



Pilot

June
2010

Evansville Bend Power Squadron

www.evansvillebend.org



**June 16th Picnic Meeting at
Wesselman Park; July 4th at the Graper's**

PICNIC

Pack up the picnic fixin's...it's time again for the annual Evansville Bend picnic.

This year, Administrative Officer, Henry Graper has made arrangements at Wesselman Park's North Shelter House.

Wednesday, **June 16th** is the date with social time starting about 6pm with "eatin' time" at 6:30pm. Fried Chicken will be provided, but members will need to bring their own covered dish, salad, vegetable and/or dessert, eating utensils, and your own beverages. You might also want to bring a folding chair.

There will be a small charge to pay for the chicken and other incidental costs.

Our July meeting moves to Sunday, **July 4th** as we will enjoy a day at Graper's Dog House river retreat on the Ohio River at French Island.



Members need to bring a covered dish: salad, vegetable and/or dessert, your own beverages, and lawn chairs. We will be eating fiddlers, hamburgers and hot dogs around 1pm.

Come earlier if you want to launch your boat at Graper's and boat on the Ohio in and around French Island. Come and enjoy the 4th with your Evansville Bend friends.

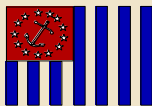
Commander: Cdr. Richard Rombauer, P (812-985-9956)

Executive Officer: P/Stf/C Sam Richey, SN (812-721-2322)

Administrative Officer: P/C Henry Graper, AP (812-359-4927)

Secretary/Treasurer: P/D/C Janice Elwood, JN (812-401-8300)

Education Officer: Lt/C Karen Rombauer, P (812-985-9956)



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

Commander's Corner



We had great fun at the May Membership Meeting at the Black Buggy. Our guest speaker was the Commander Jeff Lagrew and his wife Louise of the Blue Grass Squadron. His presentation was extremely interesting and informative and we want to thank them both for making the trip to Evansville. I hope what Jeff presented sparked interest and action in his up-coming trip to the Abaco's in the Bahamas. Join in the fun. If you're interested in going please, check it out on Sail Angle under District Group—Current Activities.

I took some time at the April meeting to bring up a communication tool called Sail Angle. It is very similar to Face Book. All you need is to sign on to usps.org—click on Sail Angle—enter your membership # and zip code---and you're in. Load your profile and you're on your way to being tuned into National—District—Squadrons with all the activities that are available to you as a member. It expands your possibilities and opportunities. Please consider and take the time to register and remember you are welcome at any squadron district or National function. Please consider signing up—it cost nothing and is a great communication tool for the squadron and district. Since April we have had one person sign up.

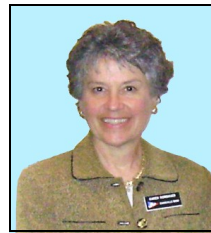
This past weekend was to most the beginning of the summer activities. If your

activities include any type of boating please wear or make accessible your PFD's and please have a safe boating season.

Our June Membership meeting will be a picnic at Wesselman's Park. Please come join us.

Cdr. Richard Rombauer, P

Education Update



Many thanks - and CONGRATULATIONS - to the group who attended the **Instructor Recertification**

class on May 5: Janice Elwood, Henry Graper, Wayne Gundry, Jay Picking, Suzy Picking, and Sam Richey.

Our May 12 **seminar** *Boat Handling Under Power* at Gander Mountain was very well attended. Our next seminar, ***Boating on Lakes, Rivers and Locks*** will be Weds, Aug. 4 also at Gander Mountain. It will be open to the general public - please come and bring a guest or two.... or three.

We've received quite a few requests for another **ABC class**, so one will begin again on Aug. 10 at the Emergency Management Agency building. Registration will soon be available on our web site - or if you know anyone interested in taking the class just have them contact me.

It turns out that many of our members are interested in taking the **Seamanship** class, however nobody is really available during the summer months. Guess everyone's boating ?? So, we're moving the date to begin that class on Oct. 5. Details will be on our website soon.

SEO Karen Rombauer, P

BAHAMAS ISLAND CRUISE— ALL ABOARD!!



Our May 19th speaker, Jeff Lagrew, Commander of the Bluegrass Squadron, came all the way from Lexington to be at our meeting.

The purpose was to inform our membership about an upcoming Bahamas Island Cruise November 5 - 12, 2010.

Jeff has traveled to the British Virgin Islands over 50 times and has taken boating excursions to many other areas, including the Bahamas.

Richard and Karen Rombauer took this BVI trip in March and shared this boating adventure at our April meeting.

They know first hand the great leadership abilities that Jeff has and his attention to detail for each trip.

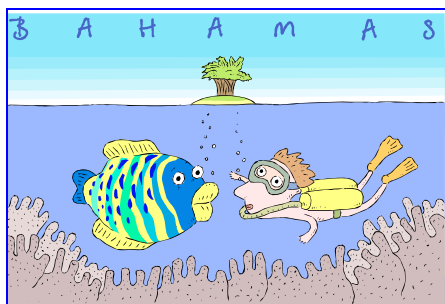
Jeff is using these “boating travels” to attract members to their Bluegrass squadron. He called it a “travel club”. He gives a very large discount to USPS members and Evansville Bend members can also take advantage of this discount. He makes all of the arrangements for the boats and is the guide during the trip.

There will be 3 catamaran boats on the Bahamas trip. There will be 6 to 8 persons per boat, with 2 to a room. Estimated cost per person is \$995. Non-member cost is \$1695. This pays for the fuel, moorings, and a group allowance for food on board which should cover breakfast and lunch. This does not include air fare to the Bahamas.

If you are interested in the Bahamas trip, contact Jeff at:

jlagrew@atlanticappraisal.com or... home— 859-873-6505. A \$300 deposit will be needed to reserve your “spot” on one of the boats.

Jeff also discussed a trip to France over Labor Day! That might peak someone's interest. Oui - Oui!!



Never Take Anything for Granted

Boating safety is nothing you can ever take for granted, which I dramatically learned on a recent outing aboard my Carver 534 Express Cruiser. My college roommate had flown in from the East Coast to visit for a few days, so we thought it would be great to grab some sun and fun aboard Endless Summer II. On our way to a favorite overnight spot off the Willamette River we decided to stop for fuel. As a lifelong boater with over 35 years of experience, I performed all the safety steps for safe fueling: all electronics and appliances off, cabin door and all hatches and windows closed, engines off, nozzle grounded, etc. There was one thing though that I had overlooked.

I was watching the fueling process from the cockpit and fortunately I looked overboard. I noticed a light sheen of gas on the water and thought, "Where could that be coming from?" On closer examination, I saw that gas was dripping into the water from my boat! I immediately stopped the fueling process and began looking for the source of the fuel. Imagine my surprise and shock when, upon opening the engine hatch, I noticed 12 gallons of raw gas in the bilge!

Immediately I informed the gas dock attendant that we had a major problem. I cut my main power switches so the automatic bilge pump would not trigger, turned off the emergency power switch at the gas dock, and then proceeded to fill the bilge with water and soap to reduce the danger. We then carefully siphoned the water/gas mixture using an all-plastic bilge pump (no sparks) into a drum on the dock.

What was the cause of this potentially deadly situation? I had taken things for granted. The gas hose from the filler to the tank had fallen off because both clamps had become loose over the years and I had

failed to check them. Now I always check everything whenever I fuel – just to make sure – and I would encourage other boaters to learn from my lesson. Jerry Dawson—BoatSafe.com

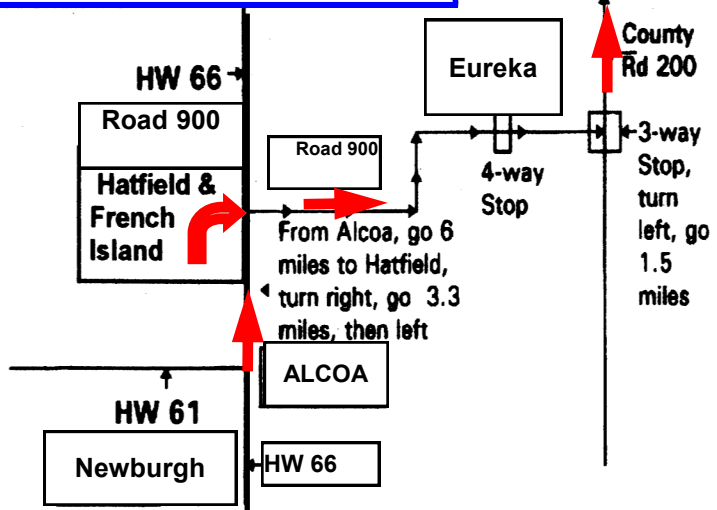
Calendar of Events

- **4th of July (Sunday) Celebration at Graper's (Dog House) River Retreat**
- **July 9-10, 2010 – Lake Cumberland at Grider Hill Marina.** Friday night hospitality with BYO appetizers and snacks. Saturday raft up. Saturday night dinner at the Grider Hill Restaurant. This is a busy time so if you need a hotel room for the weekend call Grider Hill Marina & Resort at 1-866-387-5501 or 1-606-387-5501. Best Western Albany Garden Inn 7 miles away. 1-606-387-7238. www.griderhillmarina.com
- **August 13-15, 2010 – Lake Erie at Sandusky, OH.** Bring your boat or stay at a hotel. In the process of getting phone numbers of a area hotels.
- **September 11, 2010 – Golconda Marina.** Leave from Evansville, Mt Vernon boat or by car. Cook out on the dock Saturday night & bring side dish. Lodging for the Saturday night, Lock & Dam 51 Houses 618-683-6702, River Road Lodging 618-683-3409 or San Damiano Retreat 618-285-3507. Will need to know the number of boats participating so we can make slip reservations. www.golcondamarina.com



This guy should have taken a USPS public boating course.

**This Way to
Evansville Bend's
"July 4th Outing"**



X Graper's Retreat at French Island

From Main Entrance of Alcoa at HW 61 & 66..go east 6 miles to Hatfield on HW 66. Turn Right toward Eureka.. go 3.3 miles on blacktop to 2nd stop sign ("T" road). Turn left on County Rd 200. Go 1.5 miles, turn right on County Rd 700. Go 1 mile to "T" in road. Turn left and go .5 mile. GRAPER'S on right. Name on mailbox.