



**Grand Lake Power Squadron**



# The Pelican

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**February**

**Vol. 20-02**

**Monthly Newsletter**

**2019**

## 2018-2019 Bridge

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Commander Kevin Kamrath, S

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Lt/C Scott Graves, S

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1/Lt Roger Zinn, AP

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Julie Jones

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### ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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Lt Mary Alice Moore, P

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Tom Rice, S

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### SAFETY OFFICER

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[www.grandlakeusps.com](http://www.grandlakeusps.com)

### THE PELICAN EDITOR

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## Commander's Report



Ahoy America's Boating Club Members!

There is much to be thankful for this winter. Those of us lucky enough to live in Grove, or head south for the last week of January, can really appreciate not being in the upper Midwest or East and experiencing Arctic cold and snow. The snow plow I purchased several years ago, happily sits in our garage rust free and unused. February is upon us again, and we will be preparing for one of our key events of the year—the Grove Boat Show in March. Our XO Scott Graves will be looking for folks to help man our booth, promote our Boating Club, our education events, and fit life jackets on kids. Please get in touch with him and let him know you can help!

I am happy to report that we have received generous sponsorship funds from the GRDA to be used in purchasing life jackets for this event and our annual life jacket safety program. We're grateful for the job Steve Snyder is doing in managing the details involved in running and maintaining this program.

February brings us Valentine's day, so let's remember to do something real nice for that special person in your life! Our Admin Officer, Michelle Hooper is planning another fun dinner venue this month and we're looking forward to getting together again with everyone. I look ahead to warmer days and hope this boating season will be a fun time for all to enjoy. There will be many opportunities to enjoy upcoming planned squadron events and our time on the lake. Take advantage of the good life!

*Kevin Kamrath, S*

*Commander, Grand Lake Power Squadron*



S ————Seamanship  
P ————Piloting  
AP ———Advanced Piloting



JN ———Junior Navigator  
N ———Navigator  
SN ———Senior Navigator



# Geodetic Marker Hunt

On Sunday, January 6, 2019, six members of the Membership Committee and their spouses set out to find the geodetic (survey) markers at the Monkey Island Airport. Geodetic marks are highly accurate reference points established on the surface of the earth by local, state, and national agencies. Maintenance and preservation of these marks is of importance to the National Geodetic Survey recognizing that many valuable geodetic marks are destroyed by construction, new roads, erosion, or for other causes. Our job as USPS members is to locate each of these marks and report their condition together with any change in the directions needed to locate them. The locations of these markers can be downloaded from the NGS website—<https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/NGSDDataExplorer/>

In a 15 mile radius of the 74344 zip code there are potentially 55 markers. Sunday's group was successful in finding the two markers at the airport using a smart phone app, measuring tape, compass, metal detector, and shovel. The data was submitted to the Cooperative Charting Committee of USPS and has been approved by them. USPS will send the data to NGS. Next outing to be announced – everyone is welcome to join in.

Submitted by Mary Alice Moore, Membership Chairman



# January Dinner Meeting



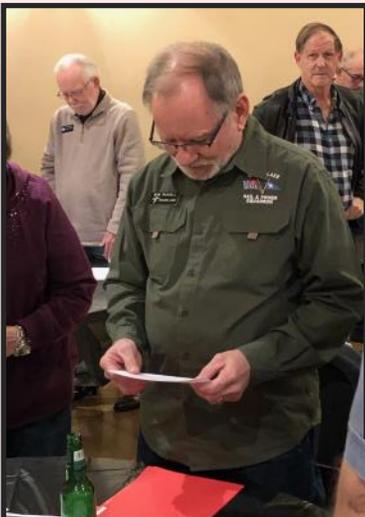
Lt/C Michele Hooper checked in 40 members attending our dinner meeting on 1/17/19 at the Eagle's Landing. The Ship's Store was open and Sharon Dennis made a sale to Don Jones. We enjoyed a delicious soup pot luck dinner provided by our members. We have the best cooks in our squadron!

Commander Kamrath called the meeting to order and Lt/C Russell gave the invocation. Angela Henderson from CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for Children was on hand to accept our donation of \$1210. Angela was also the guest speaker. In FY 2018, 50 volunteers advocated for 89 children. Another 150 children are waiting. CASA's goal is that every child who needs a CASA volunteer will have one. It costs \$1700 per year to provide a CASA volunteer to a child and it costs \$500 to train a new volunteer, so our donation will help. Contact Angela Henderson at [angela@cano-casa.com](mailto:angela@cano-casa.com) if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

Recognition was given to Michele and Greg Hooper, Tom Pinkley, and Steve Snyder for successfully completing the Seamanship class.

The membership committee distributed a survey to find out what activities the members are interested in participating. Don't miss out on any of the fun.

Thanks to Dennis Rice and Erma Hembree for volunteering to serve as GLA Liaison. Please sign up to volunteer to work during a weekend at the GLA this summer. If they call looking for help, be the first to raise your hand to volunteer.



# Out and About in Oklahoma

## LET'S GO! TULSA BOAT SPORT & TRAVEL SHOW

River Spirit Expo at Expo Square  
JANUARY 28-FEBRUARY 3, 2019

The Grand River Dam Authority (GRDA) and Grand Lake Power Squadron have a long standing relationship based on our common goals of lake safety and maintenance of the ecology of the Grand Lake watershed. GRDA annually donates, through a grant, money for us to purchase children's life jackets that we fit and give to children at the Grove Boat Show and south lake Camp Bandage. In 2019, the GRDA donated \$6000 for that purpose. Members of America's Boating Club Grand Lake also participate in the GRDA Adopt a Shoreline Program for the removal of debris from the lake shores.



Executive Officer Scott Graves & Commander Kevin Kamrath accept a \$6000.00 check from Ed Ferguson, Community Relations Officer, GRDA Police. This money will be used to purchase the children's life jackets that we will distribute.

## AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB Grand Lake



Commander Kevin Kamrath stopped by to see Power Squadron member, Todd Elson, who was busy displaying some beautiful boats at the show. The squadron is thankful to Indian Hills Marina for lending a tri-toon for us to use in the annual Grove Christmas parade.





# D30 Spring Conference



Don't miss the fun! The Des Moines Sail & Power Squadron is hosting the District 30 Spring Conference being held Friday and Saturday, April 5-6, 2019. The destination is Pella, Iowa. Check out this link, [www.visitpella.com](http://www.visitpella.com), to see visitor guide and maps. Hotel accommodations are available at AmericInn Hotel & Suites, 910 W. 16th Street, Pella, IA 50219. Make your hotel reservations now as the special \$79 block of rooms expires February 15th. Mention you are with the United States Power Squadron / Des Moines Sail & Power Squadron for your discounted hotel rate! Call 1-641-1421 (front desk) or reservations line 1-800-634-3444.



## Friday Night

- Dinner will be at the Sports Page.

## Saturday

- There will be Dutch Letters and Coffee for Coffee Break in the Business Meeting.
- At the conclusion of the Business Meeting, In't Veld Meat Market Box lunches will be served at the hotel meeting room.
- Various afternoon activities are available to choose: Pella Town Square Shopping (Jaarsma Bakery, Dutch Mill, etc.); ride to see Red Rock Marina, tour of Tassel Ridge Winery (\$5 extra), or possible Vermeer Museum Tour (which was hit by tornado in 2018)
- Dinner will be at Bubba-Q's BBQ (includes BBQ buffet of chicken or pork, mixed greens and vegetable salad, baked potato bar, dessert cobbler, tea/lemonade).



Go to <https://www.grandlakeusps.com/district-conferences.html> to get registration forms.



## Do You Know?



By P/D/C Larry Stout SN-IN

### Article 1

A great time to buy a new boat is at the upcoming boat shows in Tulsa and in Grove. Many dealers have special offers from the manufacturers that make it worthwhile to buy at the show.

Buying a boat does require several questions to be answered first. Will you be on larger lakes like Grand Lake or smaller lakes? Boating conditions can vary by the size of the water and boating activity. How many people do you plan to take on your boat? Smaller boats have capacity and weight limits. Larger boats will be yacht certified allowing more capacity. Do you plan to use your new boat for wake boarding, fishing, cruising the lake or maybe a combination of these activities?

Determining your use first will make it easier to choose your engine and propulsion systems such as outboard or inboard engine(s), stern drive (I/O), vee drive, straight shaft drive or jet drive.

### Article 2

Most capsizes occur from improper loading with too much weight or improper weight distribution. Next to capsizing, falling overboard is the second leading cause of fatal boating accidents. Fishing or hunting during the winter months from small boats can increase the danger because of the heavier clothing and restricted maneuverability should one fall overboard. Life jackets are essential to survive a cold-water immersion. Remember the cardinal rule for capsizing, "Stay with the boat, don't swim for shore". An overturned boat is easier to be seen than a swimmer.

The sudden immersion in cold water can cause a gasp reflex with inhalation of water and the potential of drowning. Just being in the cold water can cause rapid uncontrolled breathing, cardiac arrest and other life-threatening situations such as hypothermia.

### Article 3

Just winterizing your boat and forgetting about it for the winter season may not be wise. Depending on how you store your boat certain precautions should be taken to protect it. If the boat is stored inside a building, one should check to make sure that no vermin have found a new home for the winter by checking on it from time to time. Discovering that raccoons have moved in and torn the upholstery apart to make it comfy is not something you want to find in the spring.

If your boat is stored outside on a trailer or on jack stands, check to make sure the boat cover has not blown off, torn or collapse from the weight of water, ice or snow. Again, remember to check for vermin from time to time.

Boat Smart from the start and take a course from the United States Power Squadron, America's Boating Club. For more information visit our website at: [www.grandlakeusps.com](http://www.grandlakeusps.com) or on Facebook at GLSPS.



## Cannabis and Boating

by Charles Fort



Photo: Getty Images/Jirkaejc

### **Impairment is impairment no matter the substance. But with marijuana, there is even more at stake — regardless of legality in your state.**

For many years, BoatUS has warned against the dangers of boating while under the influence of alcohol, which, according to the U.S. Coast Guard's 2017 Recreational Boating Statistics Report, continues to be the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents. Now that the recreational use of marijuana is legal in nine states (including all of the West Coast of the U.S.), it's time to take a look at how cannabis can affect boaters — and their wallets.

Nine states (plus the District of Columbia) allow some level of legal marijuana possession, and 30 states permit the medical use of cannabis. And 13 more states have decriminalized cannabis possession (people who possess small amounts of the drug don't face criminal prosecution, but only civil penalties similar to a traffic fine). These laws are changing quickly, so check with your state to make sure you know the legal status of cannabis possession and use. The fact is that, in some places, cannabis is becoming as mainstream as say, wine. But there are important distinctions.

### **Water, Water Everywhere**

Even if cannabis is legal in your state, the federal government still considers it a Schedule I drug, which the feds say has the potential for abuse and has no accepted medical use. This is very important, because on any water (or land) under federal jurisdiction, it's illegal to possess cannabis even though a state may have legalized it.

And waters under federal jurisdiction are enormous. Consider that the entire coastline of the U.S. is under federal jurisdiction. That means that on coastal waters of California, Oregon, and Washington — states that have legalized cannabis — it is a federal crime to possess it. The U.S. Coast Guard says that "all waters including, but not limited to, the navigable waters of the United States" are under their authority. It's the "but not limited to" part that could be trouble for some boaters because, while it includes some bodies of water that seem obvious, such as the Great Lakes, Mississippi River, and Chesapeake Bay, it's also pretty much any waters that the federal government deems navigable, such as freshwater lakes, including Lake Tahoe, Salt Lake, Lake Champlain, and Lake of the Ozarks. (This probably applies to Grand Lake since we are controlled by FERC.)

If you're subject to federal boating laws that require such things as life jackets, navigation lights, and sound signals, it's a good bet you're in federal jurisdiction waters. This jurisdiction issue also sets up some potentially uncomfortable situations. If you sailed your boat from say, Portland, Maine, to the nearby islands in Maine, or from Seattle to a Washington state island in Puget Sound, you'd be breaking federal law if you were in possession of cannabis. If you're not sure if the waters you boat in are under federal jurisdiction, contact the nearest Coast Guard office and ask.

Keep in mind that the Coast Guard doesn't need to have a warrant or even reasonable suspicion to board your boat. If they do, and you're in possession of marijuana (or any other illegal drug) or are under the influence of cannabis (or alcohol or any other intoxicant), you may be arrested. If you happen to have a U.S. Coast Guard license, it will likely be suspended for at least a year.

### **Price To Pay**

Now that you know about the issues of possessing cannabis, how about its effects while you're under way? According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, marijuana significantly impairs judgment, motor coordination, and reaction time, and studies have found a direct relationship between blood THC (tetrahydrocannabinol, the chemical compound in cannabis responsible for the "high") concentration and impaired driving ability.

In all states, boating under the influence (BUI) laws are the same whether it's alcohol, cannabis, or any other intoxicant. Just as with a BUI conviction for alcohol, you will likely face heavy fines, possible jail time, and you could lose your driver's license. Many states now consider BUI convictions the same as driving under the influence (DUI), which means if you have one DUI and are arrested for a BUI, it's a second offense and the consequences can be much worse. If you happen to be on waters with federal jurisdiction and are arrested for cannabis possession, you could be sentenced to up to a year in jail for any amount. Second offenses have mandatory jail time.

Our advice for cannabis users is the same for those who imbibe in alcohol: Wait until you're back before you celebrate the day. And if there's any chance you'll be in federal jurisdiction waters, make sure you and your guests have a zero-tolerance policy for cannabis onboard.

— Published: December 2018 [https://www.boatus.com/magazine/2018/december/cannabis-and-boating.asp?utm\\_source=bmag&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.boatus.com/magazine/2018/december/cannabis-and-boating.asp?utm_source=bmag&utm_medium=email)

## Upcoming Events

| <u>Date</u>     | <u>Event</u>    | <u>Time</u> | <u>Location</u>   |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|
| <b>February</b> |                 |             |                   |
| 1/28-2/3        | Tulsa Boat Show | Varies      | River Spirit Expo |
| 2/4             | Weather Seminar | 1800        | GLA               |
| 2/19            | E-Board         | 1300        | GLA               |
| 2/21            | Dinner Meeting  | 1800        | Trinity Baptist   |
| <b>March</b>    |                 |             |                   |
| 3/7-3/10        | Grove Boat Show | Varies      | Civic Center      |
| 3/19            | E-Board         | 1300        | GLA               |
| 3/21            | Dinner Meeting  | 1800        | TBD               |



- 2/2 Karen Carroll
- 2/6 Larry Stout
- 2/9 Carol Grassi
- 2/14 Sue Brandt
- 2/14 Myra Noteboom
- 2/15 Gregg Hooper
- 2/19 Micki Kamrath
- 2/19 Douglas McCormick
- 2/23 Kevin Kamrath



### From your Editor...

Please send me pictures (with names and the activity), ideas and suggestions that are most important to you. The deadline is the 25th of the month. Thanks for your input and support., Micki

## Contact Information

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