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Cdr David Walsh, AP
556-3258
Walsh6563@bellsouth.net

Lt/C Art Clark, P
849-9467
ADClark@bellsouth.net

Lt/C Chet Rogers, P
577-3022
RogersCB@cofc.edu

Lt/C Dick Howells
216-9866
RHowells5@comcast.net

Lt/C Jim Bass, AP
278-0687
JamesBass1@comcast.net

Lt/C Chuck Altschul, P
388-0680
ChuckAlt@aol.com



Squadron Headquarters Bldg.
1376 Orange Grove Road
Charleston, SC 29407

MEETINGS

Executive Committee -1st Thursday @ 1830

Editor's Mailing Address
764 Creekside Dr
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
Phone: (843) 849-7248

e-mail: JKemerer@comcast.net
web site:www.usps.org/localusps/cps

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**SAFE BOATING THROUGH
EDUCATION**

From the Commander Cdr David Walsh, AP



May is my favorite month of the boating year. We are right in the middle of spring and the Charleston area is blooming with boating opportunities. This time of year, I even enjoy getting the boat cleaned and ready to get on the water. An important get-ready item for spring is a Vessel Safety Check. If you missed our VSC Cruise and picnic at the Cooper River Marina in March, all is not lost. Call Harl Porter or any one of his Vessel Safety Inspectors for an appointment. They will be glad to come to your boat, do a VSC, make certain that you have all the required safety gear aboard and award you the prestigious VSC sticker for passing. It's painless, quick and free. Don't wait to get ready for spring. Call and get your boat Vessel Safety Checked ASAP.

Recently, I received a call from the Vice Commodore of the Cruising Club of Charleston. He needed a speaker for a dinner meeting and asked if I would speak on "what you do at the Charleston Power Squadron." I said yes. Then, I started to scramble for speech material. Fortunately, the USPS and the Charleston Power Squadron's websites had plenty of information on our programs, classes and advantages of squadron membership. With the help of Steve Kromer and other members, we developed an excellent PowerPoint presentation outlining what we do at the Charleston Power Squadron. This presentation takes about 20 minutes and covers advantages of squadron membership, boating and social activities, courses offered, VSC, Co-operative Charting and community involvement of the Charleston Power Squadron. This PowerPoint show along with a speaker is now offered for presentation to groups such as boating clubs, and community organizations. If you know of an organization that needs a featured speaker, call me to schedule a "Presentation by the Charleston Power Squadron."

Watch the mail for your annual renewal notice from US Power Squadrons. In addition you will receive a letter from me asking all Charleston Power Squadron members to renew. Your membership helps pay for the many benefits and services that the power squadron offers. When you count it all up, the benefits of squadron membership far out weigh the cost of dues. Speaking of cost, this year there is an increase of about \$3.00 in dues. This increase goes to the National USPS to help offset operating costs. At the National USPS Conference in Jacksonville, FL in February 2007, National Treasurer Joe Mesenburg said that in recent years, USPS has been running deficits and spending reserves to meet operating costs. The national office has trimmed staff, improved efficiency, reduced cost and achieved a balanced budget in fiscal year 2006. To keep the budget balanced; this small dues increase was needed. So, when you get you dues notice, please pay it promptly. Remember, you will be sending your dues directly to USPS National, which will then reimburse our squadron for our portion of the membership fee. You can pay by mailing a check or go online with a credit card.

-Dave



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The advertisement features a black and white illustration of a diver in a full suit, holding a diving mask and a clipboard, standing on a rocky shore. The text is arranged in a clean, professional layout to the right of the illustration.

Executive Officer
Lt/C Art Clark, P



Steve Kromer and Steve Poe are getting our cooperative charting program organized for this year. So, if you have an interest in this activity and haven't already done so, please contact either Steve and let them know. We are always looking for more crews and more folks to train. As you may already know, this is a major on-the-water activity and great fun.

Harl Porter has been very successful in getting our Vessel Safety check program reinvigorated. We have about 10 examiners and can always use more. If you have an interest in this, please call Harl.

Gary Whitley is our PR person and can always use a helping hand. Due to his efforts, we have significantly increased our attendance at our Boat Smart course and are attracting more members. He is also spearheading our efforts for a successful National Safe Boating week in late May. Our events will include vessel safety checks, TV and radio spots, newspaper coverage and possibly a "pass in review" at the River Front Park downtown. All in all in is shaping up to be a very positive event.

Jim Easley has been doing a yeoman's job arranging the boat shows. I hope you all were able to attend the in-water show at the Ripley Light Yacht Club. Our next event will be at the Maritime Festival where we have many volunteers who will be helping with the tall ships. Just so you know, we will also have a booth.

One last note. I am heading up the Recreational Boating Safety Visitation program and could use some help. Right now, we have gotten most other programs fleshed out with volunteers. Now it's time to concentrate on the Visitation (no, not aliens) program. Please give me a call if you are interested.

