### VOLUME 61 NUMBER 1 FEBRUARY 2008

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#### **Squadron Headquarters Bldg.** 1376 Orange Grove Road

Charleston, SC 29407

#### **MEETINGS**

Executive Committee -1st Thursday @ 1830

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# SAFE BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION

# From The Commander Cdr Art Clark, P



his year's Squadron Christmas party was fantastic. If you missed this evening of fun you missed a real treat as seventy people participated in this wonderful event. BJ Smith did a wonderful job pulling this all together. Helen Kovach did an absolutely remarkable job decorating the room. The tables were color coordinated, and the place settings and table decorations really set the tone for the evening. Art and Merle Clark provided the poinsettias for the tables to finish off a beautiful Christmas theme. The food was great, plentiful and the personal service provided by Helen and her staff seemed more like a fancy restaurant than a night at the squadron. The walls were full of garland and hand-made Christmas decorations. Helen personally made each and every one of the Christmas decorations and provided them to all for a small donation to a local Toy for Tots program. I am pleased to announce that \$170 was collected on behalf of the Charleston Power Squadron for the Marine Corps sponsored Toys for Tots program. Thank you so much for your generosity.

The bar was very busy, and Jim Easley and Gary Whitley worked feverously to ensure our refreshment needs were met. Your palate was overwhelmed with the taste of "Eggnog", "Kalua" and "killer brownies". BJ did a great job with the gift exchange, and I am sure Gene Corbett is still guarding his fish. Daisy Proctor made that fish, and I am sure she did not know how much fun that piece of ceramics would generate. Stan and Karen Whitman led the way in getting the cleanup started and the squadron reconfigured for its normal operation. Nancy Hackett, Angie Wright, Steve Ireland and others pitched in to move all of the chairs and tables back to their original positions. All in all, EVERYONE had a great time. Again, my personal thanks to all who helped make this event so successful.

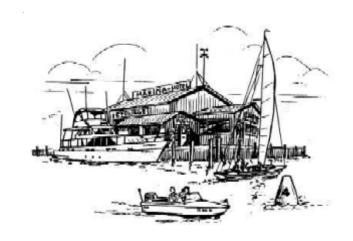
The winter courses will begin in January. This is a great opportunity to expand your boating knowledge and get another reduction in your boat insurance. With USPS

insurance we get 5% off for passing the boat smart course and another 2.5% reduction per course for approved courses. I understand that some other insurance companies will do the same. So sign up and get in the swing. It's great fun working with fellow boaters.

At our January Executive Committee meeting we decided to look into sending the Palmetto Log out electronically instead of mailing. Our reasoning has a great deal to do with the cost of printing and mailing. So far we are planning a survey similar to the one we used to significantly reduce our phone tree operations (so far so good; attendance at the Christmas party was record breaking). Certainly there will be folks who want to continue receiving the Log by mail and they will be accommodated. So please respond to the survey so we know what you prefer.

The annual USPS meeting is being held in Dallas this year. Regrettably Merle and I will not be attending, but it looks like we will be well represented by several of our members. Ed Kridler has volunteered to act on my behalf. I also understand that Chet Rogers and Harl and Betsy Porter will be attending. Thank you all.

Art



### Executive Officer Lt/C Dick Howells, AP



So now the New Year for the Squadron starts. It is going to be a great year! Alot of activities are planned and a lot of work lies ahead. My goals are to achieve a much higher public awareness of just what the Charleston Power Squadron is and does in the Low Country.

Our Public Relations Committee headed by Gary Whitley is embarking on an aggressive direct mail campaign coupled with a strong personal relationship with both print and broadcast media contacts. If you would like to help on this committee, please contact Gary. (ph 843-557-0844 or email <a href="wggary44@aol.com">wggary44@aol.com</a>) He needs help! We have all kinds of excellent promotional material available to us from the national organization, but it takes people to get it into the community.

Our Vessel Safety Check program is our most direct contact with the boating public. We need more examiners to perform this free service. Contact Harl Porter (phone 843-832-9423 or email 107Harl@sc.rr.com) if you would like to take the class to become an examiner. It is a one-day class leading to certification as a Vessel Examiner. It's a fun job. You get on a lot of great boats, meet other boaters and do them a real service. We will inspect a boat to certify it meets established safety requirements. If it does not, we provide the owner or operator with a list of things needed and offer to redo the inspection later. We are not a law enforcement agency so we do not report any deficiencies; we just help to correct them.

The Boat Show Season has started. This too is a chance to present ourselves to the boating community, and we need members to work the exhibition booths. Please contact Daisy Proctor and volunteer. (ph 843-873-3309 or cell 843-276-0692). We have a new design for our booth and lots of information to offer the public. Again this is a public service to our community.

Finally, recruit new members! Talk about America's Boating Club! We offer so much to boaters and the community, but we need you, our members, to get the word out!

See you on the water soon.

Dick

#### **Greeter Program**

This program was started by then Executive Officer Art Clark. The purpose is to meet and greet potential new members taking the 'Boat Smart' class. Even though USPS has decided to try a 3-year program that allows membership without the boating class, we still feel this is a great time to recruit new members. Under the direction of Betsy Porter the program has been a great success.

Betsy needs volunteers. The volunteers come to the Squadron HQ on a Tuesday night, put on a pot of coffee and lay out some cookies and snacks for the Boat Smart students (and anyone else who is there). Then they socialize. The whole idea is to make personal connections with the students in the hopes of recruiting them. There is a break in the class at 1930 for 10 minutes, then the students go back to class and the volunteers clean-up and go home. With more volunteers, the less often each needs to work. So if you would like to help, please call Betsy or me.

#### Lt/C Dick Howells

**Executive Officer** 

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



Charleston Power Squadron Winter/Spring, 2008 Schedule of Classes

Our next round of classes will begin Monday 25 February. "Meet the Instructors," night, an opportunity for students to pick up course materials and initial assignments, meet instructors, and generally get all of the paper work out of the way, will be held on Monday, 18 February.

"Meet the Instructors" and all classes will meet at Headquarters (1376 Orange Grove Road, Charleston) at 1830. The schedule of classes and the names of the lead instructors are listed below. In order to take a class, you must sign up with me (Chet Rogers) and pay the class fee either by check made out to the Charleston Power Squadron and sent to me or by credit card with Wendy Walsh (556-3258). Please sign up and pay the class fee as soon as possible because I cannot know how many sets of class materials to order until I have your payment in hand. Power Squadron members who are taking their first course will have their fee reduced by \$25. If this is your first class, please let me know when you sign up.

I had hoped to also offer the Weather class, and I know some of you would like to take it. Unfortunately, our instructor, Paul Yura, is moving to Texas shortly. I will try to schedule the Weather class for next fall.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly either by phone or by e-mail. My contact info is shown below.

#### Chet

Chester B. (Chet) Rogers 9 Glebe Street Charleston, SC 29401 843-577-3022 843-324-5066 cell rogerscb@cofc.edu

#### Schedule of Classes, Winter, 2008

Class	Cost	Lead Instructor(s)	<b>Beginning Date</b>
Seamanship	\$70	Nelson Hicks & Mike Page	Tuesday, 26 Feb
Advanced Piloting	\$55	Jim Hackett	Monday, 25 Feb
Cruise Planning	\$55	Fred Wichmann	Wednesday, 27 Feb
Marine Electronics	\$65	Harl Porter	Wednesday, 27 Feb

\*CPS members taking their first class receive a \$25 discount.

## Administrative Officer Lt/C BJ Smith



Wow! I cannot believe how fast the new Squadron year is moving. Since our last article, we had the Parade of Boats, Change of Watch, and the Christmas party. All of these events were huge successes and so much fun. I bet Gene Corbett is still glued to the fish he won at the Christmas party.

Our first membership meeting was held on January 10, 2008, and we started the New Year out with a bang! We had 44 members attend and Helen's seafood chowder was OUTSTANDING! We enjoyed a fresh salad, fantastic cornbread, and scrumptious dump cake to sooth our palate. Our original speaker had to cancel and our own Chuck Altschul stepped up to the plate. Chuck provided excellent information on hurricane protection and how to prepare your home for one of natures worst disasters. Thanks Chuck.

Our 19 January 2008, Cruise was to Morgan Creek restaurant on the Isle of Palms. We will report on the January cruise event in the next issue of the log. The February annual pilgrimage cruise to the Cape Romain Lighthouse had to be rescheduled for 1March 2008. The tides were not cooperating; consequently we revised the cruise date. I highly recommend this wonderful cruise. The views are breath taking and the history updates provided by Fred Wichmann are very enlightening. See our Cruise announcement in this publication or visit the web for additional information.

Thanks to Angie Wright and her cruise committee, Bill and Renee Wright, our new 2008 Cruise schedule is finalized. It has been published on the WEB and available for viewing. So please visit the wonderful WEB site that Steve Poe so diligently maintains and plan ahead for a great year of "Power Squadron" cruising.

Stan Whitman has a great program lined up for February. Stan and his lovely wife, Karen, really do a good job of organizing these programs and getting our facility ready. March will be just as exciting as February with the Hornick cruise hosted at the Rivers Edge mariner on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March. Please take advantage of this event and get your boat inspected free by squadron vessel examiners.

Valentines Day is just around the corner. Make plans to bring your Valentine to the gala Valentine's Day Dinner at the Charleston Power Squadron on Thursday, 14 Feb. Special treats await along with a fabulous Italian dinner created by Helen Kovach and her crew of galley maids! Make reservations now! Contact BJ Smith at mailto:bjsmith@sc.rr.com or 843-514-9638 to reserve your spot for a great after dinner speaker and good fellowship.

In addition to the valentine theme, we will "auction off" an official autographed WhirlyBird repeller provided by our own Rob Turkwitz. Believe it or not, he is the inventor of this crafty device and will be available to answer any questions you may have. The crafty design on this device catches the slightest breeze, causing the **WhirlyBird** to spin, wobble, and make a whirring and clacking sound that is annoying to birds (but not to humans) – and the motion, sounds, and reflections discourages them from becoming acclimated to the area.

We hope you are enjoying the new food format. If you have any suggestions or comments, please do not hesitate to provide them to us for consideration/implementation. Helen has some dynamite surprises for you in the near future.

Gene Gilfillin's phone calling tree continues to be very effective. Our "google groups" communication is working great and I appreciate everyone's cooperation in this area.

Well enough of my rambling, let's get ready for some great weather, good camaraderie, and fun boating experiences.

See you on the water soon!

BJ

#### **Upcoming Program Events**

14 FEBRUARY 2008: J.E. "Dewey" Teske will talk about recent updates pertaining to the Spirit of South Carolina. This meeting will be held at headquarters and will include another culinary delight with a valentine theme. To ensure we have enough food, please make reservations with BJ Smith by 8 February 2008. You may email BJ at <a href="mailto:bjsmith@sc.rr.com">mailto:bjsmith@sc.rr.com</a> or contact him by cell 843-514-9638.

13 MARCH 2008: John Evans, General Manager of Hiller Systems, Inc., will address the appropriate use of the various types of fire extinguishers as a first line of defense against the various types of boating fires. He will also show us how to ensure that they remain fully serviceable while mounted aboard the boat. This meeting will be at headquarters. Helen is holding the menu close to vest. So get ready for a special menu in March.

**10 April 2008:** We are still working on our April program. We are waiting on confirmation from our very special speaker. Once that confirmation is obtained, we will reserve our spot with a local restaurant in downtown Charleston for a fun filled evening. Stay tuned—more to follow in the next edition of the log.

#### **Stan Whitman**



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#### <u>Cape Romain Cruise</u> 29 Feb 2008 - 2 Mar 2008



All vessels are requested to rendezvous at the Leland Marine in Jeremy Creek at McClellanville Friday afternoon or evening on 29 February 2008. Otherwise you may arrive Saturday morning before Noon. Departure for the Cape will occur at 1100 am, Saturday, 1March, 2008 with the high tide at 1:28 pm. Any vessel needing assistance shall be promptly given high priority, and all passengers should be safely removed before any vessel sinks.

Adequate libations must be provided all crews and passengers, especially upon return to Jeremy Creek. Additionally, dinner will be held at "TW Grahams Store" at 1800. Cars must be provided for adequate transportation to the local cookery shop where all will enjoy dinner and sundry fun.

Remember, waters around the Cape are very shallow, so larger boats will anchor as waters become thin. Shallow-draft boats will ferry passengers to shore. Caution: There is no dock! So make sure you bring high boots to wade ashore. We have about one hour to explore, and then return to our boats before the falling tide catches us.

Also, please contact Joyce Wichmann (795-9172 or cell 843-296-9129 or joyce.wichmann@gmail.com) to confirm your dinner reservation by 24 February 2008.

After a quiet sleep Saturday night, Sunday morning will provide an enjoyable and safe voyage to our respective homeports always REMEMBERING TO RENDER ASSISTANCE TO ANYONE IN DISTRESS.

P/C Fred Wichmann, AP. vessel-DISTANT ISLE

#### **Bohicket Cruise**

The weekend of 16 - 18 November proved to be a merry time for all who participated in the Bohicket Cruise. Eighteen members participated on Friday night, four boats stayed at the marina, and a different mix of 18 members joined in the festivities on Saturday night.

The parties started off on Friday night with a pot luck dinner at Cruise Captain, Janice and Steve Kromer's condo at Seabrook. Those attending enjoyed food and drink and great conversation about boating and other interests. On Saturday, the Piloting Class boarded No Sense and tested their newly learned skills. The cruise was informative and fun for all. Saturday night's dinner at Up 'da Creek, a new restaurant at Bohicket Marina, was very well attended. Again, the company and camaraderie were great!

I think all involved will agree that the Bohicket Cruise was something special this year. Many thanks to everyone who came.

P/C Janice Kromer

#### **Charleston Boat Parade of Lights**

Harl and Betsy Porter's 38-foot sailboat, Wind Elephant, won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Sail division during the Charleston Boat Parade of Lights on 1 Dec 07. Blue icicle lights were hung at the top of the life lines, six strands of colored lights were run up the mast and arranged as a Christmas tree, a star was placed forward on the jib, and a 300-light animated crystal elephant was placed on top of the bimini. Power was provided from a 2kW inverter. Power consumption was minimized by setting all lights to blinking. It was estimated that the power drain from the battery exceeded battery charging rate from the alternator. If you have a picture of the *Wind Elephant* during the parade, boat 11, the Porters would appreciate a digital copy."

Harl Porter Captain, Wind Elephant

#### District 26 Summer Council, Cruise & Rendezvous

Let's have a large Charleston Power Squadron presence at the District 26 Summer Council Cruise and Rendezvous. It is being held at the House of Blues, Barefoot Landing, North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and is being sponsored by the North Strand Sail and Power Squadron on 2-4 May 2008. This will be a great conference, so make your reservations early and sign up now. We plan to cruise up the ICW.

If you have any questions, contact one of your Bridge members or go to the link below to find more information and to complete your reservation.

http://www.usps.org/localusps/northstrand/CR.html



#### Flea Market Announcement

West Marine at 526 and 17S has scheduled their Flea Market for 9 Feb starting at 0800. Any Charleston Power Squadron Members may bring donations to our booth that morning.

Glenn Workman is coordinating our booth, and you may also call him if you have items to donate. Glenn's phone is 843-821-9111.

This is a good fund raiser for the Squadron and a good chance to pick up some boating items cheaply.

Dick Howells Lt/C, AP Executive Officer

#### **CHARLESTON POWER SQUADRON**

## Executive Committee Meeting - Thursday 06 December 2007

The meeting was called to order by Cdr Art Clark at 1830, at the Headquarters Building. Those in attendance were Cdr Art Clark ,P/C David Walsh, Lt/C Dick Howells, Lt/C Chuck Altschul, Lt/C Chet Rogers, Lt/C B. J. Smith, Lt/C Jim Bass, Lt Wendy Walsh, Lt Steve Poe, Lt Gene Gilfillin, Angela Wright, Gary Whitley, and Carole Gilfillin. A quorum was established.

**Invocation:** Lt/C Jim Bass

Pledge of Allegiance: Cdr Art Clark

Lt/C B J. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the November Excom Meeting, and Lt/C Dick Howells seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes for the November 2007, Excom Meeting were approved.

#### **Officers' Reports:**

**Executive:** Per Lt/C Dick Howells: Lt/C Dick Howells reported that Gary Whitley has done an excellent job on public relations. Gary Whitley reported that he had some new ideas to improve our publicity this year. Lt/C B. J. Smith reported that the Holiday Parade of Boats was a big success. There were 34 boats registered to participate and 33 actually participated. The boat that was selected as best decorated was Bull Dog Express.

**Educational:** Lt/C Chet Rogers reported that we are finishing up the fall courses. Scheduled winter courses include Seaman Ship, Advance Piloting, Cruise Planning, Marine Electronics, and Weather.

Administrative: Per Lt/C B. J. Smith: Lt/C B. J. Smith reported that Angela Wright will be Chair for the Boating Cruise Activities. Angela Wright presented the 2008 Cruise Schedule. A motion was made by P/C David Walsh to approve the 2008 Cruise Schedule as presented, and Lt/C Chuck Altschul seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed. Lt/C B. J. Smith re-

ported on the guest speakers lined up for our General Membership Meeting. Lt Wendy Walsh made a motion to accept John Champion for membership in the Charleston Power Squadron. The motion was seconded by Lt/ C Chuck Altschul. A vote was taken and the new member approved. New members Orin and Nancy Guidry were also approved for membership by electronic vote. Lt Wendy Walsh reported that we have 185 members and 7 affiliates. Lt/C B. J. Smith reported that all members had been contacted regarding the way we contact them to let them know about events going on within the squadron. Twenty-eight members prefer getting a phone call, while the rest think the Google Group message is the best way to be notified. A motion was made by L/C B. J. Smith that we send Google Group messages to all who prefer them thus reducing the telephone call list to 28 members. The motion was seconded by Lt/C Dick Howells. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Secretary: Per Lt/C Jim Bass: Lt/C Jim Bass reported that we ordered 75 hats to be given to the captains and crew of the participating boats as well as to the Commodore and Judges. The cost of the hats was \$585.00, but the Bridge had approved only \$500.00. Lt/C Jim Bass made a motion that we approve the additional \$85.00 for the purchase of the hats. Lt/C Dick Howells seconded the motion, and a vote was taken and the motion passed. A request was made that we have two additional hats embroidered with Judge to be given to the judges who did not get properly embroidered hats.

**Treasurer:** Per Lt/C Chuck Altschul: Lt/C Chuck Altschul presented the end of year financial report.

<u>Housing Committee:</u> Lt/C B.J. Smith reported that they are looking into wiring issues in Headquarters Building that need to be corrected.

#### **Committee Reports:**

Audit, Nominating, Rules, and Planning Committees: No reports

#### **Communications:**

USPS Annual Meeting is in Dallas TX,19-24 February

District 26 Spring Conference 29-31 March District 26 Cruise & Rendezvous 2-4 May

Old Business: None

**New Business:** Cdr Art Clark reported that the Squadron will have a budget this year, and we will plan to follow it. Please review the budget items for your department. If you need to spend more money than is budgeted, you will have to bring it before the Executive Committee for approval.

The meeting adjourned at 1930.

Submitted by, Lt/C Jim Bass Secretary

# Happy February Birthdays to the Following Members

01 Feb.	William H. Lynes
03 Feb.	Orin F. Guidry
07 Feb.	John W. VanWay
10 Feb.	Beverly Meyenberg
11 Feb.	Norman G. Brooks
11 Feb.	Nicholas James Pastis
16 Feb.	Ricki Silveria
16 Feb.	Steven John Yeomans
17 Feb.	Merellene H. Ward
20 Feb.	Laurence W. Hays
20 Feb.	Diane Edith Smith
27 Feb.	Margaret Whitley
28 Feb.	James E. Hackett

#### **New Members**

#### Nancy and Orin Guidry

Though new to the Charleston area, Nancy and Orin Guidry are not new to boating. The Guidry's have been enjoying cruising for the past 40 years. They moved to Daniel Island in July from New Orleans, and they're enjoying their new home. Orin mentioned that they have no immediate family in the area, but they're finding the residents of Daniel Island, and Charleston in general, extremely friendly. Orin works at MUSC, and Nancy is not currently employed. The lucky Guidry's can usually be found at least once a week aboard their 36' power boat, Pelican. Boating is such a large part of their lives that the Guidry's eagerly joined the Charleston Power Squadron to be part of a boating community. Orin may also try one of our education courses in the upcoming months. Please welcome the Guidrys when you see them at one of our get togethers.

#### **Chris Champion**

Originally from Lancaster, SC, new member Chris Champion has lived on and off in the Charleston area for the last twelve years. Chris currently owns a 16 foot stinger boat. He joined the Charleston Power Squadron to meet new people with similar interests. He plans to be an active social member and also take some of our educational courses. To quote Chris, "This is a great organization and I wish I had found out about it sooner."



#### The Squadron Boating Course Replaces Boat Smart

As of 15 January 2008 the *Boat Smart Course* will be replaced by *The Squadron Boating Course*. This new course covers boating information that is similar to the previous course. *The Squadron Boating Course* will be taught in four lecture sections at squadron headquarters, each Tuesday, starting at 1830. As before, students successfully completing the new course will be issued certificates. The following is the new schedule:

#### **Squadron Boating Course Schedule**

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<b>Chapters</b>	<u>Instructor</u>
22-Jan-2008	What's Required (Government Regulations & Rules)	10, 12	John Sikes
29-Jan-2008	Adverse Conditions, Trailering, PWC	14, 15, 16	Ernie Godshall
05-Feb-2008	You're the Skipper, Marine Radio, Boat Handling	1, 2, 3, 8	David Walsh
12-Feb-2008	Charts & Aids to Navigation	5, 6	John Sikes
19-Feb-2008	What's Required (Government Regulations & Rules)	10, 12	John Sikes
26-Feb-2008	Adverse Conditions, Trailering, PWC	14, 15, 16	Ernie Godshall
04-Mar-2008	You're the Skipper, Marine Radio, Boat Handling	1, 2, 3, 8	David Walsh
11-Mar-2008	Charts & Aids to Navigation	5, 6	Steve Kromer
18-Mar-2008	What's Required (Government Regulations & Rules)	10, 12	John Sikes
25-Mar-2008	Adverse Conditions, Trailering, PWC	14, 15, 16	Ernie Godshall

Time: 1830 to 2030

Course Taught at Squadron Headquarters

1376 Orange Grove Road Charleston, SC 29449

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## **Christmas Party Pictures**



Wendy Walsh Gets Rare Book During Gift Exchange



Bill and Renee Wright, Annette and Joe Hickman



Dick and Ann Howells Enjoy Great Food



Maritsa and Nick Pastis, BJ Smith, Eileen Hoffman and Diane Smith



Gene Corbett and BJ Smith Sporting Christmas Hats



**Shirley and Terry Melloy** 

The Palmetto Log Steven Brostoff, Editor Wendy Walsh, Mailings 5223 Old Washington Course Hollywood, SC 29449 NON PROFIT ORG. US POSTAGE PAID CHARLESTON, SC PERMIT NUMBER 1599

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MEET THE DEADLINE for March
15 February 2008



BJ Smith Cruising Activities Phone: 843-767-1491

### **Upcoming Events**

14 February - Valentine Day Dinner HQ 180029 February - Cape Romain Cruise13 March - Member Meeting HQ 1830

## SAFE BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION