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NOVEMBER 2007**

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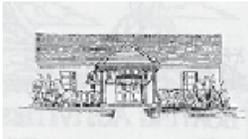
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MEETINGS

Executive Committee - 1st Thursday @ 1830

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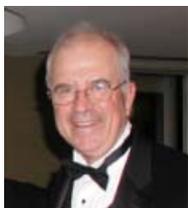
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**SAFE BOATING THROUGH
EDUCATION**

From the Commander Cdr David Walsh, AP



November is the month for the Squadron's Annual Change of Watch ceremony and installation of a new bridge of officers. This year's Change of Watch is Saturday 10 November 2007. It will be held at the Storm Pointe Center at the Naval Weapons Station. The Change of Watch is our opportunity to celebrate our squadron's accomplishments and welcome the incoming officers. An announcement with directions to the Storm Pointe Center appears later in this issue of *The Palmetto Log*. Please plan to attend. Guests are welcome.

Now that my year as Commander draws to a close, it's time to reflect on the squadron's past year. Thanks to our many hard working members, 2007 was an outstanding success. Progress was made in membership recruiting. Almost every week, Squadron Public Relations Officer Gary Whitley placed articles and announcements in local news papers and promoted the squadron's Boat Smart course. Our boating safety instructors, led by Steve Kromer, taught Boat Smart every Tuesday throughout the year. They encourage many of these Boat Smart students to join the squadron. Past Commander Janice Kromer headed membership involvement efforts. Her mentoring program helped new members feel welcome and begin participating in squadron activities.

Under the leadership of Chet Rogers, the squadron offered a full schedule of educational courses in 2007. Piloting, seamanship and engine maintenance were particularly well attended. Squadron meeting attendance increased in 2007. Administrative Officer Dick Howells and Program Chairmen Stan and Karen Whitman and Dianne Williams did an excellent job providing outstanding speakers. The squadron's boating activities were also well attended. BJ Smith and his boating committee provided cruise venues and activities both near and far and in all types of weather. The squadron's Cooperative Charting program was very active under the leadership of Steve Poe. His team checked the aids to navigation on Charts

11518 and 11522 and successfully completed a depth survey in Charleston Harbor.

Jim Bass did an excellent job as Squadron Secretary this year. One of his accomplishments was to reopen the Charleston Power Squadron Ship's Store. The store was very successful in providing good-looking squadron logo shirts, hats, burgees and merchandise for our members.

In the financial area, significant progress was made. Fundraising events including an oyster roast at Toad Hall (home of Fred and Joyce Wichmann) and a flea market at West Marine helped add to the squadron's financial reserves. Treasurer Chuck Altschul did an excellent job of handling squadron finances, provided a realistic budget and helped us stay within our means.

Community involvement was a major effort in 2007. Many squadron members served as dock hands for sailing vessels that visited Charleston during the Tall Ships Festival. In addition, squadron members served as hosts and conducted tours on the tall ships. The squadron co-sponsored the Charleston Holiday Parade of Boats. During National Safe Boating Week, squadron members appeared on TV and promoted wearing of life jackets.

Executive Officer Art Clark was a great help to me during the year. In addition to doing an excellent job as Executive Officer, Art gave freely of his time and provided me with guidance when I needed it.

I wish to give special thanks to my spouse Wendy Walsh who helped in many ways to make my year enjoyable as Commander. Wendy provided me with encouragement, attended nearly every squadron function, served as Membership Chairman and even found time to master USPS DB 2000, the USPS complicated database program.

In closing, I wish to thank everyone who helped me during the year. And, please plan to attend the upcoming Change of Watch 10 November 2007.

David Walsh
Commander

**Executive Officer
Lt/C Art Clark, P**



This year seems to have gone by in a flash, and I'm sure next year will go by just as fast and be just as effective. Lest we forget, I will take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers for the past year. In particular I want to thank the committee chairs for all their hard work: Jim Easley for Boat Shows, John Sikes as our Safety Officer, Harl Porter for Vessel Safety, Gary Whitley for Public Relations, and Steve Kromer & Steve Poe for Cooperative Charting. It was a great year!