-Art Clark

Educational Officer
Lt/C Chet Rogers, P

Listed below is information that I have recently received concerning the Engine Maintenance Course.

The new Engine Maintenance course is now available at USPS headquarters. This new course is complete in one Student Manual with one exam. It is a complete rewrite not a rehash of the old course. The new edition has been put into one ten chapter course that stresses the diagnosis of modern systems, while also teaching the basics of engine layout and operation. Gasoline inboards, outboards, and diesel engines are taught in a way that reinforces the common aspects of how engines work.

Modern engines offer high reliability and good performance through the use of computerized systems for fuel delivery and engine timing. Most of these systems are "black boxes" that can no longer be serviced by weekend mechanics with ordinary tools. The EM course covers those repairs that do-it-yourselfers can still perform, teaches how to diagnose problems that might be beyond your ability to fix, and how to share information with your mechanic so the right repairs get performed. The new Engine Maintenance 2007 also covers basic mechanical systems such as drive systems (propellers), steering systems, and engine controls.

The initial distribution of this new course is in a limited number of copies, so if your Squadron has been thinking about teaching the Engine Maintenance course, you will need to order your copies today. Please share any corrections and comments about the course with the Electro-Mechanical Systems Committee so we can incorporate them in the next printing.

R/C Walter C. Fields, SN
Electro-Mechanical Systems Committee
wafiels@earthlink.net

-Chester B. (Chet) Rogers

**Administrative Officer
Lt/C Dick Howells, P**

I don't know about the rest of the members but I just had the unpleasant task of being reminded by my accountants that I had to pay up for last year. So taxes are done—paid—forgotten for another year. Maybe not; if you are a member of "BoatUS" you just got an email alert about pending tax legislation in the South Carolina House. We also sent out some information over the Google Group. The Power Squadron does not lobby because of our tax-exempt status but individuals can certainly express an opinion to their individual legislators. The legislation is H 3763 and effectively exempts 62% of the fair market value of a boat and motor from property taxes. If you want, please express your opinion on this legislation to your State Representatives. If you need more information, contact me.

We had a great time April 12th at "Carolina Cooks" with great food, new recipes and cooking tips. Thanks to Diane Williams for setting everything up for us. If you have not been there, they have a great cooking store with all kinds of gadgets and specialty foods besides the classes that are offered on a regular basis. (Just like "Emeril Live".) My wife says I am not allowed back in the store unescorted.

We are in the middle of membership renewal time. Please do so. We have a growing Squadron and the bigger the better. Please encourage your boating friends to join. The squadron is a really great bunch of people and we have fun together. Our classes are fantastic and we are part of a national organization of at least 45,000 like-minded folks all dedicated to safe boating. It means something to be able to fly the Squadron Burgee and USPS Ensign from your boat.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our next meeting is May 10th at Headquarters. We have a new speaker: J.E. "Dewey" Teske talking about the building of the Schooner "Spirit of South Caro-

lina" Mr. Teske is a licensed Customs Broker and Executive Director Emeritus of the South Carolina Trade Center. He also was the Commanding Officer of two nuclear powered fleet ballistic missile submarines during the cold war.

This will be a 'pot luck' dinner with bar service before so come and have a good time.

On June 14th we will meet at The Sunfire Grill & Bistro located at 1090 Sam Rittenberg Blvd. Our speaker will be Claiborne Young speaking on "Cruising the Intracoastal Waterways" Dinner will be \$ 24.00 per person plus 8% tax and 18% tip. We will have 4 entrées to choose from and I will put out more information on those later but Stan Whitman has come up with a great menu and I am sure the food will be great.

The May cruise to Morris Island is highlighted elsewhere so make your plans now.

Enough for now. Hope to see you on the water soon.

-Dick



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Secretary
Lt/C Jim Bass, AP

I hope you all had a safe and happy Easter. Please note that National will be mailing dues renewal notices on April 30 and that the dues are due by June 1.

Attached at the end of the Log you will find the February and March Excom Meeting Minutes.

Jim



P/C John Sikes, AP
Squadron Safety Officer

The Discontinuation of *CG

In an effort to improve Search and Rescue Response the Coast Guard has requested all wireless providers in states other than Alaska to remove the specialized keying sequence, *CG, used to reach the Coast Guard for maritime emergency assistance.

The *CG feature was introduced by some cellular communications companies in the early 1990's, but never developed into a nationwide service. As wireless providers moved to digital systems, some didn't migrate *CG to the new system and others even lost track of whether or not they were continuing the feature. This patchwork of service is confusing for the mariners who choose to use it, and may, in fact, prevent them from making a timely call for assistance should they find themselves in an area where *CG is not available.

The Coast Guard has found through research and experience that with the multitude of wireless systems and the misalignment of cellular coverage areas with their regions for Search and Rescue response, the use of this specialized service has resulted in misdirection of emergency calls. This has often added significant delays in Coast Guard response to calls for assistance.

The Coast Guard has requested that the cellular companies reroute all *CG calls to the 911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) nearest to where the call originated. As an added precaution, mariners should stop using the special keying sequence *CG and begin using 911 on their cell phones to notify authorities of a distress at the onset of a maritime emergency if a cell phone is their only means of communication.

The one exception to the discontinuance of the *CG specialized keying sequence is the Alaskan cellular phone region. Cell phone companies operating in Alaska all have the *CG feature available, and because the Coast Guard has a single number for routing

those emergency calls, the cellular and Coast Guard regions are fully aligned; calls are not missed and can not be misdirected. The *CG feature will remain active in Alaskan waters.

Mariners are encouraged to invest in a VHF-FM radio as their primary means of distress alerting on the water. Communication via VHF-FM radio provides superior alerting capabilities over cellular phones.

A VHF-FM radio provides superior service in a maritime emergency because:

-When a MAYDAY is sent out via VHF-FM radio it is a broadcast, not just one party is receiving the distress call; any nearby boaters can hear the distress call and offer immediate assistance. Cellular phones are point to point; other boaters in the area can not hear the call and consequently will not be able to respond.

-With the Coast Guard's Rescue 21 system improvements to the National Distress and Response System (which is monitored by Coast Guard Sector communications centers) coming on line, any call, distress or otherwise, placed over a VHF-FM radio will have an associated line of bearing (LOB). This LOB significantly narrows the area to which Coast Guard or other responders must look to find the boater making the call. In many locations two or more LOB's will be associated with a call; the intersection of those LOB's will provide the position of the caller. A cell phone doesn't do this. If the distressed caller does not know his location it is difficult and time consuming to determine a position through the wireless companies. This is often aggravated by low batteries and poor reception.

VHF-FM radios are manufactured today with Digital Selective Calling (DSC). This feature provides the mariner with an emergency feature that will send a distress with the vessel's information and Global Positioning System (GPS) location at the press of a button. It is important to note that the DSC radio must be

properly registered with an MMSI number through Boat US and the radio must be properly interfaced with the GPS in order to send an accurate position to assist emergency responders to respond to the distress.

All maritime boaters should have a VHF-FM radio onboard their vessel to assure any calls of distress are heard immediately. Cell phones should only be used as a secondary means of communications. If the cell phone is the only means of communication available then remember, as with any land based emergency, the number to call rescue personnel is 9-1-1. *CG is no longer available. Have a fun and safe boating season.

-John



Morris Island Cruise

The 12 May Charleston Power Squadron Cruise is to Morris Island. A potluck is planned for lunch. Afterwards, a stroll around the island will be welcome after eating all the wonderful food and goodies everyone has brought.

We will rendezvous at the Charleston Harbor Marina at the outer dock (A) about 11:00 and head to the Island about 11:30. High tide is 10:40. It will take approximately 30 minutes to reach the Island. If you want people to meet you, they can be at dock A for pick up (it is about a mile walk from the parking lot).

We will need to go past Fort Sumter and past the range light and turn to the Starboard, then head up the channel between the Islands. Fort Sumter is on the right and Morris Island is on the left. Our landing point will be the right side of Morris Island. Be sure to anchor about 30 feet off the beach because it is shallow for quite a ways out. BJ Smith has offered taxi service for those needing a ride to the island from their boat anchorage.

We are planning to bring the tent cover and tables and have a potluck on the beach. In addition, Dick Howells will cook hamburgers and hot dogs while we are on the island. We are hoping to get there around noon which is a little over 1 hour after high tide.

I don't believe we can get to the light house because of the marsh and creek that are between the landing point and the Light house.

The chart shows that there is 6' of water just past the point, even less beyond that.

Things to consider bringing for your comfort: Table setting, blanket/chair, bug spray, suntan lotion and umbrella. Don't forget, this is a beach setting with lots of sand. OH, and don't forget the potluck dish.

If you have questions, please contact the cruise captain, Steve Ireland, at-843-729-3311. His e-mail address is w4sli@yahoo.com.

Lake Hartwell Event 6th Annual Hartwell Gold Rock 101 Poker Run

This year's event, brought to you by the Lake Hartwell Sail & Power Squadron, will be hosted at Portman Marina on beautiful Lake Hartwell on 19 May.

You can register at Charlie T's on Friday 18 May from 1700 to 1900 and at Portman Marina on Saturday 19 May from 0800 to 1300.

Benefiting Meals on Wheels of Greenville and Anderson.

Last year, over 100 contestant vessels, 20 or more squadron boats and about 500 people gathered for the sixth Annual Hartwell Gold Rock 101 Poker Run.

The main purpose for the annual holiday event is to benefit Meals on Wheels and at the close of last year's ceremonies, Meals on Wheels of Greenville and Anderson were presented with a check for \$15,000.00 but after all receipts were counted over \$18,500 was raised for these great organizations.

This year's event promises to be much better.

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April Cruise Report

The April Cruise up the Cooper River to Gilligan's restaurant at the Tail Race in Monks Corner was very successful. The weather was great and the participation was outstanding! Sunday Drive and Katie Ell came up from the Charleston Harbor and rendezvoused at Bushy Park with Daisy Belle, Reel Busy, No-Name, Fishy Fishy, Sea Hunt, & Off Site. Our Charleston Power Squadron Flotilla departed at around 0915 with Sunday Drive leading the way as we meandered up the Cooper River at about 17 knots. The ride was beautiful and the scenic waterway was breathtaking. We arrived about 30 minutes early at the Cooper River Strawberry Bridge and thanks to cell phone technology we had the bridge tender arrive a little early to open the bridge. It was quite a site to see our 8-boat flotilla rumble under the bridge as we continued on our journey to Gilligan's.

Upon our arrival, we had ample dock space at Gilligan's and in Power Squadron fashion we "rafted up" and proceeded to the restaurant for lunch and conversation. We had 34 people join us for lunch. The food was good, the service was great, and the cost was reasonable. Our Commander welcomed everyone and made some relevant announcements. After a leisurely lunch, we celebrated birthdays for Art Clark and Daisy Proctor and enjoyed birthday cake and "left over" donuts as well. In addition to great participation by our members and their guests, we had a recent graduate of our Boat Smart Class, Patrick Keegan, participate in the cruise. Also, Christine Nazzaro, a student in our current Boat Smart class participated in the cruise as well.

On the return trip our flotilla split into two groups. With Off Site leading the way, No-Name, Reel Busy, and Fishy Fishy, with their beautiful Golden Retriever poised on the bow, took the back river route past Cypress Gardens Landing for their return to the fresh water side of Bushy Park. Katie Ell, Sunday Drive, Daisy Belle and Sea Hunt roared down the Cooper River back to Bushy Park and the Charleston Harbor. All in All—it was a GREAT day on the water and our

Power Squadron had a safe and enjoyable event. Please enjoy the pictures of this event on our web site and I look forward to seeing you at the Morris Island Cruise in May.

Bj Smith
Cruise Captain

April Meeting Report "Cooking on the High Seas"

The Charleston Power Squadron's April Meeting was organized by squadron member Dianne Williams and featured an onboard cooking demonstration at Charleston Cooks in downtown Charleston. Squadron Commander David Walsh opened the meeting and called for reports from Bridge officers. Following the officers' reports, Squadron members Steve Poe and Art Clark received Cooperative Charting Honor Roll Awards. These awards were issued by the US Department of Commerce and recognized Steve and Art for their significant contribution to improving nautical charts in the National Cooperative Charting Program.

Following this brief squadron business meeting, was a demonstration of onboard cooking techniques by the Charleston Cooks' Instructor who prepared Pound Cake, Sesame Ginger Salad and Pickled Shrimp Salad. She prepared and served each item for dinner to the attending squadron members.



Squadron Members enjoying a demonstration of "Cooking on the High Seas." Left to right, Glenn Workman, Dianne Williams, Stan Whitman, Kirk Williams, Merle Clark, Carol Burgess, Art Clark and Steve Poe.



Charleston Cooks' Instructor preparing a Pickled Shrimp Salad.



Art Clark and Steve Poe show their Cooperative Charting Honor Roll Awards.

Squadron Flea Market

If you went past the West Marine Parking lot at 2049 Savannah Highway on Saturday 31 March, you would have seen a lot of activity at the Charleston Power Squadron's table at the flea market. Squadron members assembled an impressive array of boating and non-boating items for sale at this fundraising event. First, let me say that thanks to our wonderful donors and the people at West Marine who made this a very successful fundraising event for the squadron. Special thanks go to Glenn Workman, our flea market chairman, and his team of volunteers, Steve Poe, Robert Turkewitz, Jim Easley, Dick Howells, Art Clark and Wendy Walsh

We really had a good time manning the table, socializing, handing out squadron literature, selling and some of us even bought some stuff, as well. Joan King gave us a large selection of top quality boating items that accounted for almost half of our sales. Steve Kromer donated a fiberglass skiff and motor. Jim Easley, Ken Beeber, Art Clark and many other members came with some neat stuff. Our total for the sales netted over \$1,000 for the Charleston Power Squadron's housing fund. We had such a good time that the Squadron's Flea Market Team wants to do this again. So, save your stuff for the next Squadron Flea Market Sale. Here are some photos taken at our table at the West Marine Flea Market.



Robert Turkewitz and Glenn Workman shown with some of the donate items.



Glenn Workman making a big sale at the Squadron's flea market table.

Cruise To Beaufort

Some things to do to get ready for the June 1-3 Cruise to Beaufort. There will be a BBQ buffet and Jazz Friday night. Saturday will be lunch at the Beaufort Waterfront Park, district meetings and a low country boil dinner at the Best Western. Sunday morning will be the Commanders breakfast.

1. If you have a slip reservation at Port Royal Landing (843-525-6664), please get on the waiting list for the Downtown Marina 843-524-4422). Apparently there have been a number of cancellations recently.
2. If you haven't made a slip reservation, either get one at Port Royal and then get on the Downtown Marina waiting list or just get on the Downtown waiting list directly (Harl) as you prefer.
3. If you are going to stay at a motel (either from your boat or driving down), please get your reservations made at the Best Western Sea Island Inn 843-552-2090). District has reserved 45 rooms which is essentially the whole motel. It's right in the downtown district.

-Art

Attend the D/26 Summer Cruise and Rendezvous for Fun-Filled Weekend on & by the Water
by Lt/C Kay Summers, AP
Executive Officer
Beaufort Sail and Power Squadron

The Beaufort Sail and Power Squadron have been working diligently on the upcoming D/26 Summer Cruise and Rendezvous.

We are working on both on and off the water activities. The tentative schedule is as follows:

Registration and BBQ buffet with Blue Grass entertainment Friday night at Best Western Sea Island Inn. Saturday will include a brief District meeting; a cruising scavenger hunt is scheduled on our voyage to Dataw

Island where we have a lunch of fried chicken with all the fixin's planned, as well as landlubbers' boat races (contact Donna McKeown at djmckeown@earthlink.net for details) and a predicted log activity for our cruise back to the downtown Beaufort. We are working on activities for those not wishing to participate in our on the water fun. You will not want to miss the Low Country Boil Dinner (boil shrimp, potatoes, corn & sausage) at the newly renovated Beaufort Waterfront Park. Chicken will be available for those not wishing to have seafood. We will be entertained with shag music by the Sounds of Carolina Band. So do not forget your dancing shoes!

If you have not already done so, now is the time to send in a list of your squadron's boats that will need dockage for this event. Please include the LOA and power requirement for boats. E-mail this information to P/C Charlie Borrmann (iw61@hargray.com) who is the "dock master" for this event. The list is a requirement of the marinas. You will have to guarantee your reservation for dockage with VISA, Master Charge or Discover. Make sure to mention the Beaufort Sail & Power Squadron. Downtown marina (843-524-4422) needs a 48 hour advance notice prior to 1 June for cancellation. Downtown Marina is now full and has a wait list. A little further down the river, dockage at the Port Royal Landings Marina is available, 843-525-6664.

The Best Western Sea Island Inn will be the "host" hotel. We have a block of rooms reserved at this time. You should call and make reservations now, 843-522-2090. Be sure to mention the Beaufort Sail & Power Squadron. The group rate is \$132 plus 10% tax per room per night. This rate is for a room with two queen beds or a room with a king size bed. The rate also includes breakfast. The hotel has an excellent website plus pictures of the Beaufort area at <http://www.sea-island-inn.com>.

We look forward to seeing you.



DISTRICT 26 SUMMER COUNCIL, CRUISE AND RENDEZVOUS

1-3 JUNE 2007

Host: Beaufort Sail and Power Squadron, Beaufort, SC

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Rank Grade _____ Squadron _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Rank Grade _____ Squadron _____

Address _____ City _____ State Zip _____ Telephone _____

Email address _____ Cell Phone #: _____

I am bringing my boat to Beaufort and have made docking arrangements _____ Yes ___ No
Boat Captains: You will receive additional cruise information via email (iw61@hargray.com)

FOR THE CRUISE TO DATAW

Please arrange for me (us) to be a guest on a Beaufort Sail & Power Squadron member's boat _____ Yes ___ No

(Note: Guests coming to Beaufort by Land Yacht have priority to be crew on BSPS boats)

I will bring my own boat to Dataw for Saturday's Event _____ Yes ___ No

I am interested in learning more about Saturday's Landlubbers' Boat Races _____ Yes ___ No

Friday 1 June 07

		Number @ Price	Total
1300 - 1800	Registration, Sea Island Best Western Inn		
1300 - 2200	BSPS Cash Bar @ Sea Island Best Western Inn		
1830 - 2200	BBQ Pork & Rib Buffet & Entertainment @ Dolphin Room, Sea Island Inn	_____ @ \$21.50	_____

Saturday 2 June 07

0800 - 0900	Registration Sea Island Best Western Inn		
0900 - 1000	Summer Council Meeting in Dolphin Rm., Sea Island Inn		
1030 - 1130	Scavenger Hunt & Cruise to Dataw Island Marina		
1200 - 1330	Fried Chicken Buffet & Landlubber Boat Races Dataw Island Gazebo	_____ @ \$16.50	_____
1330 - 1530	Predicted Log & Return Cruise to Beaufort Downtown Marina		
1530 - 2200	BSPS Cash Bar @ Sea Island Inn		
1830 - 2200	Low Country Boil/Frogmore stew and beverages at Waterfront Park Pavilion	_____ @ \$30.00	_____

Activities Total: \$ _____

Sunday 3 June 07

The Beaufort Sail & Power Squadron wishes you a safe voyage home and thank you for coming.

