

# THE PALMETTO LOG

## Charleston Power Squadron

Sail and Power Boating

A Unit of District 26

United States Power Squadrons



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**Safe Boating Through  
Education**

## From The Commander Cdr Harl Porter, SN



On 5 December Betsy and I were on the deck of the *Spirit of South Carolina* for the Charleston Parade of Boats. Honored guest was Lieutenant Colonel Steve Kaighen from Charleston AFB. He was selected in appreciation for the sacrifices that all our serving military are making for us. Other Judges were Captain Mike McAllister, Commander USCG Sector Charleston, Captain Steve Little, Owner TowBoat US – Charleston and Sergeant Andy Fitch, Marine Unit – Charleston Sheriff’s Department. The boats with Christmas lights were very impressive; glad I was not a judge and had to select the top boats for cash prizes from the City of Charleston. We had four marker boats on the water at known hazards: *Sunday Drive* (Art Clark), *Spook* (Carl Klele), *Amilado* (Larry Dorminy) and *Odyssey* (Mike Fauss). Steve Kromer and his son-in-law Nick Russo were on *Oops* “herding cats” (getting the boats organized) before the parade. “Bravo Zulu” to all for a job well done. Next year hope to see more marker boats and several squadron boats in the parade.

Our Christmas Dinner and Gift Exchange was very nice and a success with over 50 people at each event. Thanks to Betsy Porter, with help from Larry and Dona Jean Dorminy, for setting-up and decorating. I provided the “Crystal” Elephant. Santa, P/C David Walsh, paid us a visit and supervised the gift exchange. Special thanks to Gary and Sandi Danio for working our “refreshments” table. The left over food from all squadron dinners is donated to the Palmetto House (homeless shelter in Summerville) the next day.

The squadron books were audited by the Squadron’s Auditing Committee (P/C Ernest Godshall chair, Kirk Williams and Wendy Walsh). Their formal report to the Executive Committee, dated 5 Jan 2010, contained this statement. “Treasurer Rick Cone has done an excellent job of getting our records into Quickbooks, even recreating the first part of the year before he was appointed”. **“Bravo Zulu” Lt/C Rick for a job well done.**

Three items were voted on and approved at the 7 January 2010 Executive Meeting. They were: 1) Improve building security by installing dead bolt locks on all three doors, 2) Limit use of squadron Lap-top PCs and PC Projectors to USPS activities and 3) Go to first class postage for the *Palmetto Log* when our bulk mailing permit expires. To help us save money, we would appreciate it if you would receive your *Palmetto Log* electronically. If you do nothing, you will continue to receive your *Palmetto Log* as a printed hard copy sent via USPS (United States Postal System, the other USPS).

I gave the Charleston Sail and Power Squadron “commercial” to our first Americas Boating Course on Tuesday, 12 January. Twenty-five students attended the first session taught by P/C David Walsh. I asked how they heard about our class – 20 said from the articles that Gary Whitley had placed in the newspaper, 2 said from other sources and 1 said from our web site. For our next class, we expect our two top sources of ABC students will be from newspaper articles and one-on-one discussion between our Vessel Examiners and new boaters at their marinas.

One of the three sides of the USPS triangle is Self Education; the other two sides are Fraternal Boating Club and Civic Service. One of our goals for 2010 is for 50% of our members to reach the grade AP in three years. To become an AP you need to complete Seamanship, Piloting and Advanced Piloting. SEO John Meyenberg has scheduled our member classes with well qualified instructors to make this possible. Our next Piloting class starts in mid February; completion of Seamanship is NOT a prerequisite.

**Harl**

**Executive Officer**  
**Lt/C Joe Schady, P**



Greetings everyone, I hope everyone had a happy holiday. I would like to take this opportunity to go over the role of the Executive Department. As stated in the Operations Manual, “The **executive department** is under the supervision of the **executive officer** and is responsible for the functions generally described as external.” Basically, the Executive Department helps shape the face of the squadron to the public. To this end, the CSPS has committees that help reach out to the public and make us a part of the community. Not to be redundant, but I think it is important to reiterate, these committees are:

- Boat Show – Daisy Proctor
- Cooperative Charting – David Walsh
- Liaison – Joe Schady
- Public Relations – Gary Whitley
- Safety – John Sikes
- Vessel Safety Check – Cdr Harl Porter
- Homeland Security – Joe Schady

Since all of the real work in the Executive Department is done in these committees, I will highlight one to two committees each month in this column. The purpose is to get you, the membership, familiar with what good work is done in these committees as well as entice you to get involved in some of their efforts.

