

# CHOLLA CHATTER



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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
OF THE  
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## SEARCH & RESCUE

By: Don Barber

Well, here we go with another season fast approaching we fishermen and boaters. First part of this year has been so deplorable (weatherwise); only 84 boats signed out for the entire month of January. Our average launchings in January for the past 8 years has been 175 boats. Now, with better weather ahead, I'm sure most of you skippers are really ready to head out to your favorite reefs; but, let's stop and think a bit, how long since you checked out your boat and gear? Try this if you will, after going over your boat, hull, engine or engines, etc., empty every loose item in your boat onto your patio, carport, or clean area. Then start returning it to the boat and check each item as you put it in its proper place aboard. Are your life jackets soft and pliable with no mold? What about your flare kit, do you have daylight as well as night flares? First aid kit all mildewed from dampness? Spare parts still dry and workable? Could go on and on such as anchor lines, remember it went back in the locker wet after you used it last fall. Betty Monro should have your equipment card (the blue one on file) borrow it back from her long enough to reevaluate your gear, if you don't have one on file, please for your own protection get one filled and on file, it is very satisfying to your search and rescue team to be able to pull an equipment card on an overdue boat and know the type radios, flares, anchors, etc., etc., that is aboard. IT COULD SAVE YOU AND YOUR BOAT.

One last mention before signing off. Label your boat trailer, saves lots of waiting offshore. (You could miss cocktail hour.) Oh! another thing, it sure wouldn't hurt the first chance you get, you might check your compass on our new deviation course, ask any S&R member if you have any questions about it. Phil Hunzicker and Hector really set it up easy for even a novice like me to use.

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## TUCSON MEETING

By: Helen Bos

Thirty people were present at February meeting including new members: George and Maf Gray, children Renee, George III and Steve, and Paul and Ruth Delbriggs.

Membership Chairman Shirley Peterson reported at present 249 members.

Chris Tatum and Pete Peterson are still C.B.S.C. radio saints - One or the other is always donating so much time to repairing the radios. I'd love to see each receive a reward for so much work, well done!

Channel 2182 is being used for Safety & Calling.

Channel 2555 is being used for Conversation from Boat to Boat.

Pete Scott, Fish Fry Chairman reported on Fish Fry & Derby as follows: It will be a 9 day Derby. Beginning Memorial Day weekend. Fishing days are May 26, 27 & 28 - June 16 & 17 - July 21 & 22 - Sept. 1 & 2nd. The 2nd of September will be the Fish Fry.

There will be two kinds of Fishing Tickets. One will be a full nine day ticket and the other a daily ticket. Prizes will be accordingly.

Remember Pete will need plenty of help.

Sara and Dennis Holencamp will be making another trip to the Sonoita Orphanage. There are 32 kids at the orphanage now, ages 4 - 14. Believe me, they can use anything you have laying around! If so contact our Orphanage Representative - Bob Morris.

Bob Morris - 2880 El Burrito Street - Tucson Arizona - 622-6081.

Next meeting will be March 7th and it's Pot Luck!

Door Prize winners were: Rose Humprey, Bob Bos, Archie Humprey, Eilene Courtright and John Fork.

Thank you  
See you at the Pot Luck -

Helen Bos

Our front cover this month is a water color by Hilde Erkert - Done especially for the Chatter.

We need your interesting stories and articles. Please send anything of interest to Paul Schoonover - 1806 E. Jackson Street - Phoenix, Arizona 85034.

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By  
Jim Savelsberg

The Catalina, 22' with the blue and white sails that was seen braving the whitecaps during the New Year's weekend in Cholla Bay was Gerry Paller's of Phoenix. Gerry and daughter Brenda were guests of CBSC members Jim and Gayle Savelsberg. Now, that's no great story, but that sailboat's adventures in trying to get to Cholla, is.

Seems the Catalina has been parked in the Marina lot at Lake Pleasant for several months in between races with the Arizona Yacht Club. Gerry wanted to bring her down for some good ocean sailing in the Sea of Cortez. However, the rains of Christmas week had rended all roads into the Lake Pleasant ramp area impassable.

What to do? Leave her there and come to Cholla as a "landlubber"? Hire a helicopter for an airlift? Give up and stay home? Men of lesser imagination and fortitude might have been discouraged. But not our Cap'n Gerry.

