

# THE PALMETTO LOG

## Charleston Power Squadron

Sail and Power Boating

A Unit of District 26

United States Power Squadrons



VOLUME 62 NUMBER 6

AUGUST 2009

### COMMANDER

Cdr Dick Howells, JN  
216-9866  
RHowells5@comcast.net

### EXECUTIVE OFFICER

P/C Art Clark, AP (Acting)  
849-9467  
adclark1@bellsouth.net

### EDUCATIONAL OFFICER

Lt/C Chet Rogers, P  
768-8574  
Chet.Rogers@comcast.net

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

P/C David Walsh, JN (Acting)  
556-3258  
wals6563@bellsouth.net

### SECRETARY

Lt/C Wendy Walsh, JN  
556-3258  
wals6563@bellsouth.net

### TREASURER

Rick Cone  
722-1640  
richcone1@comcast.net



### Squadron Headquarters Bldg.

1376 Orange Grove Road  
Charleston, SC 29407

### EDITOR

Steven Brostoff  
Phone: (843) 559-1622  
e-mail: sbrostoff@bellsouth.net  
web site: www.usps.org/localusps/cps

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Cooperative Charting Report  
Page 5

August Dinner Meeting Announcement  
Page 6

D26 Conference and Wild West Party  
Announcement  
Page 7

Fort McAllister, Georgia  
District Cruise and Rendezvous Report  
Page 8

Hamlin Sound Raft-up and Picnic  
Announcement  
Pages 13

**Safe Boating Through  
Education**

**From The Commander  
Cdr Dick Howells, JN**



Well things seem to be improving. David Walsh, P/C has stepped in to the vacated Administrative Officer's job and Art Clark, P/C is helping out with the XO position while Angie is in Arkansas. We have a busy 3 months coming up and I am grateful to have their help.

Remember we are hosting the District 26 Change of Watch 2-4 Oct. Then we have our annual meeting combined with our Oyster Roast Fund Raiser 24 Oct followed by our own Change of Watch 21 Nov. The Executive Committee decided to combine the Annual Meeting with the Oyster Roast because of the District Change of Watch. We felt it would be too much to have separate events.

Check out our Web Site under Photo Album. You will see a couple of pictures of kids modeling Squadron T-shirts. This is a plug for the Ship's Store to parents and grandparents to order shirts for their young ones. You can even do matching shirts as Anne did with our granddaughter.

Our summer public boating classes have started with a large turnout on 13 July. We had a full house in the main class room and our parking lot. We had 25 paid students with many families sharing books so our actual count of students will be higher. The new "America's Boating Course" is very good according to students and instructors. When you couple that with the extra classes we offer in basic piloting and our on the water training we have a really strong program.

Finally I would like to thank Chet Klutts for speaking to our July Dinner Meeting. Chet is the owner of Waterland Canvas and spoke on "What Boat Owners Should Know About Marine Canvas". He told us that a lot of his business comes because boat owners don't take of their canvas. I know what he means. If I had done some of the things he recommends my canvas would be in much bet-

ter shape. You can reach Chet at 843-875-4544 or check out his web site at [www.waterlandcanvas.com](http://www.waterlandcanvas.com).

**Dick**



**Rental Properties**  
Apartment, Homes and Offices  
Appraisal – Property – Rental Management

We help people buy and sell property

**843-556-2100**

**Executive Officer  
(Acting)  
P/C Art Clark, AP**



**W**e want to thank all who helped support our booth at the Maritime festival a few weeks ago. The effort was lead by Daisy Proctor. Our booth was set up by Daisy along with Larry and Donna Jean Dorminy. Poor weather and high winds required that the booth be reset every morning. That was done by Daisy, Rick Cone and John Meyenberg. In all we collected 45 contacts who will be called by Kathy Rogers. We want to thank our members who manned the booth during the festival; they were Daisy Proctor, Rick Cone, John Meyenbberg, Ernie Godshall, Diane and Kirk Williams, Wendy and Dave Walsh, Betsy and Harl Porter, Sunny and Samuel Steinberg, Kay and David Piper, Donna Jean and Larry Dorminy, and Mike Fauss.

As always, we can sure use more folks with our vessel safety checks and cooperative charting program. Now that boating season is upon us, we will be ramping up both programs. Call me at 849-9467 if you are interested in either. The more you participate, the more you will enjoy our squadron.

**Art**

**Administrative Officer  
(Acting)  
P/C David Walsh, JN**



**I**recently volunteered to take over the Administrative Officer's post in the Squadron. The Administrative Officer is responsible for Cruises, Operations Training, Port Captains, Meeting Programs and Membership. In the coming months, I hope to increase our efforts to bring new members into the squadron. Our Squadron's membership total in recent years has been flat, with new members about equal to those leaving the Squadron. We need new members to keep the Squadron growing and vibrant. So, please contact our Membership Chairman, Wendy Walsh, if you know any boaters who may be interested in learning more about USPS and membership in the Charleston Sail and Power Squadron. Wendy will contact them with information about our programs, dues and advantages of membership in Charleston Power Squadron.

The Squadron has a busy schedule of events for the next four months. These include cruises, an oyster roast, dinner meetings, our Squadron's Change of Watch and we are the host squadron for the District 26 Change of Watch. To make all this happen, we need volunteers to help with these events. So, please call me and volunteer to work on one of these events. I can be reached at (843) 556-3258 or e-mail [wals6563@bellsouth.net](mailto:wals6563@bellsouth.net)

**David**

*America's Great Loop Cruisers' Association  
Cruising the Eastern Half of North America*



500 Oakbrook Lane  
Summerville, SC 29485  
Janice Kromer  
1-877-GR8-LOOP  
1-877-478-5667 ext. 7104  
Email: [info@GreatLoop.org](mailto:info@GreatLoop.org)  
Website: [www.GreatLoop.org](http://www.GreatLoop.org)

## Educational Officer Lt/C Chester B Rogers, P



On 13 July, we began our third round of America's Boating Course (ABC) with an enrollment of 25 paying students and over thirty students overall when you include family members sharing one set of instruction materials. In the course of three classes this year since January, 2009, we have had approximately 100 students taking ABC with slightly over ten percent becoming new members of the USPS. The squadron owes thanks to a number of our members for making this program such a success. Steve Kromer and David Walsh reworked the slides that came from national for the course, cutting and changing to make them more manageable for our instructors. David and Wendy Walsh organized a very successful on the water experience for the first two classes, including providing directions for our on the water instructor component of the course. Many of our members participated in the on the water exercise. Art Clark will be organizing the on the water experience for the third class. Gary Whitley conducted the publicity campaign to recruit most of the students, including talking with many of them over the phone. Kathy Rogers assisted Gary in talking with potential students and in putting together the list of students who would attend the class that began on 13 July. Finally, thanks to our members who served as instructors for the class: Helen Kovacs, Steve Kromer, Harl Porter, and David Walsh,

Again, a reminder that it is time to start thinking about fall classes. I have listed below the classes that I would like to have offered, although some details still have to be worked out. If you are considering taking one of these classes, or if you have questions about any of them, please let me know. To some extent, our ability to offer the

classes will depend on the amount of interest that is shown in taking them.

**Piloting:** This is the first and most basic navigation course, covering chart reading, course plotting, and basic coastal or inland navigation, including basic GPS usage. This course goes into more detail than the charting information covered in the public courses.

**Engine Maintenance:** This course covers the operating principles and basic care and maintenance of outboard and inboard engines, including diesels.

**Cruise Planning:** This covers topics of interest for someone planning a cruise – whether for just a weekend or for a year – including preparation and planning, anchoring, security, chartering, and cruising outside the US.

**Weather:** This covers weather forecasting and reading weather patterns on-board. It has been several years since it has been offered, but I am hopeful that we will have someone to teach it this fall.

**Marine Communication Systems:** This is the second of a new three course package that has been designed to replace the old Marine Electronics. Harl Porter offered the first one this past winter and will be offering the beta version of this one in the fall.

**Chet**

## Cooperative Charting Report

NOAA has assigned our Squadron responsibility for verifying all of Nautical Chart 11518 and a portion of Nautical Chart 11522. This is a big responsibility covering much of the important navigable waters in our area. Cooperative charting involves making on-the-water observations of navigation aids and reporting necessary chart corrections. Immediate problems such as buoys off station, failed lighted buoys and damaged navigation markers are reported to the Coast Guard. GPS verification of range lines and locations of aids to navigation are reported to NOAA. Our reports help NOAA's cartographers keep local navigation charts up to date. This year, the Charleston Power Squadron has filed ten Cooperative Charting Reports. Our latest charting cruise was on Monday 6 July 2009 in Art Clark's boat *Sunday Drive*. Crew members were Art Clark, Bill Hayes, Harl Porter and David Walsh. Below is a photo of *Sunday Drive* and crew stopping for lunch at the Crab House on Wappoo Creek. If you are interested in serving as a member or using your boat for Cooperative Charting, contact David Walsh at (843) 556-3258 or e mail [wals6563@bellsouth.net](mailto:wals6563@bellsouth.net) for a charting assignment. It's a great way to learn navigation of our local waters and fun to go boating with friends.



**Cooperative Charting Team, left to right, Art Clark, Bill Hayes and Harl Porter standing in front of *Sunday Drive* at the Crab House Dock on Wappoo Creek**

## Happy August Birthdays

02 August	Raymond L. Harp
04 August	Glenn F. Workman
07 August	Allison Ryan
07 August	David E. Walsh
09 August	Thomas B. Hardy
10 August	David A. Hueske
13 August	John McAlister Jr.
14 August	Stephen C. Kromer
14 August	Jerry Reves
22 August	Debra Hayes
23 August	John C. Champion
23 August	Dwana M. Meisenhelder
23 August	Victor B. Schwartz
28 August	Lauren Merriken
30 August	Terry Clark

## For Sale

### **2001 Sea Ray 260 Sundancer**

5.7 EFI 260 HP Bravo III Mercruiser engine  
240 hours, A/C, GPS, Vacu-flush Head, Full Galley, Luxurious cabin that sleeps four. Bimini tops and full camper package. Excellent condition. \$39,000 or best offer

Call Chuck Altschul 367-6425



## Upcoming Events:

13 August 09: Dinner Meeting at 1376 Orange Grove Road, 1800 for Social Hour and 1900 for dinner. Guest Speaker will be Steve Little of Tow Boat US.

22 August 09: Hamlin Sound Raft-up and Picnic

10 September 09: Dinner Meeting at 1376 Orange Grove Road, 1800 for Social Hour and 1900 for dinner. The guest speaker will be Elizabeth Joyce of Harbor Specialties.

18-20 September 09: Georgetown Landing Cruise

2-4 October 09: District 26 Change of Watch. Watch for further details and full schedule.

9 October 09: No meeting. See 24 October below.

17 October 09: Wooden Boat Show, 1100-1800, Georgetown, SC

24 October 09: Toad Hall Oyster Roast and Annual Meeting at 125 Riverland Drive, 1500

21 November 09: Squadron Change of Watch, USS Yorktown. Details to follow.

5 December 09: Parade of Boats

## With Sympathy

Our deepest sympathies to Steve Rustin and family on the death of his mother, Amy Rustin.

Also to Martin Gipe on the death of his eldest son, Martin Gipe, Jr.

Also to Gary and Margaret Whitley on the death of her mother.

## August Dinner Meeting

**13 August 2009 Dinner Meeting  
Squadron Headquarters 1376 Orange Grove  
Road  
Social Hour begins at 1800 with Dinner and  
Speaker at 1900**

Our speaker will be Captain Steve Little, owner of Maritime Services, Inc. of Charleston. His company is the provider of the TowBoat US service in the Charleston area. TowBoat US is the official service provider for the BoatUS organization, the largest commercial association of boat owners in the United States,. Mr. Little will discuss the benefits and service, provided by his company and the distinction between of Towing and Salvage. He will also show an interesting video as well as photos of recent towing and salvage operations. You won't want to miss this important presentation.

Also, the Ship's Store will be open. So pick up some outrageous bargains in nautical supplies and apparel at the August Blow-Out Ship's Store Sale.

Come join your boating friends for a cool dinner consisting of succulent chicken breasts, savory cool summer salads, fresh veggies in all kinds of combinations, and finished off with a fruit cobbler and ice cream! All for the bargain price of \$ 10.00 per person. Please call Helen Deitrick-Kovach at 864-430-7939 or email [HDEITRICK@AOL.COM](mailto:HDEITRICK@AOL.COM) and make your reservations by Tuesday 11 August 2009.



## Charleston to Host D26 Conference 2 -4 October 2009

Our squadron is hosting the District 26 Conference. All members are welcome to attend.

The Host Hotel is the Sheraton North Charleston conveniently located at exit 213 off I-26. Since those of us in Charleston will not have to stay in the hotel, it is an opportunity for us to attend the conference and not have hotel bills.

The Conference Registration desk will be available at 1300 and the Hospitality Room will be open at 1300 on the third floor for those early arrivals. Snacks and beverages will be available as well as the silent auction items.

Friday night's Soiree will be held at James Island County Park in Edisto Hall. Directions and a park pass are included in your registration packet. The theme of the evening is Wild Wild West. Don your best western garb and compete for prizes. Grub will be Charleston's best pulled pork and chicken with all the sides finished off with build your own Ice Cream Sundaes! The feast will cost \$20.00 per person and will feature a cash bar – full liquor selections.

