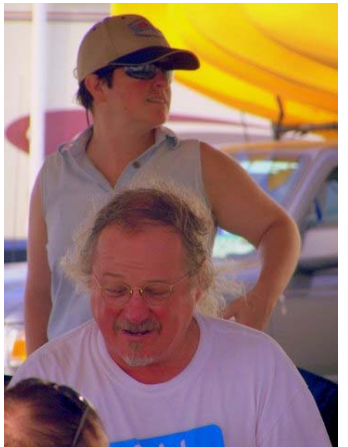
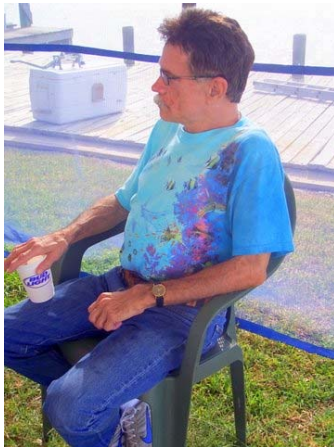
USPS Seminars

Plan to attend a USPS Seminar! P/C **Denny Fegan** always presents these topics in a relevant and entertaining way. Seminars are held the 2nd Thursday of each month 7-9 PM at Home Port.

The schedule for the remainder of the year is:

- September 8, 2011 How to Use a Chart
- October 13, 2011 Knots, Bends and Hitches
- November 10, 2011 Marine RADAR
- December 8, 2011 Mariner's Compass

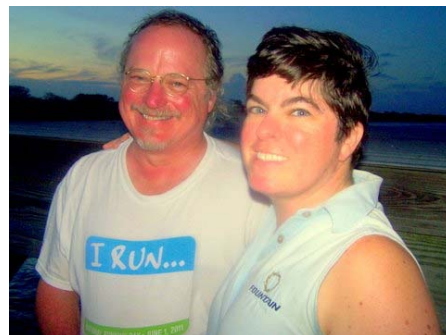
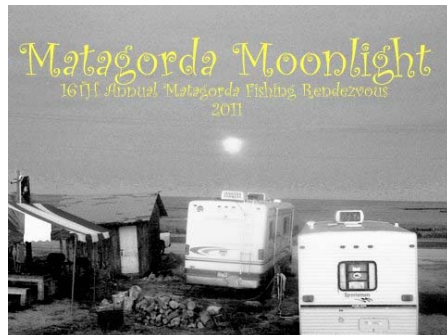
Matagorda Fishing Tournament and Rendezvous
Photos by Lt Jana Wesson, AP, Cdr Bob Leatherwood, S, and Lt Rolf Hogfeldt



Matagorda Fishing Tournament and Rendezvous
Photos by Lt Jana Wesson, AP and Lt Rolf Hogfeldt



Matagorda Fishing Tournament and Rendezvous
Photos by Lt Jana Wesson, AP and Lt Rolf Hogfeldt



August Dinner Meeting – Oriental Evening at Home Port
Photos by Lt Jana Wesson, AP and Cdr Bob Leatherwood, S





50 Years and Still Kicking

Please join the Austin Power Squadron as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary
as a unit of the United States Power Squadrons

Sunday, September 25, 2011
1200 Noon – Fellowship and Mixer – 1300 Hrs – Program and Luncheon

Onion Creek Country Club
2510 Onion Creek Parkway
Austin, Texas 78747-1612

Honoring
Charter Member - P/C Chester A. (Chet) Geist, SN and his wife distinguished Education Officer P/D/LtC
Christine G. Geist, SN
and
U.S.P.S. Governing Board Emeritus - P/D/Lt/C Harold W. Butler, SN

Luncheon Fare
Garden Salad with Ranch or Red Wine Vinaigrette Dressing
Slow Roasted Prime Rib or Stuffed Chicken Florentine
Potatoes au Gratin
Fresh Seasonal Vegetables
Berries Romanoff with Gran Marnier Sauce
Iced Tea and Coffee

\$35.00 Per Guest

Music by the Classicats

Uniform: Blazer or Appropriate Brunch Attire

Driving Directions: From IH 35 North take Exit 225 Onion Creek Parkway. Stay in right lane on service road. Stop at STOP sign. Turn left on to Onion Creek Parkway.

This dead-ends into Onion Creek Club parking lot.

From IH 35 South take Exit 225 Onion Creek Parkway. Stay in right lane on service road. Stop at STOP sign. Turn right on to Onion Creek Parkway.

This dead-ends into Onion Creek Club parking lot.

Matagorda Fishing Tournament and Rendezvous

Photo by Lt Rolf Hogfeldt



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 Bob Leatherwood, S. 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.



AmeriStar
REALTORS®

RICHARD SNAPP
REALTOR®

Business (281) 580-2220
Cell (713) 204-1651
Fax (281) 631-0605
rsnapp@star-realtors.com



5222 FM 1960 WEST, STE. 120
HOUSTON, TX 77069

This Space Available

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

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

September Birthdays

Jerry Dwight Tanksley	9/2
Alfred J. McCarthy	9/3
Jeannine K. Garnett	9/3
S. Dennis Fegan	9/4
Andres Cuellar	9/6
Lana Huston	9/6
Gary A. Delzer	9/8
Marvin M. Lippincott	9/10
Richard E. Hagerman	9/10
Herby Berryhill	9/11
John H. Spang	9/15
Janet E. Glaeser	9/19
Holly H. Huston	9/21
Gary L. Bleisch	9/24
James D. Pyle	9/24
Mary K. Thompson	9/27
Scott D. McDonald	9/27
Jana Wesson	9/29
Mary E. Sandoval	9/29

Get on the Water!

Maybe you're in between boats, or your boat has become a project boat, or you have a sailboat but want to do a little fishing. No worries, mate! Capt. Robert Campbell is offering "free" fishing and boating charters to HSPS members, family and friends.

You provide: Fuel & Food

I provide: Boat, Tackle, Ice & Water

Bay fishing or offshore: fly fishing, wadefishing, kayak ferries, drift fishing, jetty fishing, or just sightseeing.

For more info contact:
Capt Robert Campbell
713-594-1594
seo.hsps@comcast.net



From the Poop

San Antonio Sail & Power Squadron

E-mail Message
From the 'Now Hear This' Editor



... --- ... **SOS** ... --- ... **SOS** ... --- ...

We are in drastic need of boats

And Participants

For the District Coop Charting Event

30 Sept 1 & 2 October 2011

To be held in Rockport or Port Aransas

We are threatened with Cancellation

If we can't come up with more boats (4—5 needed)

Call Bill Lewis—210-824-2888 if you can help

5 August 2011

