

*The Skipper's Log*  
February 2009  
Clearwater Sail & Power Squadron, Inc.,  
A Unit of United States Power Squadrons, District 22



**Message from the New Commander and the Past Commander**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

NEW COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

It is with pleasure I accept being voted in again as your Commander for 2009. We have a good start for the year with an excellent board and committee people, but we need your help also. Let's all be actively involved with activities, fun, and continuing with educational courses.

Camaraderie and working together will be our theme of the year.

Thanks to Carol Bickford, and now Bob Etchells, we will be kept informed of all the squadron activities. We are going to have more ACTIVITIES to attract ALL OF YOU to participate. Our new Administrative Officer, Lt/C Dorothy Martin, has already scheduled many for the year. Please check your copy of THE SKIPPER'S LOG carefully so you don't miss out on anything. If there is something that you think we should schedule, please inform me or Dorothy and we will try to see what we can do.

We hope to have an interesting and busy year. Our building needs to be used more, but we need help. As P/C Millie Nasta mentioned in her last column, there are many places that help is needed. This does not mean a full time job. A few hours each month would be appreciated. Besides volunteering and having the satisfaction of aiding your organization, you will have a chance to have more personal contact with many members and make more new friends.

We need to make the public more aware of who we are and what we do. Talk to your friends, relatives, or strangers and emphasize our goal of boating safely. We have pamphlets that can be distributed for further information. Carry some in your pockets or in your cars to pass out. As my wife says, "I am being 'recycled'."

Hopefully, things will be GREAT the second time around.

PAST COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

It has been an annual meeting agenda item to have the Department Chairs tell what was accomplished during their watch. This watch extended from Jan. 2007 to Jan 2009. I started my term with a leaking roof and wall. The work area, main meeting room and classroom B & C had leaks. The repairs included roofing, filling of nail holes from the gutter, removal and installation of new gutters. To reduce leaf collections and possible damage to the building, dead branches and trees were pruned.

Trouble with the A/C units required the a/c techs to service the units twice. Thermostat covers were installed. Everything seems to be in good order at present.

A new investment committee was assembled. There were four knowledgeable men on board. Due to a miscommunication, a new committee needed to be formed. The economy is now in recession and values are down, along with our investments. I am leaving two good men on this committee, but two more are needed.

When our treasurer of five years resigned to travel, no one was willing to take the position. The need for outside help was recognized and an accountant's services was obtained. I met and interviewed her along with the previous treasurer. She is still handling our accounts and will be on board for a year in February. A CPA was retained for help with our tax returns. It was found that IRS did not have records of them as being filed. He is working on that.

To stay abreast of the times, a computer system, laptop and projector for power point was presented for the executive committee to vote upon. It was voted to purchase these articles and they are in place and being used. Another need, for the current times, was the creation of a web site for the squadron. You may go to [www.clearwatersquadron.org](http://www.clearwatersquadron.org) to view our site. It is still in the building stage but every one who sees it thinks it is excellent. These people were introduced to me by squadron members but I am fortunate to be able to include these areas as being accomplished during my term as commander.

I want to thank you, for helping to make my time productive and successful.

## CAPS' CORNER

The December 18 meeting was held at the Clearwater Country Club. Christmas Day was the last Thursday of December 2008. Hope everyone's Holidays were happy, festive, joyous and safe.

Looking forward to the New Year.

The next CAPS' meeting will be held on January 29 at the Clearwater Country Club. The officers to be installed by Past President are:

President:  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Thank you ladies for accepting the responsibility your particular job holds.

2009 dues were collected by .

Change of watch of the Clearwater Sail & Power Squadron will be held on 24 JAN 09 at the Clearwater Country Club.

*I'm a pretty patient person. Just as long as I'm Not kept waiting for anything.*

*I think the term "surfing" the Net is just an attempt on the part of computer users to sound like they're actually active.*

*I think TV causes violent behavior. I keep throwing things of mine because the shows are so bad.*

*I know why casinos have those all-you-can-eat buffets--to ease some of the guilt they feel for robbing you blind.*

*Bumper Sticker: Sky-Diving -- The remedy for road rage.*

CAPS' Correspondent

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## FEBRUARY 2009

1	2 Boat Smart Class 7pm	3	4 Boat Smart Lunch Bunch	5 CSPS Ex Meeting	6	7
8	9 Boat Smart	10	11 Boat Smart Lunch Bunch	12 CSPS Monthly Meeting	13	14
15	16 Boat Smart	17	18 Lunch Bunch	19	20	21 C & R "The Pub" 2PM
22	23	24	25 Lunch Bunch	26 CAPS	27	28

## MARCH 2009

1	2 Chart Smart 7 PM	3	4 Chart Smart Lunch Bunch	5 CSPS Ex Meeting	6	7
8	9 Chart Smart	10	11 Chart Smart Lunch Bunch	12 CSPS Monthly Meeting	13	14
15 St Patrick 2PM	16 Chart Smart	17	18 Chart Smart Lunch Bunch	19	20	21 C & R
22 KITE FLY-IN 10am	23	24	25 Lunch Bunch	26 CAPS	27	28
29	30	31				

**DIGITAL VERSION** – This issue will be removed from our directory each and replaced with a new issue.  
**PRIVACY** - This version is edited to remove all personal contact information.



## Calendar of Events

### Information.

Feb. 2	7:00 p.m.	<b>Boat Smart</b> class starts, 1000 Cleveland Street.
Feb. 5	7:00 p.m.	CSPS Executive Committee meeting, 1000 Cleveland Street
Feb. 12	7:00 p.m.	CSPS Monthly Meeting, 1000 Cleveland Street
March 2	7:00 p.m.	<b>Chart Smart</b> class starts, 1000 Cleveland Street
March 15	2:00 p.m.	<b>St.Patrick</b> Reservation Form and Details next month
March 22	10am Starts	<b>KITE FLY-IN PICNIC</b> Lunch 2pm Fort Desoto Park, ST. PETE FLA Shelter 13

### Ongoing:

*The Lunch Bunch* meets every Wednesday for lunch at 11:30 a.m. at the Clearwater Country Club, 525 Betty Lane North, Clearwater.

*CAPS* (Clearwater Power Squadron Auxiliary) meets the last Thursday of the month for lunch at 11:30 a.m. at the Clearwater Country Club, 525 Betty lane North, Clearwater.

## SEO Report

Our National Education Department is trying to prop-up the image of USPS through education, which is our “Organizational Mission Statement”...

This has prompted the need for additions and changes in the new course material being prepared by National. Some of the courses being affected by these changes are the ABC-3 course (Americas Boating Course 3<sup>rd</sup> edition), Weather, Seamanship, Marine Electrical Systems course, and, the preparation of New CD's for these courses.

These changes will take time to complete and will be initiated as each is completed and printed. Other courses and respective materials are being reviewed, and other changes are on the horizon. There are many things happening that may influence the direction of USPS in the near future, so keep your eyes and ears open. I will report them to you as I am informed of them.

We have had some courses recently completed with excellent results. The test results of the “Sail” course showed All Students Passed with very respectable scores. The “Piloting” course produced 7 new Pilots, all passing with very high scores and the “Seamanship” course test came through with good scores too. To all those who took the time taking these courses, you all have my Congratulations....Good Job – Well done.

Our January Boat Smart class will be testing on January 19th and I do hope there will be members, helping out on test night.

Our next Boat Smart Course is Scheduled for February 2<sup>nd</sup>, so please help promote that class.

Our USCG class will be on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Clearwater Air Station, and we are scheduling an Advanced Piloting Course for mid-February. Look for our new schedule to be posted in our building soon.

Happy Boating

## Administrative Officer Report

KITE FLY-IN PICNIC SUNDAY MARCH 22, 2009  
FORT DESOTO PARK ST. PETE, FLA Shelter 13

Starts 10am, Lunch 2pm \$5 per person Under 14 yrs FREE

Furnished: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Soda & Water  
Bring side dish to share.

AWARDS Largest Kite, Smallest Kite, Highest Kite,  
Special Awarded 14 yr & Under , First Kite Up after starting signal (after lunch)  
Most Spectacular Crash  
Best Kite flown by a Squadron Commander

Please call to make reservations

**Clearwater Sail & Power Squadron  
1000 Cleveland Street  
Clearwater, FL 33755-4514**

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