Saturday's meetings will be held in the Ballroom at the Sheraton with lunch provided for those who make reservations (\$23.00/person total). For the spouses and guests, we have reserved the upper level of the Buccaneer Restaurant in downtown Charleston. Explore the golden age of pirates through a unique collection of items from the 1690's through 1730 (\$13.00 per person). Liquor and dessert, if you have room, are extra and payable at the restaurant.

The Hospitality suite will be open from 0800 – 1730 so that you can browse the unique collections our scavengers have put together. The bidding for Silent Auction items will close promptly at 1730 on Saturday.

Dinner will be aboard the Carrier Yorktown at Patriots Point. A map is included in your registration packet. The new Medal of Honor museum is housed on the Hanger deck and is open for your inspection. A cash bar of beer and wine will be available from 1830 thru dinner. The cost of dinner is \$35.00/person. A delicious meal and one of the most gorgeous sunsets with a view of the Ravenel Bridge will precede the Change of Watch Ceremonies.

## Wild West Party

Please join all District 26 members who will be in Charleston for the **Annual District Change of Watch** festivities 2 Oct 09. Friday night our Squadron is hosting a Wild, Wild West gala at Edisto Hall, James Island County Park.

The festivities start at 6:30 with Chicken and Ribs and a variety of sides. Dessert is to build your own Sundaes. Costumes are encouraged - Prizes will be awarded. A park pass is included with your dinner reservation. Go to our website and find the link for the District 26 Change of Watch. There you will find more details along with a pdf file registration form which can be downloaded. We need to have your paid dinner reservation before the function. We will not be able to take money at the door. I hope that a **very large** crowd of Charleston Squadron members will come out to this event as it is my last official function as Chef. It will be a memorable evening.

Thanks

**Helen Kovach**

Charleston Sail and Power Squadron, Chair  
District 26 Change of Watch 2009

## Recap of the District Cruise and Rendezvous to Fort McAllister, Georgia

The District 26 Cruise and Rendezvous hosted by Tybee Light Squadron on 12-14 June 2009 was the best cruise we have ever been on. The weather cooperated fully. Those of us who attended the 2007 D 26 Cruise and Rendezvous in Beaufort will remember that Tropical Storm Barry cancelled out their planned boating activity, and made it questionable whether those of us who came by boat would be able to get our boats back to Charleston. We did, but we had to wait for the weather to clear.

Tybee Light Squadron did a fantastic job of organizing both the meeting and the poker run. They certainly lived up to the USPS motto “Boating Is Fun, We’ll Show You How.” I was a little concerned about finding Fort McAllister Marina because it is about 10 miles off the Intracoastal Waterway up the Ogeechee River. However, a few days after sending in our registration, we received by email several chartlets of the area, detailed written directions and the latitude and longitude of the waypoints, both for getting to the marina and for the Saturday poker run. Don Funderburk, the District Cooperative Charting Officer, prepared the course routes.

This cruise was an excellent exercise for putting into practice what we learned in our educational courses. David entered into our hand-held GPS all of the waypoints we would need once we left the ICW. The waypoints were set so that if you followed a straight course between waypoints, you would be in safe water. We made it to the marina without a problem.

The Saturday boating activity was a poker run. A poker run is where you draw your cards at five different locations. The first card was picked up on land at the marina, the second and third cards were picked up from small boats on the water, the fourth was picked up on land on a beach where we had lunch, and the fifth card was picked up back at the marina. The poker run was a benefit for the Sea Scouts and they furnished the two marker boats on the water. To pass our score cards to the small boats was tricky. We had to approach against the current with just enough power to get close to them without running over them and stay just long enough to pass our score card to them. See the pictures after this article.

On the way back, our hand-held GPS quit, and there went our waypoints! Of course, I had my trusty paper charts, so I knew where we were all the time. We got back without missing a beat or a turn. However, we heard later that one of our boats, *Island Girl*, had to be towed back to the marina from the island. *Wright Stuff* did the towing, but they didn’t have a line long enough, so they tied two lines together. When they got back, the dock master asked our District Commander if he knew how to get the knot out of the line. See the picture of D/C Cdr Ron Ozburn, SN using the best marlinspike seamanship technique for untying that knot – with a knife! The person in the middle is Dan Funderburk, who got great enjoyment out of the whole procedure.

You can see more pictures of the cruise on the D 26 Website: [www.usps.org/localusps/D26/](http://www.usps.org/localusps/D26/).

**Wendy Walsh, First Mate, *Reely Fun***



**Fort McAllister Marina**



**Picking up a card from the Sea Scouts**





**Approaching a Sea Scout's boat**

## **August Cruise Hamlin Sound Raft-up and Picnic Saturday, 22 August 2009**

The Squadron's August Cruise is a raft-up and onboard picnic at Hamlin Sound near Isle of Palms, SC. We are planning an on board bring-some-stuff-to-share" pot luck picnic. So, plan to go boat-to-boat "grazing" and sampling whatever food was offered. This promises to be an easy-to-get to cruise that you won't want to miss. To get there, take the ICW two miles north of The Isle of Palms. At ICW Marker R110, turn to port and go 1 mile up Dewees Creek toward Hamlin Sound. The raft up anchorage is located at the junction of Dewees Creek and Long Creek (GPS 32 50.00 N, 79 45.26 W). If you trailer, you can launch your boat at The Isle of Palms Marina's ramp. The raft up location is only 3 miles from this ramp.

Bring your own food, beverages and picnic supplies. Festivities start at 1300 and continue until about 1600. For more information, contact David Walsh: (843) 556-3258 or E-mail [wals6563@bellsouth.net](mailto:wals6563@bellsouth.net).



**How not to untie a knot**



**Relaxing at the D26 Cruise**



## VSC Decal Stops USCG Boarding

Harl and Betsy Porter, on *Palmetto Elephant*, were stopped by the USCG during their June trip to Savannah. While traveling south in the ICW near Fields Cut a north bound USCG small boat turned on their blue light and forced us to stop. I got on the VHF radio channel 16 and made this radio call: "USCG small boat in ICW near Fields Cut at Green 41 this is Palmetto Elephant also at Green 41. Over." They replied: "Switch to channel 22A." I switched the VHF radio to channel 22 and asked: "What do you want. Over." They replied: "Standby to be boarded."

As they came along side I asked if they wanted us to put out fenders? Their reply, pointing to their rubber hull, was that fenders were not required and they tied up to our bow cleat. Their first question was: "When was the last time you were boarded". Our reply was: "Never". It appeared that they then noticed our blue 2009 VSC decal. The next question was: "When was your boat given its VSC inspection?" My reply was: "A couple of months ago in Charleston, want to see the inspection report?" Their reply was: "No. Show us your life jackets." I explained that we had two inflatable life jackets on deck, but knew that they only counted if worn. Said we had six type II PFDs below and I was going below to get two of them." Came back with two type II PFDs and showed them to the USCG. Their next request was to sound our horn. We keep an air horn at the helm as it is much louder than our electric horn. I then picked up the air horn and gave them a short whistle (nautical talk for one-second blast of the air horn). They then said: "Have a nice day." I then asked for a copy of their "Boarding Report" and they replied that our conversation between boats did not qualify as a boarding.

It is nice to have a current VSC decal on your boat. It may prevent a boarding by the USCG and, if stopped by the USCG, you know that your boat has all the required safety equipment. Contact any of these Charleston Sail and Power Squadron Vessel Examiners for a free Vessel Safety Check of your boat: Judy Fauss, Mike Fauss, Dick Howells, Steve Kromer, Harl Porter, David Walsh, Tony Ward or Stan Whitman.

**Fields Cut navigation report.** *Palmetto Elephant* draws 39-inches; when returning from Savannah at low tide we saw 5-feet at south end and 6-feet at the north end of the cut.

Harl and Betsy Porter  
*Palmetto Elephant*

**Remember to get a Vessel Safety Check  
Call Harl Porter at 843-832-9423**



## Photos from Squadron's Booth at Harborfest



**John, Daisy and Wendy**



**John, Daisy and Bill**



**Betsy, David and Wendy**



**Miss Grace**

**THE PALMETTO LOG**  
**The Publication of**  
**Charleston Power Squadron**

Steven Brostoff, Editor  
Wendy Walsh, Membership  
5223 Old Washington Course  
Hollywood, SC 29449

Return Service Requested

NON PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
CHARLESTON, SC  
PERMIT NUMBER 1599



**THIS IS YOUR PUBLICATION**  
**MEET THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE**  
**21 August 2009**



**David Walsh**  
**Cruising Activities**  
**Phone: 843-556-3258**

**Upcoming Events**

- 13 August - Member Dinner Meeting at Headquarters 1800
- 22 August - Hamlin Sound Raft-up and Picnic
- 10 September - Member Dinner Meeting at Headquarters 1800
- 18 - 20 September - Georgetown Landing Cruise
- 02 - 04 October - D26 Conference and Wild West Party

**BOATING IS FUN...WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW**