



The Palmetto Log

Charleston Sail and Power Squadron
A Unit of United States Power Squadrons®
and District 26

Volume 66 Issue 6

November/December 2013

2013 Bridge Officers

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Coming Events

- 1 December - Charleston Holiday Parade
- 5 December - ExCom Meeting -- 1830
- 7 December - Motorboating Merit Badge follow-up class (Boy Scouts) - 0800-1600
- 7 December - Holiday Parade of Boats (Charleston Harbor) - 1700
- 12 December - Holiday Party - 1800
- 14 December - Cruise to Charleston Yacht Club
- 31 December - Deadline for submission to 15 January

Palmetto Log

2014

- 2 January - ExCom Meeting - 1830
- 9 January - Membership Meeting - 1800

- 6 February - ExCom Meeting - 1830
- 8 February - ABC Class - 0800
- 13 February - Membership Meeting - 1800
- 28 February - Deadline for submission to 15 March *Palmetto Log*

All Events at Headquarters --- 1376 Orange Grove Road - unless otherwise noted.

For the most up-to-date information on CSPS activities, check the Calendar on the squadron's website at CharlestonSailandPowerSquadron.org.

**2013 Executive Committee
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Join the celebration as United States Power Squadrons® marks 100 years of service to the nation's boating community!



Message from the Commander Cdr Karl Naugle, P



December is always filled with smiles and cheer. Some of you will be in Charleston for the holidays while others travel for a variety of reasons. Please take time to enjoy one or more of the upcoming CSPS events. 17 November is our cruise to Bohicket Marina. Come by boat or car and enjoy the fellowship of our club. The 14 December cruise will take us to the Charleston Yacht Club/City Marina with Tony Ward as cruise captain.

What benefit there is to being a member? This year we will be looking at ways to lower the costs to paid members. Here are two

upcoming benefits:

- Our Nautical and Nice Celebration, held 12 December at our headquarters, will be a treat from the bridge. We invite you to a free dinner for members (guests pay \$10) catered by Chef Chad Shores of *Finz*. If you bring a nautical gift of \$5 or less per family you can participate in our surprise gift exchange.
- Members will receive a ticket for a free drink if they donate the price of a meal to the education fund. The limit is 2 tickets, but there is no limit on how much you can donate to bring down the costs of the courses for members.

The main thrust of this year's bridge is to cruise into the 100th anniversary year with two goals: (1) grow the club and (2) have more fun sharing our experiences. We invite you to participate in all activities like the dinner meetings, cruises, joining a committee, helping at the Boat Show for 3-4 hours, participating in headquarters clean-up day, taking a course, participating in a workshop, or even inviting a friend to a meeting or two.

- Vessel Safety had a banner year with over 100 inspections. Carl Huff would love to have you join him in adding more to that number.
- David Walsh helped us move up in the national standings doing cooperative charting. We are helping all boats in Charleston when we do these chartings. Shoals develop in new places and we need to help warn people so they can be safer. Ride along with him and you will be hooked.
- We plan to have several opportunities each month for cruises, short and long. This is a change from the past where we only had one cruise each month. Remember, these are all offered as opportunities and nothing is required.

I would like to thank Past Commander Donna Lynes for her leadership throughout the 2013 year. She worked very hard to make CSPS a success. She tackled the District 26 Conference and many other projects with a great deal of enthusiasm and energy. We applaud her efforts to expand the outreach of the club.

Thank you from the bridge for allowing us to serve you and guide the club to a year of new and fun activities. Remember, it's your club and your involvement is what makes it fun for all of us. Boating is fun! Now let's show Charleston how!

Message from the Executive Officer Lt/C Joe Ewalt, AP



First of all I would like to thank my fellow CSPS members who voted to include me on the Bridge team serving with incoming Commander Karl Naugle. When Karl originally approached me about becoming a candidate for Executive Officer, I was reluctant because I am a relatively new member of the Squadron and felt unprepared for the position.

Karl won me over by making it clear that he is a firm believer in the teamwork concept of leading an organization. Once it became clear that I was being asked to join a band of brothers/sisters instead of being thrown into a new challenge in isolation, I became much more comfortable taking on an important leadership position.

