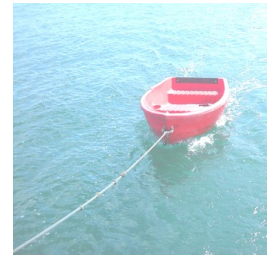




# Dinghy Painter

Oklahoma City Sail and Power Squadron



Volume 57, Issue 7, A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®, America's Boating Club, September 2024

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OKLAHOMA CITY



SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

## THIS MONTH

### **19 September– Sunset Picnic**

Come join us at the Oklahoma City Boat Club on Thursday, 19 September 2024 at **6:00 PM** for a picnic dinner. Bring your favorite picnic foods: appetizers and/or desserts, plus your favorite beverage. You don't want to miss it. We can enjoy a beautiful sunset and great company.

### **21 September—Fishing Tournament @ the Goss Ranch**

The tournament will begin at **8:00 AM**; come when you wish. We can catch as many catfish as we want but can only keep 20 total for trophy, prizes and cleaning. The squadron will save the 20 fish caught for a fish fry at the Little Axe Rendezvous. See Page 3 for directions.

### **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!

## UPCOMING

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

There will be RonDogs on Friday and a Fish Fry on Saturday night. Our RonDog master may be recovering from shoulder surgery so fair warning we will need stand-ins until he is healed.

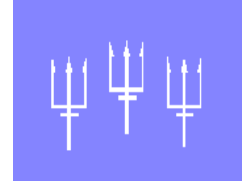
### **7 October—Members Business Meeting**

Our monthly business meeting will be held on, Monday 7 October at 2024 at **7:00 PM** at Tress Mgt Office, 15304 N May Ave.

### **25-27 October—Lake Eufaula Rendezvous**

RVers will be at the Belle Starr Campground. Come and go. Fish Fry on Saturday night.





## COMMANDER'S REPORT September 2024

ABC National is working to gain access to district and squadron websites and Facebook pages to add visibility and tracking enhancement. They have engaged with a firm called Marine SEO. We need to consider our position in this, including what control over our website we have and might lose. Please share any thoughts you might have with your OCSPS Bridge.

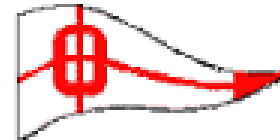


The high visibility tragedy of the sinking and deaths aboard Bayesian off Italy is a reminder that having fun requires knowledge and caution. The investigation will be worthwhile to follow, and the decisions and actions of the captain and crew will be of great interest. A reminder that boating, driving, flying, bicycling, etc. have responsibilities to decide, lead, and follow. There are already multiple versions of what happened, and what should have happened. Nothing is unsinkable, even water itself.

Several of our members are ill, and hopefully continue their recovery. Please continue to keep them in your thoughts are prayers and try not to join them. Don't be in a hurry and watch your step. None of us heal like we used to.

### Legislative Report

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



### 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.

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**

## My view from the boat ramp

The boat ramp is the beginning and the end of an adventure whether it be fishing, wakeboarding, tubing, or just a pleasant cruise. Most times it is a pleasant adventure, sometimes not. To me it is more than this. It is a source of amusement.

It looks like Oklahoma may have set a new record for drownings over the Fourth of July holiday. Five drownings. One of them an adult diving into the water to save a child and didn't resurface. I can't understand why someone would want to dive into unknown water. The lake is not a swimming pool where you can see the bottom and the water depth is painted on the side wall.

On TV, the police officer stated that all the drowning were preventable. No one was wearing a life jacket.

Look at the brighter side though. There have been no shark attacks reported in Oklahoma lakes. This. Year. No one has even reported seeing the Lake Hefner alligator this year. And there have been no scuba divers swept out to sea. Hurricanes have not damaged a single boat dock  
Do beautiful roses have thorns, or, do thorns produce beautiful roses.

"That's the way I see it"

**PEACE  
LOVE  
LIFE JACKET**

*P/C Bob Hlubin, JN*



## Directions to the Goss Ranch

The ranch address is 14018 SW 104<sup>th</sup> Street.

From SW 89<sup>th</sup> and Council, travel west six miles to Clear Springs Road. (You can also get to this point by traveling south on Garth Brooks in Yukon, which turns into Cemetery Road, which turns into Clear Springs Road.)

Go south on Clear Springs Road one mile to SW 104<sup>th</sup> Street.

Go west on SW 104<sup>th</sup> Street. In about 1.75 miles, you'll go down a hill and cross a creek bridge. As you go up that hill, you'll be looking at the driveways on the left side. The third one on the left has a high pipe over the cattle guard. Turn in there.

Go through the second cattle guard and the pond is on the right.

Stay clear of the electric fence.



# 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 "1" (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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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.

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

### 6 August 2024 (September meeting)



Cdr David McGhee SN called the meeting to order at 19:03 hours at the Tres Mgmt Bldg. The following members attended: P/C Steve Bryant JN, P/C Mike Ellis JN, Roberta Ellis S, P/D/C Danny Goss SN, P/C Marilyn Goss P, 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 August meeting minutes; P/C Marilyn Goss P seconded; carried.

**Dinghy Painter** – Editor Lt Peggy Anglin P was unable to attend; no report.

**Treasurer** - P/D/C Danny Goss SN has sent his report online to members. The annual ABC National Education Fund donation for our squadron this year has been sent (\$ 28.00).

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

**Website** – P/D/C Goss SN: website remains status quo. P/D/C Goss has some pics awaiting upload.

**Public Relations** – P/C Mike Ellis JN reported that he is keeping in touch with personnel at Riversport.

**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 did not attend. P/D/C Goss is relying on P/C Bryant to begin the process of gathering interested parties at the OCBC in order to give the preliminary outline of our anticipated courses and to finalize agreed-upon dates/times for said courses later this fall/winter. P/D/C Goss stated that he will not be available for much of September and October.

**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: The Lake Hefner Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 28.

**Social Activities** – P/C Marilyn Goss P outlined all social activities and dates for 2024. P/C Bryant informed her that his formal requests to use the OCBC facility on both Sept. 19 and Nov. 12 for OKCSPS social events finally had been granted and were appearing as such on the OCBC website calendar. P/C Goss moved to purchase, with squadron funds, prizes to be awarded to winners of the upcoming fishing tournament; P/C Bryant seconded. Discussion. \$75 was agreed upon, motion carried. **\*\* 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** – See Cdr McGhee's report in the *Dinghy Painter*.

**Old Business:** Continued discussion of the state of affairs at Riversport as well as possible future collaboration Discussion regarding the still-not-running newly configured ABC website systems. Discussion as to ABC's partnership with an organization which would like to tweak/enhance squadron Facebook pages; uncertainty as to the wisdom or necessity of granting access of an outside entity to our account.

**New Business** – SEE DINGHY PAINTER FOR CALENDAR OF EVENTS.

The meeting adjourned at 20:10 hours.

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



## 2024 CALENDAR

- 19 September    **Sunset Picnic**
- 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***

Oklahoma City Sail & Power Squadron  
6529 Chelsey Lane  
Oklahoma City, OK 73132



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