



United States Power Squadrons®

The NANSEMOND Light

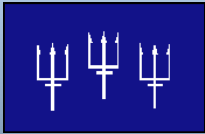
Nansemond River Power Squadron * District 5

For Boaters, By Boaters



April 2018, Vol 25, No. 1

Commander's Corner



**Cdr Bob Wallace
SN**



Seaworthy Notes from "Geo" Bob ...



I would like to thank all of you for allowing me to become commander of the squadron...I have been looking forward to this for several years and am very proud to have been elected to this position. Thank you all very much and here's to a fabulous and fun upcoming year!

Well March has turned out to be very much as I predicted, cold, windy, rain and even an occasional blizzard. However Spring has arrived and every day will be getting better. Boating season is almost here and what a great cruising schedule we have. We will be cruising to some familiar ports and to some that we have not been. I am looking forward to getting underway with squadron members.

We are off to a great start. We have already held an ABC3 class and graduated 5 students, and VSC (Vessel Safety Checks) are well underway. We will be participating in the Nansemond River clean up 24 March. Looks like we will have another great year both socially and civically. The D5 Spring Conference will be held in Ocean City Maryland, 5-7 April and several of us will be attending that event.

Hopefully we will include a few day trippers this year, or land cruises, as they are sometimes referred to. I would also like to do some small boat raft ups this year. Of course that will depend on how many boats we have available and of course on the weather. Then there is my favorite event, geodetic hunting. Hopefully we can beat Smith Mountain Lake this year.

I am excited about our new meeting place, DECOY'S. We will have our first bridge meeting there on 3 April and our general meeting on 10 April. Hope to see all of you there. bwwall@aol.com, or my cell 757-617-6609.



Cdr Bob working to clean up debris in and around the river during the Clean The Nansemond River event on Saturday 24 March, where he represented NRPS proudly!

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Executive Officer's Report

Lt/C Butch Baxter P



April will be a new experience for us as we make our new home at Decoy's. I believe it will be a big plus for the NRPS. The owner will give us a brief at our general meeting on 10 April.

Looking at what is going on around the waterfront for April outside of the squadron:

*Smithfield - 14 April, Saturday "Smithfield Wine & Brew Fest" 11:00-5:00 at Windsor Castle Park. This is a pleasant walk from Smithfield Station.

*Cape Charles – 28 April, Saturday "Shrimp Bowl Fund Raiser" 5:00-9:00 at the Cape Charles Museum and Visitor's Center 814 Randolph Ave. For tickets call 757-331-1008 or capecharlesmuseum.org/shrimp-boil-2018. About a half mile walk from the city marina.

*Yorktown – 28-29 April, Saturday & Sunday, "Pirates Invade Yorktown" 10:00-6:00 at the River Walk Marina and the Fisherman's Museum.

*The City of Chesapeake wants to float bigger boats up the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River past the Gilmerton Bridge and NS RR Bridge Number Seven. Currently only vessels with no greater than an 80' beam are allowed to pass through the two bridges. Chesapeake wants to install eight fenders (Reference picture, proposed fenders are in red) to allow vessels with a maximum beam of 101' to be able to pass. If you boat in this area, you know it can be a little dicey if you have oncoming traffic especially a commercial vessel. These fenders will make all boats better align with the bridges where you will better be able to see what is coming at you and not be blinded by the existing bridge fender system. Chesapeake wants the project completed within 18 months.



Ideas for events? Contact me directly, 436-1313/262-8741 or email thebaxters@mar-sue.com

Administrative Officer's Report

Lt/C HJ South S



This will be my first report as Administrative Officer for Nansemond River Power Squadron, so here's the start up to spring of 2018. We have six cruises planned with one pre-cruise added in for the 4th of July. I have contacted each marina and made a place holder for 8 boats for the 7 cruises listed. I plan to update the dockmasters with details of each boat as the sign-up sheets are completed in order to help with the grouping of our flotilla in each location.

As we all know, it's our desire to be together but as we have experienced in the past in some marinas, just getting a slip makes you a winner. Note: It will be necessary for each member to call the marina and make their specific reservation. As you read my report, please be thinking about what cruise you would like to OD. They are all available at this time. Please contact me so we can get all the dates covered.

Our first cruise is planned for Smithfield Station. As of now, we have 10 boats signed up and one land cruiser. Just a reminder, we are in need of the OD's for all of this year's cruises.

I will have the sign-up sheets for all this year's cruises at our dinner meeting, Tuesday 10 April at Decoys Restaurant on Bennett's Creek.

4-6 May, Cruise # 1, Shakedown to Smithfield Station Phone # 757-357-7700. (OD-TBA)

1-3 June Cruise #2, Bluewater Yacht

3-6 July Pre cruise for the 4th of July, Cape Charles Yacht Center /Group to cruise to York River Yacht Haven on the Friday 6 July.

6-8 July Cruise # 3, York River Yacht Haven (OD-TBA)

3-5 August Cruise # 4, Bennett's Creek Marina (OD-TBA)

31 Aug-2 Sept Cruise # 5, Norfolk Yacht Club (OD-TBA)

5-7 October Cruise # 6 Tidewater Yacht (OD-TBA)

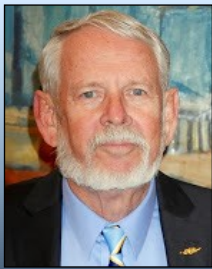


I am looking forward to being your AO and having your input.

Contact me if you have any questions or concerns at 757-284-1432 or email me hjsouth@outlook.com.

Educational Officer's Report

Lt/C Carl Smith SN



Our first ABC class of the year was held at Suffolk Fire Station number five on 19/20/21 March. Five students attended and all passed, no doubt due to the high quality instruction provided. Two students expressed interest in joining USPS.

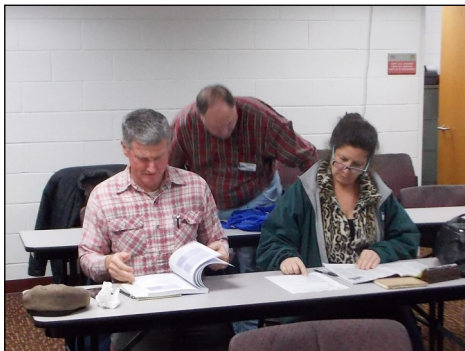
We have had inquiries about piloting courses and engine maintenance.

Please let me know who wants to proceed with additional training. Also, if anyone wants to do some on the water training, that can be arranged. Practice docking and undocking and man overboard recovery techniques can be accomplished on your boat and with your crew.

There is a partners in command course available for spouses or significant others who are not active crew members. This was given at Cavalier Yacht Club last year and was well received. If squadron members want to do this course, it can be arranged, or if you have friends or other clubs that would be interested let me know captcrs@cox.net cell 757 672 5893.

NRPS's Latest ABC3 Safe Boating Class

Congratulations to the 5 latest graduates of the ABC3 class, conducted at the Suffolk Fire Station #5. All 5 passed easily and here's a Thank You to all NRPS members who participated...Great job!



Members Corner

April Birthdays

Mike Brinn	4 April
Julie Fisher	6 April
Linda Chapman	9 April
William Darden	15 April
Mike Gambacorta	21 April
Tom Mills	25 April



REMINDER:

There's still time to make reservations for the D5 Spring Conference at the Princess Royale Hotel right on the ocean in Ocean City MD, 5-7 April. It promises to be a wonderful weekend filled with education and fun! For more information, check out the D5 website at www.uspsd5.org



"No doubt about it, captain...
it's definitely an Italian sub!"

2018 NRPS Change of Watch Pictorial

Cedar Point Country Club, Suffolk * 3 March



2018 NRPS Change of Watch Pictorial

Cedar Point Country Club, Suffolk * 3 March



Notes on Membership.....

By Mary South, NRPS Membership Chair



Spring has sprung, or so the calendar says. Time for another season of great boating and great camaraderie! Most of you who are reading this newsletter are probably members of the Nansemond River Power Squadron or a member of another squadron. For those who are not, there is a wealth of information about United States Power Squadrons membership at www.beyondboating.org.

If you are a current member, please reach out to friends and acquaintances in the boating community who may be interested in joining, or maybe just attending one of our meetings or functions. I know we all hear people ask from time to time, "What exactly is a Power Squadron?" Together we are all ambassadors of safe boating and all of the opportunities that the United States Power Squadrons have to offer! For more information, or for a membership application, visit our website, the link is listed below.

For more information, or for a membership application, visit www.nrpowersquadron.com. The "Membership/Application" link is on the left hand side of the page.



Come for the Boating Education... Stay for the Friends! SM

USPS® Member Benefits

Information Provided By Lt Cheryl Hanbury

This month we're continuing our member benefits that relate to travel. USPS has partnered with various hotels and car rental companies to provide you savings while you travel.

1. Avis Car Rental: Save up to 25% off your next car rental. Visit <https://www.avis.com> or call toll free at 1-800-331-1212. AVIS DISCOUNT NUMBER: B291028
2. Budget Car Rental: Save up to 20% off your next car rental. Visit <https://www.budgetcarrental.com> or call toll free at 1-800-527-0700. BUDGET DISCOUNT NUMBER: R198128
3. Red Roof Inn: USPS members receive a 15% discount on stays at all Red Roof Inn locations. Visit <http://www.redroof.com> or call 1-800-RED-ROOF (1-800-733-7663). RED ROOF PROMO CODE: 615502
4. Motel 6: Motel 6 offers all USPS members a 10% discount. Visit <http://www.motel6.com> or call 1-800-4-Motel6 (1-800-466-8356). USPS DISCOUNT CODE: JZV86N



NOTE: You can log on to usps.org and click on the member benefits button to learn more about these and other benefits!!

News from National... "DO-A-CANOE" from Stf/C Bob Bales, National Safety Committee.

The Safety Committee has initiated a campaign requesting Vessel Examiners seek out CANOE/KAYAK RENTAL paddle craft outlets for Vessel Safety Checks. This should be considered an excellent source of promoting "America's Boating Club®".

Recreational paddle craft establishments benefit from displaying the United States Coast Guard approved Vessel Safety Check decal on their rentals by making the public aware of their annual vessel safety check compliance.

For additional information on Rental, Club, Association Outlets, VSC inspection procedures, Required Equipment, Recreational Boating Statistics and Paddle Craft web sites please explore these suggested idea's and links. Thank you.

*National, State, County, and City recreational parks.

*Recreational Boating Statistics refer to (www.uscgboating.org). From main page click-on upper right "Statistics".

*For Paddle Craft VSC inspection procedures and needed equipment refer to form 7012A (forms.cgaux.org/archive/a7012A.pdf). *Recreational Boating Associations.

Safety Officer's Report

Lt Theresa
Abercrombie S



Sea Myths and Sayings

The following are excerpts from: [Mariner's Learning System](#), by Captain Bob Fugler

Until the development of modern meteorology within the last hundred years or so, people relied on their own observations and experience to make weather predictions. In the past it had been known that certain

atmospheric conditions were likely to produce different kinds of weather. This knowledge was often put into easy to remember sayings. Some of these old time rhymes, sayings & proverbs have, at times, been found to be more accurate than the weather "experts" we see on the news. There are literally hundreds of these sayings. Below you will find some that tend to be the most accurate. So here we go back into years gone by...

Rainbow to windward, foul fall the day

A windward rainbow indicates that rain may be blown in your direction and soon be in your area. A rainbow behind the wind or to leeward indicates that the rain has probably past and is of little concern.

If fleecy white clouds cover the heavenly way

The fleecy white clouds refer to cumulus clouds that have little vertical development (fair weather cumulus). This proverb is sound as long as the clouds remain flat and do not grow vertically later on in the day.

Mountains in the morning

The mountains refer to high, billowing cumulus clouds. These clouds should warn the mariner of weather instability and the strong possibility of a late afternoon or evening thunderstorm.

When a halo rings the moon or sun

By seeing a halo around the sun or moon you can expect inclement weather about 65% of the time.

Short notice, soon to pass

The approach of a major storm system with bad weather that will last several hours or more can be determined well in advance if you can see the formation of dark clouds, changing wind direction, falling atmospheric pressure, the arrival of a sea swell, etc. However a brief storm or squall, such as a local thunderstorm, may not give much warning ahead of time.

When the glass falls low

This is sound advice because a steady, persistent fall in atmospheric pressure is often a good indication of foul weather that is on its way. This is particularly true with a wind shift from the west to the east, northeast or southeast.

Red sky at night, sailors delight

This is probably the most famous of all-weather sayings, and is true more often than not. A red sky at sunset or early evening indicates that there are clouds to the east, with clearing on the western horizon; this allows the setting sun to be seen.

A red sky in the morning indicates clouds to the west as the sun is rising. Since most weather systems in North America move from the west to east these clouds may move in bringing foul weather with them.

In today's world of high tech electronics & gadgets it is easy to believe that these tools will give you all of the answers. The experienced mariner will tell you that to be safe it is best to do your homework and at least take the time to learn the basics when it comes to weather. The reports generated by NOAA weather radio, or satellite pictures are best used as a backup to your own observations. If you really want to know the weather conditions in your area of operation take the time to learn the local weather patterns. The only tools required are a barometer, a clear view of the sky and a willingness to observe. With this local knowledge a couple of these old time sayings and your electronics as a back-up you will be well on your way to being safer out on the water."

SPECIAL REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS.....

The April Meeting will be held at OUR NEW HOME...

DECOYS Restaurant & Marina

3305 Ferry Rd. in Suffolk, Off Rt. 17!

Upstairs Meeting Room! See you there!!!





Nansemond River Power Squadron
 1211 West Point Dr.
 Suffolk VA 23434



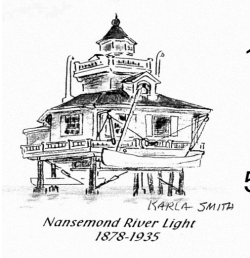
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NRPS 2018 Calendar of Upcoming Events

3 April Bridge Meeting
 Decoys Restaurant & Marina
 3305 Ferry Rd. (off Rt. 17) Suffolk VA

10 April General Meeting at our New Location!
 Decoys Restaurant & Marina
 3305 Ferry Rd., Suffolk VA

5-8 April D5 Spring Conference & Squadron Officer Training
 Princess Royal Hotel, Ocean City MD



2018-2019 Bridge Officers	
Commander	Cdr Bob Wallace SN
Executive Officer	Lt/C Butch Baxter P
Administrative Officer	Lt/C HJ South S
Education Officer	Lt/C Carl Smith SN
Secretary	Lt/C Grace Brown P
Treasurer	Lt/C Mary Fisher AP
Safety Officer	Lt Theresa Abercrombie S

Publisher's Statement

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