

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 Dick Howells, JN**



The new year is off to a great start with 2 areas working together that have a great potential for increasing Squadron membership.

1. The Education Department under SEO Chet Rogers with P/C David Walsh as head of the Public Boating Classes has completely revamped what we offer to the public. The new course is like the United States Power Squadron's *America's Boating Course on steroids* with more material and on -the- water instruction all for \$50.00. There will be no more comprehensive beginning course offered anywhere.
2. Additionally; Gary Whitley has expanded his Public Relations Office to promote us and the new course to all area marinas, marine dealers, parks and recreation organizations, media outlets, boating clubs, yacht clubs and other civic organizations. This is a monumental task and Gary has been recruiting help especially from new members.

I talked with two marina managers in one week and both were amazed at the courses we offer. They said they had no idea the Power Squadron offered so much in depth education for boaters. **It is time we stopped being the best kept secret in boating!**

On another topic:

Rivers Edge Marina on the Ashley is offering a great deal to Charleston Sail and Power Squadron members. The details have been posted on the Google Group. Essentially they will discount their dry stack storage from \$12 per foot per month to \$10 if you agree to stay there for one year. You can still pay by the month. Several members have their boats there and speak highly of RiversEdge. For information call Tracey Nelson at 843.554.8901 or view their web site at www.riversedgemarina.com. Tracey has been there for over 10 years and will be happy to work with you.

This brings up a good point. If anyone knows of any special deals for our members let us know and we will publicize them.

Hope to see you on the water soon.

Dick



**Executive Officer
Lt/C BJ Smith, P**



I understand the New Year has started off with a bang! Even though I was on the west coast, my intelligence sources indicate that our first membership meeting and the first cruise event were very successful. As usual, the membership enjoyed great food and warm fellowship. As an aside, I understand the gauntlet is down and we now have a “BBQ” cooking challenge warming up. Our very own Commander and James Rowe have agreed to see who the best BBQ chef is. I know who I am betting on. I do hope I get home in time to witness this culinary challenge.

On a more serious note, Gary Whitley and Dick Clarke have developed a squadron marketing plan to augment our public relations efforts. They have some great ideas on how to promote our squadron to the public. I look forward to watching as this effort evolves.

We were disappointed that we could not participate in the first Boat Show this year. However, we are hopeful the next boat show will not charge us a fee and we can once again promote our organization to the general public.

David Walsh is moving forward with the Cooperative Charting efforts. If you have not participated in the cooperative charting effort I encourage you to do so. It is a fun filled day with great people, and the charting reconciliation process is very important to our community. Vessel safety checks, safe boating classes, and cooperative charting promote our presence in the community.

Please feel free to volunteer and participate in our squadron efforts. We always can use help!! If you want to participate in a particular area, please feel free to contact me at 843-514-9638.

Hope to see you on the water soon!

BJ

**Administrative Officer
Lt/C Angie Ireland, S**



Can you believe how fast this new Squadron year is moving! A lot has already happened since our last article. We have had the Parade of Boats, Change of Watch, the Christmas Party, a membership meeting and a cruise. All of which were huge successes... We have already had so much fun. And just to think, the year is only just beginning!

Our first membership meeting was held on 8 January 2009. What a meeting! We had 47 members attend and Helen's 'Award Winning' chili was as OUTSTANDING as promised! We enjoyed the fresh salad, fantastic cornbread and sumptuous cakes. Our speaker, John Keenan of Keenan Marine Insurance did a wonderful job of enlightening all of us about the insurance pros and cons that were a mystery to us. Now, we'll think twice before going out on the water with guests and 'willing' helpers. I know I will... Great job, John!

Our 10 January 2008, Cruise was to Vickery's Restaurant on the absolutely beautiful, Shem Creek in Mt. Pleasant. What a beautiful day for a cruise! Look for the cruise report in this issue. We look forward to the February annual pilgrimage cruise to the Cape Romain Lighthouse. This cruise is highly recommended for its breathtaking views, and the