



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LAKE CHARLES POWER SQUADRON
LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons

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Volume 49 Issue 6
June 2001



Commanders Corner

Cdr. Christopher M. McCain P
Lake Charles Power Squadron

It get's easier and easier! Being Commander is a breeze! With the help of other, older and wiser member's Contraband was a huge success! Thank you P/C Stan, P/C Ken, P/C Armin, P/C Don, and especially Charley! As New member's come in old one seem to hang around and for a good reason. A special thanks to Bob Ward and Bob McAnulty for being their for us, and a big Thank You for the Electrical hookup installation! To My Bridge who supports me as well as younger and less experienced members that care we march forward to make this a better and safer place to live and Boat! We work from one day until the next wondering and worrying what's going to happen next? Our Motto of Busy as Beavers, Young Guns 2001 fits very well. First weekend was pretty much as expected quiet well planned. If anyone noticed we even had the pirates come out and raid the ships which was provided by one of our members, Robert Foreman. Friday went well, got to see the Mayor walk the plank. The sights and

sounds were as good or better than Disney World with the Live Canons shooting at the boats and the boats firing back. The festival atmosphere was there with food booths and things to buy at a price that was unbelievably cheap. We had planned to go to the Crab Palace but they were not open. Ended up at Holliers and supper was excellent. Early next morning the Pig Roast began, with all the things that were going on, my first stop was the Louisiana traveler's convention and visitor's bureau and I picked up ditty bags. My next stop was Moss Bluff Florist (Robert Foreman's place of business!) for Pirate cups and Doubloons! We set out to make this a much-remembered weekend! Arriving early at the Anchorage, we set out to get things in pristine condition like we would like to have our boat! While hanging our decorations John Benkinstein from Houston asked to borrow our staple gun. He then stapled a toilet seat to a large block of wood, and called it the Tacky Pot ! It is suppose to be the D/21 Throne. The next place for this is in Orange for the Co-op Event the second weekend of June. Come by to see it. I don't know what this is all about but I'm sure that I could win this award! The meal went really well! Second weekend was wild! We rafted up with the Gremillions and had a party. It rained a little but didn't ruin our weekend. This shows that when Yall Come to Southwest Louisiana and I will Guaranty a really good time, good food, good folks and memories that you will never forget! Who could ask for more?

Cdr. Chris McCain

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UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRON

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

FIRST WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH

Social starts at 1800

Meeting starts at 1900

DEADLINE FOR PUBLICATION

The next publication will be for July/August

June 20, 2001

E-MAIL ITEMS TO mccain.c@att.net



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June	6	General Meeting	Anchorage
	8-10	Co-op Charting	Orange, TX
	9	Raft up	Orange, TX
	17	Father's Day	
	22-	Cardboard	Fort
	24	Regretta	Worth, TX
	27	Executive Board	Anchorage
July		NO GENERAL MEETING	
	4	Fireworks and Raftup	Lake Charles
	15	Olde Tyme Summer Social	Anchorage
	25	Executive Committee Meeting	Anchorage
	27-	D/21 Co-op	Corpus
	29	Charing Event (N)	Christi, TX
August	1	General Meeting	Anchorage
	4	Full Moon Raftup	Lake Charles
	29	Executive Board Meeting	Anchorage

Reminder

Don't forget next meeting is on June 6, 2001 at the Anchorage. The Bridge will provide a surprise meal. Come out and enjoy.



EDUCATION REPORT

Congratulations to Ron Gremillion for passing **Advanced Piloting**, and to Harvey Kuttner for passing **Cruise Planning**. Members do not have to wait for a course of their interest. The Power Squadron is a library of information just for the asking. At the General Meeting on June 6th, we will display a list of courses that are varied from the Advanced Grades and Elective Courses to the USPS supplemental programs that provide information about many boating -related topics such as: Amateur Radio, Compass Adjusting, Introduction to Astronomy, Introduction to Sailing, Hand Tools, Elements of Boat Design and Construction, Marlinspike and much more. These programs are for the benefit of members and to increase your knowledge and skill of boating through instruction and self-education.

Chris Nelsen has reported from DeRidder that his *two Boating* classes resulted in a total of 10 students passing. **Piloting**, instructed by Ray LeBert, is still in progress. He reports that exams will be in June. Advanced Piloting to immediately follow. Sign up now! Many members showed up to help out with the May 20th **Boat Smart** Course given at McNeese University. Thank you to John Loukas who provided doughnuts and aided instructors; Songa and Ron Gremillion helped with registration and supplies; Ned Dautriel loaded and unloaded books and boxes of supplies, the TV, knot boards for demonstrations, and provided the coffee for all. A visit was made by Earl Moore, SN. Commander Chris McCain led the course with an introduction about USPS and our local Lake Charles Power Squadron. P/C Ken Wilkinson helped out with knot demonstrations and talked about the Vessel Safety Check inspection scheduled for the next day at our local boat launch. Also, thank you to members who helped grade exams: Margaret Cromwell, John Loukas, Kitty Walker, Songa Gremillion and Cdr Chris McCain. Keith Monroe, Sheron Faulk, and Ray LeBert were the instructors who did an excellent job presenting Boat Smart. There were 27 students that registered and 25 passed, two did not take the exam. It was a great class in which the students were active and asked interesting questions that were answered by knowledgeable instructors. To promote the course, Stan Chapman did a TV segment and faxed news release to radio stations. Sheron Faulk did a boat safety talk to over 100 PPG employees on May 3rd and 4th. She offers her lot for VSC inspections and also does newspaper releases. Names were collected from the VSC inspections that are interested in taking a Boat Smart course. So we have scheduled another one for **July 14th** at the Anchorage.

Safe Boating!
Sheryl Dautriel
Squadron Education Officer

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I would like to give my congratulations and thanks to all the members of the squadron that provided boats, fuel, food, and labor to our district event, Contraband Days.

Good Food! Good Fellowship! = Wonderful Event!

Orange CO-OP Charting

Nautical Cooperative Charting will be in Orange, TX. next month. This is a District 21 event hosted by Acadiana, Beaumont, Lake Charles and Orange Squadrons June 8-10, 2001. Come support the LCPS and D/21 and earn points. If you haven't been to a CO-OP Charting event you've been missing the boat on some of the best times to be had. Hospitality Headquarters will be at Ye Olde Boat House (Billie Beckers Grande Boat House). If you have never been to Billie's Boat House that is another reason to come to Orange, TX. Because that in itself is a wonderful treat.

Gary Freer, who is our District 21 CO-OP Chairman, has advised me that he will have available geodetic marks for the area. If you can fall off a log, you can find a mark! The offer is still open, go on a geodetic hunt and I will write your report for you.

This will also be Lake Charles Power Squadron's boating event for the month of June so I hope to see you there whether it be by land or sea.

Hospitality Headquarters

Ye Olde Boat House
215 Front Street
(409) 886-1651

HOTEL

Ramada Inn
2610 W. Interstate
Orange, TX. 77632
Orange TX. 77630
(409) 883-0231

John Loukas, AP



BOATING ACTIVITIES

Janelle Brahm

Janelle Brahm

D/21 CO-OP CHARTING

June 9, 2001

Ye Olde Boat House

Orange, Texas

There's a Co-op Charting event in Orange, Texas scheduled for the weekend of June 8 and 9, which is going to be our June boating activity. Billie Becker has graciously offered her home, Ye Olde Boat House, as headquarters for the event. If you plan to go over by boat, she has advised us that berthing spaces will be on a "first come, first served" basis. Please refer to your Anchorline for co-op charting registration details. If you've never attended before, I can assure you Gary Freer puts on a weekend that is a **lot of fun**, and a little work!

LOOKING AHEAD

Fourth of July Raft-up

Date: July 4, 2001

Look for details in the June issue of the Anchorline. We will be rafting up in Lake Charles for this as we have in the past to view the fireworks.

CONTRABAND DAYS

D/21 RENDEZVOUS

The D/21 Contraband Days Rendezvous was a great success again this year. The weather cooperated fully. It was a bit breezy, but our continuing lack of rain and mild temperatures made for a most pleasant weekend to be on or near the water. We were honored



Memorial Fund

In remembrance of P/C Don Atkins a memorial fund has been setup by P/C Robert Sparks. Donations are welcome.

with the presence of the following out of town guests: D/C Tom Derden & Mary, P/D/C Joe Dorn & Sara, D/Lt John Benkenstein, wife Kathy & daughter Brenda, D/Lt Gary Freer & Becky, D/Lt James Collins, Lt/C Clorinda McVinney & Pete. On Friday, after meeting at the Anchorage, valiant efforts were made to entertain our guests at the Crab Palace and Harrah's, but Crab Palace was closed and Harrah's wouldn't let our boats get near their docks. Some were taken to Hollier's in Sulphur and some to Copeland's in Lake Charles and as usual with this bunch, a good time was had by all! Saturday's couchon du lait was delicious and fun. I really appreciate all the help from the volunteers who prepared and served food for the event. Riley, the "Rooter Man", did an outstanding job again this year on the pig. The Dautreils and the Briggs' made the baked beans, the Rodenberrys made potato salad, the Hardys brought the bread and the Hains' brought the watermelon. After lunch and a coleslaw auction we boarded boats and headed out to the lake for boat hopping and MORE FOOD. Thanks to the Gremillions and the Benkensteins for operating the shuttle service. John, Kathy and Brenda Benkenstein from Houston were really "styling" in their 1957 boat, which also had a 1957 Johnson outboard motor. **WATCH OUT FOR THOSE WATER GUNS!** Thank you, Diane & Ken Wilkinson for being such kind and gracious hosts, not only to the "out of towners", but to all of us! This event just seems to get better and better...



Birthdays

Patsy Manuel	6/02
Armin Brahm	6/05
Linda Dessommes	6/08
Stan Chapman	6/15
Carroll Desormeaux	6/18
Sheryl Dautriel	6/19
Ray LeBert	6/21
Billy Gilbert	6/29

Please remember that if it isn't here then I don't have it. Please contact me at 625-2088 or email me at mccain.c@att.net

DISTRICT 21'S

"Nautical"

COOPERATIVE CHARTING

ORANGE, TEXAS

June 8 -10, 2001

HOTEL HOSPITALITY HEADQUARTERS

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RATES:

ID AS USPS MEMBER

Standard rooms \$50.00 (plus tax)

Cut off date is 6 June 2001

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 8, JUNE CHECK-IN 1300 – TILL
HOSPITALITY ROOM 1500 –2300
AT BOAT HOUSE
1800 – TILL

SATURDAY 9 JUNE BOAT HOUSE 0700 – 0800
COFFEE, JUICE, PASTRY
CAPTAINS MEETING 0800 – 0900
SEEK & RECOVER 0900 – 1500
BOAT HOUSE 1500 – 1830
(WRITE UP REPORTS)
GROUP DINNER 1900 – TILL
AT THE BOAT HOUSE

SUNDAY 10 JUNE DEPARTURE

Contact Gary Freer (817) 335-2101 (phone)
(817) 335-2100 (fax)
gfreer@freermechanical.com

HOSTED BY: ACADIANA, BEAUMONT, LAKE CHARLES AND ORANGE

LCPS Members : If you are coming by boat please call Cdr Chris McCain at 337-625-2088 or Executive Officer John Loukas at 337-625-2056 so they can get a count of who is coming.



Lengthening the Life of Your Batteries

For the second time in four years, I have found one of our boat's two 8D batteries too weak to turn over an engine. At about \$100 a pop, it's a concern, but a bigger concern is being 30 miles offshore, and finding that even in parallel, they won't start the engine. I regularly check the water level, keep the posts and connections in great shape, and have one of those really smart electronic battery chargers with the new technology of correctly charging your batteries. So why do I get only about two years out of a battery?

In checking the internet to look at whether I wanted to go to a slightly smaller 4D size battery (I'm having troubles finding volunteers who don't know what they are getting into!), I potentially came across the answer.

Energy experts talk about the number of discharge/charge cycles a battery can experience before it fails. Because of this people believe that the depth of discharge has a direct impact on the number of cycles a battery will give you. This means that many boaters try hard to cycle their batteries as "shallowly" as possible...i.e. me!!

This however, may not be the best measure of battery life. Another way to look at battery life is by looking at the total number of amp-hrs, which a battery will store before failure. Here's some data from a 100 amp/hour deep cycle battery...

Depth of discharge	Number of cycles	Total amp-hrs provided during service life
10%	6,200	62,000
30%	4,400	132,000
50%	2,900	145,000
70%	2,000	140,000

Between always keeping our battery charger turned on, even when running because we have the generator running as well, our battery bank never really cycles and is only minimally discharged at best. From the above data, you can more than double the total amp-hours of service by letting your batteries discharge by 30% or more. With the new set going in this weekend, I'm going to start "using our batteries" and see if it makes a difference!

Chris H. Nelsen (P)

PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

DISTRICT 21'S

"NAUTICAL"

COOPERATIVE CHARTING

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

JULY 27 - 29, 2001

HOTEL

Bay Shore Inn
4346 Ocean Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78412

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PHONE (361) 852-2126
FAX (361) 853-5679

ID AS USPS MEMBER

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\$60.00 - ROOM WITH 2 (TWO) FULL BEDS

\$45.00 - ROOM WITH 1 (ONE) QUEEN BED

ROOMS WILL BE HELD UNTIL 20 JULY, BUT ARE LIMITED, CALL NOW!!!!

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 27, JULY

CHECK-IN	1300 - TILL
HOSPITALITY ROOM (SIGN UP YOUR BOAT)	1500 - 2300
DINNER ON YOUR OWN	1800 - TILL

SATURDAY 28, JULY

HOSPITALITY ROOM COFFEE, JUICE, PASTRY	0700 - 0800
CAPTAIN'S MEETING	0800 - 0900
SEEK & RECOVER	0900 - 1500
HOSPITALITY ROOM (WRITE UP REPORTS)	1500 - 1830
GROUP DINNER	1900 - TILL

CHEF JAMES COLLINS WILL BE COOKING AN "ALL YOU CAN EAT" BOILED SHRIMP WITH ALL THE "FIXINS". YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS.

SUNDAY 29, JULY

DEPARTURE

GARY FREER
PHONE (817) 335-2101
FAX (817) 335-2100
E-MAIL gfreer@freermechanical.com

Hosted by: "The South Texas Four"
Austin, Corpus Christi, Lower Rio Grande Valley & San Antonio

LCPS D/21 Contraband Days Renedzvous



P/C Armin Brahm, Charles Dessommes & Herman Manuel
LCPS Jolly Roger Pirates



LCPS knows what the official Beer is for D/21

The Pirates have captured the D/21 Commander

Charles Dessommes, P/C Armin Brahm
D/21 Cdr Tom Derden, Martha Hains
Herman Manuel, P/C Don Hains





The meal was great. Thanks to those you helped.

It was a success.



D/21 Cdr Tom Derden, Houston
P/D/C Joe Dorn, Austin
Lt/C Songa Gremillion



The Cooks. They did a great job.
Charles Dessommes and Riley



P/C Ken Wilkinson
D/21 Cdr's Wife Mary Derden



Our Refreshment Chairman
Bob Ward



Cdr Chris McCain with more
friends from Houston.
John and Kathy Benkenstein with
there Daughter.

For more pictures from Contraband Days come to our next General Meeting on
Wednesday, June 6, 2001

Proper Stopper Safety Award

For those of you who don't know about it here it is. The Proper Stopper Award was initiated by the Lake Charles Squadron to help give insight so we may learn from the knowledge gained by the misfortunes of others. The award has been bestowed on many of squadron members both young and old. It is an award bestowed on those who have either been stuck in the middle of nowhere which is rarely the case since so many of our members surely find out and for those fortunate who are stuck or broke down within sight of other members. This being the case some of those who are put on the Stopper board try hard to find others members who need to be put on the board just so that they can be taken off. Here is one poor soul who just couldn't wait to be taken off the board. He was caught adding the name of our P/C Wilkinson's name on the board. If you don't know why P/C Wilkinson's name was put on the board please come to our next General Meeting and ask him yourself so that you may learn from his misfortune and get the full story.



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337-474-2212

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