



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[®]

America's Boating Club[®] and logo are registered trademarks of the United States Power Squadrons[®].



The Log Jam

Volume 61, No. 2

Spring 2024

Winning Awards and Elections... Lake Murray Members Excel

It was a busy and exciting spring for members of America's Boating Club of Lake Murray. It began with the election of P/C David Allen, SN-IN, as the National Administrative Officer at the organization's annual meeting in February in Orlando. Then at the District 26 Spring Conference and Change of Watch, our Educational Officer Mike Zafoot, AP, was elected District Educational Officer. And, P/Lt/C Betsy Agar, AP, was elected District Secretary.

In addition to electing two Lake Murray members to the D/26 Bridge, Lake Murray's P/C Tim Barnhill was recognized with the District's Ed Fetner Award for Leadership.

Recognition of these individuals is an acknowledgement of our success as a local organization. A success further noted in Commander Joe's report on Page 2 where you



The new bridge is sworn in at the annual meeting of the United States Power Squadrons, America's Boating Club. Lake Murray's own P/C David Allen (second from left) was sworn in as the National Administrative Officer.

will find a long list of awards noting membership growth, educational achievements, and extraordinary participation in boating activities!



United States Power Squadrons Chief Commander Ralph Bernard (left) presents the D/26 Ed Fetner Award for Leadership to Lake Murray's P/C Tim Barnhill.

Inside this Issue

Commanders Report	2
Island Security	3
Educational Officer's Report	4
Safety Officer's Report	5-6
ABC/LM Members on D/26 Bridge	6
Administrative Officer's Report	7
Bowling Night Plus Winners	8
New Members, Soup-er, Distillery Tour	9
Upcoming Classes & Events	10
Squadron Information	11



Commander's Report

By Cdr Joe Firimonte, P

District Awards!

Congratulations to P/C Tim Barnhill for receiving the Ed Fetner Award for outstanding leadership at the District 26 Spring Conference and Change of Watch, which was hosted by America's Boating Club of Thurmond Lake 8-10 March in McCormick.

In addition, Tim and Natalie received the D/26 Just Add Water Award for ABC Lake Murray's First Mate training in boating and trailering skills. Tim and Natalie were asked to be present at the Change of Watch banquet under the guise of receiving the Just Add Water Award. We were utterly surprised and so proud when Tim was presented the Ed Fetner Award, established by a former D26 commander who also was a former Lake Murray commander. Job well done Tim Barnhill.

Also, congratulations to our Secretary, Lt/C Becky Weiler who was awarded the Spark Plug Honorable Mention. Becky was and is very proactive with ABC of Lake Murray and it's great to see her efforts not only get recognized locally but also at the district level.

ABC Lake Murray received numerous other awards, including first place in Membership Growth in Division 1 (2nd place overall) with a 6.3% increase; the USPS Educational Fund Certificate of Merit; and national awards for both Distinctive Performance for Websites 2023 and Distinctive Performance Publications. The club also won first place—Division 1, the District 26 Robert A. Peters Boating Activities Award.

I was so proud to represent our club at the District 26 spring conference and change of watch and accept all of these awards on everyone's behalf. We are the envy of the District and it's because of our wonderful members. Let's keep it going so next year is a repeat!

OFF SEASON?

NO WAY!! With boating season right around the corner there is a lot of pent up boating energy just roaring to go. That doesn't mean it hasn't been busy at America's Boating Club of Lake Murray. Not at all. Winter time doesn't mean the fun has to stop.



United States Power Squadrons Chief Commander Ralph Bernard (right) congratulates Cdr Joe on the many awards received by Lake Murray at the D/26 Spring Conference.

After November's Change of Watch, December's Christmas Party, and January's Boating Activities Planning Committee meeting and Leadership Training, we've had the following events:

February: Annual Soup-er Bowl Party, Commander's Annual Bowling Invitational, and hosted a booth at the Columbia Boat Show

March: Annual Oyster Roast; Dreher Island Camping/Boating Weekend; participated in the District 26 Spring Conference and Change of Watch; Hollow Creek Distillery Tour and Tasting; taught America's Boating Course, Boat Handling and Marine Electronics classes; our first Flotilla Island Work Day; and a Reference Light Cruise.

No one can say that we at Lake Murray let a little cold weather get in the way of having fun.

If you're bored sitting at home, it's not the fault of ABC Lake Murray. So check out the calendar and Lake Murray Happenings on Facebook and get ready for a busy summer. It's going to be non-stop fun for sure!

Island Security — New Gate

By Lt Tyler Williams
Executive Committee, Member-at-Large

As most members may have read in the email or on the Facebook page, the new gate is now operational. The gate code for now is the same but will be changed soon, date to be determined. Watch your inbox for emails with the new code. Please, let's all take care of the gate, be patient and courteous, much time was put into this improvement let's make it last. Hope everyone has a wonderful summer on this beautiful lake we all call home. May the wind always fill your sails, Tyler.

Operating Procedures: Entering

When entering, pull up to the keypad and type the code in, hit send.

The gate will beep and begin to open (gate takes approximately 20 seconds to open).

Wait for the gate to stop moving before entering. Once fully open, the gate will stay open for 30 seconds; then automatically close.

Do not try to enter multiple vehicles at once through the gate as it could close on your car (wait your turn). For large events the gate will remain open for the duration of the event.



Operating Procedures: Exiting

When exiting, stop at the stop sign. The gate sensor will detect your car and begin to open. The gate will beep when it is moving. Once fully open, proceed through the open gate. You will have 30 seconds to leave. The gate will close automatically behind you.

If multiple vehicles are trying to leave at once, each vehicle should stop at the stop sign for a brief second and the sensor will detect you and reset the timer. If the gate starts to close,

stop and back up to the stop sign to reset. The gate does have a sensor like a garage door opener that if it feels enough resistance, it will stop and reopen and start the 30-second count down again.



New Road Sign

Thanks to ABC/LM member Karl Skoog who after someone ran into our gate worked with our state representative Nathan Ballentine and SCDOT to get this sign placed.





Educational Report

By Lt/C Mike Zafoot, AP

Become a Better and Safer Boater with Boating Education

The Education Department is off to a great start this year. The first ABC3 class just finished with fourteen (14) students passing. Students in the Boat Handling Class have taken their exams and are awaiting their results. Next up is the Marine Electrical Systems class with its exam scheduled in a week.

Moving forward, our May ABC3 class already has fifteen (15) signed up. If you know of anyone in need of obtaining their DNR boating card, this is a great way to get it. This class is open to the public and members as well. Members with children — this is a wonderful opportunity to start their safe boating education.

The department is starting to work on the fall schedule of classes. We would like to have a minimum of five (5) students per class. If there is a class you would like to see us offer, get your boating friends together and we can schedule it. We are planning to offer Piloting and Cruise Planning as part of the fall schedule, so mark

your calendars and increase your safe boating knowledge.

Our current agenda of classes include the following:

- **Advanced Grades:** Boat Handling, Piloting, Advanced Piloting, Junior Navigation, and Navigation
- **Elective Grades:** Engine Maintenance, Sail, Weather, Marine Electrical System, Cruise Planning, and On Water Training

Safe Boating everyone and if you have questions contact me at captzool@gmail.com.

Fair winds and smooth seas.



**Remember, the more marine education you have,
the safer you will become on the water.**

A Note of Appreciation....from the Secretary's Desk, Lt/C Becky Weiler

I would like to say "Thank You" to Robert Blalock for his time and efforts during his tenure as our Log Jam Editor for the Winter and Spring Editions. The Log Jam editor is a chairperson under my realm of responsibility and when Robert took on this task last fall at the same time I took over as club Secretary neither of us knew what we were doing but somehow pulled it together and got these editions created and published. Unfortunately for me, I will need to find a new editor as Robert is stepping down after this issue. With that said, I want him to know that we as a club have appreciated the effort and creativity he put into the last two editions.

