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The Log Jam

Any articles, comments or questions regarding this monthly publication may be directed to:
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Visit the LMPS website at www.lmpsonline.org

Articles, opinions, and advertisements do not necessarily reflect USPS policy or endorsement unless so designated.
2014

Christmas Party and Awards

Lt Marilyn Hyman, AP with door prize winner Deb Kessler

Jack Kessler, Lori Adler, Deb Kessler, and P/C Debra Allen, AP

Darlene Clawson, Cyndi Langlois, Lt/C Janice Ayers, P, Lt Donna Dodson, AP, and Angie Tronco, P

Cdr Braxton Sorg with Bent Prop winner Linden Carroll

P/C J. Strohecker, JN presents the Spark Plug Award to 1st/Lt Howard Pendley, P

Rusty Anchor Winner 1st/Lt Retta Strohecker, P

P/C J. Strohecker, JN presents the Commander's Award to Lt R.J. Becht

D/C Andy Hyman, SN, and P/C J. Strohecker, JN, present the Catch the Spirit Award to Jack and Deb Kessler
It has been an exciting January. First, I want to welcome Lt/C Bryant Blakeslee, AP to the Bridge as our Executive Officer. Bryant has many years of history with the squadron and will be a fantastic addition for this year. Next, we had a great initial First Friday Meet-up on 9 January 2015. There were 16 members plus 4 prospective members that joined us in Irmo at the Bistro on the Boulevard. Look for the next “Meet-up” on 6 Feb at the Flight Deck in Lexington. Come on out. Stop in for a minute to say hi or stay for dinner. Look in this issue of Log Jam for more information. Several members went to the Crystal River in Florida to "Swim with the Manatees". It was a great gathering and the weather fully cooperated, as did the manatees. Many thanks to our Cruise Coordinator Chuck Clark for seeing to all of the details. Be sure to look for the other events and squadron activities and sign up for as many as you can. We certainly have a lot of boating opportunities available this year.

Several Lake Murray Power Squadron members attended the United States Power Squadrons National Meeting in Jacksonville, Florida this past month. There were a lot of great people and courses offered for members and bridge officers to take advantage of. USPS is making changes to keep our organization more current with the times and competitive. Keep an eye out for updates. I encourage all members to participate in the District and National events. The friends you make and things you learn are fantastic. Remember the cost for most events, your travel, hotel and food can be tax deductible. And in that light, I had a conversation with our District Treasurer, Larry Jefferis, JN, and he confirmed that since we are paying LMPS for our monthly meetings, the check you write is tax deductible. As well as dues, among other things. Of course talk with your own tax professional for the applicability to your own personal situation. You can access more information at the United States Power Squadrons web site under the Treasurer’s page.

There are still openings for the Edisto Kayak Trip
9 - 12 April 2015
Contact Rich Barreto ASAP
captrcb@gmail.com
I am pleased to announce that we will have a fantastic February meeting. We will have one the USPS boating training simulators at the meeting as well as Atlanta Sail and Power Squadron P/C Lisa Herndon, AP, United States Power Squadrons coordinator and super user of the simulators, who will talk about the program and how it works. Come to the meeting and give it a try. Additionally, we will be honored with music during the social and dinner hours provided by members of the Lake Murray Symphony Orchestra. Watch for the RSVP and be sure to attend.

New training courses are starting up soon. Look for the offerings and if you are missing a course to move closer to Educational Proficiency, be sure to sign up early.

United States Power Squadrons and Lake Murray Power Squadron.... a very exciting place to be.

See you soon on our “Cruise Around The Sun”.

- Braxton

First Friday Meet-Up

6 February 2015

Flight Deck Restaurant
109-A OLD CHAPIN ROAD
LEXINGTON SC 29072

1830 to (at least) 2030

Drinks, conversation, fun, and possibly stay for dinner......

"Anchor Boat" will be
Fred and Susan Ruinen
and
Brian and Lori Adler

The first Meet-Up was a lot of fun! We had 16 squadron members, as well as 4 prospective members in attendance. Plenty of good conversation and great food!!

Come on out and join us!!

