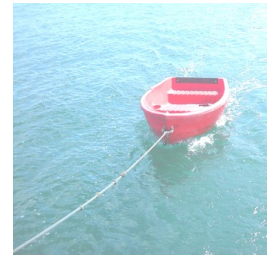




# Dinghy Painter

Oklahoma City Sail and Power Squadron



Volume 57, Issue 7, A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®, America's Boating Club, August 2024  
Natl [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org) Dist 21 [www.usps.org/localusps/d21](http://www.usps.org/localusps/d21) OKC [www.usps.org/localusps/ok](http://www.usps.org/localusps/ok) America's Boating Club—<https://americasboatingclub.org>

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OKLAHOMA CITY



SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

## **THIS MONTH**

### **5 August—Members Business Meeting**

Our monthly business meeting was held on Monday, 5 August 2024 at **7:00 PM** at Tres Mgt Office, 15304 N May Ave.

### **13 August—Pot Luck Dinner and Games Night**

We will meet on Tuesday, 13 August 2024 at **6:30 PM** for potluck dinner. Coordinate with Marilyn 405-550-8662.

### **26 August—Members Business Meeting**

Our monthly business meeting will be held on Monday August 26 at **7:00 PM** at Tres Mgt Office, 15304 N May Ave.

**21 September—Fishing Tournament @ Goss Ranch**, time to be decided

### **28 September—Lake Hefner Fall Cleanup**

Meet Saturday at **10:00 AM** on the north side of the lake. Dress appropriately. Ron Dogs at noon!

### **4-6 October—Little Axe Redezvous**

It's not too early to make a reservation! Campers will be there October 3-7

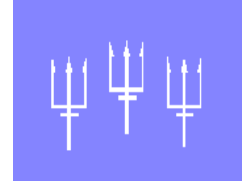
### **7 October—Members Business Meeting**

Our monthly business meeting will be held on Monday October 7 at **7:00 PM** at Tress Mgt Office, 15304 N May Ave

### **25-27 October—Belle Starr Redezvous**

It's not too early to make a reservation! Campers will be there October 3-7





## COMMANDER'S REPORT August 2024



Burning through a hot dry summer, with occasional floods.

Summer is more than half over, if you measure by holidays and school starting. It seems the usual problems and mishaps are occurring around area lakes. A reminder to be careful, especially about fuel, the shore, other boats, weather, etc.

I got a reminder in early July as I walked to the Oklahoma River Boathouse with my hands full of PFD, daypack, and coffee. Didn't quite make it over the curb and ended up on my belly on the sidewalk. My knees, arms and shoulders took the brunt of it. And I discovered if you are sore and tired you are likely to have more mishaps. I ended up falling two more times that day. The landings did not get any softer.

Don't be in a hurry and watch your step. None of us heal like we used to. Maybe the best time to don the life jacket is before we get out of the car.

OCSPS has been supporting Riversports activities on the Oklahoma River. Interesting learning experience about a sport that seems to be growing in this area, with national and Olympic interest and participation. Expect to be seeing more kayaks and canoes on the water.

No Legislative Report this month. Keep an eye on election ads, we will follow up in January.

***Cdr David McGhee, SN***



### **OKC Margarita and Taco Bar Night**

Our second annual Margarita and Taco Bar night was another success. Aren't they all !?? Everyone started showing up around 5:30, kicking off Happy Hour with either a margarita or their favorite beverage of choice. Guacamole, cheese queso and chips were the first to go. Just for the record, Glenda's queso was quite popular; everyone is hoping to see that again sometime. Glenda don't lose your "secret" recipe!

The Taco Bar wasn't opened until 6:45 because---let's face it---the stragglers hadn't yet arrived and we needed their stuff. But everyone was filling plates soon thereafter with all manner of tacos and fixin's by 6:46! Not only was there enough taco meat to sink a small boat, there was every conceivable condiment as well as some good ole American peach cobbler & ice cream---and even fruit---"Mexican" fruit, of course.

Post-gorging was sort of like a Jr High dance: all the girls were at one table and the boys sat at another. It was actually quite fun. The boys talked about boats, cars, and RVs, while the girls found that discussing their better halves (hee hee) was way more fun. Pretty sure the guys might have been a little nervous....or maybe they were just jealous of the fun. They would hear their names and then a lot of laughter. Who knew boys were so funny!

