



Sound of the Pamlico Newsletter

October 2023

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A District 27 Squadron

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October 19th General Membership Dinner Meeting

What a terrific evening, we had a surprise visit from our D27 Commander, Bill Beers, JN and his wife Barbara Beers, Commander of the Catawba Sail & Power Squadron. The meals served were excellent and April DeGennaro took on the role of the 50/50 drawing with a surprise of numerous donations provided by Dowry Creek Marina that included several free slips, free meals, etc!

Our speaker was inspirational, Liz arranged for individuals from the Beaufort Community College to speak at our meeting regarding their newly introduced boat manufacturer and service program. Ben Morris, Dean of Business, Technology & Public Services has been at the college for 20 years starting there as an instructor in the Criminal Justice program. Ben quickly introduced Aaron Adams, Lead Instructor of the Boat Building Program. Aaron was born and raised in Beaufort County attending NC State University earning an Associate in Applied Science degree. His passion for teaching the boat building trade and passing that love of the trade to the next generation was very quickly apparent.

The Boat Manufacture & Service Technology program prepares students for employment in all aspects of the manufacture, repair and service industries of boats.

This is a 1 year program (Spring through Summer) and includes reading and interpreting marine blueprints, manuals common to the industry, lofting, constructing tooling and mold-making, application of modern concepts and techniques in composite lamination, repair of various marine finishes, marine woodworking, interior finishing and marine mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems. Students learn the basics of boat design and implementation from design and the implementation of those designs through completion of a boat through on the water tested.

The result is a Boat Construction Diploma that clearly focuses on modern materials and boat manufacturing. Graduates will be equipped to find employment with boat/yacht manufacturers, custom boat builders, marinas, boat service/repair yards, electronics and boat dealerships. Aaron collaborates with industry partners in and around Beaufort County that includes student tours of their facilities, hands-on student experiences and classroom visits sets up graduating students for a meaningful position in our local boating industry.



Courses	
First Semester	
• Intro to Composites	
• Intro to Marine Woodworking	
• Blueprints/Lofting	42 credit hours to complete diploma
Second Semester	
• Hull and Deck Construction	
• Tooling and Mold Construction	
• Marine Spray Finishing	
Third Semester	
• Composite Production	
• Marine Systems Rigging	

Commander's Corner

Cdr. Walt Morrissey



The year of 2023 is marching along. Welcome October. I hope you are ready for a busy Fall. We have lots of plans for the Holidays and always welcome more ideas.

I am hopeful you enjoyed the days of Summer. I am excited for the change of seasons and all the beautiful afternoons it will offer. Please find a place to enjoy. I would welcome any invitations for Marisa and I to join you. (No kidding!).

I was happy to fly the Burgee for the Pamlico Sail and Power Squadron on a recent Power Squadron cruise to New Bern. Many boaters recognize our Squadron Burgee. I was even more thrilled to be able to fly the Commander Burgee. Thank you members, as your Commander it was an experience Marisa and I will embrace forever. I was honored to fly it (and I did not hit the dock)! See you on the water very soon.



Nomination Committee is working hard on our slate for 2024. We need your help. Don't be bashful. Our Club needs volunteers. Many want to help but don't know how. Contact me, I will make it easy, we need you.

I was happy to announce at our October meeting that our Squadron will be hosting the 2024 Summer Rendezvous for District 27. After meeting with WHDA, Visitor Center and Festival Park/Docks as well as other program presenters, we find we have many options to create an interesting weekend that will be something ABC-Pamlico will be proud of and an event that our Members will surely have a great time. We hope for your support in this effort as we start our planning. Click on [here](#) to see the Save the Date Flyer for the August 2nd and 3rd for the Rendezvous details....mark your calendar!



Another meeting highlight was providing Scott Mackenzie his Certificate of Life Membership. Scott Mackenzie, AP joined USPS in May of 1990 and through years volunteering as an instructor in education, writing articles for the Sound of the Pamlico and other volunteer efforts, he has earned 25 Merit Marks and now has Lifetime Membership status. Thank you and congratulations Scott!



Rudolph Ramirez
Belhaven, NC

Executive Officer

Lt/C Rio DeGennaro, P



We had an outreach opportunity for ABC-Pamlico through the Beaufort County High School Marine Trade Fair on October 3rd at the Northside High School. Bob Vecchi, Mike Karlovich joined me at the Trade Fair. Since we do not have a “trade” to showcase, our purpose is to advocate for learning marine related trades and the need for skilled young people in areas like diesel and gas engine mechanics, fiberglass fabrication, marine electronics and electrical systems, etc. Unfortunately, there were no boat builders attending but we did have 5 groups visiting our Club’s table. The kids were most impressed with the hourly rate paid to marine workers.

It’s that time of year again and I’ve reached out to confirm our annual participation in two key areas in support of our communities holiday season.



Toys for Tots collections will be getting started beginning with our November Social outing at The Salty Crab for your unwrapped gifts. Additionally, three boxes have been ordered. One for the Washington Yacht & Country Club, one for the Cypress Landing Golf Course and one for the Cypress Landing Marina. By early December, we will be turning in all collected items for distribution to children within Beaufort County. I hope you can help in this worthwhile effort.

Also our annual effort for the Salvation Army Bell Ringing will be scheduled sometime in December. We have received an invitation from the Salvation Army to attend a breakfast for bell ringers and April and I will attend representing ABC-Pamlico.

Many volunteers have commented on this as a rewarding experience as you see the charitable giving within the Washington and surrounding communities. We will need some volunteers to help us, help this community effort. It will only take an hour of your time. We will be communicating date and signup requests soon and hope you will be able to volunteer.



It’s not too late for a VSC Inspection. Fortunately, here in coastal North Carolina, we are able to boat at least a few days of almost every month. But do you have your Vessel Safety Inspection this year? We will verify the presence and condition of certain safety equipment required by State and Federal regulations.

USPS/America’s Boating Club members can now get coupons worth 20% off certain safety equipment purchases at West Marine in store or on line. **Control & click here to get the coupon for printing.**

If you do not have your inspection yet, email me at VSC@pspsnc.com or contact any of the Inspectors shown below.

Rio DeGennaro	678-313-4583
Bill Ramsden	252-364-5195
Mike Karlovich	919-810-6259
Bob Vecchi	518-703-4881

Educational Officer

Lt/C Bob Vecchi, P



Fall has arrived, and with it the early morning chill, giving way to warmer afternoons, which makes it difficult to know how to dress. I prefer to dress in layers and peel them off as the day goes on. This is a lot different than up north where I came from. Those boaters up there are pulling their boats, winterizing them, and putting them to sleep for the upcoming winter. We, on the other hand, are enjoying the cooler temperatures that make boating more pleasant. One of the other perks of the cooler weather is that most boaters, especially those who have smaller day boats, are using them less often which allows all of us more time to catch up on some educational opportunities that the squadron offers.

Last month we provided the "All about VHF/DSC Marine Radio" Seminar, which was a lot more interesting than even I had planned. We all know the basics of how the radios work, but most of us had little understanding of how the DSC feature worked. Well, I am here to tell you that our own Wayne Estabrooks put on a



presentation that was awesome. He had two radios set up in the room, connected together with antenna cable so they wouldn't actually transmit out on the airwaves. And he demonstrated how one radio could search out another and communicate together. This process is a lot more involved than I may be making it sound, and more than half of the session was spent with hands on by everyone. For those who missed it, I plan to do it again in the spring so keep watching for the announcement. We had ?? students attending. Thanks again to Wayne!



Another Fall seminar was "Partner in Command" on Tuesday, October 24th with 22 students attending. Cathy encouraged student participation relating to PFD drills. This is our third seminar and they seem to be very popular with members and non-members as well. So, I will be trying to have one at least every other month going forward in 2024.

District 27, and our own Tom Graham, DSEO, is putting together a "Virtual Online Instructor Development (ID) Course". This would certify instructors who are interested in teaching the ABC Course, which as you know every squadron must give at least once a year. So, I am looking for interested members of **our** squadron who would like to get this training, especially since Tom is the only truly certified instructor we have, and he deserves a break. Please reach out to me at educationaloffice@pspsnc.com or call me at 518-703-4881 to express interest in this opportunity.

We are getting into the holiday season, so I want to wish everyone a healthy and happy one. And just as important, a safe one out on the water. And what better way is there to be safe, than to know what it takes to be a safe boater, which only comes from training.

Click on the link below for short, **FREE** vidios and safety tips. Most are under 10 minutes and you can subscribe for more as they continue to be released.

<https://www.youtube.com/@AmericasBoatingChannel/videos>

Administrative Officer

Lt/C Liz Wheeler



Our October 19 general meeting hosted 35 members and 6 guests. We were treated to a visit from District 27 Commander Bill Beers and his wife Barbara. Our speakers from Beaufort County Community College were Dean Ben Morris and Lead Instructor Aaron Adams. Aaron's wife Samantha also attended. New members Mike and Terri Johnson, and Terri's mother joined us, too.

As a follow-up to Keith Rittmaster's wonderful August presentation on whales, 16 members participated in 2 tours of the Bonehenge Whale Center in Beaufort on October 1. Keith provided fascinating hands-on tours for us. And a member from each tour left with an unexpected souvenir.

Friday, December 8 is our Christmas Party. Details are yet to be finalized, so stay alert for updates. If you would like to volunteer to help with ideas and planning for this festive party, please contact me at 301-928-1056 or email administrativeofficer@pspsnc.com.

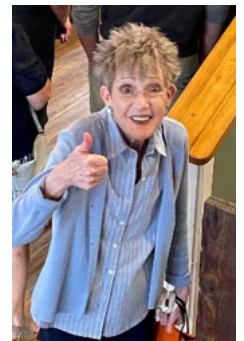
Assistant Administrative Officer - Social

Lorne Hope, AP



I'm happy to report that our September Social gathering was another success. With the WHDA announcing a FAB Crawl in downtown Washington that evening, I was able to secure an early dinner reservation at Down on Main Street on the 15th. The FAB Crawl enhanced the pleasure of the evening. The weather was perfect and the streets were blocked off and filled with people. Overall a great evening in Downtown Washington!

November Social outing is The Salty Crab at Dowry Creek in Belhaven! Click [HERE](#) for details for luncheon at a recommended new restaurant.



It was also a perfect time to meet and welcome our new members, Mike & Terri Johnson who recently moved to Washington.



Assistant Administrative Officers - Boating Tadd & Karen Herron, P



The Scheduled Cruises for 2023 has wrapped up with the cruise to River Dunes in early October. But coastal NC has many beautiful days left for cruising. If anyone has a idea for a day cruise, an overnight on the hook, a raft-up or just a trip to Bath for pizza, let us know, we can get a quick spur of the moment email out for others to join you. Simply email boatingactivities@pspsnc.com with a few details and a contact number.

Greetings from perpetually sunny Port City Marina. Life is good and exploring Wilmington is a blast, but we miss cruising with all of you. Karen and I are slowly whittling down the long list of restaurants & bars all within walking distance (1 mile) of the marina as well as multiple outdoor music venues. We're always ready to entertain, call or text us at 252-916-4832. So y'all come down now, ya hear?



Cruise updates....Sadly, Ocracoke Labor Day Cruise was scratched due to the storm that weekend. However, one boat, Midnight Rambler, went over on Sunday after the storm cleared.

The New Bern/River Dunes trip had some stumbling blocks. Those who intended to cruise to Oriental to begin the trip found there were no slips available due to a music event that was going on in the town. So only three boats left on Friday morning, the Danielle Marie, Sandy Paws, and the Rambler. Also Walt's boat, which is in between names right now, left on Thursday stopping over at River Dunes before going to New Bern on Friday morning to join us.

We all left on Sunday morning for River Dunes, one night and back in port on Monday. Not much going on in River Dunes this time of year. Nothing open except the pool which was cold but the hot tub worked well for some of us! And we owned the pool deck space for a wonderful buffet of very scrumptious hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, all provided by our boaters.

[Fall Cruise to Dowry Creek Marina](#), November 14 – 16 wraps up the season. Perfect for a winter fuel run and taking in the Social Luncheon at their new restaurant.



**Boating Tips
Column
Washington Daily
News**

Tom McCluskey and Mike Karlovich, our team of ABC-Pamlico writers, continues to provide interesting articles for the monthly Boating Column published in the Washington Daily News. This is an important role for our Squadron as it keeps America's Boating Club of the Pamlico in the minds of our local recreational boaters as the recognized organization for boating education and skill building.

Articles since the last Newsletter printing:

- Second in Command
- [America's Great Loop](#)

To see all articles and other news releases, visit the website at <http://www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org/index.php/news-info/psps-blog>

Nighttime Boating Safety Tips

There are many reasons why you may find yourself out on the water after dark. You may be night fishing, taking a moonlit cruise or getting back after a dinner that ran long. Night boating adds particular challenges. The key is to be prepared, vigilant and cautious, you'll find that nighttime excursions can be quite pleasant.

Slow down - Visibility is reduced at night. Distances are harder to judge, obstacles are difficult to see, and moisture and temperature changes create distortion. Boats can come out of nowhere and debris and crab pots are nearly invisible on inky black water. Unless there's a full moon, open water and no traffic, don't run on plane.

Share the lookout duties - The Captain has much to do including keeping an eye on gages, checking the chart plotter in addition to actually driving. Keep a second pair of eyes strictly on the horizon with a periodic 360-degree scan to ensure no one is coming up from behind or at an angle.

Tap into your preparations list - Before ever setting out in the dark, you should have refreshed the batteries in your flashlights and headlamps, put binoculars close to the helm and located PFDs. You may consider wearing PFDs with an attached strobe light or glow stick in case someone goes overboard.

Preserve your night vision - Dim all the onboard lights including courtesy lights, instrument and chart plotter backlighting and cabin lights. Your night vision can take 20 minutes to adapt back to darkness after a flash of light. Use flashlights with a vision-preserving red filter and check the plotter only when needed because even when dimmed, it will impact your ability to see out of the boat. Toss a towel over parts of your console to cut down on ambient onboard light.

Look for the red and green - Running and marker lights are red and green. Entering a harbor in North America, follow the rule: Red, Right, Returning which means keep the red lights to starboard to stay in a safe channel. Consider what a boat looks like under way on the water:

- Red & green lights are forward on either side of the bow and a white light is aft at the stern.
- If you see both red & green, the boat is coming head on.
- If you see white, the boat is ahead of you and/or moving away.
- If in doubt and you see red, stop – A boat is crossing your bow and it has the right of way.

Before departing on your voyage, check to make sure your navigation lights are operable so you're visible to others.

Listen - Turn off entrainment/music and listen. You may hear fog horns, bells or other boats approaching. Use your hearing, which may seem more acute in the dark when you can't completely rely on your eyes.

Trust your navigation instruments - Your eyes can play tricks on you in the dark so if your chart plotter is trustworthy normally, don't suddenly decide it must be wrong. If your chart plotter hasn't been updated or you're not all that familiar with its use, slow down and approach with caution until you figure out whether your eyes and ears or your electronics are right.

Dock with extra caution - Again, distances are distorted at night so only approach a dock as fast as you're willing to hit it. Ask crew not to jump onto a dock but rather step off calmly when the boat is close enough. Double-check everyone's knots and hitches before leaving the boat unattended in a slip.

Don't use headlights or spotlights - You're not in a car and the reflective water kills the benefits of bright forward lights. Use docking lights only when arriving at your destination like at a dock or another boat. Use spotlights help you see close-up detail like cleats and handholds after reaching your destination.

Source: *Discover Boating*



Carbon Monoxide Dangers

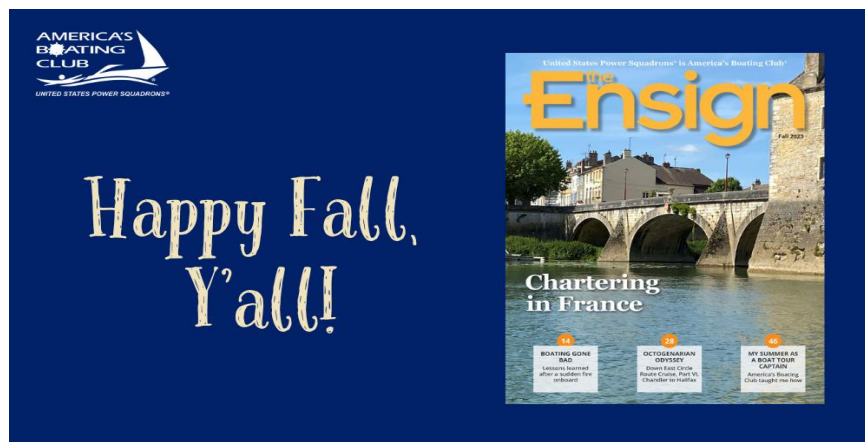
The "CARBON MONOXIDE DANGERS" video covers one of the most dangerous threats to operators and passengers on powerboats. Viewers will learn the typical sources of CO emissions on boats and how to mitigate them. Also featured are how to recognize CO poisoning and steps to help victims.

Copy the link below into your internet address line for the video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4vByHXC_lo&list=PLglbejIMU2HefYrldNBfQxhOLpd8pQG&index=4

These videos are developed to provide a focus on boating safety and safe boating education. Hope you find them of interest.

The Ensign Fall 2023 issue



In this issue, we follow our intrepid octogenarians on part six of their Down East Circle Route Cruise. You'll learn how America's Boating Club helped a member become a boat tour captain, explore the joys of chartering in France and discover the lessons learned after an onboard fire.

To read this issue, copy this link into your internet address line:

https://theensign.org/images/fall2023/?mc_cid=ae1c6854c8&mc_eid=bfac945e46

Member Benefit Highlights



West Marine Safety Equipment Coupons

USPS members can now get coupons worth 20% off certain safety equipment purchases at West Marine in store or on line. The coupons are good until the end of this year. Details and terms are printed on the coupons.

Control & click [here](#) to get the coupon for printing.

Your USPS certificate number is your ticket to real savings!

To see all USPS Member Benefits, visit <https://www.usps.org/index.php/departments/14000/1450001/benefits-alphabetical>

October General Membership photos



We enjoyed April's enthusiasm and happily she was a winner too!

Once our Website software upgrade has been completed, photos from this event will be posted.

Nominations for 2024 has kicked off!

Being asked to serve is a testament to the respect members have for you. You need not commit to a bridge officer role, there are many support chairs and one off event role that might be just right for you. You will find volunteering simply feels good and continues to be the *heart* of our Squadron. Don't wait for them, let them know what might interest you!

The Nominating Committee is: Walt Morrissey – commander@pspsnc.org; Sharon Alligood – shanglin@aol.com; Chris Young – chrisyoung@suddenlink.net.

America's Boating Club of the Pamlico Ship Store

Our Administrative Officer, Liz Wheeler has PSPS Burgees, shown below, in stock and available at a cost of \$25.00/each.



Contact Liz at administrativeofficer@pspsnc.com to place your order or give her a call at 301-928-1056 with any questions.



The National Ship's Store is set up for direct ordering of many articles including shirts, sweatshirts, wind shirts, ties, belts and boating accessories. Certified instructor and vessel examiner shirts and gear are already available, gift items and much more.

See more at <https://store.shopusps.org> and review catalog of items.

Return Policy: if you should receive defective merchandise or you are not happy with your purchase, USPS will accept returns and exchanges of unworn, unwashed merchandise with a valid receipt within 90 days of purchase.

Shipping Location: 1504 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27607

Join or Renew Your Membership



We appreciate you!

**Thank you,
America's Boating Club of the
Pamlico, for your continued
promotion of
boating safety and education!**



**The Cypress Landing Yacht
Club**

We appreciate our virtual home at WYCC.



24-Hour
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Whitford & Associates, Inc.



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Washington, NC 27889

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Phone 252-793-3232

Fax 252-946-6860

RyanWhitford@allstate.com

www.allstate.com/RyanWhitford
Auto, Home, Life, Retirement

Thank You!
to our Sponsors

America's Boating Club of the Pamlico is very grateful for the continued support of our local community. Your confidence has measurably helped the Squadron move forward with boating safety as well as other educational and civic programs.

**Come Cruise with
USPS/ABClub!**

Come have fun cruising around the Caribbean! Different trips each year on different ships.

**For information on the
February 2024 Cruise,
[Click Here for the Flyer](#)**

Each cruise is a fundraiser for
USPS/ABClub.

Please send all questions to Dawn Eckart
at dawn@dawnstraveldeals.com or call
(727) 403-0406

Contact Information

Bridge

Commander

Cdr [Walt Morrissey](#)

Executive Officer

Lt/C [Rio DeGennaro, S](#)

Educational Officer

Lt/C [Bob Vecchi, P](#)

Administrative Officer

Lt/C [Liz Wheeler](#)

Treasurer

Lt/C [Tom Graham, SN](#)

Secretary

Lt/C [Marisa Morrissey](#)

Asst Education Officer

Lt Cathy Karlovich, JN

Assistant Secretary

Lt Edith Hope

Assistant Treasurer

Lt/C Bob Young, AP

Asst Admin-Social

[Lorne Hope, AP](#)

Asst Admin-Boating

[Tadd & Karen Herron, P](#)

Executive Committee

Lt Jeff Wollard, P

P/Lt/C Chris Young, S

P/Lt/C Ed Mann, AP

Lt Cathy Karlovich, JN

Other Contacts

Membership Chair

Lt [Sue Duclos](#)

Communications

P/Lt/C [Chris Young, S](#)

Vessel Safety Chair

Lt/C [Rio DeGennaro, P](#)

National Awards Received



2022 Distinctive Communicator Award PSPS Website



2022 Distinctive Communicator Award PSPS Sound of the Pamlico Newsletter

District 27

Ship's Store



Now Open

<https://district27.qbstores.com>
Instant discount coupons and flat rate shipping available.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

For more information go to our PSPS Website Calendar [here](#):

November

14 – 16 [Fall Cruise to Dowry Creek Marina](#)

15 [Social Luncheon – The Salty Crab at Dowry Creek w/Toys for Tots Collection](#)

December

8 Christmas Party at WYCC
TBD Salvation Army Bell Ringing

January 2024

13 [Summit to Success-Cary, NC](#)
(formerly District Winter Training)

Be Sure to Visit us on [PSPS Facebook](#)

Sound of the Pamlico is published six times a year by the Pamlico Sail & Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadron know as America's Boating Club. The editor reserves the right to modify materials submitted for publication. Questions, articles or comments should be directed to the [Editor](#).