This month we will highlight a new endeavor, The Sea Scouts. The Sea Scouts are part of the Boy Scouts of America in the Venturing Division. They are chartered by Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum and meet aboard the Yorktown.

Sea Scout Ship 510, the Charleston local ship, is an active ship with its primary activities built on, in or around the water. The Sea Scouts have a sailing ship and three keel boats (SSTV Menehune-a Watkins 27; SSTV Amore-a Pearson 26, and SSTV Corgi-a 22ft Oday), plus they have a fleet of dinghies at Camp Moultrie.

We will be actively looking for a member to interface directly with this group and see how the CSPS can participate and help develop the next generation of sea lovers. Please contact me if you have any interest in spearheading this effort or just participating in upcoming Sea Scout events.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of my committee heads for their continued work and support, and thank the membership for their active and continued involvement.

**Joe**



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## Administrative Officer Lt/C Bill Hayes, P



**JANUARY DINNER MEETING:** The 11 January dinner meeting was attended by over 50 members and was a success due to the following individuals:

1. Beverly Meyenberg for the great lasagna dinner. Also making significant contributions in the kitchen were John Meyenberg, Debra Hayes, Carol Burgess and Jeri Klele. The last three are AKA *The Charleston S&P Squadron Nurses Association*.
2. Gary and Sandy Danio for their expert mixology.
3. Jim and Nona Bondheimer, Carol and Russ Burgess, Donna and Larry Dorminy and Kris Moore for the dining room set up.
4. Charlie Smith, who volunteered ahead of time, and the many members who helped clear the tables after dinner.
5. Betsy Porter for vacuuming the dining room.
6. The unnamed heroes of the Refrigerator Relocation Ad Hoc Group.

**JANUARY BOATING ACTIVITIES:** We had a great kickoff Lunch/Cruise at Morgan Creek Grill on Isle of Palms on Saturday, 16 January, attended by approximately 28 members. Two members, Sam and Sunny Steinberg, came on their boat *Sea Porch* in spite of the inclement weather. Carl Klele presented the 2010 Cruise Calendar and Gary Whitley discussed the mid week boating activity plans for the year.

**FEBRUARY CRUISE:** In February the Squadron will cruise North on the ICW to McClellanville from which we will visit the lighthouse in which long time member P/C Fred Wichmann was born and then return to McClellanville for lunch. The lighthouse visit will require a number of shallow draft vessels. Details on this cruise are in a separate article.

**MARCH CRUISE:** In March a Sailboat Harbor/River Cruise is scheduled. This is planned as a day cruise with power boaters serving as crew on the sail boats.

**MIDWEEK BOATING:** Midweek Boating Activities for February will be announced via Google Groups shortly. Feel free to contact Gary Whitley before then to discuss your ideas. Gary can be reached at: (843) 557-0844, (843) 469-4782 or [wgary44@aol.com](mailto:wgary44@aol.com).

Participants in all Boating Activities are encouraged to have a new experience, e.g., if you are a power boater try crewing on a sailboat and visa versa. Remember, boaters, especially USPS members, take care of their own, so experienced boaters should be look for ways to help the less experienced. While the concept of our Boating Activities is relatively simple, especially for individual experienced Captains who have “been there and done that”, as we add new members and the number of participants grows, coordination of those activities may no longer be easy. We are currently considering the value of a Captain’s Meeting prior to our various Boating Activities. Perhaps the necessary communications can take place via phone, e-mail or even on VHF FM radio.

**Bill**

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## Education Officer Lt/C John Meyenberg, AP



We are off to a great start with 28 students in the ABC course. The Cruise Planning has 7 students, Advance Piloting has 2 students to date. Piloting and Sail does not have students any at this point but there is interest in both. We are going to advertise the Piloting to the public and limit it to 15 students. Squadron members will have first choice so sign up now, if you would like to attend.

