



The Stuffing Box

Newsletter for the St. Andrew Bay Power Squadron

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Bridge:

March 2007

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Squadron Education Officer:	Skip Rew
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Secretary:	Staci Doucett
Treasurer:	David B. Hurst, S

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District Raft Up May 25-28

25-28 May 2007 Raft Up at Marker 51 in the Sound

Hosts: Dick and Karen Gercak

Friday Come early to raft up. Breakfast and lunch on your own.

Saturday, Sunday & Monday morning 9 AM Breakfast. Bring something to share on a vessel! (fresh fruit, doughnuts, pastries, quiche, grits, eggs, cheese, coffee, juice, anything edible or drinkable). Lunch on your own.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday Afternoon Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails in the afternoon followed by a Pot Luck Dinner on a vessel. Bring some snacks for the early get together and your favorite dish to share for Dinner.

Tuesday Break up and on your own.

If interested, contact Captain Dick at: CaptainDick1@aol.com

The “Power” in Power Squadron

Hi everyone, I’m Sandra, youngest daughter of Bob and Uschi Gibson. Some of you may remember my father Bob Gibson as past commander of the squadron and my mother Uschi—well anyone that has met my Mom Uschi—I’m thinking—“First Freulein” comes to mind or “Speech anyone?” Smiling. My Dad passed away four years ago at a young young age, after a long battle with Leukemia. He is resting in peace, sailing the heavenly skies, I’m sure. But it’s always around this time, on the anniversary of his passing, where I most think back on my Dad’s life and who he was and what he’s meant to me. I have memories, many many wonderful memories of experiences and moments we have shared. Often I think back on the many times I would visit my Mom and Dad, and they would tell of their adventures and escapades in their golden retirement years. Often they would share stories and happenings of the Power Squadron, or their latest boat outings, or membership meetings, or “looking for markers.” I would joke sometimes with him “What does that have to do with boating, sailing?” But he would say it’s not just about that.

What I try to remember the most is the glow and twinkle in my Dad’s eye when he talked of what he was doing with the Power Squadron. He valued his membership and association with all of you and the Power Squadron. He truly found a sense of accomplishment and pride in this association and community of friends. Sailing the oceans was always a life-long dream of his and although he didn’t get a chance to do that, I know that the “power” of the experiences, memories, and friendships gave him and my Mom some truly wonderful years together and I just wanted to say Thank you and to just let you know what it meant to him.

And to you Mom, I know you miss him, and you sail with him in your dreams and your memories. Dad is shining down on you everyday and is as proud of you as we are. Robbie, Susie and I, want you to know that we love you very much, and wanted to also send out to you a very special Happy Birthday . We know there are many more experiences, memories and oceans to sail. We are grateful for everything we can continue to share with you and you are not alone, Mom. So Happy Birthday, Mom and many many many more.

Your loving children, Robbie, Susie and Sandra Gibson.

Safe Boating Courses to be offered in the Spring

The Executive Committee met February 19th and has planned to offer courses beginning in April At Gulf Coast Community College. As part of our marketing campaign, we will be taking advantage of free ads in both the "On the Waterfront" section as well as the local events. We will publish the exact dates and times when decided.

March Birthday's :

2nd Uschi Gibson
20th Susan Sirgusa
25th Mary Anne Durgan
26th Theresa Durgan

March Anniversary's

27th Charles & Dorothy
Crutchfield 1991
29th Gar & Rachel
Lonberger 1996

D/15 Spring Council Meeting

Holiday Inn, Exit 15 B, Tillman's Corner

Mobile, Alabama

Saturday, 10 March 2007

Squadron Officers and other interested parties are encouraged to attend.



Change of Watch 2007



Commanders Message

Thanks to all who planned, prepared, decorated, participated and showed up at the change of watch. A fun time was had by all.

We plan to begin an advanced grade in April, specifically, Piloting. National is still struggling with Seamanship, so we will move on. You do not have to complete Seamanship before taking Piloting. Piloting teaches plotting courses, taking bearings and using them for lines of position (LOP), fixes with GPS and bearings, plotting with GPS, planning course and waypoints, DR plots, course corrections, and time and speed considerations. In addition, more emphasis will be placed on reading the chart. You do not need a GPS for this course. You will need a set of dividers and a course plotter (4"X15"). The cost of the course is \$45.00 which includes the Student Manual, The Weekend Navigator Manual, Maptech CD, and exam. If you want a course plotter, I can get them from National at cost for \$5.00. Tentatively, we plan to begin Piloting on 11 April at GCCC. The course lasts 10 sessions. We can adjust for shorter or longer depending on class desire. If you are interested, contact me, Jim Pappas, at 763-0786.

The following dates are tentatively set for Boat Smart courses, subject to GCCC approval:

April 2, 3 and 9, 10
June 4, 5 and 11, 12
August 6, 7 and 13, 14
October 15, 16 and 22, 23

National suggested that we not place meeting minutes on the web page, because they are available to anyone. Therefore, they will be emailed to everyone for whom we have a current email address. If your email has changed, or, if you fail to receive the emails, contact Staci. She is a genius at this stuff. There will be three business meetings this year. To remain informed, be certain to read the executive committee minutes when they are mailed to you. If you have questions or input, call one the bridge officers.

Staci is busy updating all the info for the roster. As soon as we discover how to format it for emailing, the roster will be sent to all with known email addresses.

Consideration is being given to hold an Instructor Techniques elective course. This course prepares one to be an instructor for the public boating courses. If interested, let me know in the next couple of months.

Thank you for electing me Commander. I will do my best to live out the "punishment." Someone once said the two best days of a Commander are the first and the last in office.

Keep the wind to your back,
Jim Pappas, SN
Commander

Upcoming Events for 2007 (Updated 3/01/07)

The Bridge has published a proposed calendar for 2007 that includes water and land rendezvous, dinner squabbles and regular business meetings. We look forward to seeing you at these events! In the event severe weather or another unforeseen occurrence, you will be notified of the change in an event.

March

Thursday, March 8th

7:00 PM

Business Meeting at the Heathplex

Saturday, March 24

11:00 AM

Rendezvous at St. Andrews State Park

April

Thursday, April 12

6:30 PM

Squabble at Big City Fish Restaurant

Saturday, April 14

11:00 AM

Rendezvous at Shell Point

May

Thursday, May 10th

6:30 PM

Squabble at the Black Angus Restaurant

Saturday, May 19th

11:00 AM

Rendezvous at Todd and Staci Doucett's House

June

Thursday, June 14th

7:00 PM

Business Meeting at the Heathplex

Saturday, June 16th

12:00 PM

Rendezvous at Ushi's House

July

Wednesday, July 4

TBD PM

Water Rendezvous for Fireworks

Thursday, July 12th

6:30 PM

Squabble at the Olive Garden

August

Thursday, August 9

6:30 PM

Squabble at the Captains Table

Saturday, August 11th

12:00 PM

Rendezvous at the Cirks House

September

Thursday, September 13th

7:00 PM

Business Meeting at the Heathplex

Saturday, September 15th

11:00 AM

Econfina Canoe Trip

October

Thursday, October 11

6:30 PM

Squabble at Carrabba's Restaurant

Saturday, October 13th

11:00 AM Pirate Ship

November

Thursday, November 8th

6:30 PM

Squabble at the Black Angus

Saturday, November 10th

3:30 PM

To Be Determined—Perhaps Ebro

December

Monday, December 10th

7:00 PM

Bridge Meeting at John and Scarlotte's House

Saturday, December 15th

6:30 PM

Christmas Party