



Sound of the Pamlico Newsletter

March 2024

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A District 27
Squadron

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Annual Meeting & Change of Watch – March 9th

America's Boating Club of the Pamlico, held its Annual Meeting and Change of Watch on Saturday, March 9, 2024. We were joined by the Current D27 Administrative Officer, Connie Shay, S and her husband, Greg Shay, Past District Commander who traveled from Raleigh to preside over our Change of Watch and Installation of Bridge Officers.

With 47 attending, we enjoyed an excellent lunch and appreciate Liz's attention to all the details for a successful annual meeting. This included a 2023 photo slide show created by our Historian, Beth McCluskey. Beth also provided a couple of Squadron Scrapbooks for viewing. Thank you, Beth for this terrific lookback to 2023!

Our Commander Walt Morrissey expressed his pleasure serving as Squadron Commander this past year. He expressed appreciation of the many members that have been supportive and encouraging. He is also looking forward with excitement for 2024 and a fun, productive and rewarding year for our Squadron. Take a moment to review our [2023 Squadron's Accomplishment Report](#) that was provided at the meeting.

Tom Graham provided the financial review; Bill Waite confirmed the completion of the 2023 Financial Audit in good order and Tom proposed 2024 budget which members approved without change. Sharon Alligood provided the Nominating Committee's report for 2024 elections which was also approved by members. There were no additional nominations from the floor.

Before moving to the Change of Watch agenda, a highlight was the recognition of outstanding efforts and Awards for Achievement given to various members for their contribution to the Squadron mission. Those awards included:

Commander's Award to Bob Veechi who has met the challenge and built a team that provides an ongoing plan of educational opportunities, a top mission for our Squadron to support recreational boater safety.

Past Commanders Award to Lorne Hope who provided so many enjoyable and memorable social lunches/dinners over the last years, all very well attended.

Hatala Education Award to Beth McCluskey and Kelly Hasslinger who both assisted our Education Officer in delivering training opportunities that played a key role in our success in 2023.

Colwell Perseverance Award to Sue Duclos, Membership Chair, for many years working tirelessly behind the scene to make every new member feel welcome.

Community Award to Rio DeGennaro who led our community outreach efforts for 2023, VSC and also supported education by providing a seminar on weather.

The **2024 Organizational Chart** is shown on Page 8.

Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends SM

Page 1

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Change of Watch

Commander Morrissey then introduced D27 Administrative Officer, Connie Shay. She stated that when she thinks of Pamlico Sail & Power Squadron, she thinks of many things...

Organization - how leadership and committee work use strength and creativity plus available D27 and USPS tools to move forward. *Commitment* - doing the work while working with each other.

Communication - your website and newsletter highlighting events, people and upcoming news.

Enthusiasm - willingness to learn, to do better, be visible and to accept and grow. And Friendship – the friendship and comradeships within your group, to District and to each other is just plain awesome.

Respect - watching you grow has been a delight. You all have gained respect within the District Bridge, within other squadrons and among yourselves. Pamlico Sail & Power Squadron, thank you for being such a viable part of District 27.

Connie also provided realistic updates relating to the organization's fighting many challenges in the midst of a transition for the future. Expressing the need to retain long term members while at the same time attracting the newer generation of boaters. National officers realize this and plan to simplify our organization. The heart of the United States Power Squadrons is self-education, civic service and fraternal boating, our three-sided triangle. This is evident in everything you do here at Pamlico.

Our 2024 Bridge consists of: Returning Commander Walt Morrissey; Executive Officer Mike Johnson; returning Education Officer Bob Vecchi, P; Administrative Officer Linda Moyer; returning Secretary Marisa Morrissey; and returning Treasurer Tom Graham, SN.

Assistants to the Bridge Officers include: Returning Assistant Educational Officer Cathy Karlovich, JN; Assistant Administrative Officer-Boating Mike Karlovich, AP; returning Assistant Administrative Officer-Social Loren Hope AP; returning Assistant Secretary Edith Hope; and Assistant Treasurer Susan Stockman (unavailable). A [Press Release](#) was provided to the Washington Daily News.



Commander Morrissey wrapped up the meeting expressing his excitement that our Squadron will be hosting the District 27 Rendezvous in August of this year. [Click here for the Save the Date flyer.](#)



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

As I write this article, we are doing final preparations for our Annual Meeting and Change of Watch Celebration on March 9, 2024.

The Bridge has many returnees and with their experience they easily know what needs to be done. Mike Johnson is joining us as Executive Officer. Mike has many years of experience in a sister Squadron. I look forward to his ideas and help. Linda Moyer will be our new Administrative Officer and Liz Wheeler will remain a member on our Executive Committee replacing Jeff Woolard who is off cruising.

The 2024 Bridge will be making plans to continue to provide quality educational opportunities, boating cruise plans, informative and fun membership meetings and social opportunities. These are the events that make our club what it is and they await all of us as we kick off a new year. This year, we have three new VSC Examiners. Please welcome Bill Davis, Rick Moyer and Mike Johnson. They will be joining Bob Vecchi and Mike Karlovich in this important area.

We plan to re-establish the Marine Flea Market. It will be on May, 18, 2024 at the Chocowinity Fire Department Spring Heat Car & Truck Show this year. We look forward to your donations and a successful Market, more to come soon.

For 2024 our Club will be hosting District 27 Power Squadrons in Washington on August 2 & 3. This will be fun event for all of our members and visiting members throughout our region. Please plan to be part of it. [Click here for Save the Date flyer.](#)

Ahead of us is warmer Spring weather and the many activities that we enjoy. Hope to see you all on or around our local waterways.



Jeff and Carol Somol
Chocowinity, NC

United States Power Squadrons 2024 Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida

You don't have to miss a thing, if you wish to catch up on what you missed at the annual meeting, watch the replay of the Saturday business meeting in this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFAvqiTpVFU&t=37s>

Executive Officer

Lt/C Mike Johnson, S



Thank you for allowing me to serve as your XO for the upcoming year. I cannot express how welcoming the squadron has been. A special thank you to Rio for guiding me and assisting me through the process of becoming the XO. I wish both Rio and April a safe and exciting Loop adventure. A bit of background, I have been boating for 23 years. My wife (Terri) and I joined the Virginia Beach Sail and Power Squadron in 2003. We were very active in all aspects of the Power Squadron and both served as Commander. We cruised much of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries

as well as Northeast North Carolina prior to moving to Tarpon Springs, Florida. After ten years in Florida, we moved to Washington, NC. We are particularly active in cruising, boater education and safety. Terri and I are both retired (Terri, healthcare management and me the Marine Corps) and spend much time volunteering for and participating with local community-based organizations.

This coming year I intend to support our Commander and our Squadron; assist in increasing club membership, participating in VSCs and getting to know all our members. Lastly, thank you for welcoming Terri and I to the Squadron. We look forward to a great year and our new friends.

Let's get started!

Spring Vessel Safety Inspections – As we all know; this is a key starting point for the boating season. Your VSC inspection sets you up for a safe, enjoyable boating season. We are fortunate to have three additional Inspectors being certified this year and they are anxious to get started. We have scheduled the following VSC Events and our Certified VSC Inspectors will be available to inspect power boats, sailboats, pontoons, personal water craft, paddle crafts and fishing boats. Be sure to sign up at the respective marinas for a time slot convenient for you.



3/23 – [Cypress Landing Marina](#)

4/20 – WYC Marina

4/21 – Cypress Landing Marina

If you are at a different marina and would like to have an event set up, just let us know by emailing VSC@pspsnc.com. We would be happy work out a date with your marina.

If the above dates are not convenient for your schedule, feel free to contact our VSC Team to arrange an individual date for inspection. Simple email us at VSC@pspsnc.com.

ABC-Pamlico's Marine Flea Market – Saturday, May 18, 2024

We are happy to report that we will have the opportunity for a Flea Market for 2024. Our Marine Flea Market will be held, Saturday, May 18 in conjunction with the Chocowinity Fire Dept's Spring Heat Car and Truck Show. We previously participated in this show and it was a great success with record number of people attending and lots of activity.

We will need your help, review the [Marine Flea Market Flyer](#) link for ways you can participate in this event. Initially, we encourage everyone to consider donating recycled items you have no further use for as you clear out storage areas, attics and garages for spring clean. Volunteers are needed the day of the Flea Market for set up and meeting with the public as they scoop up the various treasures we have for sale.

Reach out to Mike or to Walt with any questions, directions to drop off donated items or arrange for pick up and to Volunteer the day of the Flea Market. This is our single fund-raising effort of the year and all proceeds go directly to public boating education and safety programs.

Mike Johnson – executiveofficer@pspsnc.com – 757-849-9138 - Washington

Walt Morrissey – commander@pspsnc.com – 252-623-1714 – Chocowinity

Educational Officer

Lt/C Bob Vecchi, P



Well, spring is here, and our thoughts once again return to all the things we love about boating. From replacing cracked hoses and broken clamps; doing oil and filter changes; washing and waxing; hauling and bottom paint; replacing rusted trailer wheel bearings. I could go on but if I do, we all might just put the for-sale sign on her and be done with it. And we don't want that. Instead let's review our education schedule.

Earlier this month we had a group of 20; 19 who successfully completed the ABC course and received their NC Boating Certification Cards and one student working with Tom to complete the exam. Two things worth noting are that we only had one student under the age of 21, meaning that perhaps there aren't many teens looking to get into boating? I hope that isn't the case. The other observation is that most of the students were very much newbies, and very few already own boats. I see this as a valuable source of future members and class attendees. The committee, along with Sue and Chris, are working hard to follow up on those prospective members.

Here's a few photos of the enthusiastic group. More photos are available [here](#).



The education committee has proposed our summer schedule to include Rules of the Road seminar in late April, Boat Handling between May and June, Working with Ropes and Lines seminar in July, and the Trailering your Boat seminar in August. We are also planning an Engine Maintenance course to start in September.

We are in the experimenting stage of a possible collaboration between the Tar River Squadron and our own, the intent being, if it works out, to merge the efforts and resources of our respective education programs. This could have the benefit of eliminating duplication, and the competition that it creates. It would also lessen the burden on our limited list of active instructors. We have not formed a conclusion yet on whether this is right for us, as we are still evaluating the pros and cons.

Administrative Officer

Lt/C Linda Moyer



I am excited to assume the role of Administrative Officer this year. Liz has been a great help and it was good to shadow her at Saturday's Change of Watch. We have already met with the WYCC General Manager, reviewed the dining room set up and the processes in place for our General Membership Dinner Meetings. We have also confirmed dates for all of this year's meetings and holiday party.

The Change of Watch luncheon on Saturday, March 9 was attended by 47 people. This included 45 of our members, plus our District 27 guests, Connie and Greg Shay. The rainy weather that day didn't stop our members from having a wonderful time remembering a successful 2023 and planning for a great 2024.

Coming up is our General Membership Dinner Meeting on Thursday, April 18th. Our speaker will be Stephen Farrell, Reference Specialist, from the Brown Library in Washington. I'm open to suggestions, if you would like to volunteer to help with ideas and planning for 2024 general meetings and the holiday party, please contact me at administrativeofficer@pspsnc.com or give me a call at 619-933-2345.

Assistant Administrative Officer - Social

Lorne Hope, AP



I am very happy to continue in my role for 2024 and truly appreciate your excellent attendance at the various social lunches and dinners. I'm always open to suggestions and would be happy to explore any ideas you may have.

We kicked off this year with a luncheon at M & M Café in Oriental on February 15th. We had 27 attending on a terrific weather day for a trip to Oriental. Following lunch, some checked out the new brewery in town...or was it the ice cream/coffee shop!



Assistant Administrative Officer - Boating**Mike Karlovich, AP**

Coastal North Carolina has many beautiful early spring days for a shakedown cruise or cruise down river. 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. Simply email boatingactivities@pspsnc.com with a few details and a contact number.

As far as boat cruises, we are working on our 2024 cruises and anticipate another active year. Currently details are coming together on a cruise called Down East Beaufort to Beaufort or "BOW-firt," NC to "BEW-fert," SC, May 11 – 30, 2024. This cruise has 15 legs and, at the beginning and ending are legs from Beaufort NC to Cypress Landing and River Dunes. We hope that many other boaters may be interested in the cruise. Feel free to contact me if you are interested in joining us for the whole or any part of the cruise, by emailing boatingactivities@pspsnc.com. [Click here](#), to see the various ports included. We have 4 boats confirmed so far with a few interested in the beginning and others the end portions of the trip.

We are also planning an event this summer to Dowery Creek but no dates set yet. If you have ideas for cruising, let us know there's sure to be others interested in the same destinations.



Explore the 2024 Miami International Boat Show for Water Ways TV live on **America's Boating Channel**. Tune in for the latest innovations coming now to the boating industry from the largest boat show in the world. Many short videos covering boat manufacturers, yacht groups and vendors. Click on this link to view all: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLgIbejIMU2HdqB7pJGq3UCxRhWkP2ZXsd>



**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.

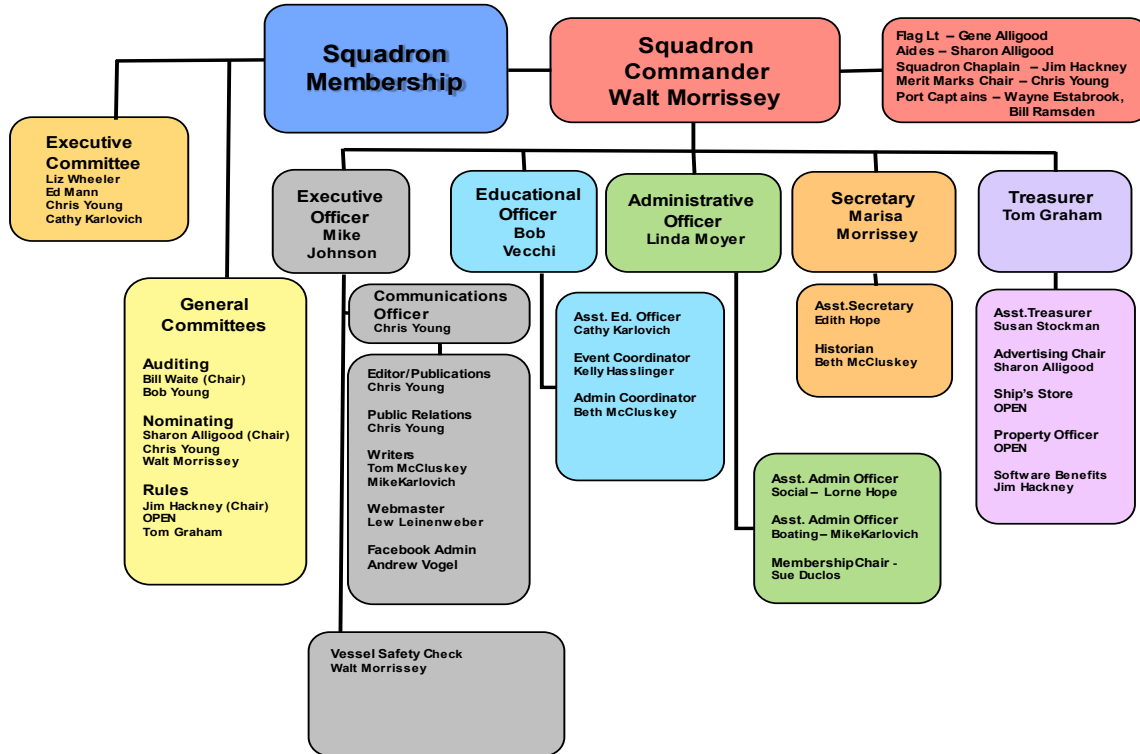
Articles since the last Newsletter printing:

[Preparing your Boat for the Season](#)
[Importance of a Basic Boating Course](#)

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

America's Boating Club of the Pamlico Organizational Chart

2024



Annual Meeting & Change of Watch Photos





Enjoy more photos [here!](#)



KNOWLEDGE VERSUS SKILLS

This new video covers differences between boating knowledge and boating skills and why it matters. Viewers will also learn approaches to take to improve their boating abilities. Also featured are pitfalls to avoid in boater education. Let our Education Team help you.

Copy the link below into your internet address line for the video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Fi2A8b4cC0&list=PLglbeilMU2HeflYrldNBfQxhOLpd8pQGb&index=1>

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

The Ensign Winter 2024 issue



Our Winter issue follows our Down East Circle Route cruisers as they head to Maine. Another member explores warm memories of a Block Island adventure, and our resident paddling expert explains navigation options and tools for paddle sports enthusiasts.

To read this issue, copy this link into your internet address line:
https://theensign.org/imagis/winter2024/?mc_cid=28389cf7ab&mc_eid=bfac945e46

Member Benefit Highlights

McGriff's Discounted Boat Insurance



One of the many benefits of membership is the official ABC Boat Insurance Program, created to meet the unique needs of our members with discounts up to 38% available exclusively to dues-paying members. McGriff Insurance Services LLC administers this program. To request a quote, call 800-763-USPS (8777). log on to:

www.mcgriff.com/abcboatinsurance.html?mc_cid=fa53f5633c&mc_eid=bfac945e46

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>

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!**



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We appreciate our virtual home at WYCC.



Gas & Fuel available to all recreational boaters:
Monday & Tuesday – By appt only
Wednesday & Thursday – 11AM to 5PM
Friday, Saturday, Sunday – 9AM to 5PM

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.

United States Power Squadron February 2025 Caribbean Cruise

7 days: February 9 – 16

Itinerary: Bimini, Bahamas; Labadee, Haiti; Georgetown, Grand Cayman

Special group pricing and details at:

https://www.usps.org/images/Exec/Nat_Meetings/2025cruise.jpg

Must book through Dawn Eckhart in order to be included in the group and receive the exclusive group benefits. Email dawn@dawnstraveldeals.com or call (727) 403-0406

Contact Information

Bridge

Commander

Cdr [Walt Morrissey](#)

Executive Officer

Lt/C [Mike Johnson](#), S

Educational Officer

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

Administrative Officer

Lt/C [Linda Moyer](#)

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 Susan Stockman

Asst Admin-Social

Lt [Lorne Hope](#), AP

Asst Admin-Boating

Lt [Mike Karlovich](#), AP

Executive Committee

P/Lt/C Liz Wheeler

P/Lt/C Chris Young, S

P/Lt/C Ed Mann, AP

Lt Cathy Karlovich, JN

Other Contacts

Membership Chair

Lt [Sue Duclos](#)

Communications Officer

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

Vessel Safety Chair

[Walt Morrissey](#)

National Awards Received



2023 Distinctive Communicator Award PSPS Website



2023 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](#):

March

15-16 [Spring 2024 D27 Council/Conference](#) – Wrightsville Beach, NC

23 [VSC Inspections](#) at Cypress Landing Marina

April

18 General Membership Dinner Meeting

20 VSC Inspections at WYCC Marina

21 VSC Inspections at Cypress Landing Marina

May

TBD Social Outing [Marine Flea Market](#)

Spring Heat Show

- Chocowinity

18 Kick off - National Safe Boating Week

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. Questions, articles or comments should be directed to the [Editor](#).