



United States Power Squadrons®

THE NANSEMOND LIGHT

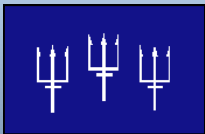
Nansemond River Power Squadron * District 5

For Boaters, By Boaters



March 2018, Vol 24, No. 12

Commander's Corner



**Cdr Frank Brown
AP-IN**



Making way...



WOW ... did that year go by quickly. With the end of this year, we also came to the end of our relationship with George's Steakhouse, our home for the past 6 years. We are looking forward to having the opportunity to have presentations given at our meetings and not have to worry is folks need to get to the bar or the restroom!! Don't miss our inaugural meeting at Decoys, 10 April. It will be a night to remember.

Our annual Change of Watch is 3 March and we'll welcome P/D/C Marty Lafferty AP and P/C

Sari Lafferty AP as our guests from District 5. We have much to celebrate as this year, again, shows what Nansemond River does best—SUCCEED. Whether it was reaching out to our friends at Cavalier Yacht Club with the ABC3 class or eliminating about 300 flares in a joint effort with NRPS, Gatling Pointe Boaters' Club and the Sea Scout Ship 16 members, our result was a safer boating world. 400 vessels were checked by our examiners, with 386 passing. Most of the ones that did not pass aren't candidates for continued use or will be repaired by next year.

Probably our "shining moment" was the effort expended to support District 5 as hosts of the Summer Council and Rendezvous in Portsmouth in July. 33 of our members met the challenge and came up to the plate to provide a great weekend (in spite of the rain!!) for our friends from District 5. Around that activity, our summer cruises were exciting and entertaining.

"Thank you" is hardly sufficient for my respect and admiration for the Bridge and Executive Committee this year. "Geo" Bob Wallace SN, Butch Baxter P, HJ South S, Grace Brown P, Mary Fisher AP, and our Members-at-Large Cheryl Hanbury, Mary South and Jeff Horne led the way.

Things can only go UP. Beyond this group, though, that Thank You is extended to each of you, our members who make us who we are. My best wishes to our incoming Bridge for another successful year. Nationally, changes are coming about in regards to our organization's marketing strategies. I hope we embrace these changes and continue to grow and serve,

So what will THIS Past Commander do with his time, after March 3? He volunteers to serve USPS on the national Instructor Development Committee, coordinating all the grading on tests as well as actually grading tests for squadrons everywhere. I am proud to continue serving this organization that has brought me so much!

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Executive Officer's Report

Lt/C Bob Wallace SN



My tenure as the executive officer of the squadron is almost over. I am looking forward to my new position and am thankful to all of you who have made it possible. Thank you very much.

Mother Nature is up to her old tricks again-it is the end of February and temperatures have been in the 60's and 70's for weeks now, flowers are

blooming, trees are starting to bud and the grass is turning green. DO NOT BE FOOLED, now is NOT the time to de-winterize your boat. There is plenty of cold weather still to come. As you all know, March has historically been the month that we have experienced the worst weather-freezing cold and snow storms are not uncommon, so be patient and be safe.

Mike Gambacorta has recently volunteered to enhance our relationship with the Sea Scouts in our area. He will be representing us at the Sea Scout Academy at the Old Point Comfort Marina, 4-6 May. He will be assisting with boat handling and safety instruction with squadron volunteers Lt Carl Smith SN and Lt Susan Faurot S. Mike has invited Norm Effinger, Skipper of Sea Scout Ship 1610, to our next general meeting. This is an excellent opportunity for us to attract younger members to our boating community.

In looking forward to our members continuing in the hunt for Geodetic markers. As soon as the weather "breaks" we will be getting back out there to locate more of them. I want like to have an informal training session for finding Geodetic markers, for those interested. We can have the training at my home and enjoy some libations and comradery.

"GEO" BOB bbwall@aol.com, or by my cell phone 757-617-6609.

Administrative Officer's Report

Lt/C Butch Baxter P



This will be my last report as Admin Officer for Nansemond River Power Squadron, since we are on the eve of our Change of Watch scheduled to take place on 3 March. 2017/2018 was a good year for NRPS. We accomplished six successful cruises with good weather, the D5 rendezvous, a few day trippers and as well as successful bridge and general meetings, and more!

I want to thank all of you for the participation, and for volunteering, all of which has made this year another success. And I cannot leave out the good comradery among us-that is the one thing that makes NRPS great and others wondering how we do it. As we approach the 2018/2019 year, we have the promise of another good year. Our move to Decoys as our new "home" will be a big plus for us, and the exposure we receive at Decoys will help in getting the word out about NRPS and hopefully attracting new members.

Tuesday 27 February I will be meeting with a writer from the Western Branch Magazine about our oldest member by age the *MAR-SUE*. She wants to do a write up on her for that magazine. I am going to try to put some verbiage in about NRPS.

Thank you all

Call me at 436-1313/262-8741 or email me at thebaxters@mar-sue.com)



Educational Officer's Report

Lt/C H.J. South S



Here we are in March with spring just around the corner. We're planning our first ABC3 Safe Boating class for 2018. We have it scheduled for Monday 19 March through Wednesday 21 March starting at 1800 hrs/6:00 PM and running till 2100 hrs/9:00 PM each night. We'll be holding the class at the Bridge Road Fire Station #5. All of our instructors are set; all we need are some

boaters to teach.

Also this month, I'll be turning over the Squadron Education Officer duties to Carl Smith SN who has been the assistant for the last year. It has been a pleasure to serve as the Education Officer for the last three years and I'd like to offer a special thanks to all of the instructors and other squadron folks that support our education efforts. Carl and I have worked well together and I plan to stay involved and assist the incoming EO as needed with any of the experience I have acquired.

I'm now looking forward to my next position supporting the Nansemond River Power Squadron!

D5 Spring Conference

**Princess Royal Hotel
Ocean City MD * 5-8 April**

A fun weekend with Power Squadron fellowship...from the Friday nite games at the Hospitality Suites to the formality of the Saturday nite Awards Banquet and District Change of Watch, from the seminars & training sessions to the council and conference meetings!

For more information and registration forms, go to the District 5 website: www.uspsd5.org.



"Believe me, my young friend, there is NOTHING — absolutely nothing — half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats."

Wind in the Willows



Members Corner



March Birthdays

Lanny Horn AP-IN	9 March
Mary Ann Eure	11 March
Sarah Curling S	16 March
Kevin Curling S	19 March
Kim Fino	23 March

Coming From USPS®-Gain the Confidence to Handle Boating Emergencies

WHAT: Emergencies on Board webinar

WHEN: March 20, 2018, 8 p.m. EST/5 p.m. PST

COST: \$25

Preparing to handle common problems before you leave the dock and knowing how to deal with them when they arise adds to your boating enjoyment.

Get more info and register on this 2-hr. webinar at:

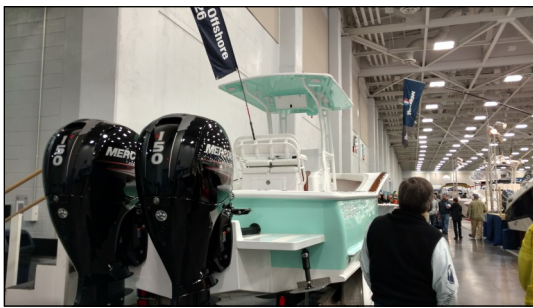
<https://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/800/getregformx.cgi?W-7391>

Mid-Atlantic Boat Show

Virginia Beach Convention Center * 9-11 February 2018



NRPS joined with our friends at VBSPS in hosting a booth at the Mid-Atlantic Boat Show recently in Virginia Beach. The 3 day event featured boats and vendors. A special thanks goes out to all the members who gave of their time Friday, Saturday and Sunday to be there: Cdr Frank, L/C Butch, Lt/C HJ and Lt Mary South, P/C Lin and Lt Cheryl Hanbury, Mike Brinn S and Theresa Abercrombie S, Bob Fino, and Mike Gambacorta. We were well represented, and it looks like we might pick up a new couple both for the ABC class and as new members!

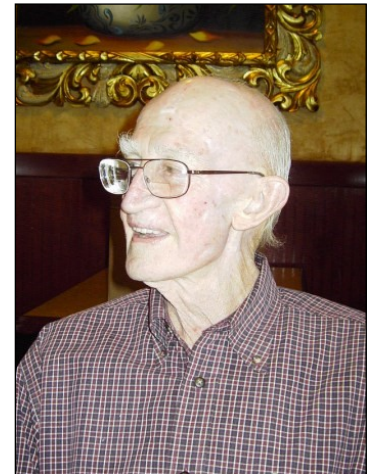


Above pictured (top left) are (l to r) Mark Boettcher AP (Va Bch), Butch, P/C Ron Morris AP (Va Bch). Top right are (l to r) Lt/C Gregg Martin AP (Va Bch), Cdr Frank and P/C Bill Schwieder AP (Va Bch).



In Memoriam

**Past Commander
George H.
"Jack" Stroud AP**



Jack was recognized by United States Power Squadron for his 50 years of service, with a lovely plaque and pin, which were presented to his son Walter on 11 February. The ceremony initially was to take place at our Change of Watch, but we moved the date forward due to Jack's health, and moved it to the nursing home where Jack was in residence. Unfortunately Jack was hospitalized prior to the event. So our members gathered in the nursing home's parking lot and made the presentation to Walter, his son, who would then take it to the hospital to share with Jack and his family gathered there.. Jack was remembered fondly for all he had done with NRPS, and it was so nice to have the opportunity to do this, as Jack then passed the bar so soon afterword. RIP to a great boater and friend to NRPS

Advanced Grades Curriculum Adopts More Descriptive Course Names

In order to make our course names more descriptive of course content, the names of all our advanced grades courses are being updated as follows:

Current Name	New Name
Seamanship	Boat Handling
Piloting	Marine Navigation
Advance Piloting	Advanced Marine Navigation
Junior Navigation	Offshore Navigation
Navigation	Celestial Navigation

The first course name changes were announced in the Winter issue of *The Ensign*, which shared that, in addition to name changes, Boat Handling, Marine Navigation, and Advanced Marine Navigation will also be adopting a seminar series format.

Boat Handling

The Boat Handling Curriculum will comprise one advanced grade course.

Boat Handling will be covered in 6 seminars:

1. Rules of the Road—A Practical Approach
2. Confidence in Docking and Undocking-Slow Speed Maneuvering
3. Boating With Confidence-Handling Your Boat Underway
4. Anchoring with Assurance-Don't Get carried Away
5. Emergencies on Board-Preparation for Handling Common Problems
6. Knots and Line Handling— The Knots You Need to Know



Inland/Coastal Navigation

The Inland/Coastal Navigation curriculum will comprise two advanced grade courses.



Marine Navigation will be covered in 7 seminars:

1. Introduction to Navigation
2. Charting Essentials
3. Using OpenCPN
4. Traditional Techniques
5. Coastal Navigation
6. Inland Navigation
7. Practice Cruise

Advanced Marine Navigation will be covered in 5 seminars:

1. Navigating When Electronics Fail
2. Advanced Navigation Techniques
3. Navigating in Limited Visibility
4. Advanced Coastal Navigation
5. Multiple Day Practice Cruise

Offshore Navigation

Completing the advanced course curriculum are two offshore navigation courses.

Offshore Navigation will focus on using modern electronic navigation tools for cruise planning and offshore navigation.

Celestial Navigation will cover traditional navigation methods using the sun, moon, stars and planets as beacons in the sky.

Reprinted from *Currents*, February 21, 2018. USPS® Educational Dept V/C Craig D. Fraser SN—NEO

Notes on Membership.....

By Lt Mary South, Membership Chair

Welcome to the Neighborhood

When you join United States Power Squadrons®, you're joining America's Boating Club, a community that was built by boaters, for boaters. You're building a lifetime of memories together on the water, on shore and by giving back to your community. Whether you're passionate about cruising, racing, making new friends, volunteering in your community or learning from experienced boaters, your local squadron has the resources you need to engage your passions and, perhaps, instill some new ones.

On the Water

Who doesn't smile whenever they're on a boat? You can't help yourself. Boating is the definition of getting away from it all. And getting away from it all is always more fun as a member of America's Boating Club. Beyond being a safe and confident boater, you'll also enjoy cruises, sail races, navigation contests, fishing derbies, and unlimited fun with squadron friends

On Shore

Comradery doesn't stop at the dock. That's what makes us different. Our focus is providing unsurpassed boating safety education, but our heart is about membership that doesn't end on Sunday and doesn't care if the calendar says it's winter. It's about being together and building a community through a variety of events like parties, meetings and even just getting together for no reason at all.

In the Community

Our squadron members are vital to strengthening the communities they live in. It's important to live our values by giving back through public service and volunteer opportunities. Whether we're providing courtesy vessel safety checks, helping the National Ocean Service keep nautical charts accurate or organizing beach clean-ups, we have a positive impact on our communities. And as an added bonus, it's a great way for you and your family to make lasting memories.

*above information obtained from www.beyondboating.org

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



Are you ready to take a vacation? Here are some travel member benefits for you!

1. The USPS Vacation Center has partnered with America's largest cruise agency (CruisesOnly) to offer the lowest prices in the industry to USPS members. Shop and compare thousands of cruises from 18 of the world's top fleets departing from 22 U.S. ports. Browse the latest in new promotions and last-minute offers or shop by categories such as weekend cruises, family cruises, honeymoon cruises, and more! Check out customer reviews and travel tips. Plus, trained cruise consultants are ready to answer your questions, help you choose the right cruise for your needs, and even help arrange land excursions. For more info call 1-800-CRUISES / 1-800-278-4737 or visit their website at www.cruisesonly.com
2. Endless Vacation Rentals offers USPS members a 25% savings on vacation rentals worldwide, with access to Last Minute Vacations for additional savings. Choose from locations around the world or in your backyard! They offer prices from \$396.75 for up to 7-nights on a one bedroom unit. Check out Last Minute Vacations for additional savings. Book online or call and mention USPS to save big. For more info call 877-782-9387 or visit their website at www.endlessvacationrentals.com.

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

Safety Officer's Report

Lt Susan Faurot S



PREPARING FOR THE WORST

Here's a fresh approach to boating safety...think of yourself as an accident waiting to happen. Consider what you are up against. Your boat is made up of flammable fiberglass containing fuel, electrical systems that can spark a blaze and opportunities for potentially serious leaks. You face the possibility of serious storms, lightning

strikes and heavy seas plus the risk of collision. On top of all that, there is the possibility of sinking.

To be sure, most boats some devices and equipment designed to reduce these risks. There are fire extinguishers, bilge pumps, ventilation systems, flame arrestors, life jackets, distress signals, VHF radios, chartplotters, AIS transponders and depth finders to name a few. Together they seemed to make boating seem relatively safe.



As experienced boaters know, the kind of equipment and crew training you need varies widely with the type of boat you have and where it is operated. Besides getting your vessel safety exam to see if you meet the minimum federal and state requirements, you also need to take a first aid and CPR course.

Survey your boat to see what its potential danger points are and make a list of gear needed to cope with them. You very well likely would like to augment beyond the bear minimum requirements. Also don't let your maintenance slip, well maintained boats are safer. Start a checklist of inspections and maintenance tasks and follow them rigorously.

Make sure your regular crew know how to use this equipment and that they practice by conducting periodic drills. If you have guests on board, advise them where they should sit and how they can move without injury or falling overboard.

Have them wear life vests as they would a seat belt in a car.

An informal safety assessment before you get underway is a must. Is this a go or no go situation? What will the sea and weather conditions be like? Can your crew and boat handle them? What will be done if an emergency arises? Who will take the helm? Man fire extinguishers? Deal with leak or hull puncture? Turn off the engine? See to the guests? Call for help? You can't do it all.

Every time before you shove off be sure you've checked your fuel levels, bilges, check for gasoline fumes, depth instruments, radios and safety equipment. Break out your gear for a crew overboard emergency. Check out your life vests, especially the inflatables. Once you are underway be alert so you can spot potential dangers before they become full blown emergencies. Deal with a situation, call for help or go back to port as indicated.

Make sure you designate an experienced lookout, check the weather hourly. That means constant vigilance and it's the skipper's job to make sure its done. Thinking that your boat as an accident in waiting, is apt to make mishaps less likely and make boating even more rewarding for you and your crew.

Excerpts from Mr. Art Pine





Nansemond River Power Squadron

900 Gatling Pointe Parkway
Smithfield, Virginia 23430-2308



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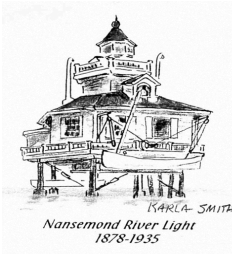
NRPS 2018 Calendar of Upcoming Events

3 March NRPS Gala Change of Watch, Cedar Point Country Club, 8056 Clubhouse Dr., Suffolk VA

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



New 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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