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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF AUSTIN POWER SQUADRON

A UNIT OF UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS

Always Plot Your Course Safely and Fly Your Ensign Proudly

Vol 48 Issue 2
February 2010

From The Commander

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Members packed into the meeting room at Pok-e-Jo's for the January dinner meeting. It was standing room only for the Sea Scout presentation of "Cold Water Survival".

Also since the last edition of the Plotter we had members attending the Incoming Officers' Meeting. And all the nominated Bridge Officers needing this training attended.

Another thing, I've

had members call me and ask if they could volunteer or do this or that. With this kind of enthusiasm, we are ready to take on some new and exciting things (read ahead about the AquaPaloosa for example). Along with this there is also the administrative side of the Austin Power Squadron; I invite you to [Continued...](#)

FEBRUARY MEETING

February 16
6:30 Meet-N-Greet
7:00 Dinner
Norris Conference Center in Northcross Mall
Program: Annual Business Meeting
Cost: \$22

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Bridge 2008-2009

The Plotter is the official publication of the Austin Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons. Address correspondence and contributions to Editor, *The Plotter*, 13313 Lamplight Village Ave., Austin, TX 78727. Telephone 512.748.3455. We retain the right to edit any material submitted to *The Plotter*.

Editor
Ron McCracken

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Commander--Cdr Stephen R. Schmidt, JN
Executive Officer--Lt/C Karl Fisher, JN
Educational Officer--P/D/Lt/C Christine G. Geist, SN
Administrative Officer--Lt/C Max Werkenthin III, AP
Secretary--Lt/C Sherri Le Wicker, S
Treasurer--Lt/C Robert K. Little, AP
Members at large:

- Lt James Harrison, AP
- Lt Patrick Tyler, S
- P/C Chet Geist, SN

attend the February 16th business meeting and the March 21st Change of Watch.

Cdr. Steve Schmidt, JN
Commander

From the Executive Department



I'd like to thank all of our members that volunteered their time at last month's boat show. The boat show was a major event at the Austin Convention Center and lasted four days. Twenty one of our members assisted LCRA and TPWD at the Nobody's Waterproof booth during eight work shifts (each being five or more hours). Bravo Zulu to all!

In January, District 21 hosted an Incoming Officers Meeting in Clear Lake. During the meeting, the District Bridge informed us that there

have been delays in getting the 2010 VSC decals printed. District would like for all Vessel Examiners to continue to conduct safety checks during the delay and to issue 2009 decals; we should then mail out the new 2010 decals to the boat owners when they become available (anticipated in March).

At our last monthly meeting Bob Stubbs informed us that Lake Travis was a candidate for the 2010 AquaPalooza sponsored by Sea Ray. Since the meeting, Bob has informed us that Lake Travis was chosen as the site. At the meeting Bob said to me that this was going to be BIG. I personally was not familiar with the AquaPalooza events. After a quick Google search I found the website for the 2009 event (www.aquapalooza.com). The website bills the event as "The World's Largest Boating Party!" To put this in perspective, last year's event, held at Lake Martin, AL, drew over 6000 boats and 35,000 people. The event headlined performer Alan Jackson and was televised by Country Music Television. An event this size on Lake Travis will obviously pose significant logistic and safety challenges but it will also give the Highland Lakes national exposure. I'm sure that there will be many discussions on APS' involvement in this event during the upcoming months. Stay tuned.

Lt/C Karl Fisher, JN

From the Education Department



The Navigation class is still meeting on Monday evenings at the Travis County West Service Center. We hope to complete the course by the end of March. Once we have the slate of course chairmen for the 2010-2011 year we plan to schedule other Advanced Grade and Elective courses and several USPS Seminars. Several of these courses have been updated this past year. Also at the Annual Meeting in Orlando this month new [Continued...](#)

seminars will be announced. We hope they will include subjects that our membership would like to take. One class that has already been scheduled is the America's Boating Course, 3rd Edition for the general public. We plan to teach the extended twelve-hour version of the boating course that covers safe navigation, required equipment, federal and state boating laws for all types of watercraft and hands-on training on the use of printed and digital charts and plotting your boat's course. The class will be held on April 10th and 17th from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Travis County West Service Center, 4501 FM 620 North. If you have boating friends that desire this course, please, have them pre-register at Austin Power Squadron's Call Notes 512-343-BOAT.