Karl then became my advocate and fortunately, the Nominations Committee decided it was worth taking a chance on the new guy.

As Executive Officer I am tasked with assisting the Commander with making our Squadron a viable, efficient and growing fraternity of boaters. The position features a wide range of administrative responsibilities and the Squadron faces challenges ranging from new technology to becoming more relevant to younger potential members.

I take seriously my responsibilities and our challenges. I look forward to hearing from each of you the advice and ideas that you have for your new leaders.

Administrative Officer Report from Cdr. Karl Naugle and X/O Joe Ewalt

Lt/C Paul Mitchell, JN, is our new A/O. He is currently in England as we go to press with *The Palmetto Log*. We speak for him in saying that he is looking for exciting speakers for the dinner meetings and a good variety of meals. He said to remind everyone that bringing friends or possible new members to a meeting is the way to help the squadron grow. If your neighbor buys a boat, tell him or her the benefits of belonging to CSPS. We are excited to have Paul join us on the bridge.

From the Education Officer Lt/C Nelson Hicks, SN

Our Fall classes are in full swing with good registrations in all four classes. Ed Kridler's Weather class has 10 students, David Walsh's Engine Maintenance class has 9 students, and Dick Howells' Seamanship class has 9 students. Four students have completed their course work in Cruise Planning which included planning all details of their own virtual cruise to the destination of their choice. In at least one case, virtual will soon become reality!

Unfortunately, our 12 October America's Boating Course (ABC) was cancelled because we had no registrants. Our next scheduled ABC class is 8 February, 2014. However, we have a special Boy Scout ABC class planned for Saturday 7 December, and anyone interested in this class should contact Donna Lynes.

We are also looking at taking our ABC class on the road to Ashley Hall School downtown on Saturday 23 November. Work is underway at the school to preregister a minimum of 10 girls for the class. More on this exciting activity later.

We are beginning to plan classes starting February 2014 and would welcome member suggestions. Tentatively, Junior Navigation, a Marine Electronics course, and Piloting or Advanced Piloting are under consideration.



Education joins the Youth Activities program to help prepare area Boy Scouts for their Motor-boating Badges, offering classroom work plus on-the-water training at Lake Moultrie.

MMSI Part 2: Using MMSIs for Routine Calling and as an Answering Machine

Harl Porter, SN
CSPS Marine Electronics Instructor

Earlier this year we discussed how getting and entering a MMSI number into your DSC VHF Radio and interfacing your GPS with your DSC VHF Radio makes Distress Calling easy and accurate. When the “Distress” button is pressed for at least five-seconds your radio automatically reports your position (from your GPS) and information (description, owner, and contact info) about your boat (from your MMSI number). Hopefully by now all squadron DSC VHF Radios have their MMSI numbers entered and are interfaced with their GPS.

MMSI numbers can also be used to simplify initiating a DSC VHF Radio call. But to be used, the other boat’s MMSI has to be known. First enter their MMSI Number into your radio (best done from a contact list previously entered into your radio), then select the desired working channel and lastly pressing the “call” button. Your radio will then call the other boat digitally on channel 70 and if they agree to accept your call, both radios will be automatically tuned to the desired working frequency. Nothing has to be said on channel 16.

A MMSI equipped DSC VHF Radio will also function as an answering machine. When a MMSI radio call is missed (if the radio is on) it will note the calling MMSI number and date / time of the call. To return the missed call, all that is required is to press the “call-back” button on your DSC VHF Radio.

Past Commander Donna asked all members who have MMSI numbers for their DSC VHF Radios to share them with our squadron. Please send your MMSI number to Wendy Walsh so she can add them to our next Squadron Directory.

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Acronyms

DSC = Digital Selective Calling

MMSI = Maritime Mobile Service Identity

Citizens Can Help Punish and Deter Polluters

Rob Turkewitz, CSPA Legal Officer

As witnessed by tragic oil spill disasters, such as the Exxon Valdez and BP Horizon, pollution from ships and marine structures poses a serious threat to the environment. While we hear a lot about the major disasters, we don't hear much about the smaller discharges of oily bilge water and other waste originating from ships. It is a common practice for ships to discharge bilge water before coming into port to take on cargo. Ships are required to have oil sensing and oil-water separator equipment that separates and prevents the oil from being discharged into the environment. While it's unclear how often this occurs, there have been documented instances where ships have failed to separate the oil and caused water containing oil and other hazardous substances to be bypassed and discharged. Although such discharges may occur on a relatively smaller scale, they can have an adverse cumulative impact on the environment.

The law provides an incentive for crew-members and citizens to take action and report any illegal discharges. In an effort to prevent pollution by ships, the international community adopted the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, otherwise known as the MARPOL Protocol. This treaty was enacted into law to regulate and prevent the discharge of oil, chemicals, garbage and sewage by ships and other floating structures. Pursuant to the MARPOL treaty, the United States Congress enacted the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (APPS), which applies to discharges of oil, chemicals, garbage and sewage from ships. Notably, the APPS contains a whistleblower provision that rewards individuals who report violations of the Act when the information leads to the conviction of a polluter. The Act states:

A person who knowingly violates the MARPOL Protocol, Annex IV to the Antarctic Protocol, this Act, or the regulations issued thereunder commits a class D felony. In the discretion of the Court, an amount equal to not more than 1/2 of such fine may be paid to the person giving information leading to conviction.

33 U.S.C. § 1908(a).

So, what should you do if you notice a ship discharging oil or a foul smelling substance that leaves a sheen on the water? Take out your camera or cell phone and take pictures and video of the ship discharging into the water and try to include the ship's name on its stern. Collect samples of the substance discharged into the water and keep the samples in a sealed container. Make a note of the time and coordinates where the discharge occurred. It is important to have the samples tested by a certified laboratory, and you should retain samples for further testing if necessary. Contact the Coast Guard and report the facts regarding the discharge and the test results. To ensure that your rights are protected, it is often helpful to retain the services of an attorney to assist you through the process of having the samples properly tested and reporting the discharge to the Coast Guard.

News from Your Youth Coordinator

P/C Billy Lynes, SN

We had a special treat at our September dinner meeting when we viewed and judged the posters entered in the Boarman poster contest this year. Thanks to all of you who supported the contest, especially those who made a poster with a child. We had twenty entries this year, up from twelve last year. Some of our entries were also district winners and will move on to Jacksonville for the final round of judging at the national conference in January. If you did not participate this year, I will look forward to your contribution next year.

I am very happy to report that we have successfully completed the motor-boating merit badge class for the Boy Scouts. Many thanks to all those who helped—Donna Lynes, Steph Quick, and Nelson Hicks on the land side and Rick Cone, Carl Huff, Paul Wood and myself in the water. Thanks also to Lori Cox, health teacher from Timberland High School, for her help with the CPR segment. It was a great day, a little on the windy side, but we managed to get all forty-three boys at the helm of a boat. This was our second merit badge class of the year. Back in the spring we offered the landside portion of the small boat sailing badge in conjunction with BSA's Sailoree on-the-water event. I look forward to our continuing the partnership we have developed with the Scouts this year.

Our youth program continues to expand. We are currently working with a large group of American Heritage Girls in Mount Pleasant to satisfy the requirements for their boating safety badge. It is good to see more girls interested in safe boating and I am working on developing ties with other girls' groups.

With this much involvement from youth—over 400 young people have been served by CSPS this year—the future of safe boating looks bright indeed.

Important Notification from NOAA

“Major changes are coming for mariners who purchase paper nautical charts of U.S. coasts and the Great Lakes. Effective April 1, 2014, the federal government will no longer print the traditional lithographic (paper) nautical charts.

NOAA continues to provide the nation's nautical charts in a variety of forms — including full-size nautical chart PDF (Portable Document Format)And we continue to support the entrepreneurs who use NOAA nautical charts in their development of new navigation products and services.”

The official NOAA announcement is at

<http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/docs/FAQ%20lithographic%20chart%20announcement.pdf>

Boating Safety Column

P/C Harl Porter, SN

Do you have a Plan B?