When it was time to go everyone pitched in and had the place shined and polished before we all left with laughter and friendly goodbyes until we meet

***P/C Marilyn Goss P & LTC Glenda Sims***

## My View From the Boat Ramp

The signs of summer boating season are here. I found my first cooler on the side of the interstate the other day. It was a nice soft-sided one in good condition. It was empty though.

I saw on TV where Lake Eufaula had a fatal accident. Someone ran their boat into one of the concrete bridge supports. I'm thinking that the driver saw the "no wake zone" sign at the last minute and wanted to stop his boat as quickly as possible to avoid a ticket for causing a wake. He was dead right. The impact stopped the boat and canceled the wake. Witnesses said there was a strong smell of alcohol present. We can't jump to conclusions though. It might have been rubbing alcohol he was using to cool his sunburn.

I had a great time at the rendezvous at the lake. I got one tick bite. I didn't find it till I got home. The next day I found two more clinging to the side of my camper. Persistent little creatures.

"That's the way I see it!"

**PEACE  
LOVE  
LIFE JACKET**

*P/C Bob Hlubin, JN*



## From the Education Office:

I'm hoping to get a new ABC course started soon. I'll be advertising it as soon as I have a date.

Danny is going to set up a library of all the books used in our courses. These will be used in any presentations we give to advertise our courses. Not only will he be able to tell prospective students about our course but will be able to use hands on techniques to demonstrate them.

So far we have obtained the six primary course books: ABC, Boat Handling, Piloting, Advanced piloting, Junior Navigation, and Navigation. I've asked that other course books such as Weather, Cruise Planning or any of the seminar books, could be used if you would care to donate them to the cause. I have yet to receive a response. Contact Danny or me if you have any other ideas or useful items that you think would be helpful.

Our indoor courses will be conducted in accordance with guidance from the CDC. If you have a course you are interested in, please let me know. If we can't schedule a formal course maybe you would like to study on your own. You can buy or borrow a course book, study on your own, and take the test. One of our instructors can go one on one with you to review the material before the test.

If you or someone you know is interested in a USPS course, please contact me. 405-373-2310 (If no answer, please leave a message) or [bob.hlubin@cox.net](mailto:bob.hlubin@cox.net)

(It's a tough job but somebody must do it.) That's why know that I am somebody.

*P/C Bob Hlubin, JN*



# Lake Eufaula Gathering

We started this Rendezvous a little disjointed, but none the less, started we did. The Gosses set sail Saturday, shortly after our Lake Hefner clean up. The Ellises followed suit on Monday and headed out to W-26 at Belle Star Camp where they met up with Danny and Marilyn on campsite W-24.

Weather moved in on us and brought lightning and thunder along with a mayhem of troubles. Electrical power was knocked out of W-26 and parts had to be purchased and replaced in order for the power to be restored. All has been well since then. Sunsets out over the lake are beautiful! The scenery here is fantastic! The many deer eating the green sweet grasses, the squirrels running to and fro across the road, and scissortails, along with a plethora of other birds give this place a peaceful atmosphere.

The Gosses had to set sail early (Wednesday) to make time for a grandson's graduation, a tall order for them as it was a hard choice to be faced with, food and frolic or education and family! Tally Ho and smooth sailing.

The Huffs showed up Thursday and found site W-25 and set up homeport there. Friday Bob Hlubin lands in at W-22 and sets his ship up for an extended stay. Shortly we are blessed to have Peggy and Lee followed by Glenda and Steve, all for the infamous Ron Dogs and fixings. If anyone went away hungry it was their own fault! It would appear that this group knows how to put on a feed and have fun!

Weather has been holding out very nicely as a good breeze blows across the bows of all who parked out here at Belle Star. Early mornings were sometimes interrupted by the sounds of the train from across the lake, but this was only a minor disturbance.

Saturday was a grand adventure as Captain Jeff Penner arrived flying the Stars and Stripes in a most bold and beautiful way! We met up with him out on the pier over at the central ramp and he announced that we may all "Come aboard!" This was then followed by a "float plan" and instructions as to where the safety gear was located and a short quiz was given to one of the newest grads to Boat Handling; She passed with flying colors!

After a 20 minute ride over to the Penner's we were greeted and offered a wonderful lunch and libation before setting sail again to get a small history lesson of Lake Eufaula.

United States President, Lyndon B. Johnson, dedicated this lake back in 1964 after a delay because of JFK's assassination! What history Oklahoma has! We then set out to see Marina 9, Longtown, where the biggest Garage Sale (on Fathers Day) in Oklahoma encompasses 5 miles of garage sales! Next we motored on out to Carlton landing and saw some unusual sites and water activities that are for just those that live there. Oh Wow!