South Carolina Webmaster

Todd A. Barrett, MCSE

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www.SCWebmaster.com
I would like to thank The Bridge for allowing me to serve as Executive Officer for 2015. Where do I begin and why am I back on The Bridge? October will mark my 17th year as a member of LMPS. Let me give you some personal history. I had just purchased a previously enjoyed 23’ SeaRay Sundancer, Impulsive Behavior. Yes, my wife Beth said it was destiny with a name so fitting and, yes, it was the only boat of seven that I got permission to purchase. My son Bryant Jr, age 13 at the time, and I were instructed to take a boating course. We both went to what is now known as America’s Boating Class taught by LMPS at SeaRay of Columbia. After successful completion, I was asked if I would like to join the squadron by P/C Jeff Langlois, P. My family and I spent the first two years enjoying Lake Murray, skiing and tubing most weekends, but not actively participating with the Squadron. I then began taking additional classes offered by the Squadron. Eventually I went with 12 other friends and LMPS members to get my U.S.C.G. Captain’s License. Beth and I began going to dinner meetings and Squadron events, making many new friends. It was on our first coastal cruise from Charleston to Beaufort that the hook was set! What could be better than pristine water, adventure, and great people. Naturally we were new to coastal cruising, but everyone was willing to lend a hand to help. This certainly gave us the confidence to go on more and more Squadron Cruises.

Somewhere early on I was asked to head up the Shake N Break Cruise, cooking hamburgers for 100 plus members. I had plenty of members stepping up to help. Over the years I have led cruises, flipped burgers, served as VSC Chair, Member at Large, Secretary (yes, Debra Allen was nervous), Treasurer and Administrative Officer. All because someone asked me to help.

My family and I have been blessed by our friends (family) of LMPS. My boating knowledge, great memories, and friendships are all because so many have given so much to create an impactful and lasting legacy of The Lake Murray Power Squadron. It is because of those who have assumed leadership positions, heading up cruises, education, dinner meetings, special events and given so much of themselves that we have such a wonderful legacy. When asked, I wanted to give back to LMPS and my friends. My heartfelt thanks for your thoughts, prayers and friendship during this past year especially.

continued on page 7
How You Can Help:

**The Columbia Boat Show** - will be held 13 - 15 February 2015. Volunteers are needed to staff our booth throughout the weekend. Contact co-chairs Lt R.J. Becht and Lt Debbie Becht via email at Rbecht6518@aol.com to sign up.

**Vessel Safety Examiners** - We are in need of vessel safety Examiners. If you would like to help promote safe boating and become an examiner please contact me. VSE class will be announced in the near future. If you would like to be an examiner or need to recertify this will be your opportunity. Contact me with any questions.

**Speakers Bureau** - We have many qualified members who are willing to speak at various civic groups, I just need a member to be the contact person, not a speaker. Please contact me if you are willing to chair this committee.

**Co-Op Charting** - We are in need of a Chairperson

Please consider stepping up and helping us fill the vacant positions. It doesn’t take that much time and we need you. Many thanks to all for your membership and your service.

Let’s have a great 2015.

- Bryant

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**Member Benefits**

The United States Power Squadrons have many Member Benefits that few people know about. Lt Valerie Hunter, Member Benefits Chair, has provided a list of the benefits, which may also be found on the USPS website [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org) Watch for a new benefit to be highlighted each month.

**Office Depot** offers up to 80% savings on preferred products such as ink, paper, office supplies, toners, laptops and accessories, webcam, computers, furniture and much more for in store or online shopping. Use the link below for additional information.


**BoatU.S.** offers members a premium discount on marine insurance policies. You are eligible for a 50% discount on your BoatU.S. Membership and a 10% discount on all water towing service levels. Check out all the advantages to Boat U. S. on the link below.

Whether we’re cruising the Caribbean as Lee and I did in mid-January or cruising around Lake Murray, we are always the happiest when there is water under our feet. It’s so good to be a part of an organization that shares our sentiment and keeps safety/education, civic service, and fraternal activities on the forefront of all their thoughts and actions. We may not all be from the same ship, but as LMPS members, we are all in the same boat and it takes our whole crew to make and keep things shipshape and happening!

AND . . . we really have some great things happening! February’s dinner meeting will be a cultural treat thanks to Lt Elaine Harkey, P. We will have several members of the Lake Murray Symphony Orchestra (LMSO) providing social time and dinner music. They are a local all-volunteer community orchestra dedicated to performing a varied repertoire of classical, light classical, and pops music to listeners of all ages and musical tastes. Since they will share their time and talents with us for no charge, we will exercise the civic arm of LMPS and put out a basket for you to make a donation to them if you desire. This group needs funds to exist and each person who donates makes it possible for them to continue to share the gift of music by purchasing or renting the many things necessary to bring live symphonic music to the public.