What is your "Plan B" in case of a VHF Radio and/or GPS failure?

Hopefully most of us have an installed VHF Radio and a fixed GPS on our boat. Your Plan B should be a portable (handheld) VHF radio with its battery fully charged and a portable (handheld) GPS again with good batteries readily available on your boat. Recently *Palmetto Elephant* experienced a major electrical issue while underway. We had a complete loss of DC power - no battery to restart boat, no battery for installed VHF Radio and no battery for the Fixed GPS. How can you call for help if you do not know where you are? Saying that you are approx. an hour up the Cooper River is NOT a position report; a working handheld GPS will give you a very accurate position report.

Knowing where you are does no good if you can't call for assistance. A cell phone is NOT an acceptable backup for your VHF Radio. A VHF radio call can be heard by all nearby boats monitoring channel 16; a cell phone can only be heard by the called number (if they answer their phone). Rather than calling a phone located many miles away, it would be nice if your call for assistance could be heard and answered by a Good Samaritan just around the bend in the river. What is nice about VHF Radio is that many can hear your call for assistance.

A cell phone is NOT an acceptable backup for your VHF radio.

Having said that a cell phone is not a good backup, here are some cell phone suggestions. Add phone numbers for your marina and towing company to you cell phone's contact list. Also add phone numbers for both your boat dealer and mechanic. Hopefully you already have phone numbers (both home and cell) for your Power Squadron friends in your phone's contact list (get them from our Squadron's Directory). This is your Plan C.

What is nice about a cell phone is that only the number you call knows about your boat problem. Use your cell phone to call for assistance when you do something dumb - like running out of fuel or running aground. That way every one monitoring channel 16 does not know of your embarrassing mistake.

Cruise Report and 2014 Cruise Schedule

Elizabeth Wenner, AP

We had some great cruises during 2013. In the coming year, we are going to continue with scheduling the most popular cruises and add in some new locations as suggested by members. Toogoodoo and Steamboat Creeks as well as the Santee Canal location are some of those that members wanted to see added.

I've also scheduled two cruises a month during the best times of the year for being on the water. So if you can't make one, perhaps you can come on out and join members at a different location.

We get points for the number of boats and the number of members who show up by boat. The greater Charleston area has some fantastic locations for year-round boating.

I plan to post some mid-week cruises to the membership and am encouraging some of you who go boating during the week to also post these. If we notify the membership in advance about a mid-week or additional weekend cruise not on the schedule, then that will count as an official cruise.

If you have any questions or comments about cruises, please give me a call at 843-442-2253.

DATE	EVENT	CRUISE LEADER
January 12	Shem Creek with lunch at Vickery's	Donna Lynes
February 15	Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina	Elizabeth Wenner
March 22-23	Capers Island	Donna Lynes
April 12 April 26-27	Steamboat Landing/Creek Edisto Marina	Elizabeth Wenner Joe Ewalt
May 10 May 24	James Island Yacht Club Santee Park	Rob Turkewicz Billy Lynes
June 21-22	Bass Creek	David Walsh
July 19	Morris Island Lighthouse	Mike Fauss
August 16	Isle of Palms Marina/Morgan Creek Grill	Elizabeth Wenner
September 27-28 September 6	Georgetown Toogoodoo Creek	Chet Rogers David Walsh
October 19 October 25	St. John's Yacht Harbor West Ashley Outboard Motor Club on the Stono River	Karl Naugle Carl Huff
November 15	Bohicket Marina/Lunch	Chet Rogers
December 14	Charleston Yacht Club/City Marina	Tony Ward

Mega Surprise Report and Pictures sent in by Lt/C Joe Ewalt, AP

Charlestonians have become accustomed to seeing large ships come and go but a recent arrival really created a stir. Billionaire David Geffen tied up his 454 foot yacht *Rising Sun* at the Charleston City Marina Mega Dock where its five story high bulk dwarfed what we thought were large pleasure craft.

Geffen, a former record and movie producer and now philanthropist, reportedly paid \$200 million for his vessel. *Rising Sun* is the sixth largest yacht in the world. She came to Charleston from the South of France, according to a member of the 45 person crew. No word on the next port of call.



Photo at right by Editor.

Nautical and Nice at CSPS

Celebrate the season with a nautical theme. The Holiday Party this year will be catered by former 82 Queen chef Chad Shores.

Chef Shores will provide us with a buffet dinner to match the season. The actual menu will be announced in a flyer later this month. The date is 12 December 2013 and the fun begins at 1800!

This is a dinner provided by the Bridge at no cost to members. Non-member cost is \$10 per person. We are asking you to make a donation instead to the Squadron Educational Fund which will lower the cost of taking the fine selection of Nautical courses for members.

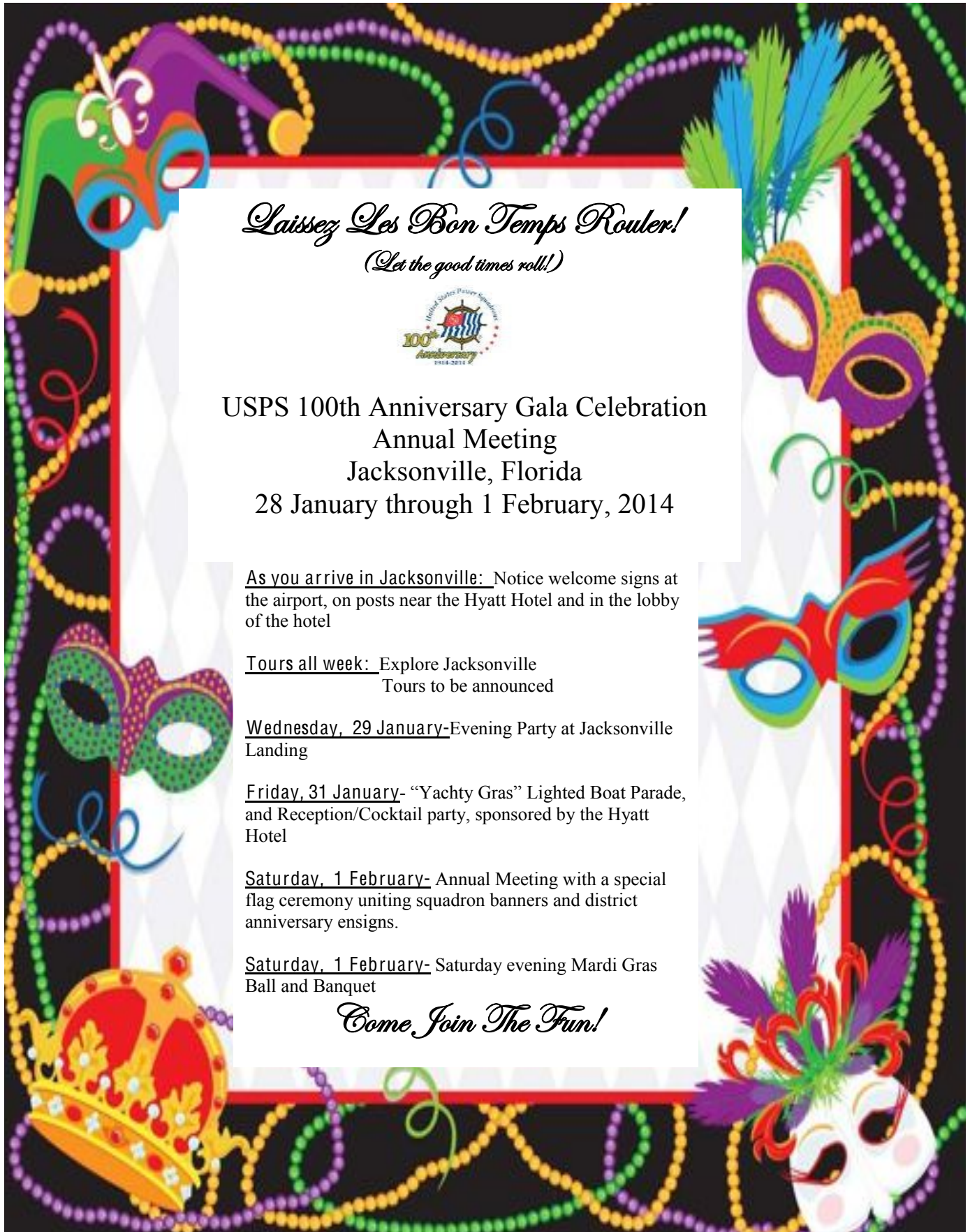
If you choose to donate, you will be given a ticket for one free drink from the bar. If you donate the cost of two meals you will get two tickets.

The second event of the evening is a gift exchange. Please bring one gift per family valued at not more than \$5 in the theme of Nautical and Nice. You will be given exchange directions at the meeting. We will hold the gift exchange after dinner. Please join us for a festive free dinner for members and a fun and unique gift exchange activity.

Please RSVP Karl Naugle at 843-875-2850 by December 5 so that we can order the catered dinner.

Join us for a free dinner for members and a fun and unique gift exchange activity.





Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler!
(Let the good times roll!)



USPS 100th Anniversary Gala Celebration
Annual Meeting
Jacksonville, Florida
28 January through 1 February, 2014

As you arrive in Jacksonville: Notice welcome signs at the airport, on posts near the Hyatt Hotel and in the lobby of the hotel

Tours all week: Explore Jacksonville
Tours to be announced

Wednesday, 29 January-Evening Party at Jacksonville Landing

Friday, 31 January- "Yachty Gras" Lighted Boat Parade, and Reception/Cocktail party, sponsored by the Hyatt Hotel

Saturday, 1 February- Annual Meeting with a special flag ceremony uniting squadron banners and district anniversary ensigns.

Saturday, 1 February- Saturday evening Mardi Gras Ball and Banquet

Come Join The Fun!

Policy for Ads in The Palmetto Log

1. CSPS members may place ads for personal items related to boats or boating at no cost. These may be ads for items for sale or want-ads for items members are seeking. Such ads must be short, text-only notices.
2. CSPS members may place ads for boating-related goods or services provided by their own boating-related businesses at a cost of \$10 per issue. Such ads will be limited to text and graphics as might appear on a business card. They should be sent to the editor as images to be inserted; editor will not be responsible for designing or formatting the ad.
3. All non-boating business advertisements, whether from members' businesses or non-members', may be purchased at \$20 per issue. Such ads will be limited to ¼ page or less and must be provided to the editor as images to be inserted. Editor will not be responsible for designing or formatting the ad.
4. Ads of a personal nature, related to boats or boating, submitted by non-members may be placed at a cost of \$10 per issue, subject to review by the editor and providing they follow all guidelines in this policy.
5. Requests for ad placement must be submitted to the editor by the submission date for each issue, as announced on the last page of the prior Palmetto Log.
6. Checks should be payable to CSPS. Ads will be run only if payment has been made prior to or accompanying submission of ad copy.
7. Ads will appear in one issue only. Request for renewal must be made to the editor in writing and must include additional fee, as described above.
8. All ads must include appropriate contact information. Interested persons or potential buyers or customers should not contact the CSPS contact line nor the Palmetto Log editor regarding items or services advertised.

Submission and publication dates for *The Palmetto Log* are as follows:

Submit by:					
31 Dec	28 Feb	30 Apr	30 June	31 Aug	31 Oct
For issue to be published on:					
15 Jan	15 Mar	15 May	15 July	15 Sept	15 Nov

All members are invited to send an article or write-up for consideration, or contact the Editor with a suggestion. Send contributions, comments or inquiries to elise.jorgens@gmail.com

Important Web Pages

- United States Power Squadrons**
www.usps.org
- District 26**
www.usps.org/localusps/d26
- Charleston Sail and Power Squadron**
CharlestonSailandPowerSquadron.org

***The Palmetto Log** is an electronic newsletter and is distributed by email to all members who have provided us with their email addresses. Providing us with your email address shall constitute agreement to receive notices electronically. The Palmetto Log and our Bylaws are posted on our web site, www.usps.org/localusps/cps.*

The Palmetto Log

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BOATING IS FUN...WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW



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