After seeing where the Canadian river runs into the lake and back out again we learned that it is possible to travel onward down river to the Arkansas River, then to the Mississippi River and then on out again to the Gulf of Mexico! Who knew? Captain Penner did!

This is all possible because of locks that were installed so that we could be given navigable waters. I think we should try to go out and explore this at some time in the near future.

If we cannot set sail on the water, at least we set sail close to it! Looking forward to coming back to Belle Star!

***P/C Michael Ellis, JN***



## Why The Urgent Need To Keep Our Educational Program Alive

When the pandemic caught the world by surprise, many Americans decided to take refuge on the water, leading to a surge in boat sales. In fact, 2020 and 2021 yielded 800,000 first-time boat buyers. That was good news for the industry as a whole, from boating manufacturers to retailers to marinas, as the recreational boating industry supports more than 690,000 jobs, according to the National Marine Manufacturer's Association. It also led to an increase in demand for **Safe Boating Courses** in person and on line. But a boating market report by Boats Group, issued in February, reported that the boating market began to normalize last year, with softening consumer demand. The NMMA also reported that recreational boating will maintain its popularity in 2024, but according to several boat dealers, the momentum has dissipated somewhat. However, the market still has opportunities for growth.

The market for larger yachts remains strong with affluent buyers, according to Kyle Stenzel at Spring Brook Marina. His company operates seven sales offices in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. Smaller boats including pontoons, fishing and even kayaks are up slightly with the summer season. Most interest seems to be for family friendly boats with multiple purposes. The center console fishing boat with outboard motors still remaining strong. The middle tier buyers, while they are still making purchases, are exhibiting hesitancy. Kyle stated that higher interest rates and inflation across all goods and services have made things especially difficult and the industry is seeing fewer first-time boat buyers. Still, there are many new boaters with little or no **Safe Boating Education**. There are many seasoned boaters wanting more knowledge with off shore boating skills. Our mission is very much needed.



It's never too late to learn new tricks.



Discover Boating, in collaboration with Progressive Insurance, launched a television public service announcement (PSA) campaign to increase awareness of boating safety and provide resources for people looking to get started in boating. To date, the PSAs have aired more than 3,000 times across local, regional and national TV networks including ABC, NBC, CBS, and FOX affiliates in media markets such as New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Philadelphia, driving nearly 13 million impressions. The videos are also airing on You Tube and streaming platforms such as Apple TV and ROKU. Please take a look at these well done videos.

The need for our courses are an important part of keeping everyone on the water safe. Remember to get your Vessel Safety Check. Have a safe summer boating season on the water and on the roads.

***Lt Robert G Van Ewyk, SN  
Safety Officer***

## Annual OKC Squadron Members Birthday Party

The Annual OKC Squadron Members Birthday Party was once again celebrated at the Royal Bavaria German Food Restaurant. We had a pretty good turnout, but still missed those unable to attend.

We were introduced to our waiter and informed he was in training. As a matter of fact we were his first customers. We warned him we were a rowdy bunch! At one point he leaned down and whispered "Boy you weren't kidding". He actually did a pretty good job and either learned a lot taking care of us or decided this wasn't the job for him.

The manager came in to welcome us back and said he had a surprise for us after dinner. We were served a huge platter full of all their wonderful desserts. We also had the usual birthday cake. Needless to say everyone pretty sugared up as we headed home from a fun night. Hope everyone had a very **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

# OKC RIVERSPORT

Summer 2024

**Riversport Activities** summarized from Dave, Ron, Danny and Mike's accounts of activities.)

## Stars & Stripes Event

After P/C Mike Ellis JN established contact with Noah of Riversport, he set up a work time for us on June 20, 2024. Mike and P/D/C Danny Goss SN made some basic repairs to the boats in a few hours.

Saturday, June 22, 2024, XO Ron Huff, Cdr David McGhee and P/C Mike Ellis met at the Boathouse before 7am and boarded different Safety Launches. 0700-1300

## River Row Fest July 13/21 7- 1300 (except 7-16-24)

Noah notified Mike on July 12 that Riversport could use boat drivers as listed below:

Row Fest Dates – Launch Drivers:

July 13th – 16th: 6:45a – 11a

July 18th – 21st: 6:45a – 11a

Cdr Dave worked July 13 from 0700-1300.

Mike worked July 15 & 16, 18 & 19.

Danny worked July 16, 18 & 19.

On **MONDAY**, July 15, Mike started out at the Oklahoma River on the dock and waited for his assignment. He was assigned a smaller launch and a referee, Dennis, from New York.

Monday was slated to be a race-against-the-clock time-trial day in order to help combine racers for better quality races later. All in all that day was fun and quite enjoyable.

On **TUESDAY**, the regatta races were on the cusp of starting as Mike got down to the water's edge and was given a launch that was less than adequate. The vessel had taken on water and had to be pumped out. But he was soon once again out on the water at the finish line, guiding the launches to the buoy at the end of the track before returning to the dock.

After lunch, about halfway through the races, a scull flipped over after having crossed three lanes of race traffic and dumping two rowers into the river. Mike had an EMS as his captain this time. Later on, a launch crossed the lanes and picked up the cable that keeps the lane markers in place. The cable wrapped around the prop; no real way to clear it. So Mike directed the driver to put the engine in neutral and after that they were able to "reverse wind" with their paddle in order to unwind the cable from around the propeller.

This day was an experience in safety and understanding commands both to the rowers and to the launches.

Danny joined in on Tuesday, July 16, and learned about not wearing red! Wanting to look decent and to represent America's Boating Club, Danny chose his red OKCSPS polo shirt and red inflatable life jacket to wear. After he walked down to the east launch docks to receive his boat and captain assignment, someone noticed his redness.

Danny quipped that "a Catholic in Iran would have been more welcome" than he was at that point. It seems that red is the magic stop color for the rowing crews, which is why the officials do not want any visible red showing. So he was assigned to be Patty's driver. Patty was the finish area official, and a terrific person to drive around.

The hardest part of Danny's tasking was clearing the boats coming out of the boathouse dock and having them stay north of the racing lanes. Those sculls with their 12' oars meant he had to leave them about a 30' lane and clearance as a minimum.

Patty explained the boats can reach 12 MPH, so they can cover the 6,000 meters faster than one would think.

Definitely a fun day on the water. DON'T WEAR RED, though! Who knew ??

## Riversport—continued

**THURSDAY** was very interesting as Shirley, being Mike's Referee, was very talkative and enthusiastic about the sport of rowing. He learned that the classes start as AA's and go all the way to "I" (if his memory serves correctly). AA are young adults high school age, A's are 19 to 23 or so while the rest of the groups continue in age brackets all the way to 80+ years of age. Rowing looks to be a sport that just about anyone can do.

The boats are built for "featherweight" to "heavy" class and from single to eights+ where the + stands for a coxswain who drives the sculls. The idea is that the science of drafting is used in your favor and the weights of the rowers combined with the design of the boat serve together to perform 1000 meter and 2000 meter races.

Oklahoma Riversport master's track is a short track of 920 meters between the two bridges: I-35 and Central Avenue. There are seven lanes with two outside lanes.

Thursday's races were for the mixed masters meaning the ones who have experience in their years. Mixed refers to a 50/50 male-female split in the boat. Lots of fun for all those out at the water's edge

No red day. Having learned from Tuesday, Danny wore a green squadron shirt. His assignment that day was to drive the medic around the finish area.

On **FRIDAY**, Danny was again assigned to the lifeguard patrol between the finish line and the orange buoy. Sam was the life guard, so it was a fun tasking.

Staying in position to monitor the crews as they finished was the tasking. Crews were more important as these were Master's races with means older. "Older" means up to 80 years of age, so the lifeguard wanted to have a good observation position at all times.

Also, Danny learned what "hot seat" meant. A "hot seat" means either a crew person (many crews were mixed and there were many female crews as well) or the boat is quickly needed for an upcoming race. In either instance, that boat did not need to round the buoy, but could turn short to return directly to the launch and recovery or proceed back east to the Devon dock. Of course, Sam and Danny didn't learn that until late Thursday.....

The best thing about this group is that they were happy to explain the details of the sport if one just asked! After the races ended around 1230, everyone checked out.

Most everyone was happy to have the volunteers there because they kept us watered and fed.

Friday's runs were like Thursday's except for the introduction of youth to the lanes. Of the hundreds of races that took place this week there were only two sculls that flipped over with the rowers needing help to right the vessels.

The weather was more than cooperative for these races and Mike for one was very grateful for the overcast skies and cooler temps.

Gina and Noah both have thanked us for being there to help and the Referees have expressed their gratitude for having us there as experienced drivers. Mike is hoping to create an environment of cooperation between Riversport and OKCSPS and build upon a relationship of understanding that water safety and boater education is paramount.

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One huge benefit is the people we've been able to meet at OKC Riversport. Viva la boating !!



## OKLAHOMA CITY SAIL and POWER SQUADRON

### Members Business Meeting Minutes 05 August 2024



Cdr David McGhee SN called the meeting to order at 19:10 hours at the Tres Mgmt Bldg. The following members attended: P/C Steve Bryant JN, Bill Buxton S, P/C Mike Ellis JN, Roberta Ellis S, P/D/C Danny Goss SN, P/C Marilyn Goss P, P/C Bob Hlubin JN, Lt/C Ron Huff P, and Lt/C Glenda Sims S.

**Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance** – P/C Ellis JN delivered the invocation. SXO Lt/C Huff P led the Pledge.

**Secretary** – Lt/C Glenda Sims S moved to accept the June meeting minutes; P/C Marilyn Goss P seconded; carried. She also shared emails from ABC/USPS Exec Director regarding the new business-wide database system being rolled out.

**Dinghy Painter** – Editor Lt Peggy Anglin P was unable to attend.

**Treasurer** - P/D/C Danny Goss SN has sent his report online to members. There is an expenditure of \$47.75 yet to be paid for binders purchased for the upcoming OCBC classes this fall/winter.

**Executive Officer** - Lt/C Ron Huff P asked for the following reports:

**Website** – P/D/C Goss SN: website remains status quo.

**Public Relations** – P/C Mike Ellis JN reported on our squadron's participation in the recent OKC Riversport activities involving Olympic rowing trials, i.e., manning the safety chase vessels for each race. Of major concern was the relatively poor condition of said boats which Mike, Danny, Dave and Ron spoke about in detail. Weather notwithstanding, this event was a true PR activity which benefited both Riversport personnel (who were given a listing of repairs needed as well as VSC info) and America's Boating Club.

**Legislation** – Cdr McGhee SN: See his report in the *Dinghy Painter*.

**Safety** - Lt Robert (Van) Van Ewyk SN was unable to attend. See his report in the *Dinghy Painter*.

**Education Officer** - P/C Bob Hlubin JN: Piloting, Advanced Piloting, and two Navigation course books have been purchased for instruction anticipated for later this year at the Oklahoma City Boat Club, mainly for some of its members. P/D/C Goss passed around a copy of each of these manuals for review by the members present.

**Administrative Officer** – Lt/C Aaron Spivey AP did not attend.

**Membership** – P/C Marilyn Goss P: membership is down to 27 (a dues issue).

**Environmental Committee** - P/C Steve Bryant JN has made formal requests (twice) to the OCBC for specific dates in both Sept and Nov; no acknowledgement of his requests has been received. The next Lake Hefner Cleanup will be scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 28.

**Social Activities** – P/C Marilyn Goss P outlined all social activities and dates for 2024. **\*\* SEE THE DINGHY PAINTER FOR ACTIVITY DETAILS \*\***. She has sent and will continue to send each member a text listing all 2024 activities & dates.

**Commander's Report** - Cdr McGhee SN has submitted his article to Lt Anglin P for publication in the *Dinghy Painter*.

**Old Business:**

**New Business** – SEE DINGHY PAINTER FOR CALENDAR OF EVENTS. Discussion of how access to OKCSPS Facebook page and website has/is being changed.

The meeting adjourned at 20:25 hours.

**Respectfully, Lt/C Glenda Sims S, Squadron Secretary**





## 2024 CALENDAR

13 August	Pot Luck & Games
26 August	Members Business Meeting
21 September	Fishing Tournament
28 September	Lake Hefner Fall Cleanup
4-6 October	Little Axe Rendezvous
7 October	Members Business Meeting
25-27 October	Belle Star Rendezvous
4 November	Members Business Meeting



The *DINGHY PAINTER* is the official monthly publication of the *Oklahoma City Sail & Power Squadron*. The deadline for materials submitted for publication is noon the day after the Members Business Meeting. Materials submitted for publication will not be returned unless prior arrangements have been made. Items may be sent to the Editor at: [anglin@swbell.net](mailto:anglin@swbell.net) or Lt Peggy Anglin P, 6529 Chelsey Ln, Okla City, OK 73132.

### ***DINGHY PAINTER***

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Oklahoma City, OK 73132



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