**Remember: Piloting starts 15 February, Advance Piloting starts 17 February, Sail Starts 2 March and Cruise Planning starts 3 March .**

**There is still time to sign up for a course. All our instructors are working hard to prepare for their course. Let's support them by signing up.**

Congratulation to the Piloting Class with the following 12 graduates: John C. Champion, Richard A. Day, Scott A. Erskine, Ted E. Erskine, Leland Landesberg, Kristine A. Moore, Barbara C. Smith, Charles R. Smith, Ginger Stolp, John Stolp, Shawn West, and Curtis L. White.

Congratulations to the Fall Marine Communications Systems Class with the following four graduates: Rick Cone, John Meyenberg, Frank Rogers and Ginger Stolp.

Nautical Dafynitions

Amidships - Condition of being surrounded by boats.

Baggywrinkle- Effect of sun and salt spray on your face.

Chart - 1) Large piece of paper that that is useful in protecting cabin and cockpit surfaces from food and beverage stains or 2) Type of nautical map which tells you exactly where you are aground or what you just hit.

To be continued next issue.

**John**

## Want to earn a USCG Captain's OUPV (6-Pack) License?

SEO John Meyenberg has arranged for one or two positions in SeaSchool – Charleston USCG Captain's OUPV (6-Pack) License preparation course for only \$300. On your own this class will cost you \$495. Most classes are two weekends (Saturday and Sunday) and the five week-nights between them (Monday through Friday). One week later SeaSchool will administer the USCG approved OUPV Captain's exam. This preparatory class is well recommended; several of our squadron members earned their USCG Captain's License this way. For additional details and class dates visit the SeaSchool web site at: [www.seaschool.com](http://www.seaschool.com).

If interested in taking the SeaSchool USCG Captain's OUPV (6-Pack) License Preparation Course for only \$300 contact XO Joe Schady at [jschady@alphamachine.com](mailto:jschady@alphamachine.com).

# SEASCHOOL



**Helen Kovach, SEO John Meyenberg, P/C David Walsh and P/C Art Clark at 12 Jan ABC Class**

**Secretary**  
**Lt/C Pat Brown**



**Treasurer**  
**Lt/C Rick Cone, P**



### Awards of Merit

The hard work and dedication of the members of the power squadron responsible for the **Palmetto Log** and the **website** have paid off. The Palmetto Log has earned the 2009 Distinction in Journalism Award (DIJ) for its creativity and layout. As we view the Palmetto Log we can all attest to how artfully and tastefully done it is. The evaluation committee found the Log to be inviting and containing stimulating articles. Many thanks to our editor, **Steve Brostoff** and assistant editor, **Wendy Walsh** for their commitment and hard work to produce and distribute such an outstanding piece of literature. Thanks to all of the members who have contributed articles and pictures to abet in this effort.



Not to be vanquished, the Charleston Sail and Power Squadron's website has been awarded the 2009 Web Site Award. This award is given in recognition of the webmaster's efforts to promote the squadron, district and United States Power Squadrons. Our webmaster, **Steve Poe**, has done a stupendous job in assuring that the website includes information relevant and interesting with links to the many different avenues of USPS. Share the website with your friends, have them to visit [www.usps.org/localusps/cps/](http://www.usps.org/localusps/cps/).

Pat



Aside from our highly successful Christmas Party, December is generally a slow month for our Squadron and is reflected in our low checking account balance (\$1,693.05 as of 31 Dec 2009) as we begin the new year's activities. However, with a full class of January ABC Students and our January monthly dinner meeting, we expect to be in better financial shape very soon.

As required by our ByLaws Article 6, Section 6.10, our financial records must be independently audited annually. Our Audit Committee reviewed our records for fiscal year ending 31 November 2009 and issued their formal report to Cdr Harl Porter and the Executive Committee on 5 January 2010. Deposits, checks written, reimbursements, bank balances and monthly financials were all reviewed and found to be in order.

Rick



## Cruise to Isle of Palms Morgan Creek Grill

The Charleston Sail and Power Squadron had its first cruise of the year. We went to Morgan Creek Grill on the Isle of Palms. About 25 people attended the event for some good food. Only one couple came by boat, Sunny and Samuel Steinberg who brought their boat "Sea Porch." Here are photos of some of the people at the dinner cruise.



Gary and Sandi Danio



Kris Moore and friend Chris



Karen and Lynn Lewis



David Walsh and Gene Corbett



Dick and Anne Howells

## On-the-Water Cooperative Charting Opportunity

The spring boating season is here, and it is time to start the Squadron's Cooperative Charting effort. The Charleston Sail and Power Squadron is a participating member in the National Oceanographic Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Cooperative Charting Program. The program is a joint effort between the United States Power Squadrons (USPS) and the NOAA. USPS volunteers collect nautical chart data and report the results to NOAA. The program helps improve the accuracy of NOAA's navigation charts.

The Charleston Sail and Power Squadron has "adopted" Nautical Chart 11518 (Casino Creek to the Beaufort River) and Chart 11522 (Stono and North Edisto Rivers). This year, the Charleston Sail and Power Squadron will make a complete GPS survey of these charts. We need volunteers who can take GPS readings of chart features and enter computerized reports to the USPS-NOAA Cooperative Charting Website (CCWEB).

Adopt-A-Chart is a great excuse to go boating and improve your GPS skills. Our adopted charts cover some of the most scenic area on the ICW and Charleston Harbor. Participation in the program does not require owning a boat. We plan to form teams that match up people and boats, usually 3 people per boat. After an initial on-the-water training session, each team will choose a portion of a chart for evaluation. Teams then will conduct chart evaluations on their own schedules. If you are interested in participating or learning more about this year's Cooperative Charting effort, please contact David Walsh by phone (843 556-3258) or e-mail: [wals6563@bellsouth.net](mailto:wals6563@bellsouth.net).

## Help Wanted

Charleston Sail and Power Squadron needs members to help with these actives in 2010.

Cdr Harl needs a Historian

XO Joe needs a Liaison Officer with the Sea Scouts

SEO John needs a Seminar Courses chair

AO Bill needs one or more members for the Meetings and Programs committee

Please contact the above Bridge Members if you are willing to fill one of these positions.

Are you interested in becoming a Vessel Examiner? No experience is required. If yes, contact Cdr Harl at [107Harl@sc.rr.com](mailto:107Harl@sc.rr.com) and he will arrange for your training (about three hours in class room) and then five supervised Vessel Safety Checks (another four hours). You will get to board and look at different types of boats while doing Civic Service.





## Look Ahead Calendar

- 4 to 6 Feb – USPS Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL  
4 Feb – Executive Meeting @ 1830 in Club House  
11 Feb – Dinner Meeting @ 1800 in Club House  
15 Feb – Piloting Starts @ 1830 in Club House  
20 Feb – Cruise to Cape Romaine departs from  
McCellanville Marina @ 0830
- 4 Mar – Executive Meeting @ 1830 in Club  
House  
5 to 7 Mar – D26 Spring Conference in Greenville,  
SC  
11 Mar – Dinner Meeting @ 1800 in Club House  
20 Mar – Sail Cruise in Charleston Harbor

## 11 February Dinner Meeting

The February dinner meeting will be at Headquarters, 1376 Orange Grove Road, in West Ashley. Happy Hour will start at 1800 with Dinner at 1900.

Cost for the dinner will be \$10.00 per person. RSVP by Sunday 7 February to Bill Hayes at 843.261.8322 or [billsflyfishing@me.com](mailto:billsflyfishing@me.com). Seating will be limited to 60.

The meal will be prepared by Iron Chef Beverly who promises a romantic Valentines Day theme. She will be preparing Marinated Chicken Breasts, Escalloped Potatoes, Seasoned Green Beans and Dessert.

The speaker will be Aaron Vickers, Owner of *Oil in a Day's Work* - a Diesel, Marine and Service Company. He has over 20-years experience with marine engines to include Cummins, Volvo, Detroit, Perkins, Onan, Deutz, Kubota, Northern Lights, Yanmar, Universal, or Crusader and is also experienced in gas engines. Focus of his talk will be engine maintenance and upkeep.

We will continue to work on improving our refreshments, so please give us your suggestions.

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## Membership

### **Change in the Palmetto Log**

You will see a change in *The Palmetto Log* with the April 2010 issue. It will be mailed to members using First Class Postage instead of the Bulk Rate Mail we have been using. The EXCOM voted to not renew our Bulk Rate permit when it expires next month, so we will have to switch to first class with the mailing of the April *Palmetto Log*.

Bulk Rate Mail requires a minimum of 200 pieces being presented to the Bulk Mail Station at one time. We have less than 200 members, and to reach the minimum we have been mailing copies to select marinas, boat dealers, and others. Bulk Mail worked fine when printing costs were low. Unfortunately, printing costs have increased and it is getting too expensive now to print extra copies for non-members just to meet the minimum bulk mailing requirement. A cost analysis shows that we will get a significant savings by limiting the number of copies printed to one copy per household, even if we have to use First Class postage.

Several members have said that they read the electronic version of the *Log* on line and they don't need a paper copy. In the past, we haven't been able to take them off the mailing list unless we could find someone else to replace them in order to meet the minimum bulk mailing requirement.

Members who do not have e-mail will continue to receive a paper copy.

The electronic version of *The Palmetto Log* is available on our Charleston Power Squadron Website [www.usps.org/localusps/cps/](http://www.usps.org/localusps/cps/). You will get an e-mail each month with a link to the Website from the CPS Google Group when the newest *Log* is posted. Please send an e-mail to Wendy [wals6563@bellsouth.net](mailto:wals6563@bellsouth.net) if you want to save your squadron some money and read the *Palmetto Log* on our Website.

## Snail Mail or E-Mail?

When our bulk mail permit expires we will send out your printed copy of the Palmetto Log via first class postage. It will look the same - color overprint on front and back page and black and white pictures.

To help us save money we will only mail one copy to each house. To save even more money we would appreciate it if you would elect to receive your Palmetto Log electronically. The advantage of e-mail is faster delivery and color pictures.

If you would like to receive your Palmetto Log as an e-mail attachment please contact Secretary Pat at [pabrown52@comcast.net](mailto:pabrown52@comcast.net).

If you do not want an electronic copy, do nothing. You will continue to receive your Palmetto Log as a printed copy via "Snail Mail".

For your information: at our dinner meeting 14 Jan 2010 we surveyed those in attendance regarding their preferences on how to receive the Palmetto Log. Over 90% requested e-mail delivery.

## February Cruise to McClellanville

The dates are Friday, 19 February and Saturday, 20 February. Saturday morning we will leave from the McClellanville marina area at approximately 0900 and travel by small boats to the Cape Romain lighthouse, spend an hour at the lighthouse and return to the marina for lunch at a restaurant a short walk from the marina. The reason we are leaving so early is to catch high tide (approx. 1100).

We need about 5 small boats for the trip from the marina to the lighthouse that will be led by P/C Fred Wichmann. Boots are recommended due to possible muddy conditions at the lighthouse.

It is approximately 35 statute miles (30 nm) to McClellanville from downtown Charleston. For those with planing hulls who want to depart early Saturday morning and run as a group, the assembly point for the trip North will be Northwest of the South tip of Sullivans Island between Marker "127" (Fl 4s) and Marker "130" (Fl R 4s), Approx. Lat 32 46.1 N, Lon 79 52.1 W with a departure time NLT 0700 for an ETA of 0900. After Isle of Palms there are only a few No Wake Zones.

Boats leaving Friday can anchor overnight near Jeremy Creek or can make arrangements for dockage at Leland Marina in Jeremy Creek located at 541 Water Street McClellanville, SC 29458 (843-877-3641), no email listed. Dock space is limited so call early for overnight stay. You will turn to port at Green Marker 35 into Jeremy Creek. The city ramp and dock will be to starboard then Leland Marina to starboard. We will have people there to assist rafting up the boats.

Also, you can trailer your boat up to Buck Hall State Park which is about 30 miles from Charleston on Rt 17 North and launch from there. From Buck Hall, it is about a half an hour North (approx. 6 nm) to Leland Marina. There is also a Town Boat Ramp and dock on Jeremy Creek that requires a permit from the Town of McClellanville. Take Hwy 17 North to the intersection with Hwy 45 and turn right to McClellanville.

The dock and ladder at Leland Marine may prove challenging for some so we are planning to pick up and drop off people at the Town Dock as necessary.

Please make reservations with Carl Klele at 843-697-1540, [cklele@comcast.net](mailto:cklele@comcast.net) or Joyce Wichmann, Cruise Captain at 843-795-9172, [jhwjwm@comcast.net](mailto:jhwjwm@comcast.net).



**Safety Alerts**  
**by John Sikes, Safety Officer**

**The Truth About Cold Water**  
**Part 1 of 5**

I'm going to come right out and tell you something that almost no one in the maritime industry understands. That includes mariners, executives, managers, insurers, dock workers, for certain – fisherman, and even many (most) rescue professionals:

**It is impossible to die from hypothermia in cold water unless you are wearing a flotation device, because without flotation – you won't live long enough to become hypothermic.**

Despite the research, the experience, and all the data, I still hear “experts” – touting as wisdom – completely false information about cold water and what happens to people who get in it. With another season of really cold water approaching, I feel compelled to get these points across in a way that will change the way mariners behave out there on (or near) the water.

What follows is the truth about cold water and cold water immersion. I know that you think you know all there is to know about hypothermia already (and maybe you do), but read ahead and see if you aren't surprised by something.

When the water is cold (say under 50 degrees F) there are significant physiological reactions that occur, in order, almost always.

Stay tuned for more next month.

Published: November 10th, 2009 by Mario Vittone, <http://gcaptain.com>

**EPIRB**

Does your boat carry an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB)? If so, is it the latest type?


EPIRB owners should be aware of the change that took place on 1 February 2009, when signals on the 121.5 MHz and 243 MHz frequency bands were no longer processed by search and rescue satellites.

This was a decision made by the International Cospas-Sarsat Program with guidance from the United Nations due to numerous signal reception problems, a high incidence of false alerts (over 99%), and a host of other limitations associated with the 121.5 MHz frequency.

Over the years, 406 MHz beacons have proven to have superior performance capabilities. They transmit a much stronger signal, are more accurate, verifiable and traceable. Each 406 MHz beacon has a unique ID encoded with its signal. As long as the beacon ID has been registered (which is required by law), search and rescue authorities can quickly confirm that the distress is real, who they are looking for and where they should look. This means a search can be launched even before a final distress location has been determined.

It should be noted that even 406 MHz beacons contain an integral 121.5 MHz signal. However this signal is not transmitted to the satellites. It is used only for homing or direction finding purposes by search personnel once they are near the activated beacon location.

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### Happy February Birthdays

- 01 Feb P/C William H. Lynes, AP
- 07 Feb John W. VanWay, SN
- 10 Feb Beverly Meyenberg, S
- 11 Feb P/D/C Norman G. Brooks, AP
- 11 Feb Nicholas James Pastis, S
- 16 Feb P/C Ricki Silveria, JN
- 20 Feb Diane Edith Smith, S
- 21 Feb P/C Fredrick C. Wichmann, AP
- 25 Feb Basil Acock, S
- 27 Feb Margaret Whitley
- 28 Feb James E. Hackett, SN



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## Christmas Party Photos

The Annual Squadron Christmas Party was held on 10 December 2009. The event featured an excellent buffet dinner and “Chinese Gift” exchange. Santa made an appearance and a good time was had by all. Here are some photos of the event.



**Santa Arrives at the Party**



**Commander Harl Porter, Captain of the Palmetto Elephant, Provided a Unique Decoration**



**Betsy Porter and Dona Jean Dorminy Serve an Excellent Holiday Buffet Dinner**



**P/C David Walsh and Cdr Harl's Elephant at 10 Dec Dinner Meeting and Gift Exchange**

## More Christmas Party Photos



**Executive Officer Joe Shady Gets a Gift of Two Porcelain Plates**



**Kathy Rogers get two Bottles of Fine Wine**



**Carl Klele Gets a Decanter Set**



**New Members Sandi and Gary Danio at the Party**

**THE PALMETTO LOG**  
**The Publication of**  
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**Carl Klele**  
**Boating Activities**  
**Phone: 843-697-1540**

**Upcoming Events**

11 February 2010 - Dinner Meeting, Headquarters  
20 February 2010 - Cruise to Cape Romaine  
5-7 March 2010 - D26 Spring Conference - Greenville  
11 March 2010 - Dinner Meeting, Headquarters

**BOATING IS FUN...WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW**