

Boulder Beacon

Volume 35 Number 9

District 30

November 2010



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Perhaps the most photographed lighthouse in the Chesapeake Bay, the Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse is the last screwpile structure left on its original site in the bay. It went into service on November 27, 1875, to replace a light on the shore at Thomas Point at the entrance to the South River. The Lighthouse Board thought that a light on the shoal would better serve the shipping traffic in the bay. The hexagonal 1-1/2-story building is perched on the spidery legs, and the light's lantern rises out of the center of the building. With its red roof and white sides this picturesque lighthouse is a fine example of its type. The light and fog signal, both now automated, are still active.

Taken from the website of the Chesapeake Chapter, of the United States Lighthouse Society.

Photograph by Amy Ives.

Calendar

- 18 Nov (3rd Thu to avoid Thanksgiving)
..... Membership Meeting
- Dec No Bridge Meeting
- 05 Dec Christmas Party
- 06 Jan Bridge Meeting
- 27 Jan Membership Meeting

See page 3 for more information.

Classes

- Marine Electrical Systems (MES)
..... 18 Oct - 13 Dec 2010
- Weather Class 04 Jan - 08 Mar 2011
- The Squadron Boating Course 3rd Edition
(TSBC3) 05 Feb - 26 Feb 2011
- Seamanship 10 Mar - 09 April 2011

The *Boulder Beacon* is the official publication of the
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Commander's Message

Denver Boat Show ...

Now that fall is here, the Squadron and the Bridge members are planning and preparing for the January Boat Show in Denver. This activity is one of our principal outreach activities and we welcome your help and ideas.

Many of you have worked your two-hour shift at the boat show before and we are hoping you will volunteer again. But this year we have an even more pressing need. Tom McEwen is chairing the committee again, but unfortunately he will be away for the actual show dates (Jan 12 -16), so we need some one to step up and coordinate the setup and the take down of our display.



Longer term, we are also are looking for a new storage location for the tables and display materials that we use for the show.

The Boat Show is a very important project for the squadron: it is our principal contact with members of the public who may be interested in our Boating Safety Class in the spring and who may eventually take classes that we offer in our many education programs.

We need your organization, setup, and hosting skills to make this a successful event. Talk to me or to Tom if you'd like to help with projects before, during, or after the show. Thank you.

John Harris JN, Commander BVSPS

Bridge Reports

From the Nominating Chair ...

New officers will be elected at the January meeting. Contact AD or any Bridge Officer if you have any interest in serving BVSPS as an officer, committee member, or if you would like to recommend someone.

AD Chesley, Nominations Chair

From the Administrative Officer ...

If you have an idea for a presentation for one of our monthly meetings, drop a note to Mikes.mail4@yahoo.com.

Mike S. Johnston, Administrative Officer

Financial Report for the Year to Date (01 Jan 2010- 08 Nov 2010) ...

Our balance as of 31 Oct \$6866.11

Total income to date: \$4465.08

garage sale, membership, merchandise sales, public boating class, seamanship class, seminars, weather class, etc.

Total expenses to date: \$3,816.17

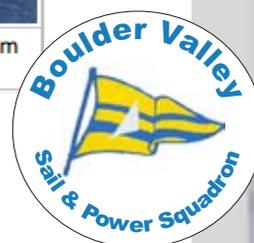
bank charges, Beacon, boat show, corporate registration, district dues, education, entertainment, marine electrical systems, materials, exams, and expenses for meetings, office supplies, rendezvous, sales merchandise, seamanship class, seminars, weather class, and website.

Sally Gulick, AP

BVSPS Shirts, Caps, and Bags

We will be placing an order for items embroidered with our burgee. Items will be delivered in time for the holidays and the Denver Boat show. You will be able to order from a wide variety of styles and colors online. There will also be denim shirts in two colors.

To order, please call Anne Hammond at 303-530-0957 or email her at hammond@txcorp.com.

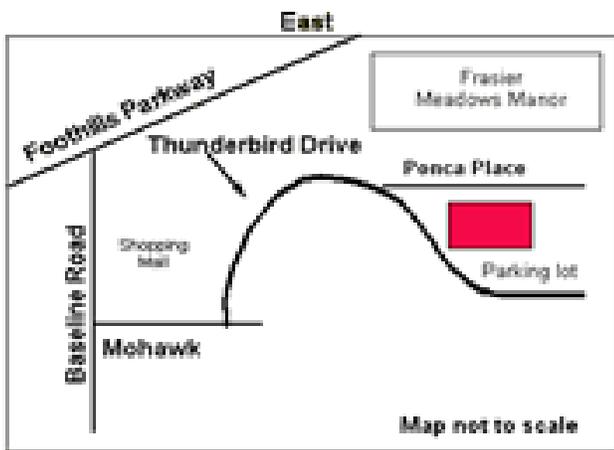


Upcoming Events

Membership Meeting..... 18 Nov 2010

Join us this month to hear Dan Downs and friends talking about paddling in Utah. (Note that the meeting is on the third Thursday rather than the fourth Thursday because of Thanksgiving.)

Meeting time: 1900 (7:00 pm)
Meeting location: Mountain View United Methodist Church, Frasier Parlor, 355 Ponca Place, Boulder, Colorado 80303.



Christmas Party.... 05 Dec 2010 1600 (4:00 pm)



Please bring a festive appetizer to share. The squadron will provide setups and the usual beverage selection. And don't forget to bring your summer boating stories and your appetite.

How to get there? From HWY 7, go south one block on Lowell. Left on Indian Peaks. Third right on Promontory. Second right on Avalanche Run. Chattings are 4th on the right.

See you there!

Water Level at Chatfield?

On a recent visit to Chatfield, we noticed signs about a potential 12-foot increase in height of the water level in the reservoir. Why? And what is that going to do to boating on Chatfield?

Colorado's population is projected to increase by 65% from 4.34 million in 2000 to 7.16 million in 2030. The Statewide Water Supply Initiative estimates that by 2030, water demand along the Front Range will exceed supply by 22%, leaving 90,700 AF of unmet needs. Water users have looked to Chatfield Reservoir as one of the potential solutions to store surface water and reduce dependency on nontributary (non-renewable) groundwater.

To find out what this variation in water level means to boating activities, wildlife, camping, etc, go to www.chatfieldstudy.org. As with Carter Lake, there is time to make a difference.

Patsy Venema

Vessel Safety

Question of the Month ...

When checking a vessel's electrical installation, which of the following would be cause for withholding the VSC decal?

- Wiring harnesses that are routed high in the bilge and held in position with plastic wire ties.
- Wiring that uses manual reset circuit breakers instead of fuses.
- Switches and fuse or circuit breaker panels exposed to rain or spray.
- All of the above.

For the answer to the VSC question, see page 4.

What's Happening?

Carter Lake Marina Concession News ...

On November 8, the Larimer County Parks Advisory Board recommended that the concession license for Carter Lake be taken from the Waldburgers, who currently hold the concession, and awarded to Glen Werth, who runs Horsetooth Inlet Bay Marina. Gary Buffington, Larimer County's director of natural resources felt that the Werth's winning proposal was more cost-effective than the current Waldburger management.

Carter Lake Sailing Club (CLSC) has actively lobbied for the retention of the Carter Lake Concession by the Waldburgers. The Club points to oversight of facilities during 3 am wind storms at Carter, constant care and upkeep of the docks, the Waldburgers knowledge of conditions, and their service to customers.

At their 9 am November 9 meeting, the Larimer County Commissioners unanimously voted to keep the marina under management of the Waldburgers.

CLSC is gratified that the Commissioners listened to the citizens, to the members, and to the many who signed the petition at the Carter Lake Marina. They suggest that you send brief emails of appreciation to the commissioners directly:

Lew Gaiter: gaiterl@co.larimer.co.us

Steve Johnson:
johnsosw@co.larimer.co.us

Tom Donnelly:
donnelt@co.larimer.co.us

Contact CLSC Commodore Victor Hoisington (victorhoisington@msn.com) for more information.

Anne Hammond

Answer to VSC Question ... c

Instructor Appreciation Party ...

The Instructor Appreciation Party was well attended and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to thank the BVSPS instructors for all of their work (photo below). Marilyn Hughes celebrated the event by writing a poem ...

Ode to Instructors

*Teaching mariners to know the rules,
Sailing, hoisting, trimming and tools.
Where's the boomvang ?
Stay away from the rocks!
Set the perimeter alarm and burn your socks?
Watch the sky and the barometer too.
Stable or unstable? That's the clue.
How to keep your log and stow your gear,
Drop your anchor, sundowners are near!
You teach trailering, cruising, docking and more.
Splicing books and computers with all of your lore.
Electrical shorts? Voltage drops?
BVSPS classes keep boaters on top.
First aid on the water-what to do?
Our instructors can help 'cause of what they've
been through.
So thanks to the teachers who share their time.
This is the end of the poem- we've used all the
lines!*



Safety

On August 29, 2010, nearly seven hours after reportedly chasing his motorboat into the water, the body of a 49-year-old man was pulled from Eleven Mile Reservoir. Eleven Mile Reservoir is about 2-1/2 hours from Denver, 38 miles west of Colorado Springs on US24.

Witnesses said the man's boat drifted from a dock near the Lazy Boy Campground on the southern shore of the 3,400-acre reservoir about 2 p.m. and he went into the water to retrieve it, said Kevin Tobey, manager at Eleven Mile State Park. He never made it to his boat, and as he was trying to get back to shore, he went under. His body was recovered in less than 10 feet of water less than 40 yards from shore.

The water in the lake at 8,600 feet in elevation was 63 degrees that Sunday, enough to "zap a person's motor skills pretty fast," Tobey said. The weather that late August day was probably sunny and hot, and the man probably never knew he was in such danger, despite a year round ban on swimming in the reservoir. Even very physically fit individuals are at risk in waters

of this temperature, as motor function can be degraded in as little as five minutes in water of this temperature.

On November 1, water temperature at Carter Lake was 58°F and Lake Granby was 49°F. We need to remember that despite the beautiful scenery and views, Colorado's waters are killers. Even with the exceptionally warm temperatures we are enjoying for this time of year, Colorado waters are dangerous.

As you think holidays, keep in mind safety equipment. A couple of things we like are inflatable PFDs that can be worn at the dock and are comfortable in any situation. Another great gift is the newly designed Myerchain sailors tool (<http://www.team1newport.com/>), with a knife and marlin spike, and an added pliers. Don't forget to buy a length of cord for a lanyard!

You might think of these items as the ultimate luxury gift--something you hope they will never need and will be totally frivolous. But these items could save a life.

Harry Hammond, Executive Officer

Education

November 2010 Education Department News ...

Marine Electrical Systems (MES) has met three times with seven students enrolled. Instructor Winston Scott is helping students learn how to read multimeters, use Ohms Law and a lot of other cool stuff boaters need to know. He is very interested in having students see and use the equipment needed to work on electrical systems.

Weather class is on the horizon. If you have been thinking of attending Ron Schwiesow's weather class, now is the time to sign up. We plan to order texts on Friday 03 Dec 2010. This is a great way to build skills, get ready for next boating season and stay connected with other boating enthusiasts. Here are the course details, as posted in last month's Beacon.



Demonstrating equipment used in the class.

The Weather class will meet ten Tuesdays from 04 Jan to 08 Mar 2011. Instructor Ron (cont. ►)

Schwiesow will host classes at his house in Boulder from 1900 to 2100 (7:00 to 9:00 pm.). Class size is 6 to 12 students. Course fee is \$72.00 per student. If two students share a text, the course fee for the second student is \$28.00. There is a nonmember surcharge of \$35.00.

Don't forget to let us know if you're interested in taking the two courses following Marine Electrical Systems (MES). They are Marine

Communications Systems (MCS) and Electronic Navigation Systems (ENS). There are no prerequisites for these courses and they may be taken in any order, however, the subject matter tends to build on the MES/MCS/ENS progression. For course descriptions, see USPS.org website.

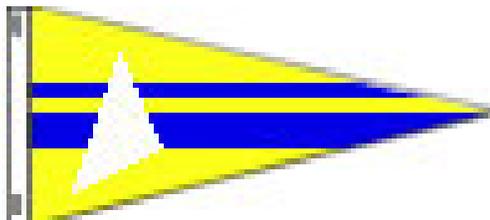
*Dave Hughes, Education Officer,
bvspsdave@comcast.net.*

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District 30 web site	http://www.usps.org/localusps/d30/	USPS national web site	http://www.usps.org

BVSPS burgees for sale!

A BVSPS burgee is the perfect Christmas gift for your boating relatives and friends! Burgees are yellow, with two blue stripes and a white sail in the center. Cost is \$18, or \$20 if you would like it mailed to you.



Please call Gwen Andersen at 303-530-0199 or email her at dwandersen@comcast.net.



You may need a burgee for your new boat!