



Afterdeck

NEWS



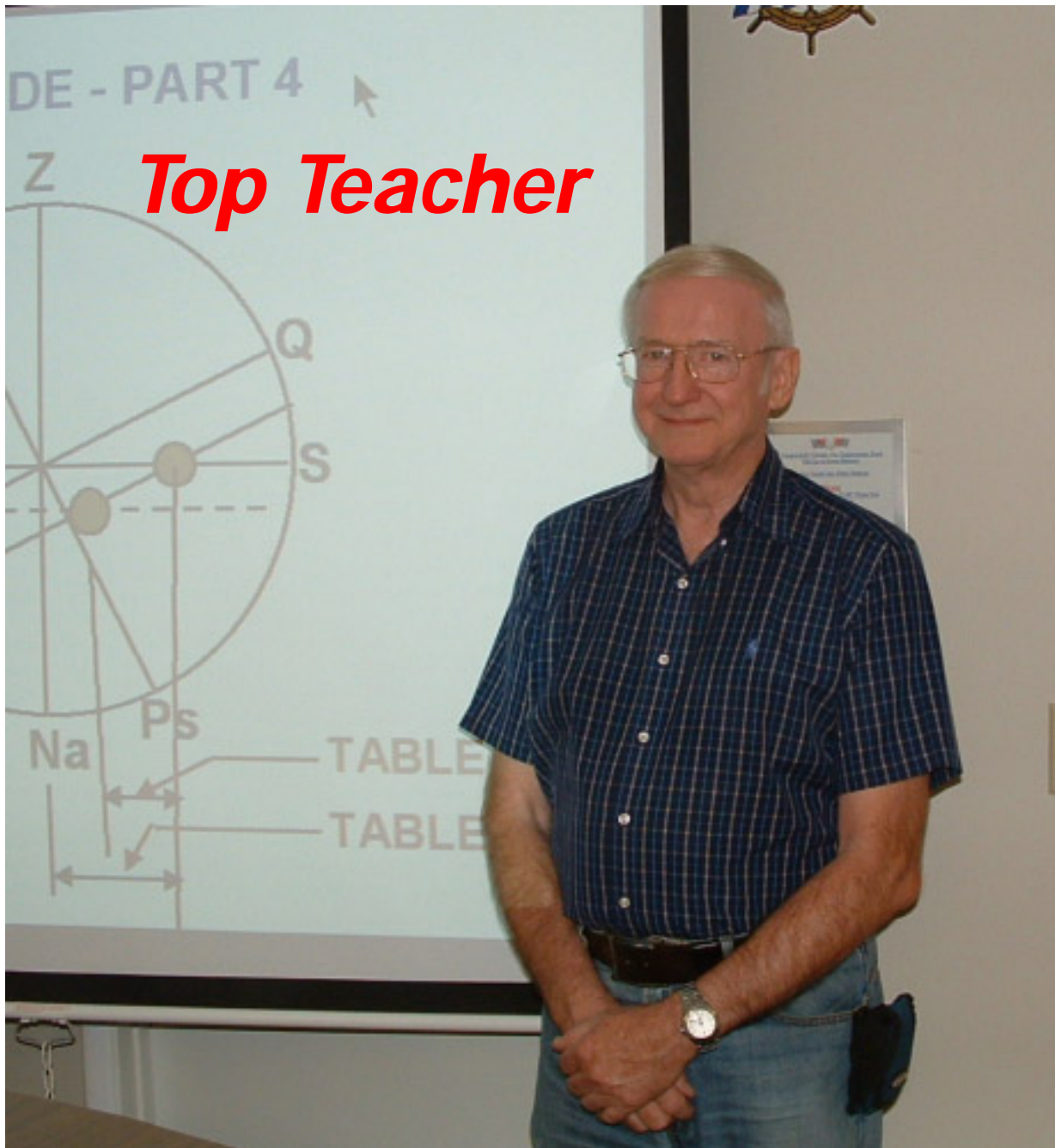
Volume 62
No. 3

of the PALM BEACH SAIL & POWER SQUADRON, INC.®

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a unit of the United States Power Squadrons® • District 8

