

THE PALMETTO LOG

Charleston Power Squadron

Sail and Power Boating

A Unit of District 26

United States Power Squadrons



VOLUME 62 NUMBER 4

MAY 2009

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



Well the BBQ Rib Challenge came and went. James Rowe and I had a lot of fun, and we hope others will continue the tradition in the future. (Hint – hint – not us). The members contributed great sides, and no one went hungry. FYI, James and I served about 100 pounds of pork ribs between the two of us.

I am beginning to see a shift in public awareness of the Charleston Sail and Power Squadron. It is only a glimmer, but it is there. To me this comes through the efforts of our education and public relations groups. There are a lot of people involved, and we need more. Some members have been carrying the burden for a long time, and they are burning out. That is very understandable. We need new people to step up. Won't you?

We are right at 200 members now. That counts active and family members. We need everyone's help in recruiting new members, and we need your kind consideration when you receive your renewal notices. I just got mine, and there is an important notice regarding PIN numbers that will be used in the future for logging on to the national web site.

Here is a breakdown on the fees for Anne and me:

- First Active Member = \$97.30
- Second Active = \$41.50
- Total = \$138.80

Of that total, \$68.00 goes to our Squadron. The District gets \$15.00, and the balance of \$55.80 goes to the National organization. That is not a lot of money, anyway you look at it. Here is something else to think about. If you have family members (as opposed to additional active members), we as a squadron get nothing back from their annual dues. The family member has all the advantages of the squadron activities including the courses we

offer to members only. They just can't hold office or vote. It's one heck of a deal. It's almost too good. The Executive Committee has been in discussions about adding a \$10.00 per year charge to annual dues for family members. Think about it, and let me know what you think. The name tags we provide now cost about \$7.00, so we actually lose money on family members the first year. The membership would need to vote on this at our annual meeting in October if we even decide to proceed. Again, think about it and let us know.

Dick



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April Sightings:

“In like a lion and out like a lamb” definitely did not apply to March this year. April began with some of the strongest, most consistent winds we’ve seen in many a spring. However, the winds in no way dampened the enthusiasm for our long-awaited First Annual Squadron Cook-Off. We have this report from PC David Walsh:

First Annual Ribs Cook-Off was a HUGE SUCCESS! The 9 April meeting at Squadron Headquarters featured a Barbeque Ribs Cook-Off. The event pitted Cruise Director James Rowe versus Commander Dick Howells in a winner-take-all event. Both James and Dick worked for days preparing ribs, blending spices and slow cooking ribs to tender perfection. Judging the event were Jamie and Shannon Browning of Sticky Fingers Restaurant of Charleston and Gene Cribb, owner of Music Man’s BBQ Restaurant of Moncks Corner. Both cooks served up totally excellent ribs making it a tough choice for the judges to pick the winner. After a good sampling of both styles of ribs, the judges “retired to chambers” for deliberation. Following several tense minutes, the judges named the winner: Commander Dick Howells! Actually, all who attended this event were the real winners, because both James’ and Dick’s ribs were extraordinary. Squadron members provided a wonderful array of side dishes and desserts. We are all looking forward to next year’s Cook-Off. Some photos of the First Annual Squadron Cook-Off will follow this article

Trouble Shooting on *Wind Elephant*

On Saturday 18 April, members of Harl Porter’s Marine Electrical Systems Class met onboard his sailboat at the City Marina for a trouble shooting session. Present were Jim Bonnheimer, Kathy and Frank Rogers and Dona Jean and Larry Dorminy. Harl had rigged several “problems” in his boat’s electrical system to challenge the class. With voltmeters in hand, the class climbed onboard to attempt to trace and solve any bad bulbs, open circuits, shorts,

etc. It was a fun activity and a great hands-on application of the material the class had been studying for the previous seven weeks. Afterwards, the class met for an informal lunch onboard the Dorminy’s trawler, *Amilado*.



Harl’s Class

April sightings also included the arrival of the motor vessel, *Apoise*, at the Megadock of the City Marina. *Apoise* is the 59th largest privately-owned vessel in the world. At 220 feet with a 42 foot beam and 12 meter draft, *Apoise* dwarfed even the largest vessels in port at the time. *Apoise* was built in Germany in 2006 by Lürssen Yachts at a cost of \$199 million and is estimated to cost \$13,000 a day to operate. *Apoise* (shown below) departed Charleston on 18 April headed for Germany.



Apoise

Lake Hartwell Power Squadron will arrive at the Charleston Maritime Center on Friday 24 April at 1600. Plans for the weekend include a two-hour sail on the *Spirit of South Carolina* Friday evening for a few lucky members of their Squadron. Those who do not sail will dine at the new Buccaneer Restaurant downtown. The two groups will then meet at Saffron's for dessert. An informal cruise with members of our Squadron is planned for Saturday afternoon.

May Sightings:

16-22 May is National Safe Boating Week and all Squadrons are being encouraged to hold an event demonstrating our involvement in boating safety. For information regarding Safe Boating Week, go to www.safeboatingcampaign.com. See Gary Whitley's announcement below.

Larry

National Safe Boating Week

To bring more awareness to our Squadron we want to get as many Squadron boats on the water as possible on Sat 23 May to do a tour around the harbor with a possible raft up later. This is a parade in which we will have all our flags flying and our boats in line going along the Battery in review. We need as many boats as possible to make an impact and to bring awareness to National Safe Boating Week with a theme of making sure boaters wear a life jacket and to publicize us as a boating club. By 23 May everyone should have their boats ready to use in this important Squadron activity, and we are asking each member to make a special effort to join in the parade to see just how many boats we can get on the water. Since we have over 85 power and 25 sail boats in the Squadron, getting all these boats out in the harbor would be quite impressive. Please e-mail or call me by 4 May to sign up for this very special event to support our Squadron. Thank you in advance for an all out effort.

Gary

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Cook-Off Pictures



Admin Officer Larry Dorminy introducing Judges and Contestants



BBQ Contestants James Rowe and Dick Howells with Awarded Aprons



Anne Howells enjoying the Ribs



Plate of Ribs with sides of Potato Salad, Red Beans and Rice and Slaw

More Cook-Off Pictures



Judges and Contestants, left to right: Gene Cribb, James Rowe, Dick Howells, Shannon Browning and Jamie Browning.



The three Judges sampling the fare

New Members

Jeff and Mary Bowers

New members Jeff and Mary Bowers live in Summerville. They keep their 2006 22' Crownline LS, *Closing Time*, at Rivers Edge Marina. As her name suggests, Jeff is an active real estate agent for RE/MAX Professional Realty. His family and friends enjoy cruising the rivers and ICW. Jeff has always been drawn to the water. He spent 8 years in the Navy (submarines) then went to work selling real estate for 25 years.

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THE PALMETTO LOG
The Publication of
Charleston Power Squadron

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Upcoming Events

23 May National Safe Boating Week Cruise
Charleston Harbor

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