



# Pilot

April  
2011

Evansville Bend Power Squadron  
[www.evansvillebend.org](http://www.evansvillebend.org)



## APRIL 20TH MEETING AT LOGAN'S EAST FOR LASER FIRE TRAINING DEMO

Our Wednesday, April 20th meeting heads to Evansville's Eastside to Logan's Road House, Lloyd Expressway at Burkhardt Road.

We will be located in their meeting room to the left as you enter.

Our program will be the Laser Fire Extinguisher Training System. The Laser represents the latest advancement in fire training technology.

It senses where the user aims and sweeps the laser training extinguisher and automatically varies the LED driven digital flames in response. This allows trainees to learn how to effectively use a fire extinguisher without the cost and clean-up associated with using dry-chemical or CO2 extinguishers. The electronic control system responds to the trainees' actions, putting the fire out only when the extinguisher is used correctly. Everyone will be allowed to use the device to put out a "laser fire".

We will be ordering off of the menu.  
6pm Social Time, 7 pm Dinner

## Commander's Corner



The water was turned on at our marina yesterday, so that means boating season is upon us. I will be

"summerizing" my boat this coming weekend.

L/TC Richard Rombauer is our boating activity chairman; he has several outings lined up for our squadron, also activities with other squadrons. He has been working hard getting these set up, would be nice if more could attend the outings.

Save this date: May 18<sup>th</sup> our

<b>Commander:</b>	<b>Cdr. Sam Richey, SN</b>	<b>(812-721-2322)</b>
Executive Officer:	P/C Richard Rombauer, AP	(812-985-9956)
Administrative Officer:	Lt/C Derk Boss, AP	(812-202-5281)
Secretary/Treasurer:	P/D/C Janice Elwood, JN	(812-401-8300)
Education Officer:	Lt/C Karen Rombauer, AP	(812-985-9956)

A Unit of USPS, Sail and Power Boating® — District 24

Administrative Officer L/TC Derk Boss has a meeting set-up dinner at Ri Ra's then a tour of the Casino Aztar boat, We will be touring the wheel house talking to the captain, maybe the only chance we will ever have to see the workings of the boat.

We have several classes in progress and planned for the near future. I know Karen's Report will fill in all details.

Let's all have a good and safe boating season. I have been waiting all winter for it to start: know you have been doing the same.

*CDR Sam Richey SN*

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## Education Update



OH MY!!! We have so much going on -- it's mind-boggling!!!

The March 23 "Boating on Lakes, Rivers and Locks" **seminar** at Gander Mountain was -- again -- a HUGE success, with 26 attendees, plus 5 Evansville Bend members. We also had a special guest: Tony Barron, Area Lockmaster from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Those notices in the Courier & Press "Local Happenings" column are definitely being noticed. When Tony's boss saw it, he immediately called me to ask how the Corps of Engineers could assist in the seminar. And, Tony plans to be on our agenda for each future ABC class, too.

The next seminar on the schedule is Aug. 2. We originally planned to teach "Onboard Weather Forecasting", but are also considering "Rules of the Road", or possibly "Knots, Bends, and

Hitches". If you have a preference, please let Karen know!!!!

As everyone knows, the Ohio River has been really high this spring -- but Henry tells me that it's now receding, so . . . . the show must go on!! That's right, our **ABC class** scheduled to begin April 2 at French Island Marina was on target to begin as planned. However, the morning of the first class a forum decided to postpone and reschedule -- this class will now begin on April 23.

And, don't forget our next **ABC class** at the EMA building -- beginning Thursday, April 14 at 6:30 pm. Also, later in the summer we have yet another session planned to begin Aug. 9.

Other exciting news regarding the ABC course:

- The Sea Scouts have asked to conduct a class. As preparation for their next Bahamas trip, they have 15-20 Scouts and 6 adults who are eager to get this instruction. An exclusive session for them will begin April 3.
- The Evansville Fire Department has expressed interest in having us teach this course to their Special Team group which consists of divers and boat operators. Discussions are in progress for scheduling this, and I'll update you when it's finalized.

It just occurred to me that I forgot to formally recognize our members who recently passed the **Seamanship** course: **CONGRATULATIONS to ROB GEISS, JO GRIES, AND BRENDA MORRIS.**

We're still on track to teach the next Seamanship class beginning

June 7.

**Piloting** will be taught in January, 2012.

We've had requests to teach **JN** - so I'm pulling that together now. If you're currently at AP grade, and would be interested in joining this class please contact me so that we can determine the dates that will work for everyone.

Our instructors are doing an OUTSTANDING job - but we're really spreading them thin. We have such a limited amount of instructors, and if we're going to be able to continue to offer courses at this rate we definitely need more people to help teach. We do have a few members who are interested in becoming certified to teach - but we can use more!! I'm going to schedule an **Instructor Certification Class** (for NEW instructors - this is NOT a re-certification class) as soon as possible. So, please, please, please let me know if you'd like to join this elite and special group.

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**CALL FOR HELP !!!!!**  
**WE NEED YOU !!!!!**



USPS has often been described in the past as "the best kept secret". Your Bridge officers have been

working hard to dispel that portrayal in southern Indiana -- and their efforts are paying off. If you've been reading the SEO report each month, you MUST have noticed that our education programs are increasing in frequency and in scope. BUT WE

NEED YOUR HELP IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THIS GROWTH !!

**WE NEED MORE PROCTORS**

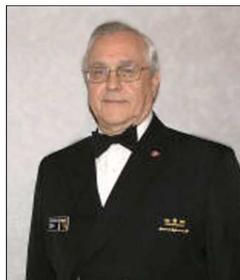
Any USPS member is qualified to serve in the role of proctor at the ABC classes. The job is simple: all you do is show up and help to answer questions about USPS, and then help grade the tests at the end of the course. If you've taken ABC (and I know you all have!!!) you can do this !!!! And what an easy way to earn hours towards a Merit Mark !!! We're especially going to need several more proctors than usual for the Sea Scouts classes. So please come out and assist!!!

**WE NEED MORE INSTRUCTORS**

Sam Richey, Henry Graper, Suzy and Jay Picking, and Derk Boss are the greatest!!! But, they're people, not robots !!! And guess what -- they need rest now and then. Please help lessen the load for them by taking the training to become certified to teach. Education is the mainstay of USPS. It's why we're here. It's what we're all about. Every time we teach an ABC class and put our body of knowledge in front of the public, we're doing our part to potentially save lives and make a difference. We need YOU to help teach !!!! Sign up to take the Instructor Certification class and we'll help you learn how !!!

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**FROM THE DISTRICT 24 BRIDGE**



**D/C Dick Remski, SN**

USPS is a great secret organization! Very few people in our district area know what it is, and their understanding is somewhat like the problems we have with

our phone line in Dayton after a winter storm ... we are listed in the business white pages just below Dayton Power and Light!

We have all struggled with identity. How do we let people know who we are and what we do and what fun times we have? At our Spring Conference I spoke with Chief Commander Frank Dvorak about how we would like to start using "America's Boating Club" in big type in our advertising and put USPS a bit smaller in type so people don't have to figure out what we are. He encouraged us to try it and pass on some feedback to National on how it works. So let's try it!

We have seen some major changes in our own district. No we're not picking up members by the droves, but we are learning much more about what it means to be in USPS and in a "district". Commander Jeff Lagrew has taken great leadership in organizing fun boating trips for our district, and other USPS, members. "Sell the sizzle and the steak will follow!" Thanks, Jeff, for reaching far across squadron boundaries.

P/D/C, Don Cloyd has taken on the effort to visit each and every squadron at one of their events AS A GUEST! He has encouraged all of us to reach across squadron boundaries and join with our fellow district members and HAVE FUN. I plan on continuing this and encourage out District Bridge members to do so as well.

Our last three summer rendezvous' have actually taken us boating again! Many of our district members experienced boating the Ohio River for the first time, and many others have enjoyed the river one more time in perhaps a more seasoned boating career.

Our DEO Larry Samuels had his last Louisville COW remarks published in the Ensign a couple of months ago. His speech revolved around the three R's: recruiting, retention, and reenergizing. Many of our more senior mem-

bers have given up active boating as they have grown more mature, but invite them along on an outing and you'll give someone a great gift of time to enjoy something that was once so much a part of their lives.

Commander Bill Pell in Dayton has formed an extremely collaborative relationship with Ohio DNR, Division of Watercraft. The Dayton squadron spent several weekend days with Watercraft officers during the "Wear it!" campaign last summer and some of us from Dayton even volunteered for the divisions kayak pond at the Ohio State Fair and had a great time.

I don't bring a lot of really new ideas to my year in this chair. I do want to emphasize some of these great ideas I have mentioned as things we can all learn from as we go through our next year.

Most of all, reach out to fellow boaters, invite them to one of your squadron functions and tell them about our knockout courses that National has put together for us. Work on retaining your current members by getting them involved in activities. Invite them for fun and not just to work! And call your more senior folks and be sure to invite them to come along next time you have an on-water function.

We have lots of creative folks in our district and I would like to hear any and all ideas that you have tried in your squadron and want to pass on to others. If you hear about something another squadron is doing, call them up and ask how to implement their project or idea in your squadron.

This thing of ours, USPS, is great and lots of fun! Let's try to let the "secret"

get out by using “America’s Boating Club”. Let’s share it with all the other boaters we meet and we will grow our membership!

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**TO ALL EVANSVILLE BEND MEMBERS:**



At the bridge meeting last night we proposed some activities for the year. We plugged these activities in months that might look workable but need now to finalize so members

have enough time to plan and schedule it there own activities.

- Green River & Owensboro & Newburgh Lock Thru Proposed July.
- Canoe Trip Hovey Lake Scheduled June 22th Need Head Count Cost \$15 each. Meet at Hovey Lake at 5:00PM.
- Picnic Burdette Park June 15th.
- Proposed Aztar Bridge Captain Wheel House Visit and Dinner at RE RA May 18th 5:30 tour 6:00pm Dinner
- Raft Off Patoka Lake
- Proposed Raft Off Kentucky Lake Proposed July or August.
- Lake Eire Rendezvous August. 26,27 and 28. Further details to follow.

- Chili cook off Proposed October.

This is just a list of activities some firm and some proposed. This is so all the members can plan ahead on the activities they want to participate in.

*P/C Richard Rombauer, JN;  
Executive Officer*

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**NATIONAL BOATING SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

April 1-2, 2011

Arlington, Virginia

**Resolution Number 2011-87-01**

**APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS FOR LIFE JACKET WEAR BY RECREATIONAL BOATERS**



WHEREAS, recreational boating is a premier outdoor pastime for over 70 million Americans and un-

told numbers of visitors to our nation’s waters each year; AND WHEREAS, in spite of the fact that boating is highly regarded as a safe and enjoyable recreational activity, this Council recognizes the need to be mindful that the reduction in annual fatalities associated with recreational boating is of great importance; AND WHEREAS, thorough analysis of available boating accident data has been performed and used as a basis for this recommendation; AND WHEREAS, given the fact that, on average, approximately 500 people die in recreational boating accidents each year in the United States as a

result of non-swimming-related drowning and very few of them were wearing a life jacket, consequently the National Boating Safety Advisory Council agrees that mandatory life jacket wear is appropriate for certain segments of the boating community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Boating Safety Advisory Council, meeting in regular session in Arlington, Virginia, on April 2, 2011, recommends that the U. S. Coast Guard:

- 1.**  
Initiate efforts which target a future regulatory project to pursue requirements for life jacket wear for recreational boaters while underway and riding in or upon (with consideration given to appropriate exemptions):
  - a. personal watercraft regardless of length
  - b. human-powered vessels (such as canoes, kayaks, rowboats, etc.) regardless of length
  - c. any vessel less than 18-feet in length
  - d. for any person towed while engaged in water sports

**2.**  
Work with its partners to design a strategy to engage the boating public through in-person and electronic dialogue on this topic through pre-rulemaking consultation aimed at informing the public about the potential benefits of such a regulation, gauging public opinion about life jacket wear based on boating type and activity, and making decisions on this topic based on a thorough understanding of both public sentiment and potential benefits. NATIONAL BOATING SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL, April 1-2, 2011

Arlington, Virginia

**3.**  
Make initiatives aimed at streamlining the life jacket testing and approval processes a high priority in order to reduce the overall cost of highly comfortable life jackets, support innovation and creativity in life jacket design and technology, and allow improved life jacket models to reach the consumer quicker and easier.

**4.**  
Give proper consideration to the acceptance (US Coast Guard approval for wear requirements and carriage requirements) of alternative life jackets and other buoyant devices (i.e., Level 50 devices) by completing and accepting a harmonized North American standard, and report back to this Council on the potential benefits and drawbacks of allowing these devices to be worn as a means of compliance with a proposed life jacket wear regulation.

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James P. Muldoon, Chairman  
National Boating Safety Advisory  
Council