P/D/Lt/C Christine G. Geist, SN
SEO

From the Administrative Department



Our **January Squadron Meeting** at Pok-e-Jo's Barbeque was well-attended and we enjoyed an instructive Program presented by Sea Scout Ship 911 from Georgetown. Special thanks go to Miss Sarah Torn, our speaker, and to Douglas Hearn JN, the Skipper of Ship 911. Our Squadron members value our relationship with the Sea Scouts, and we hope to plan more events involving the Scouts that will encourage both the enjoyment of boating and the achievement of educational goals. The Scouts of today are the leaders of tomorrow.

The Austin Power Squadron achieved perfect attendance at the **District 21 Incoming Officers Meeting** in January, with all Bridge officers present for training. Chief Commander Creighton Maynard was present and shared some memorable remarks. Perhaps his most important thought was about building **Membership**. He said that, if each USPS

member would only invite one friend to a Squadron event, the USPS Membership soon would soar. Inviting one friend to an event is an easy thing for almost any member to do. So as Spring approaches and we start planning our outdoor activities, let's each think about a friend who has an interest in boating, and invite them as a guest to a Squadron event. You'll be glad you did.

Our **Annual Business Meeting** will be held Tuesday, February 16th at the Norris Center, 2525 West Anderson Lane, starting with a Meet-and-Greet and Cash Bar. Dinner will be \$22 per person, with the Menu yet to be selected. As the membership will consider all annual business matters and election of Bridge officers at this Meeting, we will have no additional program. Dress code is business casual or uniform G.

A Flyer with all details about the Annual Business Meeting will be distributed to the membership in a few days. Please attend if you can; your participation is important to the Squadron.

Happy Birthday!

February Birthdays

- Joe Dorn 1
- Don Hearn 2
- Jim Harrison 8
- Rachel Vasquez 11
- John Sullivan 12
- Allan Hitchcock 13
- Theresa Stebano 17
- Angel Frias 20
- James Collins 20
- Sloan Diebolt 21
- Doug Hearn 23

Lt/C Max Werkenthin III, AP
SAO

Bulletin Board



John (Jack) Martin, age 98, died at Westminster Health Care Center in Austin, Texas on January 12, 2010. Born in Marion, Ohio on April 25, 1911, he graduated from Purdue University in Civil Engineering. During his career he worked at Interlake Iron Corp., in Toledo, served as a Major on active duty in the US Army, worked with his father in the Martin Insurance Agency in Toledo until 1953, and finally accepted a position in the Engineering department with Owens Illinois in Toledo.

When he retired in 1973, he and his wife, Gretchen, moved to Lakeway, where they lived in a home that he designed and built. His honors include: Past President of the Toledo Lions Club; member of the Rubicon Masonic Lodge, the Scottish Rite and the Shrine Ben Hur Temple; active member of the Toledo and Austin Power Squadrons; Lakeway Village Clerk and Tax Assessor; and service on the Travis County Appraisal Board.

Survivors include two children, Gay Hendricks and George Martin, a sister, Dr. Barbara Britsch, six grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. 7th Street, Austin, TX 78701 or the Westminster Residents Association, 4100 Jackson Avenue, Austin, TX 78731. Obituary and guestbook online at wcfish.com

D21 Slate of Officers

Office

Commander	D/Lt/C Scott McDonald, SN	HN
Executive Officer	D/Lt/C Jerry W. Madden, S	SH
Education Officer	Cdr James S. Hotop, JN	HN
Administrative Officer	P/C Benjamin A. Garber, JN	LC
Secretary	P/C Betty A. Carr, AP	GB
Treasurer	D/Lt/C William K. Galle, AP	FW
Assistant Education Officer	P/Lt/C Sheryl Dautriel, JN	LC
Assistant Administrative Officer	Cdr Frank Boerner, SN	GB
Assistant Secretary	P/C Ginny Strong, AP	AU
Assistant Treasurer	D/1st/Lt Clorinda P. McVinnie, AP	FW

General Committees

Nominating

1 Year – Chair	P/C/C Karl E. Fernandes, JN	HN
2 Year	PD/C Joe B. Dorn, SN	AU
3 Year	D/C Shirley D. Heald, AP	DL

Planning

1 Year – Chair	P/C Christine Rakestraw, AP	LRGV
1 Year	Lt/C Peter P. Pranis, AP	LRGV Continued...

2 Year	P/C Tressa Harvey, S	OA
2 Year	P/Lt/C Robert W. Stevenson, JN	HN
3 Year	P/C Ginny Strong, AP	AU
3 Year	Stf/C William E. Smith, AP	AU

Rules

1 Year – Chair	P/D/Lt/C Billie J. Kearney, N	GB
2 Year	P/C Paul Mallett, AP	AU
3 Year	P/D/Lt/C Roger D. Penneman, SN	FW

Auditing

1 Year	P/C Raymond T. Kearney, SN	GB
2 Year	P/C Christine G. Rakestraw, AP	LRGV
3 Year	Cdr Janet Wood Cooper, P	OA



Operations Training Completions



Ship 911 Sea Scouts and Leaders



Daniel Forbes, Jim Snyder, LCRA Rangers



Speaker Sarah Torn

To: Lt/C Sherri Le Wicker,S, Secretary

From: Nominating Committee

P/C Paul Mallett, AP

P/C William Smith, AP

P/C Ginny Strong, AP

Re: Nominations for Elective Offices 2010 – 2011

The Nominating Committee is pleased to unanimously nominate the following members to serve as Elected Officers during 2010. All have agreed to serve if elected.

Commander	Karl Fisher, JN
Executive Officer	Max Werkenthin III, AP
Squadron Education Officer	Christine G. Geist, SN
Assistant SEO	T.W. Cook, JN
Administrative Officer	Don Hearn, JN
Secretary	Sherri Le Wicker, S
Treasurer	Charles Strong, JN
<u>Executive Committee</u>	
Members at Large	James Harrison, AP Robert Stubbs, AP Chet Geist, SN
<u>Auditing Committee</u>	
1 Year	Patrick Tyler, S
2 Years	Charles Buerschinger, AP
3 Years	Alan Barnes, AP
<u>Nominating Committee</u>	
1 Year	P/C William E. Smith, AP
2 Years	P/C Ginny Strong, AP
3 Years	P/C Stephen R. Schmidt, JN
<u>Rules Committee</u>	
1 Year	Patrick Tyler, S
2 Years	Charles Strong, JN
3 Years	Rob Gentry, SN
<u>Finance Committee</u>	
1 Year	Howard E. Yoas, SN
2 Years	Allen Hitchcock, JN
3 Years	Bob Little, AP



Trashing Texas Beaches Isn't Cool!

The Texas General Land Office has been sending this message across the state for twenty-three years, and Texans have responded. Since the first cleanup in 1986, more than 390,000 Texas Adopt-A-Beach volunteers have picked up more than 7,500 tons of trash from Texas beaches, some of it originating from as far away as South America.

Due to tide patterns in the Gulf of Mexico, trash dumped anywhere in the gulf is likely to end up on a Texas beach. Volunteers record information such as the source and type of debris collected on data cards provided by Ocean Conservancy. This data has been instrumental in the passage of international treaties and laws aimed at reducing the amount of offshore dumping.

Keeping Texas beaches clean and safe is an economic as well as environmental priority. Coastal tourism, a \$7 billion industry, and commercial fishing, a \$1.9 billion business, demand clean beaches and a healthy gulf to thrive.

The program strives to:

- raise public awareness;
- educate citizens about the source of debris; and
- generate public support for state, national and international action to clean up coastal waters.

The Texas Adopt-A-Beach Program, an all-volunteer effort, is dedicated to preserving and protecting Texas beaches. The program's success is due to the generous efforts of dedicated volunteer county coordinators, coastal community leaders, sponsors and citizens. Strong support from the private sector helps carry our message to Texans all across the state.

Please join us at our next beach cleanup.

- Feb. 12 - Winter Texan Cleanup - South Padre Island
- Feb. 13 - Coastal Bend Winter Cleanup - Corpus Christi Area
- April 24 - Spring Cleanup - Coastwide

Request to be put on the Adopt-A-Beach mailing list--please include your name, address, and telephone number.

Email us with your input.

Call 1-877-TX COAST (1-877-892-6278) for more information.

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What's ahead for APS...

We're On the Web...

<http://www.austinpowersquadron.org>



February

3-7 National Meeting, Orlando, Fl.

16 Annual Squadron Business Meeting

March

21 Change of Watch

25-28 D21 Conference, Houston



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