



# Pilot

May  
2009

## Evansville Bend Power Squadron

[www.evansvillebend.org](http://www.evansvillebend.org)



### Susan Thurman, Author, Speaker for the May 20 Meeting at the Black Buggy

Susan Thurman, retired school teacher and author, will be our speaker for the Wednesday, May 20th meeting. Susan is a lifelong resident of Henderson, KY.

She has taught for over 30 years, at junior high and high school levels and is now an adjunct instructor at Henderson Community College. She has published a number of educational materials, along with several books - specifically "**Currents - Henderson's River Book**" and "**Henderson - The Postcard Book**". She plans to speak to us on these subjects, and also will bring books for sale.

Our meeting will be held at the at the Black Buggy.

Meals and prices will be the

same as our February Meeting.

:  
\$12.00 per person for full buffet;  
\$8.00 per person for soup and salad only.

We will meet in one of the private rooms in the rear of the restaurant which is located at the back of the restaurant just past the buffet.

**Do NOT pay as you enter the restaurant** - Janice will collect the money, as usual. Non-alcohol social time beginning at 6:00 PM. **Dinner at 6:30 PM.**

Meeting and program will begin at 7:00 PM.

*(Please note the change in times - due to the fact that Black Buggy closes a little earlier than most restaurants.)*

<b>Commander:</b>	<b>Cdr. Richard Rombauer, P (985-9956)</b>	
Executive Officer:	Stf/C Sam Richey, SN	(812-721-2322)
Administrative Officer:	Lt/C Karen Rombauer, P	(985-9956)
Secretary/Treasurer:	P/D/C Janice Elwood, JN	(401-8300)
Education Officer:	Lt/C Steve Wilson, S	(477-2814)

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## Commander's Corner



If you weren't at the April membership meeting you missed a good one. Melissa Miller, our guest speaker on Lincoln's flatboat journey to New Orleans from Rockport In., was outstanding. I was hoping for a full house—as it was 19

of us were there to enjoy her talk and after dinner conversation about Lincoln.

As the warmer weather moves in be sure to get your boat lined up for inspection. Its always nice to know that you have all the proper safety equipment and necessary paperwork to operate your boat safely and legally. Talking about safety—Safe Boating Week is May 16th thru the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sally Frazier is our Safety Officer. Any suggestions from the membership on ideas for Safety Week would be helpful. Please contact Sally.

At present our plan is to display posters we had left over from last year at the libraries in Evansville, and at local marina's and boat stores.

On February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 a press release from FEMA, Department of Home Land Security, announced a newly formed affiliation with the United States Power Squadron to support Citizen Corp, FEMA's grassroots' effort to strengthen community preparedness through civic participation. Sherman Greer, Director of Emergency Management for Evansville and Vanderburgh County, joined us at our bridge meeting Apr 29<sup>th</sup> for a question and answer session to see if and how we could help each other . We plan on pursuing further discussions as well as inviting Mr. Greer to one of our membership

meetings as a guest speaker.

We would love to have all of you at our next membership meeting May 20<sup>th</sup>. Please mark it on your calendar and plan on being there.

*Cdr. Richard Rombauer, P*

## Education Update



Well, it's that time of year again, time to get things cleaned up from winter storage, checking out all of our equipment and getting it into shape. Remember to recheck the safety gear as well, along with checking the expiration dates on emergency equipment (i.e. flares, first aid kits etc...).

This is also the time of year, especially the months of May and June, where we can typically see fast moving cold fronts which can produce squall lines well in advance of the front, so make sure that "equipment" includes a working weather radio as well. Several indicators that could spell the onset of severe weather include frontal boundaries in the area, (yes, warm fronts included) dew points in the upper 60's to mid 70's, early morning cumulus build up, towering cumulus in the mid to late afternoon with anvil tops. Remember that the pointed tip of the anvil is telling you the storm direction and the motion subsequent cells could follow.

However the best safety equipment to have on board is ...your eyes ...keep them open and be aware of your surroundings.

Have fun, and stay safe!  
*Steve Wilson, SEO*

## HONEST ABE....GREAT PROGRAM

Melissa Miller, Executive Director of the Spencer County Visitors Bureau, was our speaker for the Wednesday, April 15 meeting at the Olive Garden.

Melissa chronicled Lincoln's journey as a 19 year old young man as it was recreated by a flatboat journey.



Here are three websites to visit if you want more information:

[www.LegendaryPlace.org](http://www.LegendaryPlace.org)  
[www.ThinkLincoln.org](http://www.ThinkLincoln.org)  
[www.IndianasLincoln.org](http://www.IndianasLincoln.org)

***Lincoln's Journey of Remembrance*** began Sept. 9, 2008 from Rockport, Indiana, en route to New Orleans, Louisiana, on a replica flatboat while

*Replica of the flatboat Lincoln worked on during the trip in 1828*



telling the story of Lincoln's life in Spencer County. This historic trip is a re-enactment of a similar trip Lincoln took himself in 1828 while transporting a load of produce for a local merchant.

Lincoln's Journey of Remembrance stopped in 23 towns in 8 states during its nearly month-long voyage.

Melissa was one of the group that toured. There was a chase boat and a chase vehicle which she drove.

## SAFE BOATING WEEK IS A COMIN'

The annual national week to promote boating safety will be held this year, May 16 through 22nd. Every year Evansville Bend helps to promote the event by distributing Safe Boating Week posters and literature to the area boat dealers.



Again this year the safe boating organization is hoping to educate the boating community

about life jacket wear and the options that are available when it comes to comfortable and lightweight jackets. They are also working closely with partner organizations to create a larger grassroots network and create a more consis-

tent campaign message. They are hoping these collaborative efforts will increase awareness about the importance of wearing life jackets while on the water.

They use the same message year after year to help reinforce it so it will become a more accepted and a recognizable part of boating safety. People will then associate it with the North American Safe Boating Campaign.

We as member of Evansville Bend Power Squadron need to do our part in promoting this event by leading by example and always using safe boating practices.

### FINAL VOYAGE



One of our members has made his final voyage.

George F. Tipsword, of Fulton, Miss., formerly of Lawrence-

ville, passed away at the home of his companion, Fran Wolf, in Evansville, Ind., on April 20, 2009.

He was born Nov. 6, 1920, the son of George C. and Mary (Hershman) Tipsword. George was married Dec. 4, 1948, to Sydney L. Onines and she preceded him in death on August 9, 1982.

A graduate of Purdue University, George owned and operated Precision Service Company in Lawrenceville until 1986. An avid boater, he retired to his boat in Fulton, Mississippi. George was a

member of the Rotary International, Elks, a life member of the Masons, a life member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, a member and Instructor for the U.S. Power Squadron. He was also a life member of the of the Sports Car Club of America. He was a WWII veteran, serving in the Pacific Theater and occupied Japan.

Survivors include two sons, George S. and Rosalind Tipsword of Houston, Texas, and Thomas R. and Kathy Tipsword of Lawrenceville; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The body was cremated. A memorial service will be announced by Emmons-Macey and Steffey Funeral Home.

George was a past commander of our squadron as well serving as commander of the Wabash Valley. He one of our "lifetime members and teacher who taught many courses, for us, including Advanced Piloting.

George joined the United States Power Squadron in 1965 with the Wabash Valley Squadron. He had attained the grade of Advanced Piloting. George later moved his membership to Evansville Bend where he served as commander in 1988.

He received his "lifetime member" distinction in 1991. A testament to his service and devotion to Evansville Bend and the United States Power Squadron, George had earned 31 merit marks. One mark is earned for each year of service.

George was a "mainstay" of our squadron for many years.

## More from Commander Richard...

1) We are asking for volunteers from the membership for the Membership Committee headed by Janice Elwood primarily to brainstorm for ideas to increase our membership. Want to help?? **Volunteers contact Janice.**

2) We also want to establish a committee called **Boating Class Planning Committee**. This committee would come up with ideas on how to get word out in the general public about our Public Boating Class. **Volunteers can contact Cdr. Richard or Ron Eberhart.**

3) Membership Survey:

The phone survey committee asked seven questions developed by the bridge in order to increase membership attendance in the monthly meetings. The population was 38+ homes called, 8 not reached.

**a) Number of meetings attended past 12 months:** Not reached - 21%, No meetings -30%, 1-3 meetings - 20%, 4-7 meetings -13%, 8-12 meetings - 37%

**b) What keeps you from coming:** Time - 30%, Program -17%, Distance - 13%, Illness - 3%, No Comment - 30%

**c) Subjects of interest:** Boat Related- 30%, Member Presentation -17%, Class Education -10%, Non Boating - 6%, Informational - 3%. Also..... Good Job - 13 %, Don't Know - 20%

**d) Reasonable Cost of Dinner:** Not an issue - 27%, \$8-\$14 - 27%, \$15 - 46%

**e) Taken Courses:** Taken - 87%, No time -7%, Want to -3%,Can't Remember 3%

**f) What activities would you like:** Social - 40%, Boat Rendezvous -20%, Raft Up on River - 3%, Can't think of any - 37%

**g) Communication Method for**

**Pilot:** E-mail - 60% Hard Copy - 40%

Please draw your own conclusions.

If you have any suggestions, please contact me or volunteer for the Membership Committee headed by Janice Elwood.

