



**Houston Sail and Power Squadron  
Annual Meeting Ballot – January 9, 2019**

**Nominees for Bridge Officers:**

Commander	Lt/C Susie Becvar, AP
Executive Officer	<b>To Be Determined</b>
Squadron Educational Officer	Lt/C Alan Cross, AP
Administrative Officer	Amy L. Taylor, S
Secretary	<b>To Be Determined</b>
Treasurer	Lt/C Monica Cross, P

**Nominees for Squadron First Lieutenants:**

Assistant Squadron Educational Officer	Lt/C Monica Cross, P
Assistant Secretary	P/Lt/C John L. Glaeser, SN
Assistant Treasurer	1 <sup>st</sup> /Lt Deborah Collings

**Nominees for At-large Members of the Executive Committee: (nine)**

Gary L. Bleisch, JN	P/Lt/C Robert W. Stevenson, JN
Scott H. Cromack, P	Stephen C. Sheward
P/Lt/C John L. Glaeser, SN	Niki Serakiotou, AP
P/C Chris Leavitt, JN	Lt Jana Wesson, AP
P/R/C Scott D. McDonald, SN	Cdr Catherine M. Leavitt, P

**Nominees for the Nominating Committee: (one time election for three year term)**

P/C Chris Leavitt, JN (1 year)  
P/R/C Scott D. McDonald, SN (2 years)  
Cdr Catherine M. Leavitt, P (3 years)

**Nominees for the Rules & Bylaws Committee: (one time election for three year term)**

P/Lt/C John L. Glaeser, SN (1 year)  
**To Be Determined** (2 years)  
P/C William S. Haddock, AP (3 years)

**Nominees for the Auditing Committee: (one time election for three year term)**

P/Lt/C Robert J. Robbins, JN (1 year)  
Lt/C Phyllis W. Stendebach, P (2 years)  
P/Lt/C William H. Mize, Jr., SN (3 years)

Respectfully submitted,  
Nominating Committee

**Poop Sheet December 2018**

December 2  
HSPS General Meeting – Christmas Party  
Steamboat House

December 5  
Board of Directors Meeting – Home Port

December 8  
ABC3 – Home Port

December 15  
Instructor Recertification – Home Port

December 25  
Merry Christmas, HSPS!

January 1  
Happy New Year, HSPS!

January 2  
Board of Directors Meeting – Home Port

January 9  
HSPS General Meeting – Elections at  
Piggy's Kitchen (W Lamar near Dunlavy)

January 12  
ABC3 – Home Port



## Bay Neigh

Official Monthly Publication of  
America's Boating Club - Houston  
District 21



Editor  
Lt Jana Wesson, AP

Assistant Editor  
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6910 Bellaire Blvd #15  
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www.uspshouston.org

### Bridge

Commander..... Cdr Cathy Leavitt, P  
Executive Officer ..... Lt/C Susie Becvar, P  
Educational Officer ..... Lt/C Alan W. Cross, AP  
Administrative Officer ..... Lt/C George H. Crowl, Jr., AP  
Secretary ..... Lt/C Kyli S. Doucette, S  
Treasurer ..... Lt/C Monica K. Cross, P  
Immediate Past Cdr..... P/C Scott. McDonald, SN

### Squadron's 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenants

Asst. Educational Officer..... 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Monica K. Cross, P  
Asst. Secretary ..... TBD  
Asst. Treasurer..... P/Lt/C Phyllis Stendebach, P

### Executive Committee

All Bridge Officers...	Chris Leavitt, N
William E. Blan, S	Scott McDonald, SN
Scott Cromack, P	Steve Sheward
John L. Glaeser, SN	Carl Stendebach, JN
Daniel C. Huston, AP	Robert W. Stevenson, JN
Jana Wesson, AP	Amy Taylor, S

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the writers and publication herein does not imply endorsement by USPS or ABC-H.

## PRAYER

Heavenly Father,  
Yuletide comes to us again...  
Time for tots and toys,  
And for one magic moment now  
We're little girls and boys.

The young are filled with anxious hope  
And lovers bill and coo.  
New parents watch their babe at play  
For elders: Déjà vu!

Laughter echoes through the halls  
Our spirits glow anew.  
Peace and harmony abound  
And all because of you.

Amen  
P/R/C Scott D. McDonald

## COMMANDER'S CORNER



December 2018 Bay Neigh  
Cdr Cathy Leavitt, P



The Christmas season is traditionally a season filled with love, sharing and giving. We strive to show those around us all the love we have in our hearts for them. This may come out very imperfectly, but the important part is that we do the best that we can. It is a time for celebration with friends and family. It is a time for a renewal of our Faith – to whichever faith we belong, even if that faith is just a sincere faith in the goodness of humanity.

