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The Log Jam

Volume 55, No. 4

October 2018

The Crew that Cruises

In August, 12 boats made the trip to Lake Greenwood. Over 30 members enjoyed a great day on the lake and lunch at Harris Landing, followed by a raft up in hidden cove.



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The Crew that Cruises

September started off with a four day cruise over Labor Day Weekend to Bald Head island, Wilmington NC and Southport. Boats of all sizes did the trip.



LMPS hosts fun day on the Lake for Thornwell Kids

Six vans carried approximately 60 children of all ages and their house parents from Thornwell Children's Home in Clinton to visit Flotilla Island on Saturday 21 July. They all excitedly poured out of the vehicles, got fitted for their life jackets, got a safety briefing and went to work having a great time.

Members gave boat rides pulling large tubes and Jet Ski rides; lines formed constantly on the dock waiting their turn for yet another ride. Kids swam and floated between the two docks under the ever watchful eyes of two certified lifeguards and LMPS members. The children maneuvered kayaks around like pros, and came out of the water only long enough to eat lunch and get a cold water.

Members were sweating over the grill cooking hamburgers and hotdogs for the crowd. Inside the building helpful members prepared fixings, sides and desserts for lunch.

A special thanks goes out to all the LMPS members who volunteered their time, boats, and donations to make this a wonderful event for these kids. Debbie Becht, R.J. Becht, Fred Ruinen, Bryant Blakeslee, Danny Glen, Tommy Clawson, Kathy Glenn, Wayne Cromley, Christine Royson, Dean Royson, Betsy Agar, Dan Drake, Holly Drake, John Edwards, Todd Howell, Mike DiMaria, Angela Robinson, Princess Robinson, Rick Agar, Michael Starewicz, Jerry Smith, KT Tripathi. If I missed your full name please let me know.



Thank you cards from the Thornwell kids. They really love this day and all the fun they have at Flotilla!



Commander's Report

by Cdr R.J. Becht



Wow! It's been a great year. We've created a lot of moments that we'll remember for a long time. By time you read this, my Watch Year will be over. Unfortunately or fortunately, depending on how you look at it, I'm not going anywhere. Fred Ruinen is stepping up and he's going to do a great job. Most importantly we are all here to support him. Until then, I'd like to take a look back over the Moments that we've created over the last several months.

We continue to grow. Since our last Log Jam, Frank & Lynn McKinnon, Angelika Breland, Steve Crater, and Daron & Stephanie Labruyere along with their children have joined our family. It was great to see all of them at our Annual Oktoberfest meeting at the Island and we certainly look forward to them being active members of LMPS in the future.

On July 28th and August 4th we conducted our last ABC Class of the year. We had seventeen attendees which was our largest class of the year. I want to thank all of those who helped to make this one of our best classes ever. More to follow, but I hope to see everyone at an upcoming class in the near future.

August was a busy month. We had a great small boat trip to Lake Greenwood that was chaired by our very own David & Debra Allen. We had 12 boats make the trip and we simply took over the deck for lunch at Harris Landing. If you haven't been there, the food is great and the service is even better. Over 30 of us were served and out the door in an hour or so! Stop by and see them sometime. After lunch, David escorted us to Hidden Cove, where we rafted up and the professional beverage boppers took over. The day ended with a nice cruise back to the launch ramp.

We had our Reference Light check on August 25th and they were all reported working, except the light on Spence Island. I want to thank Charlie Bruce and David Moxley for making the repairs. A special thanks to one of our sponsors, Lighthouse Marina for donating the pontoon so they could reach the island for repairs.

September did not disappoint either. We started off the month with a cruise over Labor Day weekend to Bald Head Island, Wilmington and Southport NC. We had boats of all sizes make the four-day cruise. If you haven't joined in on one of our boat cruises, don't be shy. They are a blast and a great way to learn some boating skills from your fellow members and meet new friends. Remember, we are the Crew that Cruises.

Fred Ruinen and his group again helped out at the annual Dam Swim for Drew. This very worthwhile event saw 12 of our boats run the blockade for over 250 swimmers. Come join us next year.

You thought we were done? Nope! Dan & Holly Drake chaired the Lake Murray Paddleboard Classic. LMPS provided security along with Richland County to make sure 100 paddleboarders were safe throughout their 11-mile course. Also helping out were Ed & Barb Garbe and Fred Ruinen.

With summer winding down, it was time to get back to basic's. We held our September dinner meeting at Flotilla Island. We had over 50 members in attendance. We had a fantastic social hour on the back deck complete with a fabulous sunset. The food was great, as Terry Cotney from the Freedom and Hope Foundation provided their special chicken and pork dishes followed by Terry's famous banana pudding.

During October, we held our Annual Meeting at the Island. On the 18th, 50 plus members elected new Bridge members for 2019. We combined this meeting with our annual Oktoberfest on our back deck which included music, German beers, soft pretzels, brats, and chicken. Ed Garbe had a few theme appropriate raffle items while Barb Garbe set the mood with her decorating skills. We capped off the meeting by swearing in the Labruyere family.

That same weekend several members attended the D26 Fall Conference at Hickory Knob State Park. Many of us took our RV's while others stayed in the comfort of the lodge. The accommodations were great and the weather was even better. We enjoyed dinner and dancing Friday night. On Saturday, meetings, football, and a pot luck dinner including a bonfire for our members capped off a great day. One highlight of the conference was that we were recognized for our Membership Growth for 2018 along with our increased VSC inspections. A special thanks to Debbie Becht and her inspectors for a great effort.

Well that about sums up a awesome finish to a great Watch Year. None of it could have been possible without all of the members who contributed to create the Moments for 2018. I look forward to working with Fred and I hope to see everyone at the Christmas Party on December 14th



Executive Officer's Report

by Lt/C Fred Ruinen, JN

Fall and cooler weather is upon us and for most it's the time of year where we focus more on football and less on boating as the weather cools off. What some of us may not realize is that it's a great time of the year to be out on the lake. Temperatures warm up nicely on sunny afternoons and there is hardly any boaters on the lake.

August was a busy, hectic, and exciting time for me and the family (well, maybe a little stressful for Susan). We purchased a cruiser from fellow squadron member Ken Sanders and with the help of Charlie Bruce (thank you Charlie!), got the trailer ready to go for our first cruise on our new to us boat. We traveled to Southport to meet up with eight other squadron boats, settled in to our slip, dined on some delicious seafood, and enjoyed a few drinks and laughs with the group. The following day (after a minor pump out issue), we all traveled to Wilmington, NC and spent the day exploring the city and enjoying the local cuisine. In the evening, we enjoyed a dock party with the crew. The next morning we traveled to Bald Head Island, which was the highlight of the trip for us. We visited the lighthouse, explored the island, and spent time on the beach, and once again, enjoyed food, drinks, and laughs with the group. The next day we cruised back to Southport to haul our boats and travel back to Lexington. I'm happy to say we had no issues trailering the boat. A huge thank you to Chuck Clark for putting this trip together.

The following weekend after the Southport cruise, we once again had the pleasure of participating in the Dam Swim for Drew with the assistance of many others in the squadron. Ethan swam two miles from Irmo to Lexington along the Lake Murray Dam and we assisted with keeping the swimmers safe along the way. We had a wonderful time and the weather was perfect for the event. Please read more about the Dam Swim in the article in this newsletter.

In late September, the Lake Murray Paddle Club hosted their seventh annual Lake Murray Paddle Classic. The Paddle Club reached out to us to serve as Safety Boats and of course, we were happy and able to assist. Ed Garbe, Dan and Holly Drake, and I were part of the group watching over the kayakers and paddlers, keeping everyone safe and on standby if anyone needed any assistance. Some of the kayakers and paddle boarders chose the seven-mile course! If you ask me, that is a long way to paddle a board.

I want to thank David Moxley for his continued leadership in maintaining the Reference Lights on Lake Murray. In late August, several members cruised the lake and reported back to David that all lights checked where working except for #3 on Spence Island. Shortly after that report, Charlie Bruce and David replaced a defective battery and the light is now operational. Installing the new battery was a bit of a challenge to say the least. As the lights on the lake go bad, they are being replaced with LED lights that are brighter and more efficient. There are only 10 more incandescent lights to replace and David continues to work with SCE&G to get more LED lights purchased.

Thanks to Debbie Becht and all of our Vessel Safety Inspectors. They have been hard at work and we used up all the decals that were given to us. Vessel safety inspections are an important safeguard to help boaters in making sure that they have all the proper gear necessary to operate a boat and keep them safe. I hope that all of our members had the opportunity to have their boats inspected this year.

We have had a great year with lots of fun and activities. Thank you to our Commander RJ, the bridge, and everyone else who has helped with all that needs to get done to run this squadron. It takes a village as they say. I am honored to have been nominated and voted on to be your next commander and look forward to working with the new bridge to make this upcoming year another great one.



Safety Officer's Report

by Lt Howard Pendley, SN



Check the Weather

This is a big safety tip. Make sure you familiarize yourself with the area in which you will be boating and thoroughly check the weather beforehand, so you're prepared for any type of situation. Be sure to wear a life jacket.

Plan Ahead and File a Float Plan

Always tell someone where you'll be on the water. It's very important to communicate with friends and family where you will be boating, what time you will be leaving and what time you're planning to return.

Leave Alcohol Ashore

Remember that alcohol has an impairing effect on coordination that can put a captain and passengers at risk of falling overboard. Operating a boat while drinking also could lead to a boating under the influence charge, which carries steep fines.

Dress for the Weather Conditions

To begin with dress in layers, starting with a thin base layer, and avoid clothing items like blue jeans and cotton shirts, because these items do not dry as easily or retain heat as well as wool and synthetic materials. It's also a good idea to bring along a separate bag of heavier clothing in case the weather deteriorates.

Check Your Boat

This is very important before heading out. Check your bilge for excessive water, gas and oil leaks. Do not take chances, do any necessary repairs before departing. Run your bilge blower for four minutes and check the exhaust side for fuel fumes. Start the engine to check for smooth running and proper cooling water discharge. Make sure your navigation lights and communication equipment are proper working order.

Enjoy the Day on the Lake

Most of all, have a great day of boating and enjoy the Fall weather. Be alert of your surroundings and boating traffic near you.

Think Safe, Be Safe and Look Out for the Safety of Others!

Educational Update:

By John Edwards JN

Greetings boat/lake lovers!! It has been an honor to serve as your SEO for the previous two years. I now pass the baton to the great and more than capable Howard Pendley. As of the November Change Of Watch he will be the man. We had several very successful ABC classes and grew the membership by good numbers the past two years. I have been very fortunate to serve under two super leaders in Janice and RJ! Your squadron has been well taken of!

Now, just to sweep up some left overs. Archie is offering his great Cruising course beginning shortly, please see the announcement email. We need for you to sign up for this very informative class ASAP. ALL would like this course- especially if doing the waterway or any squadron cruises!!

For my going away statement- I implore members to get more education involved- seek out and sign up for courses offered to become better/safer and more educated boaters. It is well worth a few evenings over a couple months to be a BETTER BOATER.

Stay safe! John Edwards JN SEO.

USPS Boat Insurance Educational Discounts

The premise behind the USPS Boat Insurance Program is to reward members for their dedication and passion for on-the-water safety by providing reduced insurance premiums. On top of low base rates, USPS Boat Insurance customers can reduce their premium even further – *up to 23%*, through completion of various USPS advanced courses. And completing boat operator certification can add to these discounts as much as an additional 15%, for a *total discount of 38%*! See the [USPS Boat Insurance web page \(http://www.uspsboatinsurance.com/default.aspx?id=459\)](http://www.uspsboatinsurance.com/default.aspx?id=459) for details.

Boat U.S. Hurricane Resource Center

Be prepared for hurricane season with tips from the Boat U.S. Hurricane Resource Center.

Boat owners from Maine to Texas have reason to become edgy in the late summer and fall: Each year, on average, two hurricanes will come ashore somewhere along the Gulf or Atlantic coasts, destroying homes, sinking boats, and turning people's lives topsy-turvy for weeks, or even months. This year, who knows? Florida is struck most often, but every coastal state is a potential target.

Experts predict that in the next 20 years there will be much more hurricane activity than has been seen in the past 20 years. Experts also fear that after several storm-free years, people in some of the vulnerable areas will be less wary of a storm's potential fury. But to residents of Charleston, South Carolina, crippled by Hugo in 1989, and people in Dade County, Florida, ravaged by Andrew in 1993, the hurricane threat won't soon be forgotten.

Click <http://www.boatus.com/hurricanes/brochure.asp> for more information.

Community Outreach Helping Others in Need

Lexington Interface Community Services helps families that are in need of the bare basics. They can always use non-perishable foods, baby clothes, diapers and toys for children. Members Lts Danny and Kathy Glenn ask that you keep this charity in your hearts and minds and anytime LMPS meets we will be glad to collect these items. So bring them to meetings and socials, or feel free to contact Danny or Kathy directly. They will be sure to get donations to the families in need. Thanks in advance for your charitable contributions.

Please **HELP US HELP OTHERS** by donating our **MOST NEEDED ITEMS:**

Food Pantry

- Canned Meat
Tuna, Chili, Chicken, Beef Stew
- Peanut Butter + Jelly
- Canned Sweet Peas/Green Beans
- Canned Corn
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Tomatoes
- Applesauce
- Pork 'n Beans
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Pasta
- Spaghetti, Egg Noodles, Penne
- Corn Muffin Mix
- Ramen Noodles
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Dry Cereal + Breakfast Bars
- Rice – 1 lb bags
- Dried Pinto Beans
- Grits + Oatmeal
- Boxed Mac and Cheese

Thrift Shop

*Men's, Women's, Children's
Clothing, shoes, and undergarments*


- Scrubs, Coats and Jackets
- Books & DVDs
- Furniture
- Toys & Video Game Systems
- Jewelry
- Working Electronics
- Arts & Crafts
- Housewares
- Linens

Personal Care Items

- Soap
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Razors & Shaving Cream
- Laundry Detergent
- All Purpose Cleaner
- Toilet Paper & Paper Towels



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LMPS supports the 20th Annual Dam Swim for Drew

Each year LMPS members use their boats to line the race course and keep swimmers safe. We also help set up the swim course across Lake Murray. This year, the 20th Annual Dam Swim for Drew was held on Saturday 8 September. The sun was out and winds were light and we could not have asked for better weather for this year's race. 262 swimmers participated with the fastest time being 41:19. Only one swimmer decided they could not complete the two-mile swim and boarded one of our boats. In addition to many South Carolina swimmers, we had swimmers from as far as GA, MD, PA, AL, NC and CT.

The annual event raises awareness of boating and swimming safety in memory of 10-year old Drew Smith who on 19 July 1997 was killed in a boating accident when a group of boaters made the decision to drink and drive on Lake Murray. Shortly after the accident, the South Carolina Legislature voted on legislation for "Boating Under the Influence (BUI)" and SC Code 50-21-112 soon became known as "Drew's Law." This legislation raised the penalties for boating violations to equal that of similar highway violations, most notably that of death resulting from BUI (Boating Under the Influence).

A HUGE thanks goes out to all of the following members (and some non-members) who helped out this year: Festus Burchfield , Charley Lloyd, David & Callie Dunn, Howard Pendley, Bryant Blakeslee, Charlie & Diane Bruce, Mike Starewicz, Charles & Stephanie Heath, RJ Becht, Jerry Smith, Wayne Cromley, Fred & Susan Ruinen.

LMPS members acting as safety boats along the swim course



LMPS ASSISTS WITH LAKE MURRAY PADDLE CLASSIC

By: Lts Dan and Holly Drake



What on earth could have motivated Holly Drake, Fred Ruinen, Ed Garbe and Dan Drake to be at the Lighthouse Marina docks at 7:30 AM on Saturday 29 September? It was the Lake Murray Paddle Club's annual Paddle Classic to benefit Special Olympics. LMPS, along with Richland County Sheriff Department and the Coast Guard Auxiliary, provided safety boats to shield the paddlers from other boats and assist any paddlers in distress. 105 paddle boarders and kayakers competed in 1, 3.5 and 7 mile races. In addition there was a short opening race for some Special Olympians. LMPS's involvement was truly appreciated by everyone involved and again demonstrated our commitment to boating safety and community support.



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From time to time, AmazonSmile offers special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount to charitable organizations such as ours.

You may use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same. It is just the charitable arm of Amazon.

On your first visit to smile.amazon.com, you need to select "United States Power Squadrons" for LMPS to receive donations from your eligible purchases. AmazonSmile remembers your selected charity, and then every eligible purchase you make from then on at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

Couldn't be easier to raise a little cash for the squadron when you're placing an Amazon order anyway! Try it!

A Special Offer to LMPS Members

Come enjoy another one of Columbia's treasures!

LMPS members have the opportunity to kayak the Congaree National Park, or the Saluda, Broad, and Congaree rivers at a discounted rate! Check out the website below or give us a call. We look forward to seeing you on the water!



Welcome new members to LMPS

Welcome aboard!! Great to have you as members of the Lake Murray Power Squadron. We hope you will enjoy Flotilla Island and all the great activities the squadron has to offer and support its numerous functions.

- 1. Steve Crater & Angelika Breland
- 2. Daron & Stephanie Labruyere
- 3. Pam Burtis



New members Daron & Stephanie Labruyere and children are welcomed and sworn in by Commander R.J. Becht.










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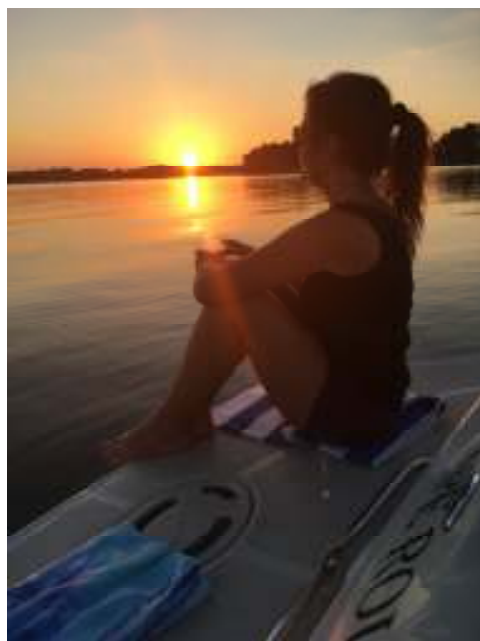
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FREELANCE PAGE

As the sun sets on another great year of boating fun and memories we look forward to 2019! Come out and enjoy the events at Flotilla Island or join one of our cruises. Make some new friends and memories in 2019.

By: Lt. Wayne Cromley

Thanks to Tim Barnhill for the first picture.



CALENDAR OF FUTURE EVENTS



America's Boating Club® of Lake Murray™

Serving Central South Carolina since 1963 as

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Nov 2018

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1	2 COW Saluda Shoals	3
4 Daylight Savings	5	6 Election Day	7	8	9	10
11 Veteran's Day	12 Bridge Meeting	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 CGAux Mtg (Island)	30	

Dec 2018

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Bridge Meeting	11	12	13	14 Christmas Party Saluda Shoals	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Christmas	26	27 CGAux Mtg (Island)	28	29
30	31					

Lake Murray Power Squadron

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