

## Commander's Message



Cdr James C. Larson, S

**T**ime for another newsletter, so here goes—even if I'm not really a writer.

Well, the sump pumps are running and the lake is up again, some boats are still in the shop or driveway, and the weather hasn't been the best—yet. Oh, well! It will all come together sooner or later. After all, spring is here.

The District 30 Spring meeting in St. Louis was interesting even though we missed the Saturday morning session. There were several questions that came up and were discussed. It looks like I'll have to learn more about the computer, but don't know if I will like sitting in front of a screen to do most everything. The future is here, and one day you won't be able to get a newspaper except online.

Our next general meeting will be Saturday, 16 May 2009. It will be a potluck supper at the playground/park area at Saylorville Lake Marina. It would be a good time to get in a few Vessel Safety Checks and some good camaraderie with the Yacht Club members and other boaters that were working on their boats the week we had the sandwiches at the Marina.

Many of them have asked if we were going to serve sandwiches again next spring. It could become one of our annual events.

Larry Browne is doing an excellent job setting up the Rubbish Sail Boat Regatta for July.

Although the Army Corps will be doing an orientation and providing the gloves and trash bags, we will need volunteers to help with the clean up, monitor the boat building, setting up the racing area, and judging the races. Sounds like good, clean, "trashy" fun but we will need assistance.

The District 30 Cruise and Rendezvous will be 17–19 July 2009, in Frisco, Colorado. Reservations need to be made before the end of May so see the other information in this Schooner for details.

Have a GREAT summer and let's keep promoting our Squadron and safety on the water. ♦



## 1st Annual "Rubbish Regatta"

Lt/C Larry F. Browne, AP

**M**ark your calendars for a fun day with your kids or grandkids in, and near, the water for Saturday, 11 July 2009! The Des Moines Sail and Power Squadron, along with Saylorville Lakes Army Corps of Engineers, are sponsoring the first annual "Rubbish Regatta."

With the flood of 2008 a lot of debris is now littering the shore. Needless to say, a large amount of debris accumulates without the help of high water. The Army Corps is responsible for maintaining the property and has a program that relies on volunteers to pick up that rubbish. Since most of the members of DMS&PS play and boat Saylorville, it is our intention to turn that "rubbish" into a day of fun and to clean up our playground at the same time.

The Squadron will organize a three hour rubbish removal from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The Corps will provide