



Sound of the Pamlico Newsletter

June 2022

Volume 22, No.3

In this Edition:

General
Membership
Meeting – Pg 1

Commander's
Corner - Pg 2

New Members –
Pg 2

Executive Officer
– Pg 3

Educational
Officer – Pg 4

Administrative
Team – Pg 5

Cruise Activities
– Pg 6 & 7

Communications
Officer – Pg 8

Boating Channel
& Member
Benefit
Highlights – Pg 9

Safety – Pg 10

Event Photos -
Pg 11

Ship Store –
Pg 12

Advertisers-Pg13

Calendar of
Events – Pg 14

June 16th General Membership Dinner Meeting



*Park Boat, Moss Landing
and Inner Banks Marina*

This month's General Membership Dinner Meeting was informative and enjoyable. Liz Wheeler secured three members of the Smithwick family, Austin, Shelby and Seth, for a historical look at Washington's Park Boat Company.

Following dinner, Austin Smithwick, President and General Manager of Park Boat, provided details of the business that started as a boat and engine sales and service facility in 1952 in Washington Park area. In 1970-2004 their second-generation dads moved to a new facility as we know it today and began building the boat dealership portion of the business. Park Boat currently ranks as one of the Top 10 Boat Dealers in North America with a full time staff of over 15 marine professionals with the experience and knowledge to help boaters find the boating package that fits them and will spend time on the water with new owners covering all operations. Beginning 2004, this third-generation team expanded to include the Manteo Marine facility managed by Austin's brother, Hunter Smithwick. The dealership currently sells over 200 boats annually and over 1,000 boats serviced & repaired annually.



They took over the Moss Landing docks adjacent to downtown Washington growing it into a marina with 62 wet slips, category 2 hurricane rated floating docks, 30 & 50 amp service, pumpout, Clubhouse Captain's Lounge, Showers and laundry.

During the pandemic, they saw an increase in boat sales of 30% and realized the time was right to begin the building of the dry storage facility that they had

put on hold. The recently completed drystack facility has 120 slips with a 120 wind load rating, 10+ staging slips in the water, on site 90 non-ethanol fuel, service shop, ship store plus the Highwater Social Club run by our friends at Backwater Jacks for onsite entertainment.

It was very apparent that Park Boat, the Smithwick family, takes their support of the boating community seriously and contributes to our way of life on our beautiful waterways. Their investment in the community for just the drystack was \$3M+ and nearly doubles the number of available slips in downtown Washington.

Our members enjoy their time with the Smithwick family and equally appreciated their recognition of ABC-Pamlico's efforts in promoting safety, education and support of our boating communities.

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

Hello Fellow Members, June is here and it brings the summer weather we lovewarmer waters, dolphins, beautiful evenings, perfect mornings for coffee, hot temps, loud bull frogs, and light and variable winds (sorry sailor's!). I am sure June and July's offerings will provide all of us chances to enjoy our time on and around the water. Enjoy, Enjoy, Enjoy.

As we approach Summer Solstice it has always been a reminder for me to enjoy these beautiful long days. I always wake up June 22 thinking the days are now getting shorter....but there is still plenty of time to enjoy!

I was able to meet many of you at this year's Marine Flea Market on the Washington Waterfront. I was also able to meet some new friends and now new members as well. It was a very productive and busy day. It is our major funding event for our club and I am thankful for membership donations that made this possible. I also appreciate WHDA renewing this event and look forward to being part of Washington Marine Festival in the future.

I hope you were able to join us at the June General Meeting (6/16). We were able to enjoy a great meal and to meet the family that is behind the Park Boat Company, Moss Landing Marina and the Inner Banks Marina. The Smithwick family members Austin, Shelby and Seth joined us and they shared their humble and proud family boating history. They answered all the questions we had and we appreciated their time and energy.

Please enjoy everything that NC offers and stay safe by boat, car...in every way.
Hope to see you soon



**Reinstated Member
John Pawlick
Washington, NC**



**Kimberly O'Brien
Greenville, NC

Steve Taylor
Washington, NC**

**An update on National's Reorganization Proposal
A high level recap is on Page 8**

The Second Town Hall on Reorganization was held Wednesday evening, May 4, 2022. Click on this link to listen to the full presentation <https://fccdl.in/mbPSDbNeav> if you were unable to participate. Stay tuned for more information and other sessions!

Executive Officer

Lt/C Rio DeGennaro, P



The Harbor District Maritime Festival/Flea Market was a real success! What is better than spending the day with a dozen good friends from the America's Boating Club of the Pamlico? It might be that, combined with beautiful weather at the Washington waterfront. Maybe it is meeting and speaking with all of those curious flea market shoppers and introducing them the work we do with boating safety and education around the Pamlico and Pungo River areas. In addition to all of that, we added a half dozen new members who could not resist joining the fun and camaraderie that was evident while

making over \$850, thanks to the generous donations of you, our membership. This event is our single annual fund raiser and funds go directly to the Club's support of ongoing education and safety activities for surrounding recreational boaters. Thank you all so much!

I hope you are ready to step up again next year because, at the end of the day, we successfully re-homed nearly all of our donated items. We really enjoyed chatting with donators who came by our ABC-Pamlico booth to check on our progress and share stories of an item's history. Maybe, the best part of the day was meeting a young couple who was just starting the first chapter of their own boating story by buying a deflated dingy donated by an older couple coming to the end their boating journey. See a few photos on Page 11.

Just a reminder, our Vessel Safety Team of Inspectors remain available and willing to conduct your vessel safety inspections for members and for all recreational boaters. Feel free to email me at VSC@pspsnc.com to set a date for your inspection.



We hope to see them, and you, on the water soon. Boat responsibly... enjoy the summer!

PRESS RELEASE



The National Safe Boating Council establishes May 21-May 27 as National Safe Boating Week as a reminder to all recreational boaters that the best outing is a safe outing. In keeping with Washington tradition, April and I joined Mayor Donald Sadler at the signing of a Safe Boating Proclamation to help raise the public's awareness of boating safety.

Currently published USCG reports, 75% of fatal boating accident victims due to drowning. Of those drowning victims, 86% were not wearing a life jacket. It is clear that hundreds of those might have been saved had they worn a life jacket. It is further reported that 77% of deaths occurred on boats where the operator did not receive boating safety instruction. Based on increased boat sales, insurance policies taken out, insurance claims and calls for towing assistance the USCG reports a significant rise in boating activity.

Educational Officer

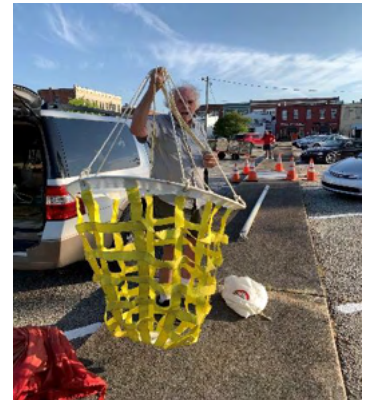
Lt/C Cathy Karlovich, JN



Mike and I are happy to be in the midst of boating season. Third time was a charm and we finally made it to Bald Head Island by boat! Our boat Sandy Paws handled the trip beautifully. We got to see beautiful parts of the ICW that were new to us. We put our ABC educations to work with planning and executing routes in the presence of shoaling, anchoring in windy conditions, hailing bridges and other boaters, and lots of other things! Today, I decided to make a personal goal of learning to pilot our dinghy. It's not always comfortable to learn new things, but practice will make perfect. I'll keep you all updated on my progress!

Sailing class wrapped up on May 25'th, and we are anxiously awaiting our exam results. Bill Doar did a great job teaching class and we all learned so much. His show and tell effort was especially helpful!

The photo at the right is from a discussion of sea anchors and drogues for use in rough weather. Sea anchors are deployed off the bow to keep the bow into the wind during rough seas and slow the boat. Drogues are deployed off the stern and are used to keep the boat straight while going down sea.



We are set to conduct our day long America's Boating Course on June 25th with Tom Graham as our certified instructor. As expected, class registration filled very quickly. I am excited for the students to gain knowledge to keep passengers, themselves, and their boats safe. They will learn navigation rules, water sports safety, and valuable boating skills. There are an additional 20 students on the waitlist, so I'll be working to schedule another class this summer.



We will be conducting a [Boat Handling Course](#) starting Thursday, July 7 and continuing Thursday evenings until August 11. This is a fabulous course which builds your competence and confidence on the water with an in-depth look at practical boating skills, and it is a must for newer boaters. I'll be scheduling some seminars, including Weather, to add some fun education opportunities to our summer and fall. We're planning a Marine Electrical Systems course for the fall. There's never a shortage of educational topics to dive in to!

I would like to give a special shout out to all of our new members. If you are interested in any of the above offerings or there are any other topics that you'd like to explore please reach out to me. You can contact me by e-mail at pspsed@gmail.com or by cell phone at 919-208-1893. Your education team is here to help you reach your boating goals!

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**Lt/C Liz Wheeler**

Our members have a busy summer schedule. We kicked off the summer with our ABC - Pamlico General Membership Dinner Meeting on June 16 with 40 people joining us. We were pleased to have 3 members of the Smithwick family (see page 1) share their family boating business history and recent developments with us. Their contribution to the Eastern NC boating community over the years is very impressive.

The dinner attendees included 1 reinstated member and his spouse (John Pawlick and wife Natasha), 1 new member (Steve Taylor) and 2 guests (Robert and Pam Eubank), as well as several of our recent new members. Thanks to Chris Young for taking photos of the dinner (photos on page and also to those who helped with the Marine Market where we first met John Pawlick and Steve Taylor.



As of this writing, the Big Rock Tournament in Morehead City is in full swing. April and Rio DeGennaro have shared photos on PSPS Facebook of their experience from this year's tournament. This has been on our speaker bucket list for several years and I'm happy to have been able to secure the Director of Big Rock to join us on August 18 as our speaker. Something for us all to look forward to!

Following the August meeting, we'll "Fall" back in time with fife and drums of Tryon Palace on October 20. We hope you can join us on these dates and at our holiday gathering on December 9.

As always, please share your feedback on our general meetings, dinners and ideas for future speakers/topics with me. It's much appreciated. Email me at administrativeofficer@pspsnc.com.

Assistant Administrative Officer - Social**Lorne Hope, AP**

On May 25, 2022, a dinner was held at Chelsea restaurant in downtown New Bern. The Chelsea restaurant is located in a building first used by Pepsi-Cola inventor, Caleb Bradham, and built in 1912. It was restored in the 1990's where its unique features were carefully preserved including the original pressed tin ceiling and mosaic tile floor.



There were 16 people who attended. The food was great and the service was excellent. This was also an opportunity to thank the volunteers that worked the Squadron's booth at the Washington Marine Festival. An enjoyable time was had by all. Stay tuned for our July social outing details.

Assistant Administrative Officers - Boating Tadd & Karen Herron, P



So, you know how it goes with weather, boat issues....here's an update on the last couple of cruises this season. Memorial Day Cruise to Oriental, three boats scheduled with an injury keeping one at home port, another returned to home port due to boat issue and the third enjoyed the weekend at Oriental but limped back on one engine.

Here's an update from Mike Karlovich on the Bald Head Island Cruise..... Cathy and I have tried to make this cruise for 3 years now, weather kept getting in the way. This year we made it and the weather could not have been better for us. We did delay the trip for 2 days leaving May 15th and returning May 24th. First day we cruised to Beaufort, staying there 15th, 16th left on the 17th. Next we headed to Harbor Village Marina for one night. On the way down the Camp Lejeune Marines closed the ICW for life fire exercises, we rafted up, eating lunch whilst listening to gun fire, bombs and helicopters, very cool. Harbor Village Marina is a neighborhood marina similar to Cypress Landing. Their marina is super nice highly recommend them. The 18th we then went all the way to Bald Head Island...success! These were long legs but we wanted the best weather options; so, we pushed on. We stayed in Bald head for 3 nights enjoying golf carting the island, eating out, exploring and had some people meet us on the island.

On the 21st, we left Bald Head Island for Southport and stayed there one night. It was a very quick run and we absolutely loved Southport. Great town and marina with lots to see and do. They next day the 22nd, we wanted to get as far up the coast as we could and also wanted to anchor out at Mile Hammock Anchor. Very nice spot but you cannot go ashore there; we were joined by many other cruisers. There are fixed bridges in that stretch of the ICW and you need to time the openings. We had to push the boats to 10 knots to make it for the openings. From there on the 23rd we went to Morehead City, stayed the night, went to dinner on the waterfront and checked the deep-sea fishing catch. The 24th we left with weather concerns but the Neuse was very calm and many boats were making the same run. We learned a lot and would love to have stayed in other marinas as there are so many good places to stay.



July 22 – 25

[Rendezvous to Dowry Creek Marina](#)

Aug 5 - 8

[Summer Cruise – River Dunes](#)

Sept 2 – 5

[Anchorage Marina – Ocracoke Island](#)
Labor Day Weekend

Oct 14 - 17

[Cruise to Dowry Creek Marina](#) &
Celestial Navigation Speaker

October 21 - 23

[Smoke on the Water Cruise](#) –
Washington Waterfront

UPDATED CRUISE SCHEDULE

Details are out on all cruises, be sure to get your slip reservations made early. Email & text Tadd Herron at 252-916-4832 to confirm reservations.

Do you have any suggestions on boating ideas, just email us at boatingactivities@pspsnc.com.

A Memorial Day – ICW Cruise**Provided by Rio DeGennaro**

Aside from our somber reflections on those patriotic women and men who gave their lives defending our way of life, I hope many of you took advantage of some glorious weather over the Memorial Day weekend! My family and friends certainly did.

A couple of us had planned to spend that Sunday on the water. Rather than cruising the familiar waters of the upper Pamlico River, we decided on a sight-seeing tour of a small section of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway from the Pamlico to Bay River. So, with two boats and eight people supplied with sunscreen, snacks, plenty of fresh water, and a big box of “boat chicken”, we headed down river to turn south on the ICW near Reed Hammock. Recreational boaters were already kicking up rooster-tails in Chocowinity Bay. As we neared Aurora, the activity thinned to a few sailboats heeling to lee, making the most of a fresh breeze. The familiar silhouette of the Aurora Ferry appeared just a few degrees off our port bow.

One member of the group on my boat had never experienced this section of the waterway and another two had never been on the ICW at all! Never passing up an educational opportunity, I got to play tour guide. We entered the waterway through Goose Creek. A wide but shallow body of water. Remaining within the boundaries of channel markers is a must for boats drafting more than 4-feet. Our boats draft less than 2-feet, so we had room to maneuver!

As the lead boat, I made a point of coming close to the first channel marker we passed to illustrate a lesson. We all learn in basic navigations and boat handling courses offered by our Club what channel markers look like and the basic rule - Red (triangles)-right-return. What about on the ICW? Traveling south on the waterway, keep the red triangle day markers on your starboard where the mainland (danger...dry land) is, and the green square markers to port where the open ocean (safety...deep water) is. How do you know if you are still following the ICW? The red day markers have a little triangle on the face, and the green markers have a little square on the face.

It's a lovely 11-mile cruise up Goose Creek to a man-made section of the ICW that is 2-miles long but only 100-yards wide! All man-made sections of the ICW are collectively called “the ditch.” Surprising our ICW novices, a huge tugboat pushing an even larger barge headed right for us. Explaining to them boating rules-of-the-road, we pass on the ONE (port to port) giving the larger vessel plenty of room. About 1 ½ miles south in the “ditch” is Coast Guard Station, Hobucken. Just beyond it is access to Jones Bay. Through Jones Bay, to the east, is the Pamlico Sound. We anchored and rafted the two boats in this access to enjoy a “boat chicken” lunch.

We continued south in “the ditch” for another ½ mile before entering a tributary of the Bay River called Gale Creek. This was our turn around point, and it was perfectly timed. Just as we made our way north back into Gale Creek, a large pod of bottlenose dolphin was frolicking in the waters.

We cruised back to the Pamlico River passing more tugs with barges, cruising yachts and trawlers and on to Bath for some good pizza. Seven hours and eighty-five miles after the journey began, we made it home to Cypress Landing Marina. What a great day on the water!

Check It Out: The Atlantic ICW Facts

- Authorized in 1919. Completed in 1940
- 1153 miles from mile 0 near Norfolk, VA to Plantation Key, FL
- Part of a 3000-mile Intracoastal Waterway system running from Massachusetts southward along the Atlantic Seaboard and around the southern tip of Florida, then following the Gulf Coast to Brownsville, Texas.
- Specified to maintain a depth of 12-feet in the channel. Due to budget constraints plus weather and currents, this depth cannot be guaranteed.

Communication Officer

Lt/C Chris Young, S



We have so much going on with education maxing out student enrollment, boaters are actively enjoying the planned cruises and other social opportunities. Be sure to save the website link to your favorites to stay updated on the upcoming events: <https://pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org>

Our ABC-Pamlico Facebook is another source of information, photos and events. Our cruisers and non-cruisers are posting fun photos, check it out! If you are a Facebook user, stay in touch and join our group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PamlicoSailAndPowerSquadron>



Reorganization Proposal Update

A second Town Hall discussion was held May 4th with Districts, Clubs and members to explain the proposal, how the reorganization will work and the anticipated benefits. Overall the recommended structure will include National providing coordinated, centralized support directly to the local clubs. This will reduce or eliminate districts unless the local clubs wish to transform them into informal consortium. This allows more authority to local clubs with direct interaction with National.

Much of the presentations were centered on National's focus and emphasis to strengthen the Clubs directly, reduce red-tape and bureaucracy to streamline services, administration and coordination. This strategy is expected to improve areas of:

Education - more quickly develop courses/seminars incorporating changes in boating tech;
Boating & Social – SEAS the Day recognizing the importance of local efforts and multi-club coordination;

Marketing/Membership- provide better tools and strengthen capabilities to clubs/members;
Communication/Coordination – strengthen Club capabilities to serve their members

You can view the entire presentation in this link: <https://fccdl.in/mbPSDbNeav>

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:

- New Fire Extinguisher Regulations

To see all articles and other news releases, visit the website at <http://www.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 if you want to learn more.



ELECTRONIC VISUAL DISTRESS SIGNALS

The new "ELECTRONIC VISUAL DISTRESS SIGNALS" video covers alternatives to pyrotechnic devices. Viewers will learn the operation and maintenance of nighttime-approved visual-distress signal lights used in conjunction with daytime distress-flags. Also featured are the newly approved dual-color signal lights.

Copy the link below into your internet address line for the video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIGT3Y6I5Tk>

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



The Ensign Spring 2022 issue

The Ensign magazine has a new format! This change is to a digital format that works well on all devices.

To read this issue, use this Link:

<https://theensign.org/imag/spring2022/>

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

Member Benefit Highlights



As a member of America's Boating Club®, you will enjoy a \$20 discount off the one-time Boat Fix membership fee of \$149, which includes the Boat Fix monitoring device.

Visit: <https://www.boatfix.co>

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>

Tips for safe trailer boating

When trailer boating, the road plays an important part in the overall trip and deserves the same attention to safety as the water does.

Hitch: Check over the coupler to make sure all parts are there. Lubricate the coupler so the closure works smoothly. Check the adjustment to fit the ball you're using with a slight amount of play. Safety chains should cross beneath the tongue, making a basket to hold the tongue if the coupler fails.

Tires: Make sure the tire pressure is up to sidewall specs. Also make sure you have a spare, the correct lug wrench, and a suitable jack.

Bearings: Jack up the axle enough to allow the tire to spin freely; then spin it. Any grinding noise or roughness is a sure sign of trouble. If in doubt, remove the tire, and check the hub or integral brake drum.

Lights: Remember to disconnect the trailer lights before backing the trailer into the water. The most common reason for trailer light failure is a bad ground, either to the trailer frame or in the plug itself. Often the symptom is all lights blinking with the turn signals and low intensity in general.

Suspension: Give the suspension a good visual check. Be especially alert for broken or rusted leaf springs and worn bolt holes.

Winch and winch stand: Check and lubricate the winch. Be especially careful to check the condition of the winch stand and the bow stop structure as well as its attachment to the trailer tongue.

Brakes: For hydraulic brakes, check that the brake actuator (master cylinder) fluid is full and clear, not cloudy or rusty. If the level is way down, you may have a leak in the lines or a wheel cylinder that needs repair. Check electric brake actuators by looking at the built-in readout of applied current to the magnets or an open circuit indication.

On the road: Make it a habit to do a quick but thorough walk-around inspection every time you stop. Feel every hub and tire for temperature. Tires often warn us of low pressure or impending tread separation by heating up. Hot hubs mean dragging brakes or bearing troubles.

Source: USPS Compass

ABC-Pamlico at Maritime Festival/Safe Boating Week/Flea Market



June 16th General Membership Dinner Meeting



More photos:
[June General Membership Dinner Meeting](#)

Ship Store

Ginny Waite, our Ship's Store Chair, has PSPS Burgee shown below is in stock and available at a cost of \$25.00. As well as an inventory of PSPS Hats (\$20/ea).



The one time set up cost of our logo has been paid for by the Squadron and available for all members. You can purchase items directly from A1 Awards & Promotions or bring your own article of clothing, bags or other boating accessories and have the new logo added at a cost of \$10 per item.



2580 Railroad Street
Winterville, NC 28590
Phone: 252-321-7701

Contact Ginny at shipstore@pspsnc.com to place your orders or give her a call at 946-0322 with any questions.



Ship's Store has been enhanced to support our virtual presence and serve you better. 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 apparel.

Join or Renew Your Membership



We 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

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Cdr [Walt Morrissey](#)

Executive Officer

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

Educational Officer

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

Administrative Officer

Lt/C [Liz Wheeler](#)

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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](#):

July

7- 8/18 [Boat Handling Course](#)
7 Weeks

22 – 25 [Rendezvous at Dowry Creek Marina](#)

TBD Social Outing

August

5 – 8 [Summer Cruise to River Dunes](#)

18 General Membership Dinner Meeting
Speaker Topic: Big Rock

September

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

TBD Past Commander Event

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

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 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](#).