

# SCUTTLEBUTT

March 2013

For news that can't wait!

## PAMLICO SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON

A unit of United States Power Squadrons®

On the web at <http://pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org>

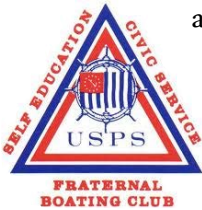


## VOLUNTEER ISSUE

### Merit Marks -

#### Recognizing YOUR Volunteer Efforts

Commander Gene Alligood, P



The USPS Merit Mark recommendations are designed to recognize individual member service during the calendar year. This is the only compensation, in addition to a heart-felt "Thank You", that our active members receive for their efforts at furthering the interests, programs and objectives of PSPS/USPS.

As our Squadron Commander, one of my most important jobs is to ensure that each individual who has contributed to our Squadron's mission is awarded this recognition. In November each year, the Bridge Officers review the efforts of their supporting Officers, Chairs, Committees and individual Members who have met the criteria to gain a Merit Mark. This effort amounts to ten hours or more of personal time devoted to the Pamlico Sail & Power Squadron.

Our Squadron's Merit Mark Chair, Bob Hatala, compiles Merit Mark recommendations into an electronic Merit Mark file, which is then entered into a three tier approval process: our Commander, the Merit Mark Area Monitor, and the USPS Chief Commander. Approved Merit Mark Certificates are then emailed to each of the member recipients. In the past, our squadron has awarded 40 plus individual member Merit Marks for volunteer service each year. Listed below are some examples and recommendations that will qualify *you* for a Merit Mark:

- ★ Teach an Educational Course or Seminar; all or just a segment of a class;
- ★ Assist with Educational Course Offerings;
- ★ Participate in General Meeting planning of dinner, speakers, etc.;
- ★ Take part in Committee Meetings, both established & ad hoc;
- ★ Participate in Cooperative Charting efforts & submission;
- ★ Assist in planning a cruise, raft-up and other boating activities;
- ★ Assist on land-based activities such as golf outings, dock parties, picnics, etc;
- ★ Work on a Newsletter or provide articles for publishing;
- ★ Participate in the Web Site team;
- ★ Serve or work in any Organizational Chart Position;
- ★ Work at the PSPS waterfront tent opportunities or Boat Shows;
- ★ Work on Communication & Public Relations activities;
- ★ Become a VSC Inspector or serve on a Vessel Safety Check Committee;
- ★ Participate with other organizations promoting Safe Boating.

Getting involved in one or more events or projects can be meaningful for you and further support the Pamlico Sail & Power Squadron in its efforts to reach the boating public within Beaufort County. Consider it this year; be a volunteer. We are looking forward to your participation and ideas!



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# Here are some ideas where your volunteer efforts would be greatly appreciated:

## Become a Vessel Safety Inspector



For those of you who really know your way around a boat, this is the perfect way for you to volunteer and support the PSPS safety mission. Become a certified Vessel Safety Inspector. Join Fred Schroeder at his annual VSC meeting at the end of March and learn if becoming a VSC Inspector is for you.


Based on the number of new VSC Inspectors, Fred will be holding a class to review the materials and will conduct the testing to bring the new Inspectors on board for the 2013 season. Once you are certified, you need only inspect 5 boats to continue to be qualified each year.

PSPS currently has 7 inspectors, but truly needs more to meet the number of recreational boaters we support for inspections. Please call Fred at 948-0682 or email your interest [here](#). 

## Kick off National Safe Boating Week

**Saturday, 18 May  
0900 to 1400**

We will have the PSPS Tent and VSC Inspections on the waterfront again this year. However, this year we will invite related boating organizations and retailers to join us for a more powerful awareness of boating safety for 2013.




Consider volunteering at the PSPS Tent and talk with folks about boating ... what a great way to spend a few hours. We need a minimum of two people at a given time; come join us for an hour or so. To sign up, just call Edie Miller at 252-975-6479 or email her [here](#). 




## Participate in the Third Annual Washington Marine Market Saturday, 27 April – 0900 to 1800



Here's how:

-  Gather your unwanted, used or new boating equipment, supplies, lines or anything nautical and donate to PSPS. There are two locations to drop off your items. All donations are tax-deductible and PSPS will give you a letter for our 2014 tax file.
-  We also need 2 or 3 volunteers from 0700 to 0900 to assist in directing all market participants into parking areas and checking their registration to the market.
-  Lastly, PSPS will have two spaces for our tent/boating information and to sell the donated items from our members to the public. We will need three people from 0900 to 1200; three people from 1200 to 1500 and three people from 1500 to 1800. Proceeds from the sale of the donated items will be used for public boating education.

To donate nautical items or to volunteer for any segment of time noted above, email Edie Miller [here](#) or contact her at 252-975-6479. 

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# Co-Op Charting

**This is a key focus for 2013 and can prove to be lots of fun.  
Here is our Plan – come join us, we need you!**



In January 2013, NOAA and the United States Power Squadrons renewed a 50-year commitment to a [cooperative charting program](#) that helps to update the nation's thousands of navigational charts. Co-

Op Charting is a major public service provided by volunteers of USPS throughout the country.

Here is our plan to contribute to this important program:

- ✦ We will call in our District Representative who can review the requirements for on-the-water activities and, once information is gathered, explain the reporting methods.

- ✦ After this training, we can all report discrepancies we find while on the water enjoying our normal boating activities.
- ✦ We will schedule a beautiful day for specific on-the-water measurements and validations. We will need boat captain volunteers that have appropriate boat depth for this activity as well as additional volunteers to assist. The more hands involved in this project makes lighter work for all.
- ✦ Finally, we will meet at WYCC's "D Dock" for a cookout and picnic following the day of information gathering.

Consider joining us for this project. Some of you may have participated in this type of project in the past .... your help would be invaluable! The rest of us are happy to learn more about it. To volunteer, contact Edie Miller with any questions at 975-6479 or email her [here](#).



## Volunteer to help with one of the PSPS Cruises!

Currently our calendar shows nine cruises to various destinations. What are your favorites? Can you pick one and help plan the cruise? Or a raft-up? Call Bill Ramsden, 946-6307, or Chris Young, 946-7853, if you are interested in volunteering.

## Does Dinner Planning spark an interest?

Here's a chance to get creative and volunteer to help plan one of the General Membership Dinner Meetings. Think of a theme, menu and table decorations. Or help with one of the "just for fun" events. Call Chris Young at 946-7853 to participate.



## Can you volunteer your ideas?

Regardless whether you participate or just join in, we would like to plan events and activities that are of interest to you and that you would enjoy attending. Share some ideas and we'll try to bring them to you. Simply email us at [pamlicosailandpowersquadron@gmail.com](mailto:pamlicosailandpowersquadron@gmail.com).



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# Your Squadron needs Instructor Reinforcements!



Educating our members and Beaufort County recreational boaters is our primary goal. The members of our Education Department have done an outstanding job over the years, but we need to continue to bring on additional instructors. This year we are making a concentrated effort to gather many of our newer members or those other members that may only now have the time to participate in this important effort.

- ⚓ Take on a seminar that is of particular interest to you or participate in a segment of one of the courses. You don't need to tackle the whole course to start.
- ⚓ USPS provides the lesson plan, Power Point presentation and all materials/books.
- ⚓ Another member will be available to assist with the class.
- ⚓ Once we get our volunteers together, Education Officer Tom Graham will schedule a session to introduce you to PSPS Education materials and presentations.

⚓ This is a good time for previous instructors who have not taught in a couple of years to join this session as well.

It's rewarding and one of the best ways to contribute to PSPS. To sign up or to learn more about becoming an instructor, contact Tom Graham at 946-7632 or email him [here](#).



**United States Power Squadrons®**

*Celebrating 100 years of boating fun, education and service*