



America's Boating Club® of Lake MurraySM

Serving Central South Carolina since 1963 as

Lake Murray Power Squadron

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



The Log Jam

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Winter 2021

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021

Lake Murray Power Squadron was able to safely host its 57th annual Change of Watch (COW) on 6 November 2020 as an in-person event at Saluda Shoals River Center.

The venue allowed social distancing for our 36 members who wore their masks to gather for this special occasion. Lake Murray's own Past Commander and Past District 26 Commander Archie Trawick, SN was on hand to conduct the ceremonies.

Following dinner, Cdr Rick Agar commended Commander-Elect Ed Garbe for facilitating a "real" COW with a terrific meal, which was catered by Blue Marlin.

"The OD-2 has been filed and I'm out of here," Cdr

Agar said before proceeding to offer those gathered a brief overview of the many positive results the squadron had accomplished despite the challenges presented by the pandemic.

"It is only when I prepared the Annual Commander's Report that I realized how much we still accomplished — like a new roof for our building and new blackout blinds so students could see the screen during our education classes. We still had a full ABC class giving new boaters a good foundation in safe boating. We had a Boat Handling class, the typical first 'advanced class' that included several Bridge members, and a Cruise Planning class that is a good introduction to USPS educational offerings."

Lake Murray was recognized at the D/26 Fall Conference with a 2020 New Member Award from USPS for recruiting 15 or more members as of July 31st. The squadron received an Honorable Mention for its 5% growth in membership in 2019 and was cited for its members having 100% participation in donating to the USPS Educational Fund. USPS awards for communications were received for the squadron's newsletter and website. The squadron also received a D/26 First Place Award for Boating Activities, he said.

After thanking his bridge, he turned the squadron over to P/D/C Trawick. "You are a part of the best

Inside this Issue:

Change of Watch	1-3
Commander's Report	4
Executive Officer Report	5-6
Educational Update	7
Administrative Officer's Report	8
Membership Benefits	8
New Member Announcements	9
Calendars	10

boating organization anywhere and District 26 is a leader in USPS because you make a difference,” P/D/C Trawick said before presenting D26 Cdr Jim Wilkins’ message.

After those remarks, he called Commander-Elect Ed Garbe forward. Once Cdr Garbe had taken the oath of office, he called forward the elected Bridge officers, with their spouses, and asked for all Committee Chairs and their spouses to stand in support as those officers took their oath.

Cdr Ed summarized his three goals for the coming year: “I would like to have more events going forward. We will need to begin cautiously to have more social events. At the Annual Meeting several weeks ago at the (Flotilla) Island, we were able to safely accommodate over 50 people using the building, the porch, and the grounds. Masks were worn, social distancing maintained, and food was served in an extremely sanitary fashion. Once we get through the cold weather, I believe that we will consider having more social events in a cautious manner,” he said.

Second, he said, “I’ve only been a member here for three years, but I keep seeing the same faces even though we’ve approved numerous new applications for membership. I want to push to have more of our newer members be involved in the Squadron, especially the committees. P/C Debra Allen will help me roll out a training plan to the Bridge that I hope will help accomplish this. We all need to step up to the plate for this effort – the squadron needs to be more than a ramp, dock, and bathroom.”

Third, Cdr Ed said he wanted “to emphasize our primary mission – the safety of the lake and the people on it. There are more boats than ever on the lake, unfortunately, due in part to the pandemic. This is a great opportunity to ramp up our VSC’s, Education, Reference Lights/Co-Op Charting, and support for lake activities.”

Concluding his remarks, Cdr Ed said, “Neither I nor the Bridge have all the ideas. That is why I welcome the rest of the members of the Squadron to reach out to us with any thoughts you may have to help us continue as the best squadron in the United States Power Squadrons. Thanks again for your support. We’re looking forward to a great 2021!”







Commander's Report

By Cdr Ed Garbe, S

Your 2021 Bridge is looking at the coming year with nothing but optimism! With the vaccine on the near horizon for everyone, we've been pulling out all the planning stops. The calendar is beginning to fill with events like Soup-er Sunday, The 4th Pig Roast, Octoberfest, Planned Cruises, and Flotilla Fridays. And it is a given that as we ease into these events we will still be taking the utmost precautions to insure the safe health of all our members.

But none of this happens without the help of our membership and we still have many committee slots open and looking for volunteers. If you have a talent or just an interest please contact myself or one of the Bridge Officers and we'll be happy to find a fit for you.

On another note, if you're going COVID-19 crazy in the house as we weather through the winter, the

Island is a great place to just visit for a picnic, a walk on the shore, or just to enjoy our million dollar view (see photo below). The water is off for the winter, but if you have the need, a bucket of lake water in the toilet will work fine.

Also, for those folks that may be new to the Squadron, please scroll down and learn about our Educational opportunities coming up. We don't want to ever lose site of our primary mission — promoting safety on the lake.

So, as we work our way into the New Year, I want to wish the best of health and success for all of you and your families!





Executive Officer's Report

By Lt/C Mike Urquhart

Traveling With Your Boat

As we enter into our winter season, many of us have our boats all winterized and stowed away. While that may be the case for many, some of us, (like me) will find other ways and new locations to travel to and continue to use our "holes in the water". For me, that means trailering our boat to the state of Florida where Cathy and I will spend the next couple of months and enjoy the 80 degree temperatures and crystal clear waters of the gulf coast.

As I prepare for my travels (and the trailering of my boat), I think about our fellow LMPS members who may also be taking a journey with their boat and thought I'd share with all of you, my personal checklist for traveling with your boat.

Prepare your tow vehicle — Before even thinking about your boat and trailer, first consider your tow vehicle. Ensure it is of the correct size to handle the weight of your boat. The vehicle needs to be well maintained, recently serviced, and be equipped with good tires and proper air pressures.

Ball hitch and pin — Ensure that the ball is of the correct size and is secured tightly to the hitch and that the pin is in good working order.

Trailer — Do a visual inspection of your trailer. Are the bunks in good condition, and do the lights properly work? Is the winch and strap in good working order?

Air pressure and lug nuts — Check all air pressures on the trailer tires to ensure proper inflation. Check all lug nuts for proper tightening.

Safety cables (or Chains) — Inspect them to ensure they are not frayed or broken.

Tiedown straps — Inspect your tiedown boat straps and ensure they too are in good condition. Make sure they tighten down properly without applying pressure to the hull of the boat.

Spare tire, spare hub, and additional tiedown strap — Always, always travel with a spare tire (if not two spares). If possible, stow an extra (properly sized) spare axle hub. Trust me, I have needed this and was glad I had one. Also take some spare tiedown straps for any additional securing you may need to take.

Tape your safety chain — Finally, I recommend placing a piece of masking tape on the safety chain "hook" to ensure it doesn't bounce around and fall off during your travels. That has happened to me.

While you may have a few more for your personal checklist items, these are the ones I go through before traveling with my boat.

Safe travels!



✓ Safety chain taped



✓ Spare hub



✓ Spare tires



✓ Correct ball hitch and pin, and extra tiedown strap



✓ Air pressure and lug nuts checked



✓ Safety chains inspected



✓ Tiedown straps checked



Educational Report

By Lt/C Mike Zafoot, AP

Become a Better and Safer Boater with Boating Education

Greetings from your Educational Department. We are putting together a program that can get you from Boat Handling/Seamanship to Navigation in 2-3 years. We will start with Boat Handling/Seamanship as the first class of the year and try to maintain this group all through the advanced courses over that time period. As the group moves up to the next course, members who are ready to take that course can join in with that class and move toward completion of advanced grades. Also being offered along with advanced grades are the elective classes, which are very informative for their specific topic.

Over the years I have had people ask me what is USPS and what do they do. My answer is that we are an educational organization that not only educates its members but also educates the public and promotes safe boating through the entire country. With this in mind, I want to encourage all members to get on board and take a class so when someone asks you what USPS is, you can tell them what it means to be an educated boater.

Classes offered: Advanced Grades: Boat Handling, Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigation and Navigation.

Elective Grades: Weather, Engine Maintenance, Marine Electronics, Sail, Instructor Development, Cruise Planning and Teaching Aids.

As a squadron and as an individual, I have spent many hours boating using the skills obtained from taking USPS courses. I want to encourage new and old members alike to take a course and get to know each other and how important knowing what to do while boating will make for an enjoyable experience for everyone.

Please email SEO Mike Zafoot at captzool@gmail.com or ASEO Mike Charles at airborne1zero@gmail.com to enroll in a class or request a class to be placed on the schedule.

Wishing everyone clear skies and calm seas for 2021. Remember, the more marine education you have, the safer you will become on the water.



Special thanks to Jim Aleshire and Cdr Ed Garbe for sprucing up the inside of the building by cleaning the windows and painting the walls.

Great job!



Administrative Officer's Report

Lt/C Tim Barnhill

I hope you are all as ready for the 2021 boating and activities season as I am. 2020 was definitely a crazy year; one that I'm sure we will never forget, and that many will be glad to see come to an end! Even with the many COVID-19 restrictions and event cancelations, our squadron really did get the most out of the year we could. We were safely able to get in the Souper Bowl and Boat Show before COVID-19 season hit us, followed by the Oyster Roast, cruise to Beaufort from Charleston, Norris Lake cruise in Tennessee, Clouds Creek cruise, one-day Cooper River/Lock's cruise, Buffalo Creek lunch trip, Flotilla

Fridays, Log Jams and Reference Light cruises, and of course our Change of Watch. And I'm sure I missed some others.

Your 2021 bridge is working hard to safely plan as many Island events and boating cruises as possible. I personally look forward to working with our bridge and chair committees to make this a year of fun memories. Please consider joining any of the committees that are the backbone to making our squadron one of the best around.

Look forward to seeing you all soon!

Membership Benefits

Did you know that as a member of America's Boating Club of Lake Murray (LMPS), you have access to a variety of benefits that will save you money?

For example, as many of us age, we may start having some hearing problems (my wife says I don't have a hearing problem, I have a listening problem) and may be looking for some options to help us hear better. American Hearing Benefits offers significant discounts on hearing aids through their nationwide network. They also provide access to free hearing consultations.

Another great member benefit is America's Boating Club partnership with DAN Boater which provides a variety of valuable safety resources to help you when you travel by boat, plane, or car. I know many of us have not been doing much travel this year due to COVID-19, but we hope that things start getting back to normal as the vaccine gets distributed. As many begin to plan some travel, coverage for assistance with serious medical emergencies and 24/7 assistance with other travel-related health issues is just a phone call away with DAN Boater. This coverage is an option for all members when you renew membership and the cost is very reasonable with the discount provided to us.

For a complete list of member benefits go to the Member Info page on our website (lmpsonline.org) and click on the Member Benefits link and be sure to take advantage of all that your membership has to offer.

— P/C Fred Ruinen, JN

Welcome new members to LMPS

Welcome aboard! Great to have you as a member of American's Boating Club of Lake Murray. We invite you to support Lake Murray Power Squadron's numerous functions, to participate in the many educational courses and seminars that are available, and to enjoy Flotilla Island and all the great activities the squadron offers.

Welcome:

Carol Gaylord

Kevin Hart




RE/MAX
Real Estate Services
Mike DiMaria
Real Estate Professional

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Columbia, SC 29205
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CALENDAR OF FUTURE EVENTS



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February 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2 Ground Hog Day	3	4	5	6 Soup-er Bowl
7 Superbowl LV	8 Bridge Mtg, FI	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
USPS 2021 Annual Mtg, Ponte Vedra, FL @ Ponte Vedra, FL						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
USPS 2021 Annual Mtg, Ponte Vedra, FL @ Ponte Vedra, FL						
				7pm - USCG Aux		Full Moon
28	1	2	3	4	5	6

March 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Bridge Mtg, FI	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Log Jam Articles	16	17	18	19	20 Island Work Day
21	22	23	24	25 7pm - USCG Aux	26	27 Shake & Break, FI
28 Full Moon	29	30	31	1	2	3

Lake Murray Power Squadron

P.O. Box 2281, Columbia, South Carolina 29202

2021 Bridge Officers

Commander: Cdr Ed Garbe, S (commander@lmpsonline.org)

Executive Officer: Lt/C Mike Urquhart (execofficer@lmpsonline.org)

Administrative Officer: Lt/C Tim Barnhill, S (adminofficer@lmpsonline.org)

Educational Officer: Lt/C Mike Zafoot, AP (seo@lmpsonline.org)

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Secretary: Lt/C Betsy Agar, P (secretary@lmpsonline.org)

Treasurer: Lt/C Mel Charles (treasurer@lmpsonline.org)

Assistant Treasurer: 1st Lt Cyndi Langlois (asttreasurer@lmpsonline.org)

Members-at-Large

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Lt Natalie Denning (matlb@lmpsonline.org)

Lt Kelly Turner (matlc@lmpsonline.org)



Lt Natalie Denning

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**Lake Murray Power Squadron
is on the web:**

<http://www.lmpsonline.org>