How did he manage? Here's how it was done. Gerry found a Forest Service road into the east shore of the lake. With three husky volunteers, the lake was crossed in an inflatable boat. The four were able to move boat and trailer to the ramp manually. He now has the boat to the water where can sail her over to the Forest Service road. But what about the trailer?

How about lashing the trailer to the boat and SAILING THE WHOLE DARNED THING across the lake? Well, it worked, and that's what happened! Back on the rampless east shore, the boat and trailer were winched up the hillside to the truck and then hauled off the Cholla Bay.

Gerry, an avid Catalina supporter, remarked that "the trailer just doesn't sail well at all". A veteran sailer of the Arizona lakes and the Pacific at San Diego, Gerry was well pleased with Cholla Bay and our Sea of Cortez, and commented especially on the courteous and helpful treatment he received from Betty on the C.B. radio.

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By: Maya

Seven years in Cholla Bay- it seems impossible- and seven years of watching Penasco grow from the proverbial little fishing village into a bustling and busy little town. So much has happened in the last few years, new businesses have moved in, new services have become available, and many, many interesting events have happened. From the much publicised move of the huge reactors on their way to the Palo Verde Nuclear Plant to theatrical productions under the direction of Hector Munros younger brother Memo, who by the way also has the photo studio "Fotorama 2000", right across from the "Banco de Comercia" in down town Penasco. Memo, aside from carrying all manner of film and flashbulbs, also has beautiful mood shots of the Sea of Cortez and the Penasco area well worth looking at and very reasonable. We used several of them as Christman presents to my family, and even to myself. Having the advantage of having, so to speak, the best of two worlds, I would like to share with you some of the news and happenings in Penasco, in the hope of, in my own small way, being able to strengthen the band of friendship between Cholla and Penasco.

There are so many marvelous people I would like you to meet, and exciting new things happening, I hardly know where to start.

One of the biggest "happenings" in the last few months was the opening of Penascos first shopping center. Directly on the main street, just after the railroad crossing and right before the Las Conchas turn off, JIM BUR is truly a lovely sight to behold. A beautiful large Super Market, which stocks almost all the things we are used to in stateside markets (even dry dog food and garbage bags- a luxury in these parts up to now) and cuts of meats to american specifications, forms the core of the center, from which small stores branch out in two directions. There is a new bank, "Multibanco Comermex", a sporting goods store, run by another one of the enterprising Munro, a beautiful little gift shop, belonging to Amado and Yolie Corona (you may know him as the manager of Materiales Maritimas, the hardware store on the bottom of the hill, across from the old church). How about sending a friend a mexican birthday card?

The Jim Bur shopping center also has a small coffee shop, a shoe store, a new laundromat and the Caraven, a beautiful mod shop, carrying sports and party clothes for the Penasco Disco Set.

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The new shopping center was really a big step forward in bringing Penasco up to date, and keeping up with the tremendous growth our town has been experiencing in the last few years. And after your first visit to the new shopping center how about stopping for lunch at "Sal's Donas"? Across from the blue hospital, directly on Penascos main street Jose Salcedo and Dale Muffley are sure to feed you a meal that you will thoroughly enjoy.

From their daily luncheon special to delicious Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers and other mexican and american short orders, even delicious pizza on sunday nights, they have it for your next party in Cholla Bay.

There are many many more people I would like you to meet, and places I would like to tell you about, but I want to save some for next time. It is my sincere hope, that with these articles I will be able, in a small way, make your visits to Cholla and Penasco more interesting and enjoyable, and hopefully strenghten the bond of friendship between our two communities.

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CHAPTER - GENERAL MEETING

By: Marie MacGill

I think we had a truly Valentine, February 14th club meeting. What could have been more appropriate than an informative HEART program that was presented and explained by Dr. Seligson. For those of you that missed the meeting, really missed a very interesting and educational program on the saving of life from choking, drowning, and heart attack. I'm sure we all appreciated having Dr. Seligson with us, and Thank you very much Doctor. We had a good attendance, but were so interested in learning about CPR that we had a short meeting.

We were so pleased to have as guests Pete Scott of the Tucson chapter, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Carpenter, also Charlie Nelson who said he had never been there before, and Emory and Leona Sullivan.