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Catering by Design will again provide our dinner meal and Lt Susan Ruinen has selected a tasty menu. We got lucky and were able to reserve one of the Boating Skills Virtual Trainers for use at this year’s Boat Show and the dates coincide with our February dinner meeting. Lt Marilyn Hyman, AP and I experimented with this computerized “vessel” at the Fall District Conference in Myrtle Beach and let me just say, I need a lot of practice before I can competently be alone at the helm of a real boat! Thank goodness I’m married to a skilled captain! Come on out to Saluda Shoals and give this impressive training tool a test run! We are very fortunate to have P/C Lisa Parsons Herndon, AP scheduled to share her expertise of the Boating Skills Virtual Trainer during the program portion of our evening. Lisa is the USPS Project Manager for the new simulators and a Past Commander of Atlanta Sail & Power Squadron/District 17. She has been a member of that Squadron for 12 years and is an associate member of LMPS. Many of you may have been members in LMPS long enough to remember Lisa’s parents, Gladys and Hilton Parsons. Lisa began boating at the age of six when her father built his first boat (the Lisa Gail), has her Captain’s “six pack” license and owns a 33’ Silverton power boat.

I think you’ll enjoy all that we have planned for the February dinner meeting, so sign up to attend when you see the e-mail go out! We always need accurate numbers as far in advance as possible for the caterers – please don’t wait until the last minute!

I hope you enjoyed the Oyster Roast! Lee relishes cooking for a crowd and seeing everybody enjoying the seafood. Believe me, it takes a lot of work for him to shop, prepare, execute, clean up and recover from this big event. Thanks to Lee and all who helped us with this much anticipated highlight of the year event!

- Janice

Don't forget the
LMPS Dinner Meeting
19 February, 2015
1830 hours
Saluda Shoals
Watch for the email announcement to make reservations

Come experience the Boating Simulator, and hear P/C Lisa Parsons Herndon, AP speak about its development and use.

Dinner music by members of the Lake Murray Symphony Orchestra
Sail and Engine Maintenance courses coming soon!!

There is a new version of an old saying going around, “Alcohol is driving me to drink”. And if there has ever been a better reason to take the Engine Maintenance course it is alcohol. We use our boats mostly on weekends during the Summer then put them up for the Winter months. Now that most gas has some alcohol content old fuel problems have become epidemic. Boat motors, lawn mowers and even some cars will suffer from water accumulating in gas tanks after a long layover. Spending the time taking Engine Maintenance will take away some of the mysteries in maintaining our internal combustion engines. The course we have scheduled beginning Wednesday, 4 February 2015 at Flotilla Island is an abbreviated course covering more of the material in a shorter time frame.

Also, Sailing is starting Thursday, 5 February 2015 at Flotilla Island. Sail 2009 is a completely new sail course created to serve the needs of the novice and experienced sailor, as well as the non-sailor, for basic skills and knowledge. The course starts with basic sailboat designs and nomenclature, rigging, safety, and sail processes and then tackles the physical aspects of sailing forces and techniques, sail applications, marlinespike, helmsmanship and handling of more difficult sailing conditions, navigation rules, and an introduction to heavy weather sailing.

To sign up for either course get in touch with Howard Pendley (AsstSEO@LMPSOnline.org) or me, Jerry Wise (seo@lmpsonline.org).

We also have a group of new “Advanced Pilots”. Congratulations to Elaine and James Harkey, Howard Pendley and Mark Rhett. Also, a special congratulations goes to Fred Ruinen achieving the esteemed grade of “Navigator”. A hard course that was well done, thanks to our Super Navigation Instructor, Lee Ayers.
Never too old for a grand leap to the dock

Charleston City Marina has a strong current most hours of the day making docking a challenge under best of conditions. On this day the current was moderate with gusty winds. The Sport Fisherman had a unique crew with a charter party aboard. Unique in the age of the crew members. The Captain was in his 30s, the deck hand in his 20s and the first mate his 80s. The first mate obviously owned the boat, judging by his instructions to the Captain and how he handled the docking lines. The guy was good and knew his way around a boat. The charter party was in the usual state of charter parties on a Saturday evenings. (Somewhat mildly inebriated and euphoric.)