I'd like to recognize Steve Brostoff, Melissa White, Dave Walsh and Stan Whitman for joining me on Sunday Drive for a day of cooperative charting. We found two markers that needed attention. We also stopped by RB's at Shem Creek for a little late lunch. It was a mild 82 degrees, a gentle breeze and not a cloud in the sky. We pondered life in general as we sat and rocked in our chairs on the porch awaiting our table. For those of you who haven't tried cooperative charting, it's a great way to spend some serious time boating and provide a community service as well. If interested, call Steve Poe or Dave Walsh (or me for that matter). You just gotta try it!

Thanks to all our members for your support over the last year. We had a good one.

Art Clark



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**Educational Officer
Lt/C Chet Rogers, P**



Many changes are taking place in the National Educational Department of the USPS. There are new teaching materials for about half the courses that we teach and new materials being developed for most of the rest. New seminars are also being developed that can be offered to members and to the general public. Our squadron taught two of these seminars last summer and will teach more in the future. Information on many of these developments can be found online at National's webpage. Below are two examples that I think provide interesting information for our members taken from *Currents*, a publication of the United States Power Squadrons® Educational Department that is produced semi-annually and placed on National's webpage

Boating 08

The development of "Boating 08" (the real course name to be decided) continues. The first four chapters, comprised of 16 sections, have been written and edited. These chapters cover all the NASBLA material that was in *Boat Smart* and *The Squadron Boating Course*. The chapters have been reviewed and edited once. They are now being reviewed again to verify that all the material covered in the 11 page supplement issued with *The Squadron Boating Course* 2004 edition is included. Additional homework questions are also being formulated to cover the material from the supplement. The storyboard for the piloting section is being developed. Digital charting will be part of the main text in the new course with some additional information covered in an appendix. Based on the additional material being added to the course, the time frame to teach it will increase.

It is anticipated that the NASBLA material covered in the first four chapters will take 8-9 hours to complete including administering the exam. The piloting section will take an additional two weeks. Both exams would be administered at the same time.

For the squadrons that want to teach only the NASBLA material in a single 8-hour class, it will be possible to conduct such a single-class format provided the student manuals are distributed prior to the class. There is no anticipated change in the test format, i.e.; the NASBLA portion of the exam will be 50 multiple choice questions with an additional 10 state questions for those states that require them. The piloting test will remain at the present 25 questions. The release date for the "Boating 08" is dependent on the depletion of "The Squadron Boating Course" inventory. That current inventory is approximately 12,000 manuals. We expect release around April 2008. Any input from those who have or are teaching *The Squadron Boating Course* or *Boat Smart* is appreciated.

USPS University is in Session!

USPS University is now up to speed and gaining momentum. There are three important aspects of the University: choices, current information, and real skill development. Choices offers material tailored to your interests rather than 'one size fits all'. Current information is essential to use today's equipment. Real skill development means more hands-on training. The implementation of USPS University satisfies the three key aspects by: updated and expanded courses, USPS University Seminar Series, and Boat Operator Certification (BOC). We have updated *Seamanship, JN, and Engine Maintenance* and updates are underway for *Weather, Sail, Navigation, and Cruise Planning*. *Marine Electronics* is being rewritten into three entirely separate courses. These updated courses are shipping at triple the rate of prior years. Six seminars are now available in the USPS University Seminar Series and four more will be released this month. Over 6,000 seminars have been shipped so far this fiscal year and this rate is accelerating every month. These seminars represent our future and our best way to attract experienced boaters to become members while giving our current members a reason to stay involved. The first of the four levels of Boat Operator Certification, *Inland Navigator*, is ready to begin followed shortly by the second level, *Coastal Navigator*. BOC introduces formal, on-the-water skill demonstrations, and the issued certificates provide widely-recognized credentials

to those who complete these programs. Articles throughout this edition of *Currents* provide you with more details.