March
2006



1st Lt Darryl Carl Aubrey, SN, a member of the Squadron for less than 3½ years, is our Teacher of the Year for 2005. Darryl completed work for the Navigation course while teaching both JN and N. He also serves as assistant Squadron Education Officer. Story on Page 4. (Photo by Lt/C (P/R/C) Bill Eldridge, SN)

This Month's Meeting Tuesday 14 March EVERGREEN CLUB

Here's the evening's schedule:

Hospitality	1800 (6 pm)
Dinner	1900 (7 pm)
Business Program	2000 (8 pm)

Program: Commissioner Karen Marcus will speak about her visions for the future of Palm Beach County, with emphasis on how to promote and maintain public access to our waterways.

MENU not available at press time. Please inquire when you make reservations.

Reservations: Call Lt Roberta Stephens, P to make your reservation at 694-2992 on or before Thursday, 09 March. This is a gated community. You will not be admitted without having called in your reservation by the listed date to allow your name to be provided to security.

Price: Please pay at the door by check only, \$20 per person made payable to PBS&PS. Members who make reservations are responsible for the cost of the dinner.

Dress Uniform F: Blue blazer, gray slacks/skirt, white shirt, four-in-hand tie.

Raft-Up Scheduled Saturday 11 March

We have a new Raft-up Chairman, Lt Mike Stern, P. He is setting up a new schedule for the coming year with the first event scheduled for Saturday

11 March 2006 to be held in our old standby spot - Old Port Cove, from 1100 to 1400 hours. Participants should bring their own food, drinks and a dessert dish to share with the other boats.

Those wishing to have a free Vessel Safety Check of their boat will be able to obtain one at the raft-up, or if more convenient, one can be scheduled for a later date.

The anchor boat monitors channel 72 on the VHF radio.

For further information or to let us know if you will attend please call Mike at 630-9561 or Lt Jim Palmer, AP at 630-7606. We look forward to seeing all of you at our first raft-up of 2006!

Lt Jim Palmer, AP

St. Patrick's Party 18 March at OPC

Come and join your friends for a fun-filled St. Patrick's Day party on Saturday 18 March at 1700 (5 p.m.) at Old Port Cove. The party will be held in the social room, between the North and South quays, where the pool is located.

To make this a real St. Patrick's Party, we will have an Irish band for the evening, with singing and dancing and there will be a catered corned beef dinner, with dessert and coffee provided, served at 1800 (6 p.m.).

Since this is a gated community, we must have your name for you to pass through security. The cost of this exciting event is \$20 per person. To make your reservations, please send your check to Joan Thompson, 613 Cypress Key Circle, Atlantis, FL 33462 made out to Palm Beach Sail

and Power Squadron by 11 March. No checks will be accepted at the party.

Please call Joan at 561-965-7947 if you have any questions. We are looking forward to a great time! Get your tickets early ... last year this party was a sellout!

Please bring your own beverages and mixers. Ice will be available.

Joan Thompson, P

'Dry/Wet' Event 12-13 June

A special event get away is planned for 12-13 June at River Palms Fish Camp in Jensen Beach. This location is typical old Florida with big old trees, tiki hut for gatherings, beach, pier for small boats and fishing. AA Marina is next door and accommodates larger boats. Activities will include a potluck on Monday night, a fishing contest and a group dinner at Francis Langford's Dolphin Bar. There are three breakfast locations within a mile of the camp.

Rooms and cottages are available. Brochures will be available from Lt/C Dick Hofmann describing rates and the phone number to call to make reservations. Phone number for motel is 1-772-334-0401.

Prices are \$79 per night for motel rooms and efficiencies, one-bedrooms at \$129 and up to \$149 per night for cottages.

Please make your own reservations.

If you are planning to take your boat (over 23 feet) you should contact AA Marina at 1-772-334-093 or fax 1-772-334-0953. The web address is www.aamarina.com.