Their berth was adjacent to the main walkway inside a row of finger piers. In calm waters this would have been a routine docking experience. This day wasn't extreme but the current was moving against the boats final docking position making a little engine power in reverse necessary until the docking lines were secured. As the 45 foot Sport Fishing boat maneuvered into the finger docks, a gust of wind hit the boat broadside blowing it away from the main dock. The Captain eased the boat back out into the main channel and tried again. Just as the stern touched, another gust hit pushing the bow too far away to recover and get a line to the dock (she didn't have bow thrusters). After five attempts, the 80 plus year old first mate and boat owner had had enough. He climbed up on the gunwale and stood poised with a dock line in his hand. As the boat backed into the slip again a gust caught it just as he jumped 3 feet onto the dock. It was a magnificent perfectly executed leap... until the landing. His legs were just about up to the stress of landing but not quite. He tried to catch his balance but it wasn't to be. He slid into a power pylon face first. The only damage was some serious dock rash, a sprain and a bruised ego. Nobody laughed and he made quite a recovery getting the line cleated off and hobbled forward to catch the bow line thrown by the deck hand. continued on page 14
The first LMPS cruise began Friday, 16 January 2015 to Crystal River Florida to swim with the manatees. The groups arrived throughout the day at the Port Hotel and Marina, and that evening we all got together for drinks and dinner at the Ale House and discussed the details for Saturday’s events.

Saturday morning everyone arrived at the dive shop and watched the mandatory movie, donned wet suits, and snorkel gear. The temperature was 40 degrees at 8 AM as we boarded pontoon boats to set out on our manatee adventure. The mist was hanging on top of the warm water as we left the marina headed to Three Sisters Springs. Along the way we encountered dolphins feeding on fish, and abundant birds and wild life that made for a very pleasant cruise. We arrived at the springs and found a place to anchor. I believe everyone was in the water within 10 minutes, some before the anchor was set. As the LMPS members got into the water, they immediately encountered manatees. I myself stepped on one and was turned over in the water as it swam away. A couple in the group was knocked down by manatees as they swam past, but they got up smiling from the experience. The manatee experience was one that will not

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be forgotten as some of the younger members went nose to nose with the gentle giants, and even petted them. That afternoon the majority of the group attended the Manatee Festival to view the local Arts and Crafts, before we all came back together that evening for a delicious dinner and a discussion about our experiences that morning.

Sunday a large portion of the group rented Kayaks and set out for more adventures with the gentle giants. The group paddled around the entire Kings Bay area to visit the many springs and encountered manatees and other wildlife along the maybe 5 mile paddle. I didn’t hear anyone complain about sore muscles, maybe because of the good time they were having. Four of us in the group enjoyed a round of golf on Plantation Golf Course, which was very relaxing, and a great course.
Safety Report  continued from page 11

This isn't about age though it had something to do with the landing. Everyone loses strength and balance to a small degree as they age. No issue there. Its more to do with jumping from a possibly wet moving platform (side to side and up and down) onto another potentially moving platform that may be wet. Lines snag, boat shoes slip and distances may be greater than you think. As with any injury breaking the skin, the most important treatment is to clean the area with soap and water right away, especially areas exposed to sea water. Sea water has many potentially infectious organisms that do bad things in rare instances to cuts and scrapes. You don't want to go there when a little soap and water will put things right. Moral of the story; let the boat and Captain do the work and step over to the dock. Leave the jumping to the Dolphins.

New Member Highlight

LOUIS (CAREY) and PAULA HITE
410 Clearview Drive
Columbia, SC 29212
803-749-1387
Email: chitemd@gmail.com

"We have lived on the lake for 20 years and enjoy evening cruising in our 21 foot Sea Ray. I have been a recreational boater lifelong. Paula has a dream of doing the great loop. Looking for a financially viable way to make that trip." -Carey Hite

Ship's Store

We have a nice selection of polo shirts, fishing shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, hats, and T-shirts in a wide selection of colors for sale. See the wares at the February Dinner Meeting or contact me to place an order:

Lt Hilarie Brush, P
hbmckinstry@gmail.com
314-780-5397

Featured Item

Microfleece Vest
- Wonderfully soft and warm
-Sizes XS thru 4XL
-Colors: Black, Royal Burgandy, Navy, Silver Grey, and Tan
D26 2015 Spring Conference

The upcoming 2015 Spring Conference starts Friday, 27 February 2015 and continues until Sunday, 1 March. The conference site is right on the beautiful Jekyll Island, GA beach. After asking what it would take to get more members to attend conferences, the District Bridge has worked hard to provide activities and seminars to appeal to all.

Lodgings are at a discounted rate at the Hampton Inn, and include complimentary breakfast.

Friday night’s buffet dinner and the Saturday Banquet will be in the new Jekyll Island Convention Center. If you haven’t visited the Convention Center yet, you’re in for a real treat!

Most of the activities on Friday are oriented toward Squadron and District officers except for the Friday night social which is purely fun and fellowship for all. Seminars/meetings/round table sessions on Saturday are oriented toward all District 26 members.

Saturday night’s awards banquet is scheduled to be held in the Ben Porter Salon. This remarkable room is on the beach side of the center and has a wooden floor made of reclaimed barn flooring. On both Friday and Saturday the hospitality room at the hotel will be open and you can also “shop” at the Silent Auction. The Silent Auction will close prior to the banquet and winning bidders will be announced. We are working hard to assemble a collection of attractive items for the Silent Auction, so take time to visit and bid.

For the spouses’ program on Saturday, we will arrange a carpool from the hotel to Saint Simons Red Fern Village where the group will board a climate controlled trolley for a 90 minute tour of Saint Simons Island. Lunch will be “on your own” in Red Fern Village where the tour will end and there’ll be free time to shop or explore afterwards. The Conference promises to be new, interesting and exciting and is designed to provide an environment to “Catch the Spirit and Pass it on” to our fellow attendees.

Complimentary brunch on Sunday.

Seminars include:
Kayaking Demo
Anchoring
Co-op Charting
Boating on Rivers, Locks, and Lakes

See www.usps.org/localusps/d26/ for more information and to register

(It says the registration deadline is 1 February 2015, but I'm sure they will take late registrations. Give them a call !)
USPS District 26 Cruise & Rendezvous
Savannah—June 5–7
hosted by
Tybee Light Sail & Power Squadron

Boating Activities
• **Friday:** Power boat cruise from Savannah River mile marker 104 to Thunderbolt
• **Saturday:** Your choice of a 3-hour guided ecological kayak tour along the coast of our beautiful barrier islands or a quick cruise to Wassaw for on-the-beach fun
• **Sunday:** After the farewell breakfast, join us for a 2-hour sailing adventure

Cruise, Paddle & Sail!

Marina Arrangements
Boat dockage has been arranged with Savannah Bend Marina, 188 Old Tybee Road, Thunderbolt, GA 31410. 912-897-3625. ICW mile marker 583. A public boat ramp is next to the marina.
• Rates: $1.50/ft/day, 30-amp power $6/day. Trailer parking in fenced lot $10/day.
• Specials: Stay 3 days, get 50% off on day 3. Stay 4 days, get 5th day free.
There are 3 more marinas in Thunderbolt—Thunderbolt Marina, Morningstar Marina at Bahia Bleu, and Hinckley’s—all with good service, but slightly more expensive.

Hotel, Hospitality & Dining Arrangements
Savannah is a wonderful tourist destination, and our C&R plans provide time for you to savor the sights, sounds, and flavors of our beautiful, historic city. Our home base will be the gracious Hilton Savannah Desoto, where we will have our welcome desk, hospitality suite, silent auction, Friday night reception, and Saturday dinner.

Rates: $145/night (double occupancy), plus applicable taxes. Free street parking, 20% off valet parking.
Our group rate is available 3 days before and after our C&R.

Register online using the hotel’s United States Power Squadrons District 26 C&R Website (available now):
Or call reservations: 1-877-280-0751 and let them know you are part of our group.

• **Welcome, Hospitality Suite, and Silent Auction** will be held at the hotel, starting at 2PM Friday afternoon.

• **Friday Night Reception:** Hors d’oeuvres will be served 6-8PM. Drop in for as long as you’d like and still have time to go out for dinner or to join us on one of Savannah’s famous Ghost Tours.

• **Saturday Night Dinner:** Plated dinner and entertainment in the hotel’s ballroom.

• **Sunday Breakfast:** Complimentary farewell buffet breakfast at the historic Pirates’ House restaurant.

Transportation
Tybee Light will provide complimentary car transport to/from the hotel, marinas, and Pirates’ House.

Rain? Landlubber Activities?
We have organized a host of Saturday activities in case of rain and for our C&R landlubber friends. More news to follow! Want more options? See www.visitsavannah.com!

Can’t Wait to Welcome YOU to Savannah!

• info@savannahsboatingclub.org
• Fran Desmone, 912-598-4934
• Dennis Cusanelli, 912-659-2380
### February 2015

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Log Jam Deadline and Call for Submissions

Please submit any articles or information that you would like included in the next issue of Log Jam by the 20th of the preceding month. Any anecdotes or photos from boating trips or activities would be greatly appreciated.

Any articles, comments or questions regarding this monthly publication may be directed to:

Lt Hilarie Brush, P
hbmckinstry@gmail.com
314-780-5397

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