



Spring 2006

Jim Nye Becomes 37th VPS Commander

James D. Nye, P assumed command of the Vulcan Power Squadron at the 38th Vulcan Power Squadron Change of Watch on 23 February. The Dinner event was held at the Summit Club in downtown Birmingham. District 17 Administrative Officer and Vulcan P/C Tom Carey (who will become the District Commander later this month) presided over the evening and administered to oath to the new Bridge. Attendance, at 42, was easily the best attended event of '05-'06, and was matched only by last year's COW in top attendance over at least four years.



D/Lt/C (Soon-to-be D/Cdr) Tom Carey (right) administers the pledge to (from left): Lt/C Joe Katz, Treasurer; Lt Carol Turner, Assistant SEO; Lt/C Dan Turner, Secretary; Lt/C Joy Godsey, Administrative Officer; P/C Allen Folts, SEO and Cdr Jim Nye, Commander. Not pictured are Lt/C Lee Harrison, Executive Officer and P/Lt/C Steve Langston, Assistant Secretary.

Other members of the 2006-07 Vulcan Bridge include: P/C Allen Folts AP, SEO; Lt/C Lee Harrison, S, Executive Officer; Lt/C Joy Godsey, S, Administrative Officer; Lt/C Dan Turner, S, Secretary; Lt/C Joe Katz, Treasurer; Lt Carol Turner, P, Assistant SEO and P/Lt/C Steve Langston, AP, Assistant Secretary.

Program for March Meeting North to Alaska or...

A Whale of a Tale

Capt. Ernie Moore and Ginny Dixon, owners and operators of Browns Creek Sailing Marina on Lake Guntersville, will make a presentation about their Summer sailing trip aboard their 26 foot sailing vessel in Alaska. This trip covered 2,000 miles on the Inside Passage.

Reservations must be made by Monday 20 March. Contact Allen Folts, 205-912-5961; 205-933-6669; allen@mdb.org

Ernie and Ginny will show and tell you how you also can make this trip a reality and about some of the beauty and wonders and adventures along the way.

You will have a glimpse of their experience sharing the waters of Southeast Alaska with whales, eagles, snow-capped mountains, glaciers and beautiful sunsets. They will also share some of their experiences in towing their vessel about 6,000 miles round trip us-



Congratulations to one of Vulcan's own, Lt/D/C Tom Carey, N, who will be sworn in as District 17 Commander at the District Change of Watch 18 March in Huntsville. Tom is also a Past Commander of Vulcan

Planned on the water activities will make for a full spring and summer.

All times places and dates are to be announced:

- Lock-through
- Logan Martin Picnic
- Poker Run
- Area cruises

Your Suggestion???



Don't shoot me, I'm only the piano player. Fortunately Katz was unarmed. Thanks to P/C Randall Murphree for providing musical accompaniment to the pre COW reception

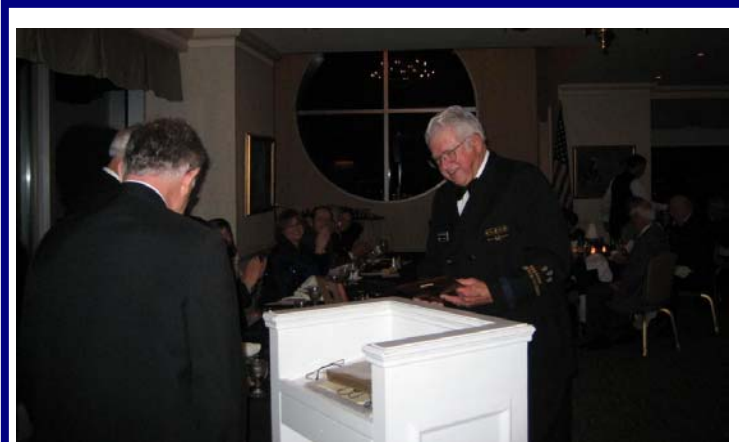


What is WAAS?

Are the latest digital navigation systems and terms just a tiny bit confusing? Did you know that a CPA is not someone who stays up late on April 14th completing your tax return, but rather the “Closest Point of Approach” for a particular AIS or radar target? AIS, you might ask? Then there’s NMEA, USB, GPS, dGPS, BSB (2,3,4 & 5), ENC, and etc.! Oh my Ella Minnow Pea!

If you are interested in more information on digital charts and navigation systems, be sure to attend the 27 April meeting of the Vulcan Power Squadron. Our guest speaker (to be announced) will speak slowly and clearly for us technically-challenged members while tech-savvy members are sure to learn about new techniques and equipment in this rapidly-advancing field of digital navigation.

Lt/C Joy Godsey, S
Administrative Officer



P/C Ralph Weed, N., receives the Wayne Peake Award in recognition of his dedication to VPS education and for his long service as SEO. The presentation was made at the Change of Watch in February.

Executive Committee

0206 Lt. Fred Owens, S
2006 P/C William W. Duffey, SN
2006 P/C Frank T. Kennedy, AP

2007 P/Lt/C Steve Langston, AP
2007 Lt/C James D. Nye, P
2007L/C. Calvin P. Hyer, AP

2008 P/C Carl Schultze, AP
2008 P/C James Pruett, AP
2008 P/C Jimmie W. Pruett, AP

Nominating Committee*

2006 P/C William H. Kinnaird, SN
2007 P/C Allen Folts, AP
2008 P/C Frank Kennedy SN

Rules Committee*

2006 Lt. Bryan R. Turbeville, AP
2007 P/C William H. Kinnaird, SN
2008 P/C Frank Kennedy, SN

Auditing Committee

2006 Lt. Robert M. Little
2006 P/C Terry Noland, AP

* Elected for 3 year terms

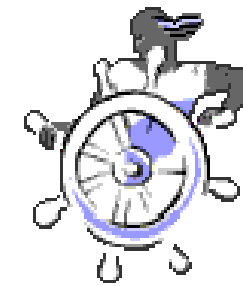
You Asked for it...

Coming Soon to a Classroom Near You...

It's the All New Piloting Course

No, not that kind of piloting...

This kind



Vulcan will offer Piloting starting Wednesday, 29 May. The course will be chaired by Cecil Morgan, who has put together a highly qualified faculty. The course is brand new with a major emphasis on electronic navigation, and therefore should be of interest to serious boaters whether you have had the course before or not.

The Piloting course is the first in the sequence of USPS courses on navigation, covering the basics of coastal and inland navigation.

Topics covered include:

- Charts and their interpretation
- Navigation aids and how they point to safe water
- Plotting courses and determining direction and distance
- The mariner's compass and converting between True and Magnetic
- Use of GPS – typical GPS displays and information they provide, setting up way points and routes, staying on a GPS route.
- Pre-planning safe courses and entering them into the GPS
- Monitoring progress and determining position by both GPS and traditional techniques such as bearings and dead reckoning
- The “Seaman’s Eye” – simple skills for checking that you are on course.

The course is not designed to be easy, it is designed to l’arn us something. Course materials will total around \$50.00.

It is imperative that you sign-up for the course by the close of business on 20 March. Contact Allen Folts at 205-912-5961, 205-933-6669 or allen@mdb.org. Have your certificate number handy.