

Commander's Message



Cdr James C. Larson, S

The year is half over already. We have had several group outings, helped support or been at other outings to promote our squadron and safety while boating. We have several outings still on the agenda including the following: 25 July 2009 – Wine & Cheese party on the docks at Saylorville Lake and 1 August 2009 – canoe/kayak trip on the Des Moines River.

On 22 August 2009, we have a dinner cruise aboard the Jon Anderson White Riverboat, a paddle wheeler that was restored by one of our members. A limited number of tickets will be available. Let's make the best of these activities and keep our group active.

Several of our members will be attending the District 30 Fall Rendezvous hosted by the Boulder, CO Squadron during July. It should be a great outing and we'll be waiting to see if any of the Youth Safe Boating posters submitted by our squadron will be sent from the district level on to national.

I hope to see everyone at our upcoming events. ✧

THIS IS IT. THE BIG ONE!

Lt/C Pat Knueven, S

The trip you have been waiting for is Saturday, 1 August 2009, at 9:00 a.m.

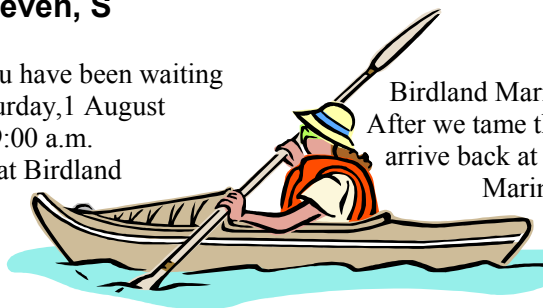
We will meet at Birdland Marina just east of 2nd Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, for the canoe and kayak float down the mighty Des Moines River.

No, we are not going down the river from Birdland Marina. We will carpool up river to the fishing pier at Cottonwood access on NW 70th Avenue, just below the Saylorville Dam. We will put in there at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Then we will float down the river



for about an hour or so, and then stop at a sand bar or other appropriate location to have a shore lunch. (This means whatever lunch you brought along to eat.) After we are all rested up, we will push off again for



Birdland Marina.

After we tame the river and arrive back at the Birdland

Marina, we can hang

around and reminisce about our big venture. We

should arrive there at approximately 1:00 p.m. depending on the flow of the river. The total distance is seven miles.

Be sure to pack a lunch, bring plenty of water to drink, sunscreen, hat, swimsuit, water shoes (not flip flops), a set of dry clothes, and any other personal items you might need on the trip.

I can only obtain about a half dozen canoes, so if you have a canoe or kayak and would like to use it, feel free to do so. The more people along, the more fun to be had and new friends to make.

All of the above is for only \$20 per person. If you use your own canoe or kayak, there is NO CHARGE. All children are also WELCOME, and there is no charge for them either.

As noted above, there are only a few canoes available, so call in your reservation NOW, to 515-278-2821 Pat Knueven. ✧