



Sound of the Pamlico Newsletter

December 2023

Volume 23, No.6

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Our Christmas Party – December 8th

Our Christmas party was a wonderful celebration with 50+ members attending in holiday spirit. Liz organized an energetic and amazing gathering amidst the beautifully decorated Washington Yacht and Country Club. A special thanks to the many of our members who shared their favorite cookies for dessert.



Our entertainment was provided by our very own Tom McCluskey, and Steve Orofino during the social hour as well as later sets. The duo performed a variety of music including many beautiful Christmas renditions. They finished with a number of popular holiday sing alongs that had full participation from members!

Liz had a couple of unexpected, fun group activities during the night. The first was a "Holiday Trivia Clue Answers – You Create the Question" which was a list of 21 holiday related answers that each table had to create questions for to fit the answers provided. The table groups came up with very creative questions for those answers and April DeGennaro was quick to provide the question for a difficult 1-word answer. The answer was "KFC" and she provided the question "What's the most popular Christmas meal in Japan?"

And the second was a hysterical Christmas Stocking challenge, "What's in Your Stocking?" Liz passed a filled stocking to each table. Members were required to take turns identifying 12 common household, child or holiday related items in a Christmas stocking by touch only...not looking or emptying the stocking. All members did a great job of identifying items even though not all stockings had the same items.



What an excellent surprise Liz, thank you! Our Christmas gathering sure put everyone into a festive holiday mood and a perfect kick off to a happy holiday season. Enjoy more party photos [here!](#)

Commander's Corner**Cdr. Walt Morrissey**

Merry Christmas to all. I hope this Newsletter finds you enjoying this Christmas Season with the warmth of family and friends.

As you bask in the glow of this warmth it is also the time of year to look back at 2023 and forward to 2024. I enjoyed so many club events and activities in 2023. I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as I did. Great speakers, fun gatherings, and wonderful cruising events.

On top of this we presented top quality training and education topics and conducted important Vessel Safety Checks, which directly support Boater Safety. If that wasn't enough, we were also able to share all of this through our Newsletters and flyers. Thanks to everyone that made this possible.

For 2024 I have two focus areas for all of us: Volunteering & Ideas

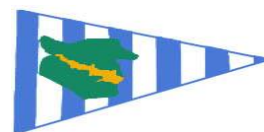
We need your help...our Squadron is starting 2024 with some vacancies in the Bridge and other chair volunteers. Our squadron will be hosting Rendezvous 2024 for District 27, we also plan to restart our Marine Flea Market. Both will need volunteers and you are guaranteed to have fun while helping our Club. We have many needs, all are small and strait forward. Please consider reaching out to me or the Nomination Committee (Chris Young, Sharon Alligood). I am sure we can find something that you will feel very comfortable with as we plan 2024. If you are hesitant, I understand but please give it a try, I promise you it will add to your enjoyment in our Club.

Give us your ideas...Speakers for 2024 General Meetings is a blank slate. We are always looking for a broad range of educational, leadership and inspirational presentations for our General Meetings loosely connected to a Marine topic. Sometimes this comes from members of our local community. Sometimes it can come from our club members doing interesting things, sharing adventures, and hobbies. If you have ideas or have encountered someone that you think would add to a Club Meeting please let us know. Also, if you have other ideas for cruises, social meeting restaurants, events or anything else please share with us.

I am excited that 2024 will offer us many of the routine events and activities that we enjoy and also look forward to your fresh ideas.



A highlight for our Squadron was recognizing and providing Ed Mann, AP with his 50th year of membership certificate. We are very fortunate to have Ed's years of membership contribution supporting our missions from past Bridge roles, VSC Inspector for many years, to his continued role on our Executive Committee. We appreciate you Ed, Commander Walt



Bill and Marti Davis Reinstated Members
Chocowinity, NC

Executive Officer

Lt/C Rio DeGennaro, P



Winter is not always the best time to be out on the water. Fortunately, as members of America's Boating Club of the Pamlico we have many civic and social activities that bring us together during the holiday season. It is not only wonderful to do "good work" for the community but also great to see everyone smiling and enjoying each other's company. Our members are always eager to help the community on and off the water. It is rewarding to be part of such an active and generous organization which is why the Pamlico Chapter of America's Boating Club is thriving. Thank you everyone for another successful holiday outreach!

Our Toys for Tots collection was very successful. We organized boxes at Cypress Landing Golf Club and Marina, Washington Yacht & Country Club for donations. I've approximated at 6 boxes of donations collected. In addition, we collected toys at our November 15th social luncheon at the Salty Crab at Dowry Creek. I'm happy to say the donations completely filled the back of an SUV!



ABC-Pamlico devoted Wednesday, December 6th, to ringing the bell for The Salvation Army. This year we had 2, 3 and sometimes 4 bell ringers on and off with at least 24 volunteers involved in this effort. This is an important fund raiser for the Salvation Army in their support of our local communities and your efforts are appreciated.

Here's only a few photos of some of our volunteers....



**Save the Date
Change of Watch
Saturday, March 9th
Luncheon, Elections and Awards**

Educational Officer**Lt/C Bob Vecchi, P**

Joni and I wish you all Happy Holidays.

Your Education Team will meet in January to layout an education schedule for early 2024. Tentatively, we will provide the America's Boating Course in February. Watch for more details coming out after the new year.

Just a reminder - 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. We have a few instructors interested so far and looking for any other interested members of our squadron who would like to get this training. Please reach out to me at 518-703-4881 or email me at educationaloffice@pspsnc.com if you are interest in learning more about this opportunity. The tentative date for this virtual course is later in January.

Wishing you all a safe, healthy and joyful New Year!



**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:

- [America's Great Loop](#)
- [Deck the Hulls – How to Safely Decorate your Boat](#)

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

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

The Christmas Party on Friday, December 8 was attended by 50 people. This included our reinstated members Bill and Marti Davis. Special recognition was given to Ed Mann for his 50 years of membership in squadron. Also, included were the duo of the evening's entertainers – Tom McCluskey and Steve Orofino - along with their respective spouses, Beth and AJ. Attendees may have recognized Tom and Beth as PSPS members, and Steve and AJ as residents of Cypress Landing. Tom and Steve had last performed for us in 2019, at that time as a trio. December 2023's performance was outstanding and put us all in the holiday spirit. Everyone had fun participating in two holiday themed games. A big shout of thanks to all who brought cookies for our after-dinner treats.

Our next general meeting event will be the Change of Watch on Saturday, March 9, 2024. Details are yet to be finalized, so stay alert for updates. If you would like to volunteer to help with ideas and planning for 2024 general meetings, please email me at administrativeofficer@pspsnc.com or give me a call at 301-928-1056.

Assistant Administrative Officer - Social

Lorne Hope, AP

What a social success we had on November 15th. We had a total of 42 members and guests attending the Dowry Creek's Salty Crab restaurant for lunch. A number of our boaters cruised down for a couple nights enjoying the fall weather. How the marina has changed...it's obvious why so many boaters and Waterway Guide is recognizing it as such a great marina choice.

Next Social Event will be planned for February 2024. Watch for details after the New Year! Enjoy the holiday season. Click [here](#) for more photos.



Assistant Administrative Officers - Boating Tadd & Karen Herron, P



Happy Holidays to everyone! Karen and I are continuing to enjoy our stay at Port City Marina in Wilmington. We continue to explore and feel we have only visited 50% the list of downtown restaurants, bars and shops. We hope the Squadron comes our way next spring...you'll love it!

We are happy to report 2023 was another very active cruise season for the Squadron. It all started with a super aggressive early season cruise all the way into the Chesapeake by a number of boats. After that, the members hit several of the usual spots including Dowry Creek, Oriental, Beaufort and River Dunes.

It has been our joy to coordinate Squadron cruises for the last couple of years. We will miss the active cruising group that is ABC-Pamlico. Every cruise we've taken with all of you has been the highlights of our boating seasons thanks to all of you who were able to join the fun. We're looking forward to the 2024 cruising year coming south!



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=z4vByHXClo&list=PLglbejIMU2HeflYrldNBfQxhOLpd8pQGb&index=4>

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

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>



Congratulations Members on your 2023 Merit Mark!

A "Merit Mark" is awarded by the USPS Chief Commander to a member for personal effort in furthering the interest, programs, and objectives of the United States Power Squadron, its districts and local squadrons. It is often the only official recognition members receive for member efforts from National or District. Merit Marks are awarded to those individuals who have volunteered at 12 hours or more in the past year. Only one merit mark may be awarded in a year to a single member, no matter how extensive the contribution.

We are pleased to honor the following list of volunteers for their effort and teamwork throughout 2023 totaling just under 1,400 hours. Our Squadron is much stronger because of your efforts!

Alligood, Gene R.
Alligood, Sharon
Rio DeGennaro
Doar Jr. William R.
Duclos, Susan H.
Estabrooks, Wayne
Graham, Karen
Graham, Thomas J.
Hackney III, James A.
Hasslinger, Kelly

Herron, Tadd F.
Hope, Edith
Hope, Lorne
Karlovich, Catherine A.
Karlovich, Michael
Leinenweber, Lewis
Mann Jr., Ed S.
McCluskey, Elizabeth
McCluskey, Thomas A.
Morrissey, Marisa
Ramsden, William J.

Rebholz, John C.
Sholl, William C.
Templeton, Bill L.
Templeton, Susie E.
Vecchi, Robert J.
Waite, William J.
Wheeler, Elizabeth
Woolard, Jeffrey T.
Young, Christine L.
Young, Robert F.

At District 27 level, Walt Morrissey has received his Merit Mark in honor of his effort and leadership as Pamlico Sail & Power Squadron Commander for 2023.



A Very Merry Christmas Party!

Enjoy more party photos [here](#).



**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.



***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.

Ryan Whitford

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America's Boating Club Annual Spring Meeting

When: February 3 – 12, 2024

**Where: Rosen Plaza Hotel
Orlando, FL**

[Click here for more details](#)

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](#).