Best of luck and smooth sailing Robert!



Safety Officer's Report

By P/C Jerry Wise, SN

Shocking Facts About Shore Power Systems....

My friend Tim and I are close friends and fellow boaters, working on many projects together over the years. Tim is an instructor in HVAC installations and service training. I bought an HVAC unit from his company and was helping him install and test the compressor (big box in the yard). We had it wired up to code requirements and everything checked out just fine. However, he asked me to plug in a vacuum pump to an extension cord attached to an outlet in the house. As he touched the power switch on the vacuum pump, he was knocked back several feet. The outlet in the house had a shorted wire to neutral. While nothing more than his pride was hurt, he did have some comments about shoddy electrical wiring. Somehow, over time, the old wiring in the house had an area where insulation failed and electricity was no longer routed as it should be (called a hot ground, open ground, or hot neutral, etc.).

While this is a bad situation in a building installation environment such as the above, around boats in a marina or on a dock it can be devastating. An electrical "leakage" into the water can cause any swimmer or person in the water to suffer "Electric Shock Drowning" or ESD in insurance terms. The insidious nature of Electric Shock Drowning is how it may not become obvious someone is being shocked. The electric current tends to be a low level AC current that passes through the body with just enough force to cause skeletal muscular paralysis. The victim is unable to help themselves and eventually drowns.

If you see someone (especially children) swimming near a boat or dock become unresponsive:

- Do not enter the water
- Turn off the source of power
- Call 911
- Use an insulated device (such as a fiberglass rescue crook) to attempt to remove the victim from the water
- Prepare to give rapid CPR and monitor them closely when they become responsive.

There are a lot of ways to prevent stray currents and most marina and dock installations meet code and have no problems. That is until they begin to age and experience a number of storms and exposures over their life. Recommendations from officials include never swim around docks and don't enter the water when launching and retrieving your boat. Also, have your dock inspected after storms by qualified Marine Electricians. Practically, some of these recommendations won't get followed. The most prudent course of action for most boaters is to be aware and vigilant of the potential for "Electric Shock Drowning" and be up on your CPR training.

What you should know about Electric Shock Drowning ESD

- While ESD incidents may occur anywhere electricity is provided near water, it appears most reported incidents of ESD occur at freshwater public and private marinas and docks.
- Reported incidents of ESD often involve children swimming in or around a marina or dock where electricity is provided.
- Electrical wiring of the dock or marina itself can be the source for electricity entering the water, leading to an ESD incident.
- Electrical wiring of boats and electrical connections between a boat and a marina's or dock's power supply can be another source for electricity entering the water, leading to an ESD incident.



America's Boating Channel™ Warns of Electric Shock Drowning

Electric Shock Drowning (ESD) is a little-known and often-undiscovered killer, severely injuring and killing people every year. It occurs when faulty wiring sends electric current into water, which passes through the body and causes muscle paralysis that can result in drowning. Faulty wiring or the use of damaged electrical cords and other devices on docks and

boats can cause the surrounding water to become “energized,” with no visible warning. Avoid getting in the water within 150 feet of where AC power is in use and learn how to test if dangerous electrical currents are in the water around your boat.

To help boaters understand the danger of Electric Shock Drowning (ESD), Season Four of America’s Boating Channel offers the video “[Electric Shock Drowning \(ESD\)](#).” The video shows how ESD causes deaths and injuries at marinas nationwide, including many undetected incidents. Viewers also will learn about ESD prevention and how to install ground protection on docks and boats. Also featured are differences between ESD dangers in saltwater and freshwater. Follow the above link or visit [https://](https://www.youtube.com/@AmericasBoatingChannel)



www.youtube.com/@AmericasBoatingChannel to find these and other safe boating videos, which are an excellent tool to help recruit participants to our educational program and to membership.



Invite your friends and neighbors to watch, like, and subscribe to America’s Boating Channel to introduce them to what our organization has to offer. In addition to YouTube, these professionally produced high-definition safe boating and boater education videos are available via the America's Boating Channel free, on-demand app on Apple TV, Roku or Fire TV. [America’s Boating Channel](#)™ is produced by the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Betsy Agar

Congratulations to the new District 26 Educational Officer Mike Zafoot and the new D/26 Secretary Betsy Agar, both members of America’s Boating Club of Lake Murray. We look forward to the statewide contributions that you will make to improving safe boating in South Carolina! Shown here is Betsy after being sworn in at the D/26 Change of Watch on 9 March 2024 in McCormick. Unfortunately, Mike was unable to attend the event.





Administrative Officer's Report

By Lt/C John Klein, P

A Huge Thank You — To Our Amazing Volunteers!

The 2024 Oyster Roast on 2 March was a resounding success, almost 90 members and guests enjoyed oysters, shrimp, and sides. We could not have done it without Lee and Janice Ayers, and each and every one of you who helped set up, cook, serve, and clean up! We're sending a massive thank you to all our incredible members who volunteered their time, energy, and enthusiasm to make the event such a memorable one.

We are blessed to have great volunteers to make our events happen, but it seemed to me that your willingness to go the extra mile truly shined through at the Oyster Roast.



Beautiful weather graced our 2024 Oyster Roast, which hosted nearly 90 members and their guests.



P/C Lee Ayers (left) was in charge of cooking, with the able assistance of P/C J Strohecker.

The kitchen was full of folks helping prep, set up, and serve. Everyone working together, full of positive energy and collaborative spirit. Outside, we had more volunteers to set up, cook, and serve. And then when it was time to clean up a large team worked together to get it done quickly. Many hands make light work, and I saw that in action on that Saturday.

This event wouldn't have been possible without your dedication and support. You are the heart and soul of our club, and we are incredibly grateful to have you as members.

Looking Ahead

We have a busy year planned with many great events.

Check the calendar at <http://www.lmpsonline.org/calendar.htm> for upcoming events. Contact me (johnkleinus@gmail.com), or boating activities Chairman Gene Malcom (genem2021@icloud.com), if you are willing to help, or have questions on upcoming events.

Together, we can continue to make our club a thriving and welcoming space for everyone.

Thank you once again for making the 2024 Oyster Roast a smashing success!



BOWLING NIGHT!

America's Boating Club of Lake Murray has fun on and off the water! In February, we held our annual Commander's Bowling Tournament. The winners were:

Men's High Series

Brian Warman—550

Women's High Series

Becky Weiler—432



Welcome Our New Members

Welcome aboard! Great to have you as a member of America's Boating Club of Lake Murray, which has been serving central South Carolina since 1963 as Lake Murray Power Squadron. We hope you enjoy our educational classes, civic service opportunities, and all the amenities the squadron has to offer.

Dennis Rankin and Debra Morrishow

Tyler Soares

Janel and Rick Pell

Summiya Dash

Sylvester and Eva Prioleau

And as Associate Members from
Lake Hartwell, welcome back:

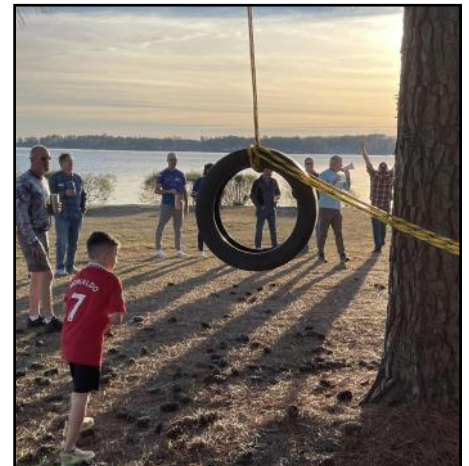
Kes and Jay Crumpler

Scenes from March 16 Hollow Creek Distillery Tour & Tasting



Soup-er Bowl Party Brings Out Those Eager to Enjoy the Lake and Sunshine

In February we had our annual "Soup-er Bowl" at Flotilla Island, which was attended by 45 members. Besides the delicious soups, members brought canned goods for donation to We Care in Chapin, S.C. There were numerous entries in the soup competition as seen in the photo below. Although the judging was difficult, this year's winners were: Holly Snell, Betty Bussert, and Cindy McConnell. In addition to eating well, the beautiful day made outdoor games mandatory!



2024 – April through June Activity Schedule for LMPs Members and Invited Guests

Flotilla Friday

When-Friday, April 19
Where-Flotilla Island

Shake 'N Break, Member Appreciation Cookout, Vessel Safety Inspections, Blessing of the Fleet, and a Nautical Trunk Sale

When-Saturday, April 20, Lunch at Noon
Where-Flotilla Island

First Mate Class

When-Sunday, April 28
Where-Flotilla Island

USCG Auxiliary Meeting

When-Thursday, April 25, 7:00 pm
Where-Flotilla Island

USCG Auxiliary Training Day

When-Saturday, April 27
Where-Flotilla Island

First Mate Class

When-Sunday, April 28
Where-Flotilla Island

South American Event

When-Saturday, May 4, 5 pm
Where-Flotilla Island
Description-Watch your email for details

ABC Class—Day 1

When-Saturday, May 4, 8 am – 1 pm
Where-Flotilla Island

ABC Class—Day 2

When-Sat, May 11, 8 am – 1 pm
Where-Flotilla Island

Bridge Meeting

When-Friday, May 13, 7 pm
Where-Flotilla Island

Flotilla Friday

When-Friday, May 17
Where-Flotilla Island

National Safe Boating Week

When-May 18–24

Jimmy Buffett Bash

When-Saturday, May 18
Where-Flotilla Island

USCG Aux Mtg

When-Thu, May 30, 7:00 pm
Where-Flotilla Island

Cruise: Cooper River to Charleston

When-June 7-9

Bridge Meeting

When-Friday, June 10, 7 pm
Where-Flotilla Island

Log Jam #1

When-Saturday, June 15
Where-Lake Murray Location TBD
Description-Organizer-P/C Fred Ruinen

Flotilla Island Workday

When-Saturday, June 22
Where-Flotilla Island

Martin's Landing Cruise

When-Saturday, June 22
Where-Depart from Flotilla Island

Flotilla Friday

When-Friday, June 28
Where-Flotilla Island

July 4th Pig Roast & Fireworks

When-Saturday, June 29
Where-Flotilla Island
Description-Watch your email for details about the "Pig Roast." [Lake Murray Country will sponsor the annual Patriotic Boat Parade at Bomb Island at Noon, with the July Fourth Fireworks set for 9:30 p.m.](#)



On 16 March, Lake Murray members boated and drove to Hollow Creek Distillery for a tour and tasting. Members brought snacks to enjoy with the tasting that included moonshine, whiskey, and bourbon.

America's Boating Club of Lake Murray

P.O. Box 113, Ballentine, South Carolina 29002

2024 Bridge Officers

Commander: Cdr Joe Firimonte (commander@lmpsonline.org)

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

Administrative Officer: Lt/C John Klein (adminofficer@lmpsonline.org)

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

Assistant Educational Officer: 1st Lt Drew Byrd (astseo@lmpsonline.org)

Secretary: Lt/C Becky Weiler (secretary@lmpsonline.org)

Treasurer: Lt/C Cathy Urquhart (treasurer@lmpsonline.org)

Assistant Treasurer: 1st Lt Melody Charles (asttreasurer@lmpsonline.org)

Members-at-Large

Lt Joe Troutwine (matla@lmpsonline.org)

Lt Tyler Williams (matlb@lmpsonline.org)

Lt K.T. Tripathi (matlc@lmpsonline.org)



Lt/C Becky Weiler,
ABC/LM Secretary,

Email at
bl31653@gmail.com

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

**America's Boating Club of Lake Murray
is on the web:**

<http://www.lmpsonline.org>

or

<http://www.americasboatingclublakemurray.org>