Chet Rogers

BOATSMART SCHEDULE

For Updated Information See
<http://www.usps.org/localusps/cps/>

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Instructor</i>	<i>Location</i>
30-Oct	Getting Started	David Walsh	West Ashley
06-Nov	Reading Charts	Steve Kromer	West Ashley
13-Nov	What's Required	John Sikes	West Ashley
20-Nov	Rules Of The Road	Ernie Godhsall	West Ashley
27-Nov	Getting Started	David Walsh	West Ashley
04-Dec	Reading Charts	Steve Kromer	West Ashley
11-Dec	What's Required	John Sikes	West Ashley
18-Dec	Rules Of The Road	Ernie Godhsall	West Ashley



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



Boy has this been a fast year! I never knew how much I did not know until I had to do it. Let's hope my learning curve has not been too hard on the Squadron. Now I get to move on and BJ Smith will be taking my place. He will be a fantastic Administrative Officer. He is extremely organized and just plain gets things done. I think the entire board for next year is excellent and well able to carry on with this year's efforts. Membership will continue to be a major theme of all of us. To increase our numbers, we need constant input on what to do that is educational and fun for the members. So please help out.

Our last meeting was a great success. For an annual meeting with just voting, we had a great turnout and the food was great. Again a big thanks to Helen Kovach and BJ Smith. Those two did a heck of a job. Just wait until you hear some of the menu ideas for next year.

All of our committees have been successful. Stan Whitman and his group kept us entertained with great speakers and active meetings. Thank you, Stan. In addition to everything else BJ Smith organized our cruises and did a great job of learning on the go. Janice Kromer has kept up our membership involvement with articles on new members and assigning shipmates. Thanks, Janice. As part of membership involvement, John VanWay has marshaled his calling committee each month and they have contributed greatly to our meeting turnouts and cruises.

Thanks, John.

There are several events to watch for and announcements for all of them follow this report in this edition of the Log. If you miss anything, go to the web site or call me.

Again it has been a great year...Hope to see you on the water soon.

Dick Howells

Bohicket Cruise

Everyone is invited to participate in the Bohicket Cruise the weekend of 16-18 November. The flotilla will meet at the Bohicket Marina on Seabrook Island on Friday afternoon. Dinner will be at the Kromer's condo in Seabrook and transportation from the marina will be provided. Participants are asked to bring a salad or some type of bread. Saturday will bring browsing at the marina shops or Freshfield Village. Again, transportation will be provided. On Saturday evening, we will be dining at the newest restaurant in the marina complex, Up Da Creek. Departure will be at your leisure on Sunday.

If you plan to attend any or all of these functions, please contact Janice Kromer by 9 November at 768-1861 or jkromer@telecomdb.com.

Christmas Party

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in the Low Country, and that means it's time for the Squadron's annual Christmas Gala. We will convene for the festivities on December 13, 2007 at 6PM at Headquarters with Happy Hour followed by a catered dinner and the infamous Chinese Auction.

Cost will be \$15.00 per person and a wrapped gift for the Auction. We suggest something around \$10.00 in value and just one gift from each family or couple. In the past, wine or anything for a boat was very popular. When you walk in and pay, we will provide one ticket per family or couple and then draw numbers to start the auction frenzy after dinner. BJ Smith does not know it yet, but he has volunteered to be the auctioneer. Also as the new Administrative Officer, please make your reservations for the party with BJ. His phone number is 843-514-9638. And his email is smithbj@sc.it.com. Please do so by 6 December, 2007.

Parade of Boats

1 December, 2007 The Parade of Boats. Contact BJ Smith (843-767-1491) or smithbj@sc.it.com.

**Annual Change of Watch
Saturday 10 November 2007**

You are invited to attend the Charleston Power Squadron Change of Watch on Saturday 10 November 2007. The location for this affair will be the Fireside Room at the Storm Pointe Conference Center on the Naval Weapons Station in Goose Creek. Those who attended our Change of Watch last year will remember that this is an elegant setting with excellent food. In addition to great food, we will have live music for your listening and dancing enjoyment. A local well-known band, "Hot Links," will perform. The band leader Andrew "Smokey" Weiner said that his group will play swing, fifties and blues music during dinner and afterwards for dancing. The cost for the Change of Watch will be \$30 per person. Please make your reservation by calling Wendy Walsh 556-3258 or email wals6563@bellsouth.net. We need to collect payment and know your dinner selection in advance for this event. Wendy accepts credit cards over the phone or you can send her a check. We need to submit a list of people attending the event to the Security Guards by Tuesday 6 November 2007. Call now and make your reservations.

Change of Watch Dinner-Dance

Date: 10 November 2007

Location: Storm Pointe Center, Naval Weapons Station, Goose Creek, SC

Cocktails (cash bar): 1830- 1930 (6:30 - 7:30 pm)

Presentation of Awards - Installation of Officers:
1900 – 1930 (7:00 – 7:30 pm)

Dinner: 1930 – 2030 (7:30 – 8:30 pm)

Music and Dancing: 2030 – 2230 (8:30 – 10:30 pm)



Menu Choices

Roast Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus (8 oz)
Baked Stuffed Flounder
Dinner Includes: California Vegetable Medley,
Baked Potato, Salad, Rolls and Dessert

Attire

USPS Uniform "A" or other appropriate attire,
black tie optional

**Directions to the Naval Weapons Station
from I-526**

Take I-526 to North Rhett Ave., Exit 19.

Proceed north on N. Rhett Ave. approximately 10 miles to Red Bank Road.

Turn right on Red Bank Road (also known as Missile Haul Road).

Proceed on Red Bank Road approximately 4 miles to the Main Gate.

Check in with gate guard (you may need to show an I.D.).

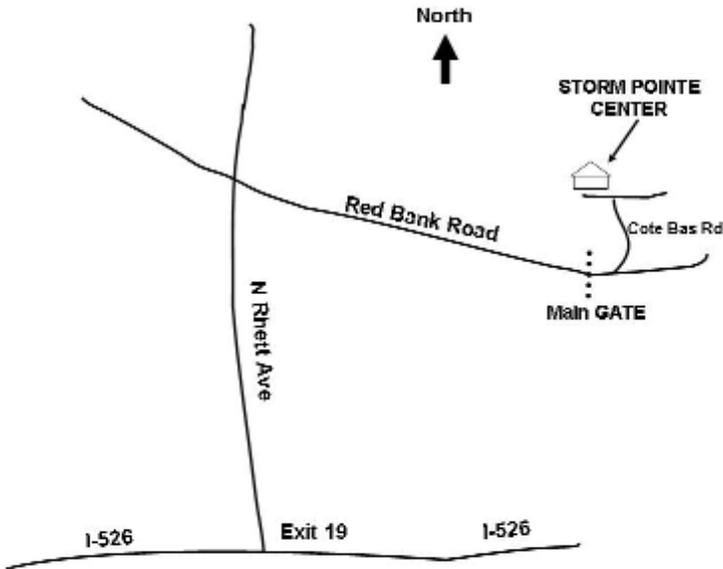
Proceed 0.3 miles and turn left onto Cote Bass Road.

Proceed 0.2 miles to "T", turn left and go 300 feet.

The brick building on your right is the Storm Point Center.

Parking is in front and along the right side of the building.

See Map on the next page for directions.



Map to Storm Pointe Conference Center on Naval Weapons Station

Happy November Birthdays to the Following Members

Carrie Sue Ingram	01 November
James W. Page	02 November
W. George Viering	02 November
Anna Grace Hickman	05 November
Evelyn Vinci	10 November
Marge Bannon	11 November
Stephen E. Rawe	14 November
Elise B. Jorgens	15 November
H. David Coleman	19 November
Johan G. M. Prins	20 November
Karen M. Fullerton	23 November
Ira V. Davis	24 November
Bill L. Arceneaux	26 November
Bill E. Wright	26 November
Joan King	27 November
Betsy Porter	28 November
John L. Sikes	29 November

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MEET THE DEADLINE for December/January
16 November 2007

BJ Smith
Cruising Activities
Phone: 843-767-1491

Upcoming Events

10 November - Change of Watch - 1830
13 November - Christmas Party - 1800
16-18 November - Bohicket Cruise
1 December - Parade of Boats

SAFE BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION