It seems as I write this that winter has finally arrived, even in the South. I've put away my suntan lotion, which is something you can't do until after the boats are tucked away.

Our Squadron is already gearing up for 2016 -- the monthly meetings, cruises, educational sessions, and special events such as the Beach Sweep, boat show participation, and Vessel Safety Checks.

We've still got a few events scheduled for 2015: a cruise, a parade, and a party. Keep up-to-date with the Squadron's website, at CharlestonSailandPowerSquadron.org – watch the Upcoming Events listing on the home page, and the What's New page.

The Parade of Boats on December 12 promises to once again be an exciting and very successful event. Contact Dick Howells or the http://holidayparadeofboats.com/ website to arrange to participate!

The District 26 Spring Conference will be held at Hilton Head on March 4-6. We look forward to having you join with us there.

While on the subject of participation, though many of you are very active members and earn your merit marks, we would certainly welcome more of you to become involved at the local level. The advantage of this is you have an even greater opportunity to make new friends from the entire Charleston area. Maybe you haven't been asked to serve at the Squadron level, but don't be shy. You can write me at commander.csps@gmail.com or give me a call at 843-879-8798. We always need a few good men and women. Step up!

Special thanks to outgoing Commander Joe Ewalt, and to Administrative Officer Paul Wood, for the many things they have done for the Squadron this past year. And our grateful thanks to the many volunteers who've made this past year so successful - you are a hard act to follow!

Your Executive Committee is looking forward to seeing yawl (that's Southern boater's lingo for you-all) at our monthly meetings or at one or more of our 2016 cruises, our classes, or our special events. We'll see you there!

Fair Winds and Following Seas.

Bill

Commander William Quick
Charleston Sail and Power Squadron