



THE BELL



JANUARY 2011



Santa Clara Power Squadron
Safe Boating through Education & Service

DISTRICT 25

SAFER BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION



Santa Clara Power Squadron

BRIDGE

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Calendar-at-a-Glance

JANUARY, 2011

- 1 New Year's Day
- 12 First Wednesday Dinner
(On 2nd Wednesday this month)
- 17 Martin Luther King Day
- 19 Executive Committee Meeting
- 30 **Change of Watch**



FEBRUARY, 2011

- 9 First Wednesday Dinner
(On 2nd Wednesday this month)
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 16 Executive Committee Meeting



Next year's calendar will be added to the Bell beginning with the February edition. I hope you have enjoyed and found useful the ability to glimpse at upcoming events.

Commander's Message



We've just passed the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year. The sun crossed the equator and started its northward journey to bring us our Spring and Summer at 2328 GMT (or, more properly, UTC) – 3:28PM our time – on December 21st.

The Winter Solstice was marked and celebrated even in prehistoric times. People saw it as a time of renewal – where nature renewed itself and the gods brought forth a new year of life for all to enjoy.

The exact date of Jesus' birth is unknown. Some scholars believe that it was in the Spring, since shepherds would be "keeping watch over their flock by night" only during lambing season, when the newborn lambs would be vulnerable to predators. Most scholars believe that December 25th was chosen as the day to celebrate Jesus' birth by early Christians as a way of offsetting the Roman solstice festivals of Saturnalia and Natalis Invicti.

Oh, and "Yule" comes from the ancient Norse solstice festival "Juul." Logs were burned ceremonially in celebration of the solstice, hence our Yule Log.

I hope the Solstice will be a time of renewal for each of you, too. Let's renew our commitment to USPS, to Santa Clara Squadron, and to safe boating. We have an exciting lineup of courses and learning activities for next year (not finalized yet, stay tuned), let's commit to building our boating knowledge.

Let's take time to renew our boats too – making sure our flares are up-to-date, our lifejackets are in wearable condition, and giving our "hole in the water" a thorough going-over to look for needed maintenance.

To each and every one reading this message, I wish you a merry and blessed Christmas and a joyous and prosperous New Year. May God's blessings be on you – and don't forget to give back!

Lu

Executive Officer



WEIRD LAWS

In Delaware: One may not whisper in church

I wonder how loud the church services are.

Let's see, Christmas and Hanukkah is over. Winter has begun and we are now faced with a new year, 2011. Hard to believe, but in any case it is true. I hope all of you had a great holiday season and that all your wishes were met. As for our Squadron, we keep moving forward with the plans for next year. Our slate is in order with the exception of one position, Boating Activity Chair, so if you're interested in helping out it's not too late. As a matter of fact it is never too late. You see, throughout the year we are always looking for new ideas for events, new dinner locations and more importantly new faces.

I know I have said this in the past but I truly think this upcoming year is going to be exciting. The executive committee is trying very hard to find activities that members will like and our monthly "First Wednesday Dinner" is back in full stride. Speaking of dinner, how many of you over indulged during the holidays and now feel they need to drop some pounds. I know I did and do. Guess it's back to that strict diet of healthy foods. Goodbye pies, cookies, snacks, junk food and more. Gosh, just when I was getting used to it.

On a personal note, this will be my first month as a retired person. Wow, that makes me sound so old. I remember thinking retirement was a long way off but now it's here. While I don't have anything firmly planned, I have been listening to many different people. Yes, I do mean "different". You see I have received many good tips. Some say get another job. Others say don't go out and get another job. Yet others who say don't do anything right away but stay busy. So I have given it a lot of thought and here is the plan I initially came up with. I will not get another job right away, but will stay busy doing the things that I want to do. I will also be doing some really good planning on what to do with the rest of my life and exactly how I want to spend my time each day. More importantly I will enjoy life, take the time to actually smell the flowers and try to be the best person I know how to be. I figured Nancy would buy into this plan better than my first plan of learning to play bridge with the girls, shopping with the girls, playing tennis with the girls and then when she comes home demanding to be taken out for dinner because I am too tired to cook. I may be retired but I still can see the train coming.

Lindy Zink

From the Admin



NEXT SQUADRON EVENT

What: Change of Watch

When: Sunday, 30 January

Where: Three Flames, San Jose

2011 is here and it is a good time for new resolutions to take advantage of the opportunities before us. Resolution one, cast off the dock lines and head for blue waters. Resolution two, spend more time with family and friends...including my Squadron buddies. Sound good? Let's see what we can do to make it happen....

After the rousing success of our Holiday party, we have determined that fun is a good goal in and of itself. With that thought in mind, I am inviting you to attend our Annual Meeting and Change of Watch Dinner on Sunday, January 30th. We will return this year to the Three Flames on Meridian Avenue in San Jose because it was so GOOD last year! Another piece of good news is that we will keep the dinner cost at \$30, a great price for a great meal! We will have a guest speaker from the District, the always interesting Mark Gathings, and we will hold a ceremony recognizing the outgoing Bridge officers and also for those who are stepping up for the coming year. And yes, we really do have a new officer on the Bridge! For those members who have been thinking about getting more active in the Squadron, do call me and let me know that you will be joining us that night. The cost is right and the company is good.

***And that is just the first half of the year...smile.
All aboard mates, the course is set for fun!***

t.ellenberger@sbcglobal.net or 408-391-2430

Santa Clara Power Squadron

2011 Activities Calendar

Activities for the year are still being firmed-up, but here is a rundown of what is in the pipeline. Do you have an idea that you'd like to share? Just give me a call.

January 12th	Wednesday Dinner – details on page 18
January 30th	Annual Meeting and Change of Watch
March 11th & 12th	District Conference, Santa Clara
April	The Ever Popular Pizza Party!
May	Hornblower Brunch Cruise
June	South Bay Environmental Center – Tour
July	Annual Summer Picnic



Ship's Store

SQUADRON LOGO CLOTHING NOW AVAILABLE

The Embroidery Factory, which puts the squadron logo on the clothing we choose, has a new website. Members can view the website, without opening an account, and let the squadron Ship's Store place their orders with other orders. The squadron gets a 20% discount from the retail price.

THE EMBROIDERY FACTORY WEBSITE

www.embroideryfactory.com

Order that special someone a gift that that they can wear with pride, an embroidered shirt or hat or perhaps a nice warm jacket. All of these items are available in different sizes and colors. Don't keep waiting, order now.

Carrie Fisher
(408) 723-0619
Carrie4318@aol.com



Just For Laughs



**This is why you don't get a
Civil Engineer mad.**

From the Treasurer



USELESS KNOWLEDGE

The average person falls asleep
in seven minutes.

These people obviously don't watch the
nightly news before going to bed.

THE BARK-RIGGED YACHT *GRIFFIN*,
GIBRALTAR, JANUARY 29, 1881

As we neared Gibraltar, we saw three great ocean steamers putting about and returning to port, unable to face the heavy sea and fierce wind..... We approached the rock of Gibraltar, and, in according to directions, we hoisted the yellow quarantine flag and cruised about the harbor in an aimless way, no one taking any notice of us. The Commodore got tired of this and decided to go to the new mole and anchor there. This we did, in position not far from several yachts, among which were Mr. Brassey's *Sunbeam* and Lord Macdonald's *Lady of the Isles*. As none of the officials came near us, our Commodore hauled down the yellow flag and sent a boat shore. But we were premature, for in this first-class fort they are very particular. Our boat was sent back, and Kidby, who had gone off for letters, came back with information that we must now wait for pratique so there were no letters that evening.

--E. H. Maxwell

It is undoubtedly one of the eternal charms of yacht cruising, or of never ending source of pleasure to sailing men--just "talking boats"-- that there can be no such phenomenon as an ideal cruiser.

Maurice Griffiths

From the Mariner's Book of Days by Peter Spectre

We remain solvent,

DeWayn Meek
Treasurer

From the SEO



CONGRATULATIONS to the following squadron members upon their completion of the Advanced Grade Seamanship class: Al Hughes, Bill Miner, Eric Mullin and Jim Slider. Also completing our Seamanship class were associate squadron members, Karen and Jerry Kosmala, from San Joaquin Delta squadron.

Reminder: Our next ABC-3 class will start on 25 January, 2011 at Wilcox High School in Santa Clara. Contact Lt Steve Fisher, P for class details.

The Junior Navigation class is in final planning stage.

Again, members, if you would like any Advanced or Elective course materials ordered for your needs, please contact me and I will get the request processed.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Nautical knowledge for the New Year

Watch Schedules and Ship's Bells

<http://www.boatsafe.com/nauticalknowhow/shipbee.htm>

Lt/C Dave Norris, JN
CaptDaveNorris@aol.com
or w6ctm@aol.com



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Santa Clara Power Squadron

15 DEC 2010

- Meeting called to order at 1902 and quorum established
- Present: Lu Abel, Al Hughes, Dave Norris, DeWayn Meek, Tim Ellenberger, Lindy Zink, Bill Miner and Jim Sadler.
- Lindy Zink said the slate is all set except for the vacancy in Boating Activities.
- Commander Lu said the budget needs to be presented to the membership at the COW. Lindy Zink reported that the budget won't be submitted until the January meeting. The financial books have to close on Dec.31, 2010, and then DeWayn Meek will send to Lindy.
- Commander Lu said the Audit Report needs to be presented to the membership at the COW. Roger Bradley and Dennis Parker are the Audit Committee.
- Revised minutes of the November meeting were moved to be approved by Dave Norris and seconded by DeWayn Meek. The motion carried.
- We are solvent. DeWayn Meek reported that we have received some revenues from Dues. The Squadron has received co-op dollars from National. We did receive our cost back for producing brochures for the Fall Boat Show. One-half came from National and one-half from District. Dave Norris raised a question as to how come the revenue from the boating class and the squadron class was the same in October. DeWayn will check into this. The Squadron broke exactly even on the Holiday Dinner.
- Tim Ellenberger announced that the January activity is the COW at the Flames Restaurant on 30 January. The First Wednesday Dinner in January will be held on the second Wednesday, 12 January and will be hosted by Commander Lu. The First Wednesday Dinner will be held on the second Wednesday of February, 09 February. Two senior member plaques have been ordered for the COW. Commander Lu will notify DC Mark Gathings of the COW date.
- Dave Norris announced the Seamanship exams have been mailed to Raleigh. He noted that the National Bridge had convened at Raleigh the previous weekend, so the staff may be behind processing the exam results. The advance grade course, JN, materials need to be ordered soon for a winter/spring class.
- In case the squadron loses access to Rm 135 in the Sheriff's building due to Lindy's retirement, Bill Miner offered his board room to use for meetings.
- Lindy Zink read the PRO report into the record:
- This committee was contacted by Steve Fisher about brochures for the Jan 2011 boating class on or about 3 Nov, 2010. The ones sent to him after corrections were: Save You; ABC2; ABC April 10; America's Boating Course; Boating Accidents 1; Canoe; How to read charts 1. All contain a contact phone number as well as an e-mail address. The 7 were sent to all committee members on or about 27 Nov. The brochures include some for posting, hand outs and tear offs which should cover any type of distribution or display.
- Sent out "Save You 1" with a picture of a toe tag on 28 Nov.
- By 1 Jan, 2011 the peninsula and mercury news web sites will be updated reflecting the class.
- The theme for January 2011 will of course be about the boating class. Two of the brochures sent to Steve and the committee members will be sent to squadron members on or about Jan 1st for distribution.

- Lindy has the member of the year award ready. Jim Sadler will donate a Lt. C flag. The Pleasanton Boat Show will run 7-17 January. The District Boat Show Committee has asked Santa Clara to cover a Sunday and another day. Tim Ellenberger suggested we take 9, 10 January. Tim further suggested we take a standard lifejacket, put it in a locker, and time visitors putting on lifejackets. If too slow, give them a toe-tag. Put another jacket inside-out in a bag. Commander Lu reminded that the VE's have jackets donated by the Coast Guard. Lu will review other ideas for the show.
- Commander Lu reported that the fire fighting demonstrator had been earmarked for an Oregon state boat show and would not be available in time for the Pleasanton Boat Show due to shipping time constraints.
- DeWayn Meek recalled the activity the Squadron joined at the Sunnyvale Fire Dept. where burning flares and extinguishing live fires were practiced. Tim Ellenberger will check with the Fire Department.
- It was suggested that a visit to Star Electronics may be a good idea for an activity. They are located on the Oakland/Alameda estuary. They may do a demo for us. Bill Miner suggested an engine maintenance demo would be a good activity. Members attending the Pleasanton Boat Show were asked to look around for candidates for these kinds of activities.
- Commander Lu reported that Ray Tsuneyoshi will become a full time employee of USPS. Lu said he would work on grants as he is well connected with government agencies.
- More discussion was held regarding Santa Clara hosting the District COW. Jim Sadler reported this would entail hosting a hospitality suite on Friday and Saturday evening and planning a spouse's lunch and activity on Saturday. Jim is to get an idea of number of attendees for said events from Ethel Ott. Tim Ellenberger suggested a light rail ride to NASA/Ames for a visit to the new dirigible or the museum. Lindy Zink was not sure a civilian can even get on the base. Tim will look into this.
- Tim Ellenberger will do a preliminary schedule of activities for 2011.
- Lindy Zink reported that Nick Chargin and Mark Gathings keep bouncing emails back to him.
- The next ExCom meeting will be held Wednesday, 19 JAN at the Sheriff's Building.
- Meeting adjourned at 2010

A friendly reminder, the Executive Committee meeting takes place on the third Wednesday of every month at 1900 hour. The meeting is held at the Sheriff's Office, in a small conference room on the first floor. All members are welcome to attend and if you have any thoughts of joining a committee, becoming a Bridge Officer or just want to get a little more involved, this is a great opportunity to find out what it is all about. The meeting usually last about an hour and a half to two hours but there is always cookies to munch on and you don't have to stay the entire time. Why not give it a try and drop by. Might be interesting.

Monthly Riddle

There are two different snakes in the desert, one that bites you and nothing happens; the other when it bites, you die in five minutes. How do you tell them apart?

Answer is located on Editor's page.

A Little Wifely Humor

When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed. But, somehow I always had something else to take care of first, the shed, the boat, making beer. Always something more important to me. Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point. When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors. I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house. I was gone only a minute, and when I came out again I handed her a toothbrush. I said, "When you finish cutting the grass, you might as well sweep the driveway."

The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp.



Holiday Party Photos



The cake said it all.

Everyone waiting for their dinner.
An excellent turnout. Thanks everyone.



Tim decorated the place, and what a fine job he did. The tree was pretty and everyone brought gifts to share.

Photos Continued

As the crowd gathered the holiday spirit was obvious.



Tim explaining the rules of the game and Trey passing out numbers to be used for the gift exchange. Ask Keri about stealing a gift for her mom.

Eating was only half the event



2011 Proposed Slate

The following is the updated proposed Bridge positions for our Squadron in 2011. The nominating committee has been hard at work in trying to fill these positions. As you will see, at this point we still have a vacancy. If you are interested in helping out, volunteer for the vacant position. It's easy. Simply pick up the phone or send an email to Lindy Zink. Phone – 408-866-2660. E-mail – Lindyzink@hotmail.com

Let's make this upcoming year successful and have all the positions filled.

COMMANDER	LU ABEL, SN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER	LINDY ZINK, AP
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	TIM ELLENBERGER, P
EDUCATIONAL OFFICER	DAVE NORRIS, JN
SECRETARY	WILLIAM MINER, P
TREASURER	DEWAYN MEEK, AP

DIRECTORS	AL HUGHES
	STEVE FISHER, P
	BOB COONS

COMMITTEES:

BOATING ACTIVITY	VACANT AT THIS TIME
BOATING CLASS	STEVE FISHER, P
CO-OP CHARTING	DENNIS PARKER, AP
MEMBERSHIP	STAN TICE, JN
MEMBER INVOLVEMENT	JIM BUCKLEY, P
PUBLIC RELATIONS	DIANE NELSON
MEETINGS & PROGRAMS	NANCY ZINK
SUPPLY OFFICER	CAROL FISHER
NEWSLETTER EDITORS	LINDY ZINK, AP & NANCY ZINK
VESSEL SAFETY	STEVE FISHER, P
COMPUTER SYSTEMS/WEB	DENNIS PARKER, AP

AUDIT COMMITTEE	ROGER BRADLY, AP
	DENNIS PARKER, AP

BUDGET AND FINANCE	JOHN CASSIDY, AP
	LINDY ZINK, AP

NOMINATING COMMITTEE	DON HARDY, SN
	LINDY ZINK, AP

RULES COMMITTEE	LINDY ZINK, AP
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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE ALAMEDA BOAT AND RV SHOW

VOLUNTEER AND ENJOY A NEW EXPERIENCE. .

Location: Alameda County Fairgrounds 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Pleasanton. 94566

We have been assigned Sunday 9 January for District 25 booth coverage.

Booth coverage is usually a stint of two hours.

Additionally since the show runs from 7 January through the 17th and we will need to cover one additional week day that has not been defined.

SHOW HOURS:

Weekdays 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Sundays: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Monday (17) (KLK HOLIDAY) 10 a.m. to 6. p.m.

Volunteers will be admitted free. Pick up exhibitor badges at the Show Office

Parking is \$8. Bob Aurner our Dist. Boat Show chair is trying to arrange for free parking.

Please call or e-mail what time would fit into your schedule so I can notify Bob and have your name on the list at the Show Office.

DeWayn Meek 408- 225-6097 captdeWAYN@att.net

If problems at the boat show please call Bob Aurner. Cell: 831/ 236-7695.

He will be there or close by.

First Wednesday Dinner

It's actually going to be the second Wednesday



WHERE: Rose Garden Chinese Cuisine
1198 N. Capital Ave San Jose

WHEN: Wednesday, 12 January, 2011

TIME: 1800 (6:30 PM)

This is a repeat restaurant that was well attended and the reviews were very good. Lu had originally recommended the location and we are glad he did. If you weren't there the first time, why not try to make it this time. If you attend the first time, hope to see you again.

From The Editors



If you have a suggestion or something that you would like to see in The Bell or if you have an article, please send it to us via our e-mail. Lindyzink@hotmail.com



RIDDLE ANSWER

Wait five minutes.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

All change is not growth, as all movement is not forward.

Ellen Glasgow