

“FILES AND PROFILES” FROM THE DISTRICT

“The Dixie District: District 17
September 2006 Issue



Meet Knoxville’s Leadership Team:
Commander Bob Allen, AP
Janene Allen, AP

Within the past several months, USPS has added another national award to its program. The William Selden MIRA (Membership Involvement/Retention Award) is now one of the most coveted awards to be given a squadron. At the New York Governing Board last month, the Knoxville Squadron ranked third on the national level in its outstanding work in recruitment and retention of members.

Knoxville increased its membership this year under the leadership of Commander Allen by 26.3%! Janene and Bob Allen exemplify the best of the best in leading their squadron toward the goals of safe boating, being involved in the community, or simply having a fun time at a cruise or boating rendezvous. Congratulations Janene, Bob and the Knoxville Squadron!

They will be hosting one of the breakout sessions at the fall conference in Birmingham November 3-5. (See the Breakout Session Schedule on page 6). Attending this session will be an excellent time to find out the methods used in boosting membership and ask questions. This will be a motivating and enthusiastic session!

Janene and Bob have been very involved in getting squadrons within our district hosting events and inviting other squadrons to join in the fun. This year has seen more cooperation in this area than ever before. We have seen sharing of responsibilities and mentoring

more than ever before. Much of this response is due to the hard work the Allens have put forth as an example.

Janene and Bob joined the Knoxville Power Squadron in April of 2002 after purchasing a 26’ cruiser. Since that time, they have bought four other boats, finally settling on a 52’ Harbor Master and a 1955 Feather Craft that is used as its dinghy.

Both the Allens are graduates of the University of Tennessee. Bob had a twenty-five year career in federal law enforcement including naval intelligence, FBI and TVA Inspector General.

Janene worked in customer service for TVA and the insurance industry until 1997 when they opened a Bed and Breakfast Inn they built near Pigeon Forge. They also owned a river tubing business for five years.

In 2004, they sold the Inn and their home in Sevier County and moved to Tellico Lake. Their family consists of three children and four grandchildren spread from Tennessee to Virginia and Michigan.

They look forward to seeing you in Birmingham in November!

* * *

WATCH OUT FOR THE *SHOWSTOPPERS!*

Friday night entertainment at the Alta Vista will feature the *Showstoppers*, a Birmingham troupe of tap dancing ladies that have performed in Reno, NV as well as many local events. Led by Rita Childers, they will shed those sequined jackets for western boot-scootin’ outfits and show us a thing or two! This is a high intensity fast moving troupe. So come to the Fall Conference, enjoy great food, super entertainment and wonderful camaraderie

...because most of us haven’t seen each other since the Huntsville meeting and we have some serious “catching up” to do!



COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



The heat of the summer is over and fall is in the air. The best time to be on the water. Also the best time to take one or more of our USPS Elective or Advanced Grade Classes. Call your SEO and sign up for a class. I guarantee you will be glad you did.

If a full class doesn't fit into your schedule, sign up for one or more of our Saturday Afternoon Sessions at the District Fall Conference in Birmingham. Check the schedule elsewhere in this F&P and make plans to attend. If not for the classes, come for the food. I have tested it, and it will be fantastic, probably the best we have ever had. Come join us as we honor our squadrons who have excelled in presentation of Education Classes, members who have brought new members in and other notable members.

I was on the TVA website looking around. I found this list of phone numbers that TVA said could be used as an alternate to VHF Channel 16 communications to Lockmasters on the Tennessee River System:

Phone Numbers for Locks on the Tennessee River

Fort Loudoun Lock and Dam	865-986-2762
Melton Hill Lock and Dam	
	Contact Fort Loudoun Lock
Watts Bar Lock and Dam	423-334-3522
Chickamauga Lock and Dam	423-875-6230
Nickajack Lock and Dam	423-942-3985
Guntersville Lock and Dam	256-582-3263
Wheeler Lock and Dam	256-247-3311
Wilson Lock and Dam	256-764-5226
Pickwick Lock and Dam	731-925-2334
Kentucky Lock and Dam	270-362-4226

Thanks; see you in Birmingham!

Tom Carey, Commander

* * *

SAY HELLO TO A RIVERBOAT CAPTAIN



"IT GIVES ME A REAL FEELING OF SATISFACTION SEEING PEOPLE COME OFF THE BOAT HAPPY AND KNOWING THAT WE GOT THE BOAT BACK SAFELY EVEN UNDER DIFFICULT CONDITIONS."

JOHN FARMER, left, a retired president of a computer consulting company who has been a port captain of the *Star of Knoxville* since November 2004.

Here's a photo of John Farmer as it appeared on the front page of the business section of the Knoxville News-Sentinel on Sunday, 03September06. John was one of ten East Tennessee folks that were a part of a photo essay celebrating Labor Day. The caption of the essay was "Labors of Love." Another photo of John was featured with four others on the front page of this issue as a promotion to the business section photo essay.

I told John last night that I was born and reared in East Tennessee but had never had my photo on the front page of the Sentinel. As you know, John is an associate member of the KPS, and both he and Jeanette have been very supportive of us since being in Knoxville. I've hinted to him several times that I would not oppose their transferring their membership from Muscogee.

---Submitted by Cdr. Bob Allen
Knoxville Squadron

(Editor's Note- P/C John Farmer, SN will be one of our presenters during the breakout sessions in Birmingham at the Fall Conference.

Being a member of the Muscogee Squadron for many years, he now lives in Knoxville and is the captain of the *Star of Knoxville*. Before moving to Knoxville, he was captain of the *Tunica Queen* in Mississippi. He has had some extremely interesting experiences in his boating career.) and will tell us about them.

EVER WONDER.....?

(.. what happens when a D/C becomes a P/DC)

Right. When his Watch is over and all the fun and excitement has faded away and he walks away into the sunset. What becomes of that Old Salt, anyway?

We thought you might like to know, so we caught up with P/D/C Glenn Cowham the other day. . .(That's his photograph below in case he has become dim in your memory!)



D/C Glenn Cowham, SN

And that's right... You guessed it. We have another river boat captain in our district!

Glenn received his Captain and his Master's License with a Sail Endorsement. For the past several months he has been traveling to Panama City Beach and working with one of his old school buddies on a 55' catamaran. For some reason, they actually allow him to take the boat out with paying passengers. The boat is licensed to carry 77 passengers who enjoy going out looking for shells and going out into the Gulf to swim with the dolphins. He says, "It has been a lot of fun, but sometimes the days get long and there is no place to hide from the sun. We go out in the evening for sunset trips, then we get to run up the sails, turn off the engines and that makes the whole day worthwhile."



DISTRICT 17 FALL CONFERENCE

03-05 November 2006

Alta Vista Hotel and Conference Center

260 Goodwin Crest Drive

Birmingham, AL 35209

Over the past several months, we have talked a lot about our upcoming Fall Conference. Many plans and much effort from many members have been put into action. Now is the time to give careful consideration in supporting your squadron by attending the conference. There you are promised good food (Meals will be catered by the Culinary School of Cooking and breakfast is free each morning) and a great view of the city while meals are being served, a presidential suite for the hospitality area, a choice of fifteen different breakout sessions (where else can you possibly learn so much in two days?), and wonderful camaraderie (After all, we only see each other twice a year (Have a lot of catching up during every meeting!))



It appears that this meeting has the possibility of being one of our best because:

1. Our own **Herb Rossmeisl** will represent the Chief Commander, delivering the Chief's message, teaching a three hour OT session and facilitating the Town Meeting on Saturday.
2. Then our **Frank Wedge** will be honored (all weekend) for his fifty years of service to the USPS (more information on Frank will be published next month when we profile him and Anita).
3. You will be able to attend a maximum of six breakout sessions, choosing from a total of fifteen different topics hosted by some of the best qualified and interesting people.
4. Entertainment? The *Showstoppers* is a troupe of high stepping ladies who have a fast paced act to perform for you.

Make every effort to be with us! Any questions? I'm always at N7LBW@juno.com or (205) 338-7870. Thanks, Ben

District 17 2006 Fall Conference
United States Power Squadrons
Hosted by the District Meetings Committee
The Alta Vista Conference Center, Birmingham
Meals Reservation Form

Name (Print) _____

Other in Party (Print) _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Friday Night, 03 November 2006

Dinner - **South-West Chicken Piccata**
House Salad with dressing
Grilled Boneless Breast of Chicken with
Lemon-Caper Sauce
Wild Rice Medley
Vegetable of the Day
Bread and Butter
Dessert – Chef Selection _____ tickets @ \$25.00 per person \$ _____

Saturday Noon, 04 November 2006

Lunch **Delicatessen Buffet**
Roasted Red Potato Salad
Pasta Salad
Cole Slaw
Sliced Smoked Turkey, Ham, Toast Beef,
Swiss and Cheddar Cheeses
Fresh Breads,
Tomatoes, Lettuce and Pickles
Dessert—Cookies and Brownies _____ tickets @ \$16.00 per person \$ _____

Saturday Night, 04 November 2006

Dinner House Salad with dressing
Petite Filet of Beef and Grilled Shrimp
with Bordelaise Tomato Concasse
Twice Baked Potato
Vegetable Medley
Bread and Butter
Dessert—Cheesecake _____ tickets @ \$30.00 per person \$ _____

TOTAL SUBMITTED \$ _____

NOTE: All meals include freshly brewed iced tea and fresh regular and decaffeinated coffee.
All meals are inclusive of tax and gratuity.

Dinner reservations must be received no later than 20 October 2006

Make checks payable to: District 17 Meetings Committee

Mail check and this completed form to:

Ben Owen, SN
P. O. Box 454
Pell City, AL 35125

**HOTEL INFORMATION
DISTRICT 17 FALL CONFERENCE 2006**

Conference Date: 03-05 November 2006

Location: Alta Vista Hotel and Conference Center
260 Goodwin Crest Drive
Birmingham, AL 35209

Phone: (205) 290-8000

**You must call the hotel to make your room reservations.
Advise the hotel when booking your room that you are with the
USPS District 17 to get discounted room rates.**

Room Rates: Executive King or
Double/Double \$62.50 + tax

Room rates are subject to a 17% tax
Room rates include a full American breakfast for each guest
(with Southern gravy and biscuits in the buffet)

Amenities: All local calls are free
All rooms interior corridor
All rooms include view of the city, coffee makers, data ports,
a desk, iron with board and hair dryer.
Guests laundry facilities
Exercise rooms
Parking is complimentary



DISTRICT 17 FALL 2006 CONFERENCE BREAKOUT SESSIONS SCHEDULE

Saturday Afternoon Seminars

<i>Times</i>	<i>Homewood Room</i>	<i>Oxmoor Room</i>	<i>Vulcan Room</i>
1400-1450	Cooperative Charting Chaired by: P/Stf/C Don Grotjan, SN Guest Facilitator: Mr. Duane Morrison, Corps of Engineers	Marine Electronics Highlights Guest Facilitators: Coosa Valley Amateur Radio Members: Mr. Ed Tyler Mr. Joe Minor	Operations Training Chaired by: P/V/C Herb Rossmeisl, SN
<u>Electronic Navigation Chart Data Team</u>			
1450-1500	Break	Break	Break
1500-1550	Vessel Safety Checks D/1stLt Jeff Wise, N	Wooden Boat Building D/Lt/C Dale Hamilton, AP	Operations Training (con't) P/VC Herb Rossmeisl, SN
1550-1600	Break	Break	Break
1600-1650	Member Recruitment/ Retention in Knoxville D/Lt Janene Allen, AP Commander Bob Allen, AP	Basics of Amateur Radio and Its Many Variations Guest Facilitators: Coosa Valley Amateur Radio Association Members: Mr. Joe Minor K4JOE Mr. Ed Tyler KI4GKS	Operations Training (con't) P/V/C Herb Rossmeisl, SN

Sunday Morning Seminars

<i>Times</i>	<i>Homewood Room</i>	<i>Oxmoor Room</i>	<i>Vulcan Room</i>
0900-0950	What It's Like to be a River Boat Captain P/C John Farmer, SN	Amateur Radio An Alternative to VHF Herman Green KI4GCJ	"Hubble Telescope Sequels" "N" Club Program D/1stLt. Jeff Wise, N
0950-1000	Break	Break	Break
1000-1050	Creating a Web Site D/1stLt Jeff Wise, N	Member Benefits and USPS Protocol R/C Louis Ojeda, SN P/C Dot Ojeda, P	"N" Club Business Session
1050-1100	Break	Break	Break
1100-1150	Creating a Web Site D/1stLt Jeff Wise, N (con't)	"Teaching Teens Safe Boating P/C Herman Green, AP	"Bellingham, Washington to Glacier Bay (3363 miles) in a 23' Stingray Dr. Mike Schneider