



# Pilot

January  
2012

## Evansville Bend Sail and Power Squadron

[www.evansvillebend.org](http://www.evansvillebend.org)



### January Meeting Moves to Thursday— January 26; Casino Aztar Capt. To Speak

Our first meeting of 2012 moves to downtown Evansville at Ri Ra Irish Pub. **We have moved the meeting to Thursday, January 26th** to accommodate some schedule conflicts.

Captain Carl Guerry, the senior Captain and Director of Marine Operations at Casino Aztar, will be our featured guest.

Captain Guerry has 20 years of Coast Guard Service, 10 years of



*Picture courtesy of Kyle Grantham; Evansville Courier and Press, December 2010*

Drug Interdiction followed by Commanding: two Coast Guard Cutters, two Coast Guard Search and Rescue Stations. After retiring from the Coast Guard, he received his Master, Merchant Marine License. He has also Skippered the Casino Vessel M/V Par a Dice, E. Peoria, Illinois River for 3 years, then went ashore for 8 years to serve as Director of Security, Facilities and Marine Operations for Boyd Gaming. For the past 3½ years he has had the pleasure to serve as a Captain on the M/V City of Evansville, and current position is Director of Facilities and Marine Operations.

Social time at Ri Ra Irish Pub is 6pm. We will order off of the menu around 6:30pm. Ri Ra is located just off Riverside Drive across from the Merigot Hotel.

<b>Commander:</b>	<b>Cdr. Sam Richey, SN</b>	<b>(812-721-2322)</b>
Executive Officer:	P/C Richard Rombauer, AP	(812-985-9956)
Education Officer:	Lt/C Karen Rombauer, AP	(812-985-9956)
Administrative Officer:	Lt/C Derk Boss, AP	(812-202-5281)
Secretary/Treasurer:	P/D/C Janice Elwood, JN	(812-401-8300)

**A Unit of USPS, Sail and Power Boating® — District 24**

## Commander's Corner



Here we are at the beginning of another new year. I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

We are moving closer to another election of officers for Evansville Bend. I would like to see those who are interested in holding a office contact Jay Picking. We would like to see more members holding offices.

SEO Karen Rombauer, AP has scheduled upcoming classes to get us through the winter months; then hopefully we will be back to boating soon.

Be sure to check this Pilot for a date change for the January meeting.

*Cdr. Sam Richey, SN*

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## Education Update



I hope everyone had a truly blessed Christmas holiday, and that you're looking forward to an exciting New Year!!

Of course, this may be subject to change --- but here's the outline for our education program for 2012:

At the end of February (specific date TBA), we'll teach the seminar "**Knots, Bends & Hitches**" at Gander Mountain.

At the end of March (specific date TBA), we plan to teach the **GPS** seminar again at Gander Mountain.

The next **ABC class** is tentatively scheduled to begin Wednesday, April 4.

On Feb. 7 we'll begin a **Piloting** class. I've sent "feelers" out to everyone who recently completed Seamanship, **so please let me know before Jan 8 if you intend to participate.**

On March 20 we'll start a **Junior Navigation** class. So far we have 4 potential students - if anyone else is interested, please contact me.

I'd like to do a **New Instructor Certification** class this year. In order to teach classes to the public, each instructor is required to be certified, and to teach at least one class each 24 months. No specific date for this class has been set yet. Please let me know if you're interested in participating, and we'll schedule accordingly.

Right now we don't have any elective courses on the horizon -- but we'd be happy to add one if anyone has a preference.

This is YOUR Education Department -- our goal is to provide whatever programs our members request. So, please let me know if there's anything in particular that you'd like to learn.

SEO Karen Rombauer, AP

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### CONTACT CONGRESS

After 30 months of work, the Marketing & Public Relations Committee has been unable to persuade the U.S. Postal Service to issue a commemorative stamp in honor of USPS' upcoming centennial. The next step is up to you. During the next several weeks, your national representatives and senators will be on recess in their home districts, and we urge you to visit or [contact](#) them requesting their support for the 2014 USPS Commemorative Stamp. Copy and paste the link below in your browser for our application cover letter, a model letter you can revise for local use, a list of congressmen on subcommittees supervising the Postal Service, and other relevant documents. — [Greg Scotten](#)

### READ MORE AT:

[usps.org/national/pr/Stamp.html](http://usps.org/national/pr/Stamp.html)

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### New Online VSC Recording System Begins Feb. 2012

USPS will join the USCG Auxiliary in collecting more VSC data in our revised online reporting system. The reporting changes will begin

immediately following the kick-off presentation during the Safety Committee meeting at the 2012 Annual Meeting. — [Bob Miller](#)

**READ MORE AT:** copy and paste in your browser the link below.

[usps.org/national/vsc/vscdatacol.pdf](http://usps.org/national/vsc/vscdatacol.pdf)



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### LETTER FROM USPS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Date: 16 November 2011

To: Squadron and District Leadership

Subject: Emphasis on Classroom Education

Concerns and misconceptions have been raised regarding the priorities and direction of the Educational Department regarding classroom education, especially with regard to the alternatives of on-line and home study.

Simply stated – the primary advantage of USPS is having local squadrons and local instructors to deliver quality material to boaters. In order to get members, we need to emphasize face time with those who we train. In other words, we want people in the classroom. To illustrate, the Department Structure Committee report unanimously approved at the Greensboro Governing

Board meeting clearly shows the intent of the Educational Department leadership to support classroom learning in USPS. Their position is:

“The Department’s highest priority is to increase the frequency of classroom courses and seminars and the number of students participating in them. Reversing the decline in classroom activity is a daunting challenge, particularly given the fact that DEOs and SEOs feel overburdened and under-supported.” The Board of Directors in its June Strategic Planning Session also places priority on building squadrons and squadron membership.

We also recognize that emerging boaters are of a generation that often favors eLearning and self-paced learning. Together, we need to find ways to attract them while integrating them into the squadron and classroom. We need to offer material on-line and via direct sale to reach out to them and gain their attention. We also need tools to attract them into squadron life. This is one of the reasons we are working so hard developing on water training programs (something they cannot do on-line) and other hands-on programs. We are also looking at “blended learning” which merges on-line and self-study with classroom activities. It is very important that we maximize our visibility to boaters and potential members using our leading-edge educational materials as a hook to gain their interest, and then use engaging and hands-on programs to get them to the squadrons. We are also addressing other ways to support the squadrons and seek input and assistance in making this successful. The Department also has formed a Marketing Advisory Team to provide compelling information and strategies to our marketing and PR staffs to better attract boaters to USPS. We invite broader participa-

tion in these activities. Contact the Bob Sweet, Gene Molteni or Bob Palmer with questions, comments or suggestions.

## Calendar of Events

**February 15, Wednesday —  
Regular Meeting**

**March 21, Wednesday —  
Regular Meeting**

**April 21, Saturday — Change  
of Watch**

### **YOU CAN HAVE YOUR BOATING STORY PUBLISHED IN THE PILOT**

Do you have a boating story you would like to have published in the Pilot?

It could be an article about your favorite boating lake or place, how you assisted a distressed boater, or your best boating trip or adventure. The story should be about 150-250 words.

*Please submit your article by email to  
P/C Ron Eberhart, P.—  
ron.eberhart@wowway.com*