LtC Richard Hofmann, P

Afterdeck
NEWS

Published by the Palm Beach
Sail & Power Squadron

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COMMANDER'S REPORT

The Challenges We Face



Good evening! Boy, talk about *deja vu* – it hardly seems possible six years have gone by since December 15, 2000, when I accepted, with great pride, serving as Commander of our Squadron. And, again, Donna and I are very pleased to accept that honor.

At the recent National Convention it seemed that tradition won out over watering down our heritage. Let me explain one example. In a very one-sided vote, the delegates from around the country decided that the traditional dress uniform and its various combinations should be retained as the official dress for USPS. While blazers with pocket emblems are certainly acceptable as optional dress for some events, the traditional uniform of USPS is to remain the



standard for all formal occasions.

My point is this; we are in a serious decline in membership across the country. The delegates at the convention felt strongly that tradition has its place in an organization with a 92-year heritage in its wake! While our Squadron membership has dropped some 8 percent over the past half dozen years, other Squadrons are on the verge of collapse.

Tradition vs. A New Age – a dilemma that needs to be taken seriously! During the general meeting one of the speakers quipped: “If we keep going where we’re

going – we’ll end up right where we’re headed!” That premise is unthinkable and unacceptable.

Part of the recent planning process by your 2006 Bridge & Board addresses this concern: to find a balance between our Educational – Boating and Civic Heritage, and a social climate that fosters and complements those three.

Most volunteer organizations can count on maybe 5 percent to 10 percent of the members who will roll up their sleeves and do the work; they don’t necessarily have the time, they just have the heart. We can count on another 15 percent to participate, for a total of 25 percent who are active. Speaking of statistics, a few years ago we did a review of member stats and found that of the newly joining members, 56 percent did NOT renew by the end of two years. Retention has to become a priority!

The Palm Beach Sail & Power Squadron is alive and well. However, we can do a better job through:

- **Awareness** – Letting the public know who and what we are;
- **Education** – Addressing the diverse educational needs of members and potential members;
- **Communications** – Improve and simplify 2-way communications throughout our Squadron and the total organization;
- **Leadership** – Better prepare officers and other leaders for the future of the Squadron;
- **Member Involvement and Retention** – Evaluate member activities to promote growth and satisfaction;
- **Membership** – Evaluate the definition of member-

Continued on page 4

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Address changes

Please report changes in address, telephone or e-mail, or birthday corrections, to the secretary.

Palm Beach Boat Show Cruises in 23-26 March

Help keep America boating safely when the 21st annual 2006 Palm Beach Boat Show rafts up along the Intracoastal Waterway on Flagler Drive, downtown West Palm Beach and at the Convention Center. America's favorite boat show will open at noon on Thursday 23 March and close on Sunday, 26 March at 1800 hours.

Members of the Palm Beach Sail and Power Squadron are needed to volunteer manning our booth for three hour sessions during the show which, except for the opening day on Thursday and the closing day on Sunday, runs from 1000 hours to 1900 hours on Friday and Saturday.

Your part will be to encourage show attendees to take a safe boating course and/or sign up for a free Vessel Safety

Nose-Up Volunteers: Please Step Forward

Nose-ups have always been a popular form of boating recreation of our members. Unfortunately, Jim Palmer, AP and John Worssam have decided that after many years of lugging the grills and tables, and then cleaning them up, that they must pass the torch to some new people. Jim will be happy to supervise and advise those willing to help, but he will no longer do the actual work.

Unless members step up to take over, it is doubtful if there will be any nose-ups this year. Please contact Jim and say you're willing to help. The more that volunteer, the easier the job.

Lt/C Dick Hofmann, P

Commander ... from page 3

ship to also promote growth and retention;

- **Government** – Be active on governmental issues and regulations that effect USPS and the boating public.

Over the next few months we will address the planning process in our publication, *The Afterdeck News*. Hopefully, you will take a few moments to review the articles so that you, the membership, can let us know if we are on the right track.

Most of you here this evening have made the Squadron what it is; so it is like preaching to the choir to challenge you to get involved — you already know that winners usually do what losers don't wanna do. Yes, you're underpaid, not because you are worthless, but because you are priceless!

One of the keys to the success of any volunteer

Kudos and Thanks to Lt Brian Thompson, P!

