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Cdr J. Steven Yeomans, P
869-7808

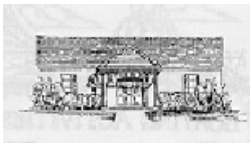
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Lt/C Loretta Lombardo
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Squadron Headquarters Bldg.
1376 Orange Grove Road

MEETINGS

Executive Committee - 1st Thursday @ 1930

Membership Event

14 February @ 1800
Omar Shrine Club

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

First 2002 Cruise!!

**Cape Romain Lighthouse
& Oyster Roast**

(See Page 9)

**Need your help!!
BoatSmart classes start.**

(See SEO Report - Page 5)

**WHEW!!! - What a year in store!
Lots & lots of FUN!!**

(See Commander's Report - Page 2)

Stop the presses!! Last minute info!

**February membership event to be
held at the Omar Shrine Club on
Patriots Point Blvd in Mt. Pleasant
1800 with dinner at 1900**

**SAFE BOATING THROUGH
EDUCATION**

From the Commander *Cdr J. Steven Yeomans, P*

It's February already?! I have to say that with the annual meeting in Orlando (which I'll get to in a moment) and our membership event (formerly known as "membership meetings", something else I'll get to in a moment), our advanced courses recently started at the headquarters building, and the numerous strategy and planning meetings I have had along with your bridge, January simply catapulted by! That's good though, because February is going to be a ton of fun!

First of all, I would like to thank all those who have so graciously said "yes" to the request (OK, pathetic whining) of the current bridge to serve on the assorted committees that keep our squadron running smooth. Joking aside, more hands make for less work, and those who have stepped forward to lend a hand in the operation of the squadron deserve our thanks for shouldering the burden (no matter how heavy or light) when called upon to do so. There are still committees that require a few more members, so if you would like to become involved in something interesting and rewarding, then please get in touch with me or one of your bridge members.

The annual meeting in Orlando (3-6 January) was truly an education for your Commander. Attending such a meeting has the tendency to demystify some of what goes on at the national level, as well as help to bring the "big picture" of the squadron into better focus. Possibly the most important reason for attending the annual meeting is to network with others at the squadron, district and national levels. This interaction helps to develop ideas that can be taken back to the local squadrons and put into practice quickly. Some of these ideas I will discuss in a moment. Aside from such interaction, the big news this year was the complete overhaul of all national squadron committees (see P/R/C Ed Kridler's article for more information), as well as the election of a new Chief Commander. Many speakers during the meeting on Saturday discussed grants that are awarded yearly to non-profit safe boating organizations (sound like anyone we know?) to help with everything from advertising our Vessel

Safety Checks to helping implement programs for cleaner waterways. We now have information to get us started on our grant-writing quest, and I would like to thank Janice Kromer for accepting the job as lead grant writer for the squadron. If you hear of grants or awards available to help further our cause of safe boating, please let Janice or me know.

Also at the meeting were the teaching aids exhibits from all over the country. Once again, D/26 was represented with a teaching aid from each squadron in the district, a feat that only three districts in the country achieved. Also, we heard a presentation from Boat/US[®] announcing that USPS nationally has entered into an agreement with them that allows for the reduced rate of Boat/US membership to be extended to all squadron members. This means that we no longer have to renew our group plan each year on a local level for our members to receive the discounted rate. Also, there is a discount for their tow service, as well as other benefits of membership. If you're not already a member, you may want to consider it.

A final note on the trip to Orlando: It is always more enjoyable and informative when you have a friend, who has been to such a meeting before, at your side your first time. I was truly thankful to have several friends there: Ed & Cindy Kridler, Jim & Carol McVey, Marge Schulte, and Ed Leibfarth. Additionally I am thankful for the many new friendships I believe I developed while in Florida. I felt welcomed, involved and informed. Thank you for a great time!

All right, now for the fun stuff. February's cruise will once again be to the Cape Romain Lighthouse. Details for this cruise are found elsewhere in this edition of The Palmetto Log. David Walsh is the Cruise Chairman this year, and P/C Fred Wichmann is the Cruise Captain for this particular excursion. It's no secret that the recreational boating facilities in McClellanville are a bit meager, but it's also no secret that this is many members' favorite cruise of the year. If you have been before, then I know you're already hooked and I'll see you there. If you haven't, then you simply owe yourself the opportunity to say, "I've been to the top of the lighthouse" with the rest of us! I guarantee reflecting over the day's activities on Saturday

evening over dinner with the rest of the group, will prove to be a moment you won't soon forget. Also, please remember that the annual Hornick Cruise to Buzzard's Roost Marina is 23 March, from 1000 to 1400. Bring your boat to get inspected by the Coast Guard Auxiliary, and bring your stomach for some of the most notorious burgers this side of Lake Marion!

We are looking into occasionally scheduling our membership events (meetings) at different places around the area each month. I started calling them "events" because of some of the venues we are trying to reserve. For instance, we are looking at meeting on the Yorktown, or possibly at Channel 5's weather department (they invited us). How about a meeting at the Hunley facility on the old Naval Base, or at the Coast Guard Station in downtown Charleston (they invited us, too)? We envision meeting at a different place for two months, then on the third month meet back at our headquarters building. I do, however, need some input from everyone on the topic of entry fees. A few places (like the Hunley facility) may cost in the neighborhood of \$20.00 per person to enter, even after hours as we are planning. I doubt that anyone more than I understands how expensive that is right now, but should we scrap the idea because of price? When we met at Dolphin Cove, Charlotte and I would rarely walk out at the end of the evening without spending \$30.00 or so. A trip to a site like the Hunley would be a really special treat, but if only a few can swing the entry fee, I would vote to move the meeting elsewhere. Please contact Lt/C Lee Mims or me with your input.

On 9 January I attended the Flotilla 12-8 meeting of the Coast Guard Auxiliary at the invitation of Commander Dean Creed. He had asked if I would come and give a short presentation to the auxiliary on our squadron (what we do, how we do it). The meeting went very well, as there were numerous questions regarding our organization and, in particular, some of the crossover programs we share (Vessel Safety Checks and the new America's Boating Course, to name two). In an effort to strengthen our friendship with such a fine organization that shares so much with us in the way of purpose and direction, I have extended to their members an open invitation to our

membership events and cruises throughout the year. This information will be published in their monthly newsletter, and hopefully we will have a few takers. There are numerous differences between our two organizations, but there are many similarities. Neither they nor us can do it all. To advance the cause of boating safety in Charleston, it will take a continued team effort to reach as many boaters as possible.

Speaking of America's Boating Course, this is a new program of instruction that the public can purchase directly over the Internet. Once a person signs up, their name, address, and telephone number are forwarded to the educational department at the squadron local to the purchaser, as well as to the local auxiliary flotilla. Both organizations then have the ability to make contact with the purchaser and arrange to proctor the final test for them once they finish their home study coursework. This gives us a wonderful opportunity to explain the many benefits of USPS membership and, hopefully, get them interested in more advanced classes, our many on-the-water activities, or any number of projects we are involved with. This does not replace either our BoatSmart® course or our Basic Boating Course, but it gives a person who, for whatever reason, cannot make our class schedule the ability to get the knowledge they need to safely operate their boat.

One final topic: shortened membership events. You will notice over the next few months that the business portion of our membership events will seem short by comparison. This is intentional. Our goal is to shorten the business portion to approximately 30 minutes, giving more time for the tour/presentation/activity that is scheduled for that evening. The business of the squadron is taken up the first Thursday of each month at our Executive Committee meetings. Here is where the decisions are generally made, and I urge you to attend these open-door forums. The minutes of these meetings will be published each month in The Palmetto Log for those who could not be present. If, upon review of the minutes you have questions or concerns, I urge you to call me or one of your bridge members. We are truly here for you!

Executive Officer

Lt/C Vince Lombardo, S

Belated holiday greetings and happy New Year to all. A new year is upon us and if the January membership meeting is any indication, it will be full of changes, surprises and fun! Special thanks to Tony Ward for manning the bar and “Chef” Terry Marinko for his grilling expertise. Cooked to order, any way you want, and plenty to go around.

By the time this issue is out the Charleston Boat Show will be past and I’m sure will be successful thanks to Lt. Martin Gipe, SN, the participating members, and Nick Russo’s P/R materials.

The Winter Council geodetic mark hunt will also be history but, as of this writing, with the great efforts of Mike Page, Phil Higgins (Swamp Fox) and Dave Moxley (Lake Murray), I am certain it will have been successful and fun for all who chose to attend.

Lt/C Lee Mims, AP, our Admin. Officer, has presented a tentative but very interesting cruise schedule for this year as well as some fine ideas for membership meetings.

Old blood, new blood, sharing ideas, and member participation are already making this a year to look forward to. Speak up and get involved. Let us hear from you... old members and the very newest, alike. We need your input. Help us jump start Charleston Power Squadron toward better classes, bigger social events, greater camaraderie, improved public image, and awareness of our goals and MORE FUN!!!

Administrative Officer

Lt/C Harold Lee Mims III, P

Hello Friends. I hope you all had a great holiday season and have started a great new year. We have been hard at work laying out a fun and exciting year for everyone. Many people have asked to help and that has been a big relief, but as always we still have room for more help. The next committee that I will be asking help for is the hospitality committee. If you have a special gift for this, please feel free to call me anytime.

Our cruises have already been outlined with a year full of short and long cruises with some excellent times for Mike Page’s CoCh excursions. But like everything in our group we would like to hear your suggestions anytime.

Your new cruise director is David Walsh. I extend a personal thanks to him for all his help. There is a new outline for the membership committee that we have adopted from our new commander. This committee has room for anyone that would like to help recruit new members and stimulate other members that have not been involved in the past few years. If you know someone who has not attended the cruises or meetings, please take the time to try and talk them into coming to the next meeting or cruise.

All of our members are important to us!! Since I became a part of the Charleston Power Squadron, I have seen our group grow and its friendships become even stronger. This is a group in which I can proudly say I have many friends. I am looking forward to a great year with everyone.

From the Ship’s Store

Lt/C Loretta Lombardo

CPS SHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE

Shirts with the Charleston Power Squadron Burgee are now available from the Charleston Cotton Exchange, 1758 Ashley River Road. The burgee is in its official colors with “CHARLESTON” in red above and “POWER SQUADRON” in red below the burgee. The pattern is all embroidered. The Cotton Exchange has made a template and will make the shirts to order. It will take a few days from the time you place your order until it is ready to be picked up. This way we do not have to stock an inventory in the Ship’s Store. The pattern can be put on your choice of several styles and colors of shirts. Please see Lt/C Loretta Lombardo if you would like to see what is available from the Cotton Exchange Catalog for shirt styles and colors. The prices are right, and the pattern is very nice.



Educational Officer

Lt/C Stephen C. Kromer, AP

My daddy always told me that when you take a new job; find a way to do something good - fast! So I started thinking about that advice. It took a while and then I realized that since I joined the squadron there has been an ongoing minor little annoying thing that all of the instructors and students have noticed. Chalk. There wasn't any! Shoot, when Dick Finn was trying to explain to me which end of the dipstick went where (or was he calling me a dipstick?) I thought he was going to use his hammer and screwdriver to chisel some of the diagrams on the blackboard. Gene Gilfillin had a different idea. He was going to use battery acid to etch his diagrams. Mike King said something that's not repeatable but he meant, "Not a good plan." Glenn Workman said some things about the JN and N people writing all that funny looking stuff and using up all the chalk dust, but Ed Kridler and Steve Rawe didn't take it too seriously. So now we have chalk, in colors too. I figure, no matter what else happens, at least I accomplished one thing.

For anyone who hasn't seen the posters all around town, we are holding a Boat Smart class at the Charleston Maritime Center. It will be held on 23 February and 2 March (not 3 March as I originally had printed - thanks to Joyce Wichmann for teaching me to read a calendar) from 0900 to 1300. Brochures for this class will be distributed at the boat show beginning 24 January. By the time you get The Palmetto Log we should have all of the instructors lined up for this course, and we'll publish their names in the next issue. In addition to the instructors, we can use some help registering people and scoring the exams. If you would like to help, please give me a call or send me an email.

Spring courses are well under way. We had a very good turn out for Marine Electronics with a total of seven people. Sail has two people but, for some reason, Advanced

Piloting only has one person. Speaking of courses, Fred Wichmann's Cruise Planning course starts Wednesday, 6 February at 1900 and presently already has four people signed up. Anyone else who would like to take Cruise Planning give me a call, send me an email, or just come on down to headquarters.

Finally, congratulations to Mike Hamme who has successfully completed the open book portion of N and to Eleanor Parker who has successfully completed both the open book and closed book portions of JN.

Secretary

Lt/C Charlotte F. Yeomans, P

Hello to all! Another year is presenting itself and with another year comes the 2002 CPS Member Directory.

You should each be contacted in person, by telephone, or by e-mail before mid-February for verification of your information for the Directory. The person contacting you will be looking for your correct rank, grade, the year you joined USPS (not CPS), nickname, spouse's name, all classes completed thus far, birthday (day and month is fine), address (mailing address, if different), telephone numbers, and e-mail address. There will also be information requested pertaining to your vessel: name, size, and power/sail/paddle/etc., for a separate section in the Directory.

Also, the call tree has undergone a face-lift. The revised call tree, which will encompass the entire squadron, will be released in the March The Palmetto Log, as well as being posted at headquarters. Everyone will need to work together to make the tree work successfully - I know that it will be no problem for us!!

If you have not received a telephone call from someone concerning the Directory by 17 February 2002, please contact me at (843) 869-7808 (please leave a message - it will be returned) or cfyedisto@aol.com as soon as possible so I can verify your information.

Thanks to everyone!!

Palmetto Photo Log

CPS 2001-2002 Change of Watch



Your New 2001-2002 Bridge



Oath of Office - This makes it official!



And here's what we're gonna do!



And here's how you should do it.
By da book says Jim!



D/26 Cdr McVey and Carol
Lovely & fun couple!

Palmetto Photo Log

Change of Watch Awards



John Patten - 50 Years in USPS!!



Spark Plug - Janice Kromer



Founders (New) - Boo

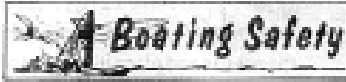
Way to go ladies!!



Bronze Propeller - Billy Lynes



Guess who's getting what here!



Safety Officer

P/C John L. Sikes, AP

Suspicious Activities

Last month the Coxswains from local CG Auxiliary Flotillas 8 had a meeting at Group Charleston. This meeting was devoted to "Suspicious Activities" and was chaired by Ensign Bill Walsh and CMDR Beeson who has been called back into service. What they stressed under "Suspicious Activities" are:

- 1 - Unidentified vehicles or small boats operating, loitering or conducting diving operations near bridges, bulk liquid facilities, vessels or marinas.
- 2 - Unidentified small boats asking about security zones or asking to transit the zone.
- 3 - Unidentified persons photographing or sketching diagrams of facilities/vessels.
- 4 - Unknown persons attempting to gain access to facilities/vessels.
- 5 - Suspicious general aviation aircraft operating near facilities/vessels.
- 6 - Unknown persons calling facilities/vessels to inquire about personnel or operating procedures or schedules.
- 7 - Unknown persons/workers trying to gain access to facilities/vessels to repair, replace, service or install equipment.
- 8 - Unknown persons inquiring to buy small boats with little knowledge of what they're inquiring about or offering quick cash.

They also stressed that it would be most appreciated if we as Auxiliarists could visit our local boat/yacht dealers and inform them to be on the alert for anyone trying to

buy a boat for cash. (Remember those who were trying to buy crop duster planes!)

Group Commander James Tunstall also briefly stopped in at the meeting. He, too, would like a large contingent of Auxiliary facilities out on the water to show the flag and CG Aux. sign boards. I mentioned to him that we kept our vessel at a local marina. However, under present regulations, we are not to keep the sign boards on the vessel if we are not under orders. He indicated that he had no problem if we kept them on at our slips to show the Auxiliary presence; however, if we were using the boat for personal pleasure they could not be kept on the vessel.

All told, we are still under high alert. I know that I can count on all of you to assist in this. The Coast Guard really needs our help during these times and that's what we signed up to do. All Flotillas can help by patrolling the ICW, the lakes and the harbors. **(Note: While the above pertains to Auxiliary members, it may well be considered by anyone wanting to help the Coast Guard.)***

From *The Pelorus*, CG Auxiliary Division 12

*Highlighted by the Editor. Also, John Sykes suggests that any CPS members noticing such activities while cruising should contact the Coast Guard on VHF channels 22 or 22A or by cell phone to report the activity.

News from National

R/C Edwin G. Kridler, SN

USPS COMMITTEES

In the past we have mentioned that, on the national level, there has been an effort to reorganize most of the departments. The primary thoughts behind this effort are to eliminate administrative layers, combine committees that are performing essentially the same functions, to make the department administration more efficient, and to make the national level more responsive to the member's needs and desires. Much of the planned

Cape Romain Cruise

15-17 February 2002

reorganization was approved at the Annual Meeting last month. I would like to address the new committee functions; I am sure that our commander will be discussing other aspects of the meeting in his article.

It was emphasized many times that this reorganization is taking place only at the national level. This does not mean that districts and squadrons must reorganize to match national. In fact, there are good reasons for not instituting many of these changes at the local level.

By far, the most dramatic changes have taken place within the Educational Department. First, committees in the department now report directly to the National Educational Officer and the Assistant National Educational Officer. The division structure at national is a thing of the past. The position of the Educational Course Coordinator has also been eliminated. The 17 department committees have been reduced by 10. I'm not going to go into detail about the new committee structure; if you are interested, please contact me.

The only change in the Executive Department was the elimination of the Safety Committee. This committee has been combined with the Boating Activities Committee of the Administrative Department into a new Boating Activities and Safety Committee in the Administrative Department. There were three other committee changes in the Admin. Dept. First, the Membership Involvement and Membership Committees have been combined into a joint committee. A new Member Benefits Committee has been formed. Finally, the Exhibits Committee has been eliminated and their functions assumed by the Instructor Development Committee in the Educational Department.

There were no changes to either the General Committees or the Standing Committees. There were also no changes in the Secretary's Department or the Treasurer's Department.

By the way, the new electronic course developed jointly between USPS and the Coast Guard Auxiliary, *America's Boating Course*, is on the shelf and is being shipped as of the end of 2001. The first order taken for the new course was from the Charleston area.

This year's Cape Romain Light House Cruise promises to be an event that you won't want to miss. We will overnight on Friday and Saturday (15 & 16 February) at Leland Marine in McClellanville. Cruise Captain, Fred Wichmann will be conducting a guided tour to the historic Cape Romain Lighthouse on Saturday February 16. And we'll have a Saturday night oyster roast at the Crab Pot Restaurant in McClellanville.

Leland Marine is located on Jeremy Creek at McClellanville. Jeremy Creek is at mile marker 430 on the Intracoastal Waterway Chart (11518). From Charleston you will turn to port just before marker FI G "35". Follow Jeremy Creek about a quarter mile to Leland Marine on your right. Showers, power hook ups and fuel are available, but bring your own food and supplies. There isn't any shopping nearby.

We will leave together for the boat trip to Lighthouse Island on Saturday morning at about 0730. Our early morning departure takes advantage of high tide and gives us several hours to explore this unique and beautiful island.

Remember to bring your rubber boots. There is no dock. Access to Lighthouse Island is by shore and the trail may have some muddy spots, depending on weather. Also, don't forget the binoculars for wildlife viewing. Our boat trip is in the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, one of the top bird sanctuaries on the east coast.

After the lighthouse tour we will return to the McClellanville dock. Saturday evening, an oyster roast is planned at the Crab Pot Restaurant on Highway 17 at McClellanville. Festivities will begin at approximately 1830. All you land-lubbers that can't make the cruise can join the group for dinner and social fun (as well as providing some land transportation for the sea salts).

For more information on the Cape Romain Cruise, contact Fred Wichmann at 843-795-2100 or David Walsh at 843-556-3258.



Annual **Hornick Cruise** Set for
23 March 2002

The annual Hornick Cruise will take place at Buzzards Roost Marina, 2408 Maybank Highway on Johns Island on Saturday, 23 March 2002 from 1000 to 1400. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will conduct Vessel Safety Checks. Bring your boat for a safety check. A cookout at the marina will follow at about 1330.

Full details will be published in next month's The Palmetto Log, or call Cruise Captain P/C John Sikes, AP at (H)843-569-0994, (W)744-2551 or Co-captain Cdr Steve Yeomans, P at 843-869-7808.



 An illustration of a buzzard perched on a wooden sign that reads "BUZZARDS ROOST MARINA". Below the sign, a boat is shown on the water.

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- Laundry▪Restaurant▪Gas & Diesel Fuel▪
- Swimming Pool▪Party Building▪
- Clean Rest Rooms & Showers▪
- Boat Sales▪Seafarer's Club▪

On the Stono at Maybank Highway
VHF Channels 16 & 68

(803) 559-5516

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P/D/C Harry A Brunson, Owner

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