Here at America's Boating Club Houston, we had a wonderful Christmas party at the Steamboat House. There was much joking, laughing and fun. The food was excellent. The most fun for me was the White Elephant. Several gifts were "stolen" many times before they found their home. The best part of the evening was the fellowship we share in the Squadron. Some of those at the party were new to the Squadron, and some had been around for decades. It did not matter if you were young or old or somewhere in the middle. We were all part of a fellowship that is doing their best to make the boating community safer on the water, and we are having a great time doing that.

I am very happy to be a part of an organization that has the caliber of people that we have here. The people sitting at those tables were people who are continually giving of their time and talents to educate and give service to the community of people who share their love of the water. Some share new ideas on how to get the message out to the boaters. Others may have a gift for keeping us organized or maybe making the activities especially fun. Some are always coming up with new ideas, like our new kayak program. I am amazed at the talent we have in this organization and the willingness of everyone to share that talent with the community.

In this season of love, sharing and giving, my heart is full of gratitude to all those who make it happen. I came into this position as Commander not knowing much about how to do my job. So many people in the Squadron showed me the ropes and how to tie them. (Or should I say lines?) Because the rest of the Squadron was enthusiastic and accomplished their goals, we were able to accomplish an amazing amount of good for the boating community. My year as Commander is almost over. A new slate of officers is proposed. The Nominating Committee has worked long and hard and talked to many people.

We will be voting on all the positions of responsibility within the Squadron for next year at the dinner meeting on Wednesday, January 9, 2019. We will be meeting at Piggy's Kitchen on West Lamar near Dunlavy. Please have fun with us. Enjoy a meal and fellowship together. Swap boating stories. Let us listen to what the members of the current bridge have accomplished this last year and be proud of all we have done this last year. Then, cast your vote for the best people to fill the positions for next year. Much work needs doing. Many hands make the work light. Your hands are wanted. Some of the possible jobs are Vessel Safety Examiners, Course Instructors, various committee members, Secretary, building maintenance, and the list goes on. If you would like to do the work of the Squadron, we would love to hear from you.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday season. Please share the love in your heart with someone new. Make some new friends. Come join us.



**Focus on Boating Education**  
 Lt/C Alan W. Cross, AP  
 281-451-1146  
[uspseohouston@gmail.com](mailto:uspseohouston@gmail.com)



*Together, we make boating better*

**Upcoming Courses.** Open for enrollment are the following:

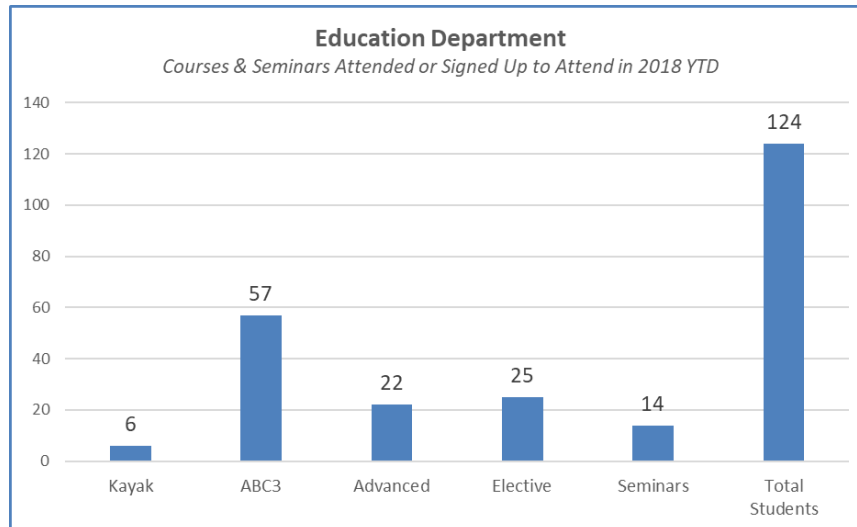
<b>Courses</b>	<b>Location is ...</b>	<b>Begins on ...</b>	<b>Start time is ...</b>
Seamanship	Bellaire, Texas	February 9, 2019	9:30 am
Sail	Seabrook/Kemah	January 14, 2019	7:00 pm
Weather	Bellaire, Texas	January 20, 2019	2:00 pm
Cruise Planning	Teleconference	February 6, 2019	7:00 pm

<b>Seminars</b>	<b>Location is ...</b>	<b>Begins on ...</b>	<b>Time is ...</b>
Rules of the Road	Bellaire	March 9, 2019	8:30 am - 11:00 pm
Emergencies on Board	Bellaire	March 9, 2019	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Hurricane Preparation	Bellaire	March 9, 2019	3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

There is a good possibility of another *Sail* course at Home Port. The *Cruise and Cruise Planning* course has a new approach, the course will be online and a teleconference with only the last few meetings in person. Check the website (<https://americasboatingclubhouston.org/education/> ) for details on dates and specifics for the course. There is an upcoming Instructor Recertification course in December, and in February there will be an Instructor Development course offered (required if you want to teach the ABC3 course).

Courses completed these last few months include:

- Engine Maintenance..... 11 students
- Marine Electrical Systems ..... 3 students
- Seamanship ..... 3 students
- Marine Communication Systems..... 6 students
- Piloting..... 6 students
- Marine RADAR (seminar)..... 14 students



(Continued on Page 4)

**Focus on Boating Education**  
(Continued from Page 3)

**Sign up a Friend and Reach Out in the Community.** Efforts continue with other Committees to “sell our program” of education by reaching audiences outside our general scope of education. With a good number of folks taking the ABC3 course, taking the On-The-Water course, our increasing membership, and folks in the community taking online courses, there is a wealth of people who could (and should) benefit from our training.

For all the membership; take a moment and make that positive decision to take the course you’ve always wanted to take – and bring along some of your friends. Our courses are fun, and more fun if you know a student or three. Our Sea Scout outreach is beginning to show some fruits of continuous contact and we have been working with the Vietnamese scouting community (Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Rangers, Venturing Scouts) about our programs and especially the Kayak, ABC3 and Seamanship courses.

Look inwards to your ‘other friends’ and especially the young adults who are just now getting involved in the fun of being on the water.

**Ham Radio Class in the Making!** Thanks to **P/C Bill Haddock, AP**, in 2019 the Houston Squadron will organize and host an amateur (ham) radio series of classes and examinations. This course will be open to folks both in-and-out of the Squadron. Watch the *Bay Neigh* for more information.

**Special Course Being Prepared.** To augment the growth of Vessel Safety Checks the Houston Squadron can perform, there is a beginning of talk about offering a once-a-quarter course (short, like a seminar) to help potential Vessel Safety Examiners learn “from the book” and “from the experiences” of VSE’s. Stay tuned to the website and announcements via many different channels of communication on this exciting development.



**Check the Website.** When you have a potential student for any course, including the Kayak or First Aid course, send them to the Squadron website at <https://americasboatingclubhouston.org/>. Here they can easily access information of importance to them, purchase a course and materials, and receive notice that they are successfully registered.

**Thanks to All the Instructors.** These are the men and women who ‘make’ the Education Department work. Everyone continues to ‘step up’ and deliver a quality course for those in the maritime world. Send them an email or a hearty handshake when you next see them. These are the folks who face our boating companions.

Susie Becvar	George Crowl	John Glaeser	Holly Huston	Scott McDonald	Carl Stendebach
Larry Behrmann	Tom Derden	Bill Haddock	Cathy Leavitt	Al Meyer	Bob Stevenson
Robert Campbell	Denny Fegan	Pete Hames	Chris Leavitt	Ed Roland	
Monica Cross	Rick Fisher	Dan Huston	Richard Lipham	Stephen Sheward	

**Contact.** To contact me, best way is [uspsseohouston@gmail.com](mailto:uspsseohouston@gmail.com) or call me on the cell at 281-451-1146.

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**IN MEMORIAM**  
**FAREWELL TO OUR GREAT FRIEND**

**DOROTHY PIRRUNG**  
**NOVEMBER 2, 2018**

We lost good friend Dorothy Pirrung at 90 years, on 2 November, 2018. Married 69 years to life member Jim Pirrung- she was a long time squadron volunteer and advocate. She and Jim graciously hosted the “Bull Roast”, an annual “Tax Relief” prime rib gathering at their home in Freeport.

Dorothy was an amazing chef, and her secret spice recipe often won the coveted "Chili Cookoff" trophy. She was also famous for her “Court Bouillon” as 20-year co-sponsor of the Matagorda Fishing Rendezvous.

As a member of the Tres Palacios Provisional Squadron, Dorothy promoted boating safety in Matagorda County.

Jim & Dorothy are survived by six children, seventeen grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren. We will miss her sage advice, sparkling smile and sincere kindness. Dorothy was a remarkable woman and a rare gem in The Sea of Life!

**Christmas Dinner at Steamboat House**  
By Lt/C Alan Cross, AP & Cdr Cathy Leavitt, P



## Bay Neigh Articles

If you have a story or experience that would be of interest to our members, please E-Mail pictures and stories to Jana Wesson at [beakboatgirl@me.com](mailto:beakboatgirl@me.com)

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## December Birthdays

Phil D. Lester	12/2
Mickie A. Comiskey	12/3
Ruth D. Scherschel	12/9
Regan E. Katz	12/10
Kenneth W. Campbell	12/11
Claire M. McDonald	12/12
Hayley Huston	12/14
Susan Stevenson	12/16
Kenneth W. Brooks	12/17
Susie Becvar	12/18
Frank M. Pattee	12/19
Carl A. Stendebach Jr.	12/23
Gregory L. Bartels	12/25
Michael Collings	12/27



## Amazon Smile Gives Back to America's Boating Club Houston

Are you going to buy something from Amazon? Don't go to [amazon.com](https://amazon.com). Go to <https://smile.amazon.com> so that a percentage of your purchase will be donated to America's Boating Club Houston.



## America's Boating Club Houston Election Meeting

January 9, 2019

Piggy's Kitchen  
3412 W Lamar (in River Oaks)