After four years as Boat Show Chairman Lt Brian Thompson, P is passing on the torch to Lt Jim Palmer, AP. Brian has been one of the most conscientious members of the Executive Officers Department making meticulous plans for the shows; its planning, preparation, staffing and getting packets of information needed by squadron members who were staffing the booth. Under Brian's leadership, there was never a question of who was scheduled when at the shows. Even in his departure Brian took the initiative to get the information and staffing preparations out to the squadron members through the *Afterdeck News*.

All of Brian's accomplishments were made under some adverse conditions. Brian suffers from kidney disease, but he never let this get in the way of his assignment. Kudos to Brian for a job well done!

Inspection when they visit our information booth.

We will have four members per watch, which will allow the watch to be broken up so that two can tour the show for free (a \$10 value) if they want

while the other two greet the public.

To volunteer for a time convenient for you, call Boat Show Chairman Lt Jim Palmer, AP at 630-7606 or see him at a Thursday Lunch Bunch.

Lt Brian Thompson, P

Darryl Aubrey, SN, Is Teacher of Year

**By Lt/C (P/R/C) William Eldridge, SN
Education Officer**

Because we have a bunch of great instructors, you have to really be outstanding to earn the status of Palm Beach Sail & Power Squadron's Teacher of the Year. Darryl is outstanding. First of all, he joined the squadron August of 2002 and was informed Jan. 18 that he passed his "N" (Navigator Course) exam, which was the last exam he had to complete to become a "Full Certificate" holder which carries the grade of Senior Navigator (SN).

That means he has taken, completed and passed all eleven of the USPS courses in the short time he has been a member. Now while he has been doing that, he has prepared for and taught both the JN and N courses (while taking N himself). Try that sometime!

With his accomplishments, he has also agreed to and accepted the elected position of our Assistant Squadron Educational Officer and was installed as such at our recent Change of Watch. We owe Darryl a big "Thank You" for his contributions to our educational program. Congratulations and keep up the good work Darryl!

organization is the expansion and development of a core of future leaders – a responsibility in which we all must share.

Donna and I thank you once again for the opportunity to serve with you during 2006; it will be our pleasure. And, again, as I did on 15 December 2000, I would like to thank four special volunteers who encouraged us to be involved – and, say "thank you" to them for being our mentors.

During 2006 ...

- Let's Celebrate The Past;
- Enjoy The Present, and
- Anticipate The Future...

God bless, and smooth sailing...

LES



The color guard at the January Change of Watch included Past Commanders (from left) Mary Dodd, SN; Warren Roemmele, N; Fritz Bierschenk, P; Rod Landsman, AP; Marge Roselli, JN, and Ed Newman, S.

P/C Warren Roemmele, N Passes at age 71

P/C Warren G. Roemmele, N, a USPS member since 1970 and the husband of the immediate Past Commander of the Palm Beach Sail and Power Squadron, passed away Feb. 5 after a brief pulmonary illness.

Mr. Roemmele, 71, a native of New Jersey, served as commander of the Northern New Jersey squadron in 1981-82. He continued to act as squadron Merit Mark Chairman even after moving to Florida in 1997.

At the PBSPS Change of Watch ceremony in January, P/C Barbara Roemmele, JN presented her husband with a gift – a pair of stylish



The Roemmeles share a table with D/8 XO D/Lt/C Lee Popham, AP, at Change of Watch (All Photos this page by Lt. David Kimmel, S).

loafers – for his service as her staff aide during the past year.

Mr. Roemmele spent much of his life in voluntary service, and served on the West Caldwell (N.J.) Township Council from 1981 to 1996. He was council president for six years. He was awarded 32 Merit Marks by USPS and was a Life Member.

The Roemmeles were married in 1959. They were enthusiastic world travelers as well as experienced sailors and power boaters on the waters of New Jersey, New York, New England and the Chesapeake.

Survivors include three children and six grandchildren, all of whom live in South Florida.



D/Lt/C Lee Popham, AP (right) of Everglades Squadron presents flags to Bridge members (from left) CDR Les McWhorter, S and Lt/Cs Richard Hofmann, P; Herb Hoffstein, SN and Allan Patti, N,



Lt. James Tedesco, P receives his second “Member of the Year” award from outgoing CDR Barbara Roemmele, N.

Founder's Day Picnic Goes On Despite Weather

We had a wonderfully successful celebration despite Mother Nature's deluge. Out of eighty members who signed up only six were unable to attend. The members at the Jupiter Pavilion seemed to enjoy themselves and were a testament to the can-do spirit in our squadron.

A special thanks goes to Lt/C Gary Ferguson, AP for his taxi service between the parking lot and the pavilion; he kept a lot of people dry. And a special thanks to our committee, Verena and Lt Bill Flanders, 1st Lt Roberta Stephens, Alan and Elaine Konzelman, Lt Rowena Randle,

John and Tam Aull, Lt Jim Palmer and John Worssam. They performed so well despite the elements.

Heartfelt thanks to P/C Mary Dodd and P/C Ed Newman conducted the flag ceremony. A planned program had to be canceled earlier.

Our founders would have been proud of all who attended because you showed the spirit that has made the Power Squadron concept great over these 90 plus years.

**Lt/C Dick Hofmann, P
Administrative Officer**

Can You Believe What People Say On The Water?

By The Bilge Mouse

Over the years I've been a "guest" on a number of cruise ships, and still love 'em. Once ya get hooked on cruising, it becomes a way of life, especially for us Bilge Mice. Getting around the ship can be exciting and fun, and, one never knows whom you might meet or conversations you might over hear, or sights you might see!

I've made a few notes on occasions of some of the darnest things the cruise directors or ship's crew have been asked. Here is just an example:

* Does the crew live on the ship? * What time is the midnight buffet? * Does the ship generate its own electricity? * I'm one bottle over my liquor allowance but I drank it - do I still have to declare it? * Is that seawater in the swimming pool; that must be why it's so rough in



there? * How long is the half hour massage? * I paid for an ocean view, how come I can only see the parking lot? * If I go snorkeling, will I get wet? * What do you do with the ice carvings after they've melted? * Does the elevator go to the front of the ship? * What religion are the people who wear patches behind their ears? And, the topper - How will I know which photos are mine? Oh, My...

And, to share another really dumb thing I overheard:

One passenger having eaten like a pig declared - "I came on as a passenger, will I have to go off as cargo?" Oh, well, if you do plan to go on the Squadron's Fall Cruise, please ask me some of the questions ya might have before sailing - it just might save you some embarrassing moments, and a write-up in the cruise reviews...

See ya on the *Volendam* 24 October!

**Your friend,
The Mouse**

On Course for Our 62nd Year — 1944-2006

[Second in a series on Planning]

By CDR Lesly McWhorter, S

Last month we reviewed the National USPS Mission Statement, the Ideal Goals of USPS, the Strategic Goals of USPS, Organizational Concepts, and the Process of Planning. This month we will review Strategic Input; the Pertinent Trends, Distinctive Competence of the USPS, Opportunities and Risks, Resources,

Strengths and Weaknesses. The following issue we will list our Organizational Goals for 2006 and some of the Action Steps that are and will be considered this year to accomplish our Objectives, some revised, some new.

Strategic Input

Pertinent Trends:

1. One of the major aquatic recreational areas in the country.

2. Increased number of boats and participants [we've overtaken Michigan as the #1 state with the most registered boats, not including Documented boats].

3. Younger age of participants.

4. Number of alcohol related accidents [30% of total nationally].

5. Percentage of operators involved in accidents who have had no formal boating safety educations [70% nationally].

6. Lack of widespread participation by our membership in activities.

7. Number of Personal Water Craft [PWC] in use.

Marriott Hutchinson Island Marina Rendezvous Scheduled for May 26-28

One of the most popular cruising event of the year, the Memorial Day Weekend Rendezvous to the Marriott at Hutchinson Island, will take place on Friday through Sunday, 26-28 May. If you haven't already reserved a marina slip, you should call Cdr Les McWhorter ASAP at 746-9622; there is only one slip left, but we can put names on a waiting list in case of a cancellation. For hotel reservations, call 1-772-225-3700.

You can drive up for the dockside stuff, Attitude Adjustment Hour and Potluck Friday, dockside, Captain's Pineapple Quiz, dinner Saturday night and/or Pizza Pig-Out on Sunday, dockside just call Donna and let her know you are signing on board at 746-9622.

All this AND great company too!

Cdr Les McWhorter, S

Distinctive Competence of the USPS:

1. Expertise and national recognition of the organization.

2. Diversity of the skills and talents of the members.

Opportunities and Risks

Continued on page 7

Members Help Community With More than Education

P/C John Reid, SN, 1st Lt Darryl Aubrey, SN, and P/C Hans A. Heynau, N all are volunteers with AARP's Tax Aide program. This program provides free tax preparation assistance for middle and low-income persons, with special attention to those age 60 and older.

Although the three Palm Beach Sail & Power Squadron

Before starting that outboard ...

- Make sure that the engine is secured to the transom properly. Check the tilt and lock mechanisms and that there is sufficient depth between the propeller and the sea bed.

- Make sure that no one is standing in the water near the propeller and that no one is behind you when you pull the starting cord.

- Do not overchoke the engine as it will flood the carburetor. Consult the handbook if in doubt.

- When the engine fires, check the cooling water tell-tale, if fitted, and allow the engine to run for a few minutes before closing the choke.

- Make a visual check to see there is sufficient fuel for the intended voyage, allowing for contingencies.

- Keep your engine handbook, tool kit and spare parts on the boat.

- If an any doubt about the reliability of your machinery, have it checked by an expert.

Ensure that the battery and connections are as water-proof and secure as possible.

members all are assigned to the North Palm Beach village hall location, the program has many sites located throughout the county that are open until 15 April.

Ask one of them about locations and time, or if you also would like to help with this interesting program.

Who's New

We welcome our new members to our USPS. Be sure to introduce yourself the next time you see them at a squadron event.

William Valega and Connie

Loxahatchee, FL

Suzanne M. Masterson and Lou O. Frazer

Lake Worth, FL

Steve A. Gallant

West Palm Beach, FL

A. Lynn Warren

West Palm Beach, FL

Transferred from Shrewsbury, NJ Squadron:

Clifford J. Scholz, P, and Rosetta

Wellington, FL

Continued from page 6

Opportunities:

1. Expanded reach of educational programs.
2. Increase boating safety education for youth.
3. Involvement in the new Vessel Safety Check program [VSC] with the USGC Auxiliary. More inspectors and more of our own boats inspected

- 4 Increased awareness by the public of the Palm Beach Sail & Power Squadron.

- 5 Increase involvement with the Cooperative Charting program as a community service.

6. Increase new member renewals.

7. Increase interaction with other boating organizations.

8. Increase number of internal activities, especially boating, to reach a broader sector of the membership.

9. Increase funding sources.

Risks:

1. Governmental competition [educational] states and nationally.

2. Other nonprofit competition [educational and social].

3. Geographic location of our large Squadron [area to cover and the spread of our membership].

Resources, Strengths and Weaknesses:

Strength:

1. National, District organization; recognition.
2. Leadership potential.
3. Member skills.

4. Retention of a core group of past leaders.
5. Educational opportunities to the community.
6. Skills training for members.

Weaknesses:

1. Obtaining and training a new core of leadership, chair rotation. Failure to involve a broader spectrum of the membership.

2. Not appealing to and/or retaining the younger boating populace.

3. Member involvement, the geographic spread of the membership makes it difficult for some members to be involved with social, educational or boating events.

4. Wide spread in ages detracts from social events that would appeal to both segments.

5. Lack of social/boating emphasis to attract/retain members.

6. Direct 'competition' in the social area with local organizations.

Setting a Course of Action Equals:

Action Steps = Objectives = Operational Goals = SUCCESS...

[Next month: Operational Goals of our Squadron for 2006, and, Considerations for 06; NEW? - REVISED? - DELETED?]

Cdr Lesly McWhorter, S