Pete Scott announced that this is the time to be thinking of the fishing derby. He said it will start on memorial weekend, and derby fishing will only be on weekends when the tide is low. The derby fishing will end on Labor Day and there will not be Derby fishing during the month of August.

It was suggested by Bob Fulton that the names and cabin numbers be posted on a large board at the radio shack, so a person would know how to locate some one at the bay. He said he would even furnish the board. Dave Conners said they are already working on this suggestion. Also the question was asked if anyone had received a 1979 property contract for signature, but it seems that none have been received.

It was reported that Perry and Mae Ooten brought a wheel chair down for the little cripple boy that lives on the road before you get to the railroad track on the way to Cholla Bay. More about that later.

We were very sorry to hear about the death of Mr. Al Mularz of Cabin No. M12 and Mr. Jim Paulson. We are all extending our Deepest Sympathy to their families and friends.

The door prizes were won by Bill Pecky, a flash light, Whimpy Jaskowiak, a knife and key chain, Jim Westfall, a club tee shirt. There will be a raffle for the Christmas fund at the next meeting. Betty Woodward has been making beautiful ladies hats in all colors for the Ship's store. Don't forget to take a look and perhaps buy one.

It was reported by search and rescue that too many boats are going out to sea without radios.

Please let us know if you have a friend or neighbor that would like to join the Cholla Bay Sportsmen's Club. We need new members. We never did reach the 1000 mark last year. PLEASE HELP.

So long, until we see you at the next meeting. Please come. Its fun.

**DID YOU STOP TO THINK?**

By: Marie MacGill

Before you called a launcher, did you stop and think what unhappyness you could bring this day if you did not abide by all of the rules of good boating? Was your boat in good working order? Did you have a radio in good working order? Did you have both night time and day time flares on board? Did you have a good battery? Did you have plenty of gasoline? **DID YOU HAVE A BUDDY BOAT WITH YOU? DID YOU CHECK OUT WITH THE RADIO OPERATOR?** If you did all of these things and more, perhaps a happy time is had by everyone, including your-selve. THANKS !

Please don't get me wrong, I didn't hear a single complaint, but I think it would be nice to think of our friends and neighbors when we do something. Happy sailing until next time.

P.S. Almost forgot to tell Joan Dernberger the next time she has ink on the dolls to try spraying the marks with any old hair spray. I have good luck with taking it off with spray on purses, table cloths, table and desk tops and just about everything. Hope it works for you.

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Would you believe it, when we first fished the Cholla Bay area back in the late 40s and early 50s, we'd wait til the last lay of our trip to bottom fish for pinto and grouper and only then to bring "meat" home for our fish-eating friends. I hated the dang things--especially pinto. We'd always have to clean our own catch and no matter how careful I was, I'd somehow end up with painful fin punctures all the way to my elbows. I didn't (and still don't) have the skill to fillet these sticky brutes without leaving about 1/3 of prime fishflesh still sticking to their backbone, so I'd just cut the head off and slit the tummy to remove the entralls--a quite simple operation, really, but in so doing, somewhere along the line my grip would slip and whappo, I'd have another "gotcha" from a needlesharp fin. Even trying to remove a feather jig from the jawbone of a mad pinto could be a traumatic experience. A fresh-caught pinto has to be one of the most belligerent cusses seen by the eyes of man. The instant you get one aboard, he immediately challenges anyone or anything to get near him, sticking every fin he's got to the attack position and wriggling like a snake in heat whenever you gingerly try to get a solid grip to unhook and sack him up. Believe it or not, you could easily get a sackfull of these freckled mean tempered fish within two or three miles, at the most, from the launching area. Back in those days--there was always a healthy population of the rascals living anywhere there was a rocky bottom. All you had to do to catch one was to drop a featherjig and bounce it along the bottom as the boat drifted with the current, til you passed over a patch of rocks. Boy, those days are gone forever--I've got two of the best electronic depth finders made aboard my boat, the "2/14", just to try and locate a new unfished reef where there might be a few pinto left uncaught and I'll guarantee you that its been a long dry spell since there has been a sackfull of pinto aboard my boat. The prize fish we'd concentrated on back in those days were white sea bass, yellowfin corvina and sea trout during the spring and fall months, then during the heat of the dry summer months, we'd use light tackle (whippy Calcutta rods and reels full of 18 lb. or 27 lb. test linen Cutty Hunk line) to go after the razor toothed sierra and spanish mackerel, or the "pompano" (actually, as fellow scribe Jim Tallon pointed out to me, a "Big Jaw Leatherjack"). These babies we considered game fish, and still do. I know that I completely stripped the gears out of several freshwater bass reels on 4 and 5 lb. sierras before I switched to saltwater reels. Its hard for me to believe now that we used to capture the fish in the quantities we used to, operating from 14' to 16' outboards, when now I seem to have a helluva time getting a sackful of anything while using a super seaworthy twin engine jobbie and all of the neat electronic helpers available -- I guess I must be just gettin' old.

Would you believe that the Brown Pelican seen in our area in such numbers is now classed as an endangered species on the West Coast?

The Pelican --as are all of his allies-- is a large aquatic bird with all four toes webbed. His most recognizable characteristic in the long scooped beak. They nest in colonies and are silent out of the breeding season.

The Adult of the pelican has a light head and a grey brown body. In the summer the adult shows a red brown streak from the crown down around the throat. The immature bird is uniformly dull brown in color with a lighter coloring below. Hence the variance in color designates the age of the bird, not the sex.

He is an excellent flier with a wing span of 90 inches and a body length of 41 inches. He has a powerful stroking action alternating with short glides that are often only inches above the water. He flies with his head drawn back to the shoulder and he rarely soars.

The small flocks fly in long lines and can be seen diving into the water from heights up to 30 feet for small fish. They will also beg on populated fishing piers.

The pelican lays 3 to 5 eggs and with everything willing will probably raise 2 fledglings.

They breed locally on offshore islands. One of the main rookeries in our area is Bird Island. You will find several species of sea birds nesting there. Many of them we are privileged to see.

Please do not disturb during the breeding and nesting season. I have always abhorred the practice of some of the local residents going in and robbing the nests of eggs. Even the least disturbance in a rookery can effect the bird population for several years. In a perfect environment the quota of fledglings raised is very low. They are destructive enough on themselves without us adding to it.

By: Mary Fran Taylor

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The Brown Pelican has a country cousin -- the White Pelican. He is a local breeder of several hundreds pairs on the West Coast and its inlets-- and on lakes.

He does not dive as the Brown Pelican does. He fishes by wading in the shallows, scooping up fish in its large bill.

It's flight is an alternating of flapping and gliding. They are usually in long V formations and at great heights.

His coloring is white with the only black areas in the wings, this includes all the primaries and one half of the secondaries. The immature bird shows grey on the head and has a grey bill. The adult bird has an orange bill. The flat rounded plate on the bill of the adult shows only during the breeding season.

By: Mary Fran Taylor

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MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR QUALIFIED PERSONNEL

By: Betty Munro

People, People.. it's so nice to see people again. With all the bad weather we've had on both sides of the border people have been scarce in Cholla. January turned out to be the slowest month we've had since I have been on the radio job. Now that the weather is on our side the fish are joining in with equal enthusiasm and are grabbing at that sweet lil ole bait dropped before their fluttering eyelids.

Mr. Simonds took Alex "Cano" Villa as his guide on the Glory and returned to shore with a nice catch of grouper. He had such a successful trip he returned two weeks later for a repeat performance.

Gene McFarland hired Manuel "Tres" Arviso as his guide aboard the Blue Light and they loaded up with a variety of fish: calico bass, vaqueta, pinto, and one Gene described as a strange looking fish ..which turned out to be a parrot fish. Yes, they are good eating.

Bill Valentine and his buddies loaded the 2/14 with fish and posed for an hour for pictures. A little sea gull told me Bill is going to be having an article in the Chatter each month. Aren't we lucky to have a pro like Bill join us for some first class reporting.

Things must be looking good back there in the States because there sure are a lot of brand new boats showing up down here. One of the first to ease into the Cholla Bay waters was Tim and Tammy Bottcher's new Freedom Won. They have a new 24 foot diesel Formula Thunderbird. Joe and Roma Blunk helped the Bottchers christen the new Freedom Won with a bottle of champagne and yours truly had a glass of the bubbly liquid also.

Herman Court was down here putting some hours on his brand new Courtship. Dorsey Bannett in his Mark Twain was the Courtship's buddy boat for the maiden cruise. Court said he forgot the champagne but a little sea gull told me they drank it before the Courtship even got wet. Why not?

Richard Holden launched his new 24 foot Airlot which they named Tres Hombres. Richard said it ran like a dream. They didn't get the deck dirty with a lot of fish but that part is yet to come.

From the subject of new let me switch to the old..Walt Shanahan said this month of February marked 65 years he has been coming to Cholla Bay. That's a lot of years to be faithful to one fishing hole.

Welcome aboard John Marble. John Happens to be an old acquaintance of mine from Show Low and he just bought the Jaranja from Ed and Mary Renowden of Pinetop. Hope John has as much fun aboard the Naranja as the Renowdens did.

It was good to see Henry Shelton at the bay again. Henry said it was his first visit in a year. George Clements took him fishing on the Clem so maybe that will give him the Cholla Bay fever and we'll see more of him.

Talk about a cute sight.. you should see Verlene Barber wheeling their new van around the bay. She was seen driving around town so much one weekend a gentleman came up and asked if we had a new bus service in Cholla. When we told him no and asked why he pointed to Verlene sitting up in her van as big as life and said, "I've seen that lady whipping around every road in Cholla stopping at the various business places and houses and just figured she was running a bus service". OK, Verlene, where's your work papers.

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HAPPENINGS AT PELICAN POINT  
IN CHOLLA BAY

By: Marie MacGill

The weekend of January 20th wasn't a very pleasant one for what few of us were at the bay. The weather was cloudy, windy and cold. From what I heard the fishing was lousy.

The only ones on the point except the permanent one were Erv and Edsel Sykes and son Jeff, and the MacGills.

George Rodgers was down with a bunch of his buddies, but didn't get to do much fishing. Clarence Allums was there with his guest and old friend allie Bays. Their luck ran out on fishing. Eldon Travis with his friends Scott Chestnut and Bob Morris tried to do some fishing, but that wasn't the time to go.

Lou and Mary Parker paid us a nice visit and said they didn't even get to put their boat in the water. A very few more people were there whose names I didn't get.

We were happy to have Betty Munro and Ruthie Bolls stop by for a chat.

The break-ins were still occurring. We brought bad news back to Mr. Niles that their trailer home had been broken into, but don't think that any damage was done. Break-ins are still being made all over the place.

Now for some good news on the week end of February 10th.

Pauline Murphy is back at her home on the bay after a cold and snowy visit with daughter Judy and her family at Texarkana. Judy is doing much better now.

George and Olive Bleuel are back at the bay. Cliff and Virgie Burrows that live next door to Pauline Murphy will be spending most of their time at Bay until hot weather. Joe and Roma Blunk spent the weekend of February 10th at the Bay with their two sweet grand-children. Its so good to see Joe looking so well. Paul Edge and Marlene Sternberger were also there enjoying the beautiful spring like weather.

The bad news is that Saturday evening February 10th Hector Munro had his pick-up stolen while trying to be a good samaritan, and the good news is that he found it stuck in a sand bed just before you get to the arches on the road to Rocky Point. It seems that Hector was at the Contina when he got a call to go out to the point to the Shrimper that had just gotten in with a disabled boat around 9:30 p.m. When he returned a short time later- no pick-up. Some one saw three men driving off in it and took chase after them, In trying

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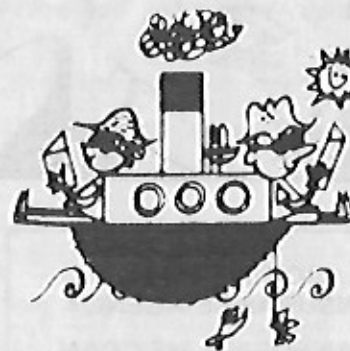
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to get away the thieves ran off the road into a sand bed and stuck the truck. They left on foot and to my knowledge were not caught, at least not that night.

Dave Conners, our club president and our radio operator, Betty Munro and several others gave up their fun evening to assist in getting the broken down boat back to shore on Saturday February 10th.

Don and Verlene Barber didn't come to the bay that weekend because Vellene had to pay the hospital a visit, so while Dave and Theresa Conners were down Dave took over for Don on search and rescue. Verlene is home now and doing very nicely.

Whimpy and Jayne Jasowiak were down for a week or longer. They were over-seeing the job of getting their new Mexican tile floor down. Its really pretty.

Bill Valentine and several of his buddies were there on the 1th to get in a little fishing. Never did get to find out the outcome of their catch. Bet it was a good one.

Vi Schmerfeld of Cholla Bay was in Hospital in Phoenix on February 8th for a few body repairs. This 12th day of February she is doing fine and hopes to return to the bay before much time goes by. We all wish you a speedy recovery Vi.

Sorry to report that I heard that one of Cholla Bay's little boys had been doing a lot of the breaking into of the homes there on the bay. I understand that he confessed on several of them. He was taken into town to the police and is not allowed back, and must report to the police each day. I suppose this is correct. The child is not the only one that has been getting into the homes. Several have been broken in since they took the child away; infact one was broken in on Saturday night the 10th.

Frank and Stevie Rohr, new club members were at the bay for a week during this beautiful weather.

Cholla Bay now has an escuela (school). Classes are being taught in the building that was used for the office there at the bay. I understand that each day a teacher comes out from Rocky Point to teach the children. They have been trying to raise money to support the school. The ladies had been preparing Mexican food to sell at the school on Sunday after-noon of February 10th. to raise some money. Sorry we had to leave before getting to eat some of it. Perhaps next time they will sell it a day earlier.

## HANDLING UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS

The Skipper - responsibilities.  
The Boat - limitations, capacity, stability, flotation, etc.  
Boat Handling - starting, docking, departing, cruising, anchoring, water skiing.

## HANDLING UNDER ADVERSE CONDITIONS

Heavy seas, poor visibility, winds, tides, passing ships, swamping, capsizing, man overboard, collision, fire.

## SEAMANSHIP AND COMMON EMERGENCIES

Fueling, stoves, houskeeping, grounding, towing, carbon-monoxide, drowning, lightning, radio distress, marlin-spike.

## RULES OF THE ROAD

Relative directions, right-of-way, application of rules, sound signals. Exam will be based on inland rules.

## AIDS TO NAVIGATION

Types of aids, use in daylight, use in dark use in thick weather, chart symbols. Exam will be based on Lateral System.

## COMPASS AND CHART FAMILIARIZATION

Compass basics, construction, selection, installation, care, elementary use. Basic features of charts; water, shoreline and bottom details. Chart session; location by Latitude and Longitude.

## RUNNING LIGHTS AND EQUIPMENT

Purpose of equipment, classes of motorboats, required equipment, running lights, light identification. Exam will be based on Inland Rules lights and Federal equipment requirements. Chart session; use of plotter, 2400 hr. time system, departure, ETA, DR, labeling.

## BOAT TRAILERING

Construction, equipment, loading, laws, road operation, launching, hauling-out, maintenance, storage. Chart  
• Session; distance, beam bearings, course plotting.

## INLAND BOATING

Rivers, lakes, reservoirs, locks and dams. Chart session; speed and time, (60 DST), review of previous skills, plotting and labeling practice.

## MARINERS COMPASS AND PILOTING

Variation, deviation, calculation, determining deviation, compensation. Application to use of plotter. Bow-on bearings. Simple fixes. Practice with complete problems involving all skills to date.

The Phoenix Power Squadron is presenting their annual FREE boating course beginning March 6th at Madison School #2, 2002 E. Campbell Avenue - 7:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in boating is urged to attend. The class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you cannot make all the classes - attend the ones you can.

# ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

It is imperative for those who move to fill out the Request for Change of Address and return it to the Chatter Office. This is the only way we can keep our mailing list up to date and can assure you of receiving the "Chatter"

## REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

NAME .....

ADDRESS (old) .....

CITY ..... STATE ..... ZIP .....

NEW

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY ..... STATE ..... ZIP .....

DATE OF REQUEST .....

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2 1/4" x 4 1/4" .....	\$ 25.00
1/2 Page .....	\$ 45.00
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Inside Front and Back Cover .....	\$100.00
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Smaller ads on front and back inside covers, and center fold, to be negotiated.

# Good News

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