



# Sound of the Pamlico Newsletter

August 2022

Volume 22, No.4

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## August 18th General Membership Dinner Meeting



Our General Membership Dinner Meeting was a real treat. We've all attended days of the Big Rock over the years, watching the tournament results closely and we appreciate Liz's efforts to secure speakers of Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament organization.

An added pleasure, Jim Hackney described a very special connection to the annual Big Rock Marlin Tournament. He shared, that his father, James Hackney Jr, caught the first marlin off the NC coast in 1956. It was a white marlin out of Morehead City on the charter boat Dolphin II (Capt. George Bedworth).



It began "marlin mania" in NC, which led to the establishment of the Big Rock Marlin Tournament the following year, 1957. Jim happily introduced us to our speakers that evening.

Morehead City native, Madison Struyk worked for the tournament during her summers while attending NC State University. Upon graduation in 2015, she interned for Big Rock and later accepted a full-time role served in several capacities, before transitioning into her current role as Executive Director. She was joined by Carlee Sharpe, who grew up in Smithfield, NC, attended UNC-Wilmington joining Big Rock in 2019. She is now Director of both the Big Rock Kids & Keli Wagner Lady Angler Tournaments.

In 1957 the day came when members of the Fabulous Fishermen Club decided to settle the issue of Blue Marlin existence once and for all. The Fabulous Fishermen (a loose-knit group of Morehead City fishing enthusiasts) got together with several local merchants and announced they would pay a cash prize to the first person who could catch a blue marlin in the waters just off the Crystal Coast. That did the trick, it encouraged anglers and captains to head further offshore. Fishermen sighted blue marlin throughout that summer, with no one landing one. Finally on September 14, 1957, Raleigh angler Jimmy Croy, fishing aboard the Mary Z with Capt. K.W. "Bill" Olsen, landed a 143-pound blue marlin. This special catch forever changed the face of Crystal Coast fishing. The largest blue marlin to date, has been recorded in 2019...914-pounds!

The organization has had amazing growth attracting major sponsors and included the KW Ladies Anglers, the Big Rock Kids and in 2018 with Salt Life created the Big Rock Big Hero program. They focus on conservation, innovation and charitable giving - \$ 7,567,448 charitable donations since 1986.

To learn more, browse their website at <https://www.thebigrock.com/history>

## Commander's Corner

## Cdr. Walt Morrissey



I think Summer is easing up it's grip on Eastern NC. I often think about the seasonal changes that we enjoy and how it adds to the texture of our lives. Cooler mornings are welcomed, but the warmed waters of our pools, rivers and sounds are still available for us to enjoy. I have learned to appreciate the Fall and challenge myself to get out and enjoy. I hope you are enjoying NC waters as much as I am.

As we shift into September and beyond, our Squadron is getting ready for a busy Fall Season. We are also beginning to talk about our traditional events coming up such as Toys for Tots and Bell Ringing, remaining cruises, socials, the Past Commander Event and our Christmas Party. Stay tuned for more details of those events. Be assured, I am always interested in your ideas for our Club. If you have any suggestion please share. I am all ears.

I am thrilled that we have been able to consistently attract new members into our Club that are excited to join us. See the photos below of our New Member Mixer held on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Typically an annual event, we are happy to have had an opportunity to restart this fun, welcoming event following the time off during COVID. Appetizers and beverages were enjoyed. Our new members got to know each other as well as our Bridge Officers and a better understanding of the roles within the Club. Of our 28 new members since 2021, we enjoyed the evening with 17 new members. Our efforts in Education, outreach (VSC), and fun social and boating events serve our boating community well. I am proud to be a part of it.



## Be sure to Welcome our additional New Members!



**James Bentley & Nathan Bell**  
Rolesville, NC

**Richard & Nancy Worsinger**  
Rocky Mount, NC

**Nelson & Lynda Bryson**  
Greensboro, NC



**Suzanne & David Robinson**  
Chocowinity, NC

**John & Becky Fethiere**  
Bath, NC

**Brian & Cathy Murphy**  
Chocowinity, NC



## Executive Officer

## Lt/C Rio DeGennaro, P



First just a reminder that our Vessel Safety Team of Inspectors remain available for your VSC Inspections for members as well as all recreational boaters. Feel free to email me to set a date for your inspection at [VSC@pspsnc.com](mailto:VSC@pspsnc.com).



For April and I the presentation by the Big Rock directors was especially interesting. Be sure to mark your calendars...Big Rock 2023 is scheduled for the week of June 11! We attended four days of the tournament this past summer and it was a blast! We have already booked a VRBO for next year.

Folks start early to gather along the waterfront for the day's festivities. Locals and out-of-towners alike gather at the Morehead City waterfront during the day, and purchase Big Rock paraphernalia from booths along the docks, dine at the many restaurants, and enjoy cold beverages in the marine breeze while watching boats of all makes and models as they "cruise" the waterfront.



The fishing boats leave for the Big Rock fishing area before sunrise. We enjoyed listening to them check in on the Big Rock app while enjoying our coffee. The Big Rock app let us monitor the designated VHF channel where the boat captains check-in with tournament official Randy Ramsey and there is a live feed on the app that updates every catch and release. Randy announces "Lines In" at 9 o'clock and the race is on! Loudspeakers around Big Rock Landing broadcast who's catching what. Emotions rise and fall as we hear, "Fish On", "Wrong Species", "Shook the Hook", or "Landed a Blue." Be sure to get the Big Rock App, click [here](#) for more information.

"Lines out!" is announced at 3 pm and all boats that landed a fish must weigh-in at Big Rock Landing. It takes until about 5 pm for them to make their way back and pass spectators who cheer and raise a glass in salute. Some boats have mahi, wahoo, or tuna. Some boats fly an upside down blue or white marlin flag indicating a catch and release. A marlin must be 400 pounds or 110 inches in length to keep it. People crowd the ropes hoping to get a glimpse of 600+ lb. blue marlin hanging on the scale. We were lucky enough to see two blue marlins weighed. The **Miss Wy** weighed in a 454.1-pound fish and the **Breakwater's** marlin weighed in at 427.8 pounds. It is an amazing experience. We hope you come out to experience the Big Rock tournament next year for yourself!

Fun fact....The Big Rock is an area of hard bottom situated approx. 35 miles southeast of Morehead City. The structure's location along the continental shelf in 180 to 500 ft. of water is unique since it is generally in the gulf stream current. The Big Rock's location along with the dramatic upwelling's of structure provides an outstanding fishing location and gave the tournament its name.

*District 27*



Click [here](#) for the June Bitts Newsletter

## Educational Officer

## Lt/C Cathy Karlovich, JN



Hello all! Mike and I have had a busy year so far with education. We have conducted Marine Navigation, Sailing, and Boat Handling Courses as well as an Americas Boating Class. The response to all of the classes has been great! We have also gone out with folks on their boats to help build their confidence.

Everyone says I am very calm while boating but that wasn't always the case! When we started I was very skittish. As an example, I used to throw lines at dock hands. Now, I very calmly hand them the lines. It helps that Mike is an awesome Captain! My secret power is boating education. The more I learn the more at ease I feel and the more fun I have! There is always more to learn!

The Boat Handling Class is finishing up and our 11 students were very engaged.

The class picture is of new member, Kimberly O'Brien, discussing and showing the class what she keeps in her medical kit she keeps on the boat. It's always great to have a medical professional in the class! Exams this week!



Mike and I are working on scheduling Weather as well as Marine Electrical Systems courses. We'll let you know as soon as we have a schedule. Until then enjoy what is left of summer!

We have had a great time on cruises this summer. Our last cruise was to River Dunes and it was fabulous. The weather was hot but that was tempered with time in the pool. We biked, jet skied, used the dinghy, ate, toured the Southern Living Idea House, and generally had a good time. Our friends Keith and Daniele Abramo joined us and we had the pleasure of hosting their dog (Dallas) on our boat while they stayed in a cottage. Dallas was an excellent guest!



## Boating with Friends Makes Boating More Fun

A mediocre day on the water is better than a good day anywhere else. Boating with friends makes it even better! Join us for boating activities, social events, learning together, and all-around boating fun.



## Administrative Officer



Our members finished our summer general meetings with our ABC - Pamlico General Membership Dinner Meeting on August 18 with an attendance of 44. We were joined by 2 key women of the Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament (see page 1) who shared the tournament history and most notably charitable contributions to the community with us.



It was so nice to have some personal ties to the tournament among our own members, too, Walt Morrissey with his family connection to the boat "Builders Choice" and Jim Hackney with his dad's first white marlin catch recorded in NC – complete with photographic proof!

The dinner attendees included 1 new member, Nelson Bryson and 2 guests, John and Karen Kovaly. We hope that they'll join us again. Thanks to all of those who wore their Big Rock and/or fishing apparel to show their support of the evening's theme, and to Chris Young for taking photos. See page 11 for a few photos and click [here](#) for the full group of photos on our website.



Looking to the fall, our October General Membership Dinner Meeting on October 20 will feature Shane Mason from Tryon Palace and a member(s) of their fife and drum corps. You may want to wear your tricorn hats for that meeting!

We are in the midst of planning our Christmas Event, would you like to be a part of that planning? Or, do you have ideas regarding the entertainment for the evening? Your feedback is appreciated. Email me at [administrativeofficer@pspsnc.com](mailto:administrativeofficer@pspsnc.com)

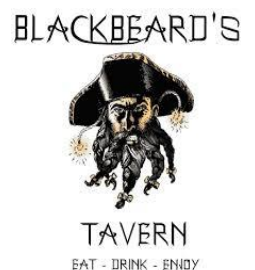
## Assistant Administrative Officer - Social



On July 15<sup>th</sup>, we enjoyed a terrific lunch at Blackbeard's Tavern in Bath. They've expanded their dining areas to accommodate our group of 30. The food was terrific as usual. Sadly the weather did not cooperate and those planning to attend by boat, opted for a car ride instead, but all arrived for an active gathering. See a few photos below...guess who stole the show!

Stay tuned for our September social outing details!

## Lorne Hope, AP



Click [here](#) for more photos.



## Assistant Administrative Officers - Boating Tadd & Karen Herron, P

What a great group of active boaters this summer with 7 and 8 boats participating in back to back cruises. It's been amazing! Come join us.



**Dowry Creek Rendezvous** in July was a great time. We had 6 boats plus 19 folks, including those by car. It was hot and we were very thankful for the swimming pool and Captain's Lounge. Friday night everyone contributed and enjoyed an appetizer & dessert night. Saturday was a run to Tavern at Jack's Neck for pizza and other great menu orders. Click [here](#) for a few more photos.



**River Dunes Summer Cruise**  
Another great turnout, 5 boats, nearly 30 including by car with many of those staying in cottages. Friday night was a collective appetizer/dessert gathering. Another hot weekend, but we were prepared at the pool and the pool bar. Saturday evening we had 25 enjoying a great menu at the Harbor Club.



A couple new boats joining the Cruisers this summer. Jeff & Kay Woolard and Lee & Sue Shaffer! Click [here](#) for more photos.



**Next Up...Ocracoke** will be classic, including Eli Craig Band playing on the island. Golf Carts

are available too. Saturday Dinner is being coordinated for Howard's Pub, timing to be determined earlier in the day. Lots to do including pool, shops, lighthouse, bar/pubs, and of course the Beach. Anyone coming by ferry/car, be sure to text Tadd at 252-916-4832 to be included.

### REMAINING 2022 CRUISE SCHEDULE

Sept 2 – 5	<u>Anchorage Marina – Ocracoke Island</u> Labor Day Weekend
Oct 21 – 23	<u>Smoke on the Water Cruise –</u> Washington Waterfront
Oct -Cancelled	Dowry Creek & Celestial Navigation Has been postponed to 2023

Email [boatingactivities@pspsnc.com](mailto:boatingactivities@pspsnc.com) & text Tadd Herron at 252-916-4832 to confirm all reservations.

***We'll begin planning 2024 cruising very soon. Be sure to get involved to include your favorite destination and a few new ones!***

**Software Project Chair****Jim Hackney III, P**

Once again our Squadron was able to offer popular software at deep discount prices to our members for their personal use. The 2022 project is now complete and we had six members ordering eight items (valued at \$2,461 at Amazon pricing) paying a total cost of only \$371. This an 84.9% average discount. In addition to the savings for our members, the Squadron made \$40 income on the project due to Jim's diligence in effectively managing the ordering process.

Unfortunately the Microsoft Office version at discount prices is for computer labs only, not for individual desktops. However, Office Profession Plus 2019 Lifetime installation is now available for download at Amazon and other sources for as little as \$60. Check the details at: [https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09Y2ZBKWR/ref=sspa\\_dk\\_ddetail\\_1](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B09Y2ZBKWR/ref=sspa_dk_ddetail_1)

This is Jim's 19<sup>th</sup> year handling this software project for PSPS. He continues to research each year the available software for this unique benefit offering, investing 30 plus hours annually for ordering and distributing the software.

Thank you Jim for your work in bringing this important benefit to our Club.



**Sunday,  
October 16<sup>th</sup>  
1:00 to 5:00 PM**

**Save the Date – It's Party!**  
**Hosted by our Past Commanders**



**Watch for more details!**



## Communication Officer

Lt/C Chris Young, S



### *What an exceptional year we've had in 2022.*

It was terrific to truly get back to the pleasure of Club activities, providing stronger than ever educational opportunities, with many of our members focused on boat skill building. Our Civic focus saw an enhanced VSC Inspectors team offering safety inspections as well as participating in the return of the Marine Festival at the waterfront. In addition our membership meetings have been great and social outings excellent plus our boating cruise schedule is outstanding with lots of fun and heavier than ever participation.

Your 2023 Nominating Committee is set to begin soon. There are bridge and executive committee roles that do require a larger commitment. But there are also numerous event chairs to get your volunteer feet wet. As volunteers, we all know that spreading out the effort is so much easier and more fun to accomplish. Examples of lower effort are property manager, ship store, historian (scrapbooking), education instructors, public relations, boat safety writer, newspaper boat column writers and auditing committee.

The Nominating Committee is: Sharon Alligood – [shanglin@aol.com](mailto:shanglin@aol.com); Chris Young – [chrisyoung@suddenlink.net](mailto:chrisyoung@suddenlink.net) and Kay Graham – [kaygraham3@me.com](mailto:kaygraham3@me.com)

Don't wait for them to contact you, feel free to give one of them a call, talk with other bridge officers or specific event chairs if an area for volunteering is especially interesting to you.



### Reorganization Proposal Status

Nothing new to report and no schedule for a third Town Hall discussion. A finalized detailed implementation plan is still expected to be confirmed by the end of May with the full completion target date set for June 2023



**Boating Tips  
Column  
Washington Daily  
News**

Tom McCluskey continues to provide boating related articles for our Boating Column in the Washington Daily News.

Articles since the last Newsletter printing:

- [On the Water, What is a Safe Operating Speed? It Depends!](#)
- [Watersports Towing Safety Tips](#)

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

*Would you be interested in participating as a Writer with Tom? A team of two or more writers would make the effort easier and we could benefit from many perspectives and topics. Email [communications@pspsnc.com](mailto:communications@pspsnc.com) if you would like to learn more.*





### Summer Featured Video

## Don't become a BUI Fatality Static

The new "BUI FATALITIES" video covers the most fundamental reason for not boating under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Viewers will learn of additional associated risks. Also featured are tips for avoiding BUI, including with a designated sober operator.

Copy the link below into your internet address line for the video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/AmericasBoatingChannel/featured>

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



## The 2022 Ensign Summer Issue

### In this issue...

Embark on the Down East Circle Route cruise in **Octogenarian Odyssey**.

Explore Meares Island and Clayoquot Sound in **Kayaking a Canadian Paradise**.

**Paddle Smarts** covers how to choose and equip the perfect life jacket for your paddling style. See what other squadrons and districts did to celebrate **National Safe Boating Week 2022**.

To read this issue, use the link below:

<https://theensign.org/imagis/summer2022>

You can also subscribe to receive via email at:  
<https://theensign.org>

### Member Benefit Highlights

**Office DEPOT®**  
**OfficeMax®**

**Member Benefit  
Change Effective  
May 26, 2022**

**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB**  
**UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®**



The **USPS Office Depot®** Member Benefits Program has been rebranded to **ODP Business Solutions™**. Now a B2B-focused company serving non-profits. As a member of America's Boating Club®, you can continue to enjoy deep benefit discounts. However, to receive your member discounts, you'll need to re-enroll or register for an account through their dedicated ODP site. Copy and paste the link below:  
<https://www.usps.org/departments/14000/1450001/1450001-benefits/163-usps/administrative/member-benefits/1279-office-depot-office-max>

**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>

## Watch your Wake – Damage is your Responsibility

Every craft moving over water leaves a wake. It has two distinct sets of waves: one following the vessel and another spreading outward from its track. The mixture of these two forms your boat's wake pattern, which varies with vessel length, weight, speed, and water depth.

### Factors affecting your wake

Vessel size and hull form influence wave height. But large does not necessarily mean high, at least not in deep water. Because it travels faster, a long, low wave can carry much more energy than a short, high one.

A typical powerboat can generate four or five basic wave patterns; understanding when your boat produces these different patterns is key to controlling their impact.

Displacement hulls generate bigger wakes as speed increases. They are efficient up to a point (sometimes known as hull speed or displacement speed), beyond which an increasing proportion of additional propulsive power is spent making waves for little increases in speed.

The high power-to-size ratio of high-speed and planing vessels means they can power through the hull speed barrier into transition mode. Here the stern digs in as it falls into the trough of the bow wave. The largest possible waves are generated as speed increases; the wave pattern changes because the waves following the boat have trouble keeping pace and begin to die away.

When a boat rises onto plane, less hull remains in the water to make waves. The wake's total energy is less than in transition mode but still greater than in displacement mode.

### Wake speed limits

As a boater, you are responsible for your boat's wake, which shouldn't be excessive or hazardous to other vessels. Any vessel operating in an idle-speed, no-wake zone must operate at the minimum speed that allows the vessel to maintain headway and steerageway.

In general, if your craft creates a wake that breaks or generates white water (water with bubbles or visible waves of any size), you are traveling above no-wake speed. If you put your engine in gear and add no additional engine speed once the propeller engages (idle speed), your boat shouldn't generate a wake.

Any vessel operating in a slow-down, minimum-wake speed zone must operate fully off plane and completely settled in the water. Remember, you are responsible for any property damage or bodily harm your boat causes. So slow down, and enjoy your boating experience.

*Source – USPS Compass*



## August 18th General Membership Dinner Meeting



More photos  
on our Website  
in the  
Members Only  
Photo Gallery.  
Click [here!](#)



## Ship Store

Ginny Waite, our current Ship's Store Chair, has an inventory of America's Boating Club of the Pamlico's Burgee in stock as shown below. Burgee size is 12" x 18" - Cost: \$25.00



Contact Ginny at [shipstore@pspsnc.com](mailto:shipstore@pspsnc.com) to place your orders or give her a call at 946-0322 to purchase. Ginny has been our Ship Store Chair for many years and would like to hand off this effort to someone else. Feel free to contact her if that interests you.



National's Ship Store of America's Boating Club apparel is available.

See more at

<https://store.shopusps.org/Apparel/>



**Raleigh, NC  
September 11 - 18**

Click [here](#) for  
Meeting Agenda

Hotel & Event  
registrations [here](#)

**District 27** 

**Fall Council/Conference**

WHEN: October 14 to 16, 2022

WHERE: To Be Determined

HOW: Details forthcoming

## Join or Renew Your Membership



## We do appreciate you!



## *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.

We appreciate our virtual home at WYCC.



**Announcing a Special Dinning Membership you may find interesting!**  
For more information, contact Valerie at Washington Yacht & Country Club

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



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## Contact Information

### Bridge

Commander

Cdr [Walt Morrissey](#)

Executive Officer

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

Educational Officer

Lt/C [Cathy Karlovich, N](#)

Administrative Officer

Lt/C [Liz Wheeler](#)

Treasurer

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

Secretary

Lt/C [Marisa Morrissey](#)

Asst Education Officer

Lt Mike Karlovich, AP

Assistant Secretary

Lt Edith Hope

Assistant Treasurer

Lt/C Bob Young, AP

Asst Admin-Social

[Lorne Hope](#), AP

Asst Admin-Boating

[Tadd & Karen Herron](#), S

### Executive Committee

Lt Jeff Wollard, P

P/Lt/C Chris Young, S

P/Lt/C Ed Mann, AP

Lt Mike Karlovich, AP

### Other Contacts

Membership Chair

Lt [Sue Duclos](#)

Communications

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

Vessel Safety Chair

Lt [Rio DeGennaro](#)

## National Awards Received



**2021 Distinctive Communicator Award PSPS Website**



**2021 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.



**2022 CHAMBER MEMBER**



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

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

### September

9 – 5 [Labor Day Cruise to Ocracoke](#)

11 – 18 National Governing Board Meeting, Raleigh - [details](#)

TBD Social Out Event

### October

16 Past Commander Event

14 – 16 D27 Fall Council/Conference – Raleigh

20 General Membership Dinner Meeting  
Tryon Palace Fife & Drum

21-23 [Smoke on the Water Washington Cruise](#)

### November

TBD Social Out Event & Toys for Tots Collection

### December

TBD 9 Salvation Army Bell Ringing Christmas Party

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