Mail Registration Form and a (non-refundable) check payable to
Beaufort Sail & Power Squadron

To: Patricia Irwin, 9 Verdier Bluff, Beaufort SC 29902

Questions? Phone 843-838-6547 or email to dlsommers@earthlink.net

HOTEL DEADLINE: 1 May 2007

ACTIVITIES DEADLINE 15 May 2007

USPS District 26 Summer Council, Cruise & Rendezvous

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

Mention Group Name: Beaufort Sail and Power Squadron

Call: Sea Island Best Western Inn: 843-522-2090

Website: www.sea-island-inn.com

Room Rate: \$132.00 plus 10% Tax (2 Queen Beds, Non-Smoking or 1 King Bed, Non Smoking Rooms, Breakfast Included)

Arrival Date: _____

Departure Date: _____

Executive Committee Meeting - Thursday, 01 February 2007

The meeting was called to order by Cdr David Walsh at 1830, at the Headquarters Building. Those in attendance were Cdr David Walsh, P/C Janice Kromer, P/D/C Bob Gissell, P/C Ernie Godshall, P/Lt/C Steve Kromer, Lt/C Art Clark, Lt/C, Chuck Altschul, Lt/C Dick Howells, Lt/C Jim Bass, Lt Wendy Walsh, Steve Poe, Terry Melloy, Shirley Melloy, and Gary Whitley. A quorum was established.

P/Cdr Janice Kromer gave the invocation.
Lt/C Art Clark lead the Pledge of Allegiance

Lt/C Art Clark made a motion to approve the minutes of the January Excom Meeting and Steve Poe seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes for January, Excom Meeting was approved.

Officers' Reports:

Executive: Per Lt/C Art Clark the Boat Show at the Coliseum January 26-28, was one of the best attended boat shows in a long time. We had a lot of activity at our booth. We were raffling off a Safety Kit, VHF handheld radio, and a Boat Smart Course. 39 people were interested in Vessel Safety Check, 77 people were interested in the Boat Smart Course, 19 people were interested in membership and 1 person was interested in transferring to Charleston Power Squadron. Lt/C Art Clark expressed appreciation to all who helped man the booth during the Boat Show.

Maritime Festival and Tall Ships coming up May 17-20 2007. For those Charleston Power Squadron members that want to volunteer to work as a city volunteer you can download an application from our web site. As a volunteer you will have to attend a two hour training session on a date to be determined.

VSC – 5 people are being trained as examiners. Training session and exam will be given February 17, 2007 starting at 1000 hrs.

Public Relations – Gary Whitley doing great job we are getting lots of coverage in local papers. Steve Kromer says we are getting great response from the publicity for Boat Smart classes.

Due to full Schedule we will not have a booth in the Flower Town Festival in Summerville.

Lt Joan King has offered some of the nautical things that Lt Michael King had to the Squadron for the purpose of selling at the yard sale.

Educational: Per Cdr David Walsh: Lt/C Chet Rogers is out of town and could not attend tonight's meeting. Lt/C Chet Rogers reported to Cdr David Walsh that he is unable to get the Seaman Ship manuals and is canceling the Seaman Ship Class for this spring. The Seamanship course is being updated, but the new manuals will not be available until spring or summer of 2007 so we will offer the course in fall, 2007. Also the Boat Smart manuals are going out of print and will not be available after the current supply is exhausted. The Boat Smart course is being updated, but the new manuals will not be available until spring of 2008. Since we will not be able to teach the class without manuals, Lt/C Dick Howells made a motion that we purchase 60 Boat Smart manuals and exams to be used in teaching the course. Lt/C Art Clark 2nd the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. P/Cdr Janice Kromer agreed to order the manuals and exams this coming weekend.

Administrative: Per Lt/C Dick Howells: Remind everyone of the Cape Romain Cruise the 24th of February. For the April 12, 2007, meeting we are planning a cooking demonstration presented by The Chefs at Charleston Cooks, "Cooking on the High Seas" which will demo how to plan, how to prepare, and how to cook on boats with limited facilities. As part of the demo we will eat those things that are cooked. Cost for the event will be. \$ 37.28 per person and seating is limited to 32 people. The location for the meeting is the corner of East Bay and Cumberland, downtown.

Secretary: Per Lt/C Jim Bass: Membership is down by one member with the death of Lt Mike King. Web site is in good shape. January and February issue of the Palmetto Log is posted on the site as well as pictures from the boat show and other events. Steve Poe requests that you email him pictures of events you want posted.

Ships Store – Cdr David Walsh reported that Ross and Carol Burgess have experience with running a Ships Store in a previous squadron and they considered it a money maker for the squadron. Lt/C Jim Bass was asked to contact them to see if they if they had interest in running our Ships Store or get inputs from them as to what made their previous Ships Store so successful. There is interest in the Executive Committee of being more active with the Ships Store.

Treasurer: Per Lt/C Chuck Altschul: We have \$6560.00 in our checking account and \$9089.00 in our money market account for a total of \$15,658.00 currently after all bills have been paid. The audit is completed. The audit reports states that the Balance Sheet is correct, that the squadron funds were properly accounted for and that no improper disbursements occurred.

Commander: Per Cdr David Walsh: The USPS annual meeting is being held in Jacksonville, FL, February 20-25, 2007. Delegates to the meeting are Cdr David Walsh, Lt Wendy Walsh, Lt/C Art Clark and Lt/C Chet Rogers. The District 26 Spring Conference, hosted by the Long Bay Squadron, will be March 9-11, 2007, at the Crown Reef, Myrtle Beach SC. Cdr David Walsh and Lt Wendy Walsh are planning to attend.

Cdr David Walsh desires that we begin collection information for those individuals deserving Merit Marks for the year 2007. P/C Erie Godshall chairman of the Merit Mark Committee put together an Excel Spread Sheet to assist in collecting information for use in determining those deserving merit marks. After considerable discussion Cdr David Walsh ask that the Bridge Officers be given copies of the spreadsheet who in turn would pass on copies to the committee chairman reporting to them to collect information about deserving members for work done in that committee and or other work that the chairman of which the chairman is aware. The completed spreadsheets would then be returned to the respective Bridge Officer. Bridge Officers would also be responsible for making inputs about those they think are deserving of merit marks. In this way the Chairman of the Merit Mark Committee would only have to request information from the Bridge Officers.

Cdr David Walsh also asked that the Bridge Officers invite their respective committee chairman to the Executive Committee Meetings.

Committee Reports:

Housing: Terry Melloy reported the cost columns to replace the ones in front of the Headquarters Building is approximately \$139.00 each and that it would take approximately 3 hours to replace them. The current columns are rotting and need to be replaced. A motion was made to purchase the columns by Lt/C Dick Howells and 2nd by Lt/C Art Clark. The vote for purchasing the columns was unanimous and the motion carried. Gary Whitley reported that he had gotten an estimate from Al's Pest Control for treating the Headquarters Building for termites. The estimate was for \$550.00 and after 1 year a re-treatment contract would be \$75.00. This does not include bonding and Al said the building could not be bonded because of the addition to the building that does not enough crawl space to inspect or treat the area under the addition. Gary said he will get additional estimates and information on bonding.

Audit, Nominating, Rules and Planning Committees: No reports

Old Business: None

New Business: Filling the open position on the Executive Committee. P/Lt/C Steve Kromer was nominated by Lt/C Art Clark and 2nd by Lt/C Jim Bass. The vote for P/Lt/C Steve Kromer was unanimous and he was elected to fill the open position on the Executive Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 2000 hours.

Submitted by,
Lt/C Jim Bass
Secretary

Executive Committee Meeting - Thursday, 01 March 2007

The meeting was called to order by Cdr David Walsh at 1830, at the Headquarters Building. Those in attendance were Cdr David Walsh, P/C Janice Kromer, P/D/C Bob Gissell, P/C Harl Porter, P/Lt/C Steve Kromer, Lt/C Art Clark, Lt/C Dick Howells, Lt/C Chet Rogers, Lt/C Jim Bass, Lt Wendy Walsh, Lt Eugene Gilfillin, Carol Gilfillin, Steve Poe, and Gary Whitley. A quorum was established.

P/Cdr Janice Kromer gave the invocation.
Cdr David Walsh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lt/C Dick Howells made a motion to approve the minutes of the February Excom Meeting and Lt/C Art Clark seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the February, Excom Meeting minutes were approved.

Officers' Reports:

Executive: Per Lt/C Art Clark the Maritime/Tall ships Festival is shaping up and Johan Prins is in charge of the Tall ships and Jim Easley has been in contact with the Maritime people to get our booth setup.

Cooperative Charting – P/Lt/C Steve Kromer is working to determine what we will need to do.

VSC –Lt/C Art Clark, Lt/C Dick Howells, Terry Melloy, and Angela Wright have been trained as VSC examiners. Boats were provided to train the examiners by P/C Harl Porter, Lt/C Art Clark, Bob Kovach, B. J. Smith, and Lt/C Jim Bass. P/C Harl Porter reported that he has plans to train one more examiner. Lt/C Art Clark expressed the desire to train 3 more examiners.

Public Relations – Gary Whitley doing great job we have articles about Vessel Safety Checks, running in The Low Country News, Daniel Island News, and the Moultrie News over the next few weeks.

Construction work to replace the Columns in front of Headquarters Building, to be headed by Terry Melloy. Cleanup of the Grounds to be headed by Ray Harp

Educational: Per- Lt/C Chet Rogers- we have two people in Advanced Piloting, four people in Cruise Planning, and five people in Marine Electronics. These are the courses being offered this winter in addition to Boat Smart.

Inputs from the USPS Annual Meeting – in 2006 USPS had an increase in people taking classes for the first time in eight years.

The increase was primarily in the new Piloting and Advance Piloting classes. Seamanship and JN Classes have been completely revised and the new materials for these classes should be available soon.

Main focus of Educational Department now seems to be in seminars. Some of the advantages of seminars are they are short in duration, focused on a specific tasks, they can be offered to people that are not USPS members. It may also be easier to get non-members to attend seminars than multi-week classes. Since we will be charging for the seminars they may also be a good source of revenue for the squadrons. Four seminars are currently available – Using VHF Radio, Using GPS, How to Use Charts, and On Board Weather Forecasting. Future seminars that will be available are Boating Handling under Power, Knots Bends and Hitches, and Sail Trim. National Safe Boating Week would be a good time to advertise the seminars which would be offered several weeks after National Safe Boating Week. Another item National seemed to be excited about was boat operator certification. This would include completing Seamanship Class, Marine Electrical Systems Class, Engine Maintenance Class, 6 Seminars and a demonstration of boat handling on the water.

Administrative: Per Lt/C Dick Howells: We had a great cruise to Cape Romaine. Twenty three people visited the lighthouse, and 25 attended the dinner and 5 boats participated in the cruise. Planning for the VSC at Cooper River Marina is near completion. We may be required to obtain a permit to give away or sell beer. The permit cost for beer is approximately \$50.00. Lt/C Dick Howells made a motion that we obtain a permit to dispense beer at a cost not to exceed a cost of \$75.00. The motion was 2nd by P/C Janice Kromer. A vote was taken and the motion passed. Lt/C Dick Howells will look into obtaining the permit.

New members- Per Lt Wendy Walsh- John & Beverly Meyenberg (transferred) and Richard L. Behling.

Shipmate Program- Per P/C Janice Kromer- It has been decided that Shipmate Program will apply to new members only and not transfers or re-instated members.

Secretary: Per Lt/C Jim Bass: New membership for Richard L. Behling, was approved by electronic vote of the Executive Committee. The Web Site is in good shape. The February and March issue of the Palmetto Log are currently posted on the web site.

Ships Store – Lt/C Jim Bass to contact Ross and Carol Burgess to determine if they would be interested in running the CPS Ships Store.

Treasurer: Per Lt/C Chuck Altschul: We have \$6063.70 in our checking account and \$9089.29 in our money market account for a total of \$15,152.99 currently after all bills have been paid.

Commander: Per Cdr David Walsh: Membership recruiting was discussed at length. The primary recruiting tools we have are Boat Smart, Boat Safety, and Boater Education.

We, the Charleston Power Squadron, seem to be doing everything we should be doing to recruit new members. Last year we had an increase in membership. National also voted to drop the requirement that an individual must pass the Boat Smart Course Exam or have equivalent education. This is a three year trial to see if this will increase membership. Local squadrons still have the ability accept or deny membership by vote of the Executive Committee. Lt/C Dick Howells made a motion that we mirror Nationals policy of allowing membership without passing the Boat Smart Exam. P/Lt/C Steve Kromer 2nd the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed. A motion was made by Lt/C Art Clark that on a trial basis non-members be allowed to take the Piloting Class, but not be able to take the exam until they joined the Charleston Power Squadron. P/Lt/C Steve Kromer 2nd the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed. Lt/C Dick Howells made a motion to amend the motion allowing non-members to take the Piloting Class, that in cases where there are more candidates for the Piloting Class than there are seats available that members get priority over non-members. The motion was 2nd by P/Lt/C Steve Kromer.

A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Housing: Work day for cleanup of our Headquarters Building and grounds is scheduled for 3 March 07 from 0930 to 1500.

Audit, Nominating, Rules and Planning Committees: No reports

Communications: SC Sea Grant Extension, HF Radar workshop scheduled for 5 March 07. Three people have been invited to attend. Attending will be Cdr David Walsh, P/C Harl Porter and Lt Wendy Walsh.

Old Business: None

New Business: Membership Boating Educational Requirement Change- Discussed in the Cdr's Report above.

The meeting adjourned at 1938 hours.

Submitted by,
Lt/C Jim Bass
Secretary

The Palmetto Log
Jerry Kemerer, Editor
Wendy Walsh, Mailings
5223 Old Washington Course
Hollywood, SC 29449

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**THIS IS YOUR PUBLICATION
MEET THE DEADLINE for June
18 May 2007**

**BJ Smith
Cruising Activities
Phone: 843-767-1491**

Upcoming Events For May and June

10 May - Member Meeting Headquarters - 1830
12 May - Cruise to Morris Island
17-20 May - Tall Ships and Maritime Festival
1-3 June - Cruise to Beaufort
14 June - Member Meeting Sunfire Grill - 1830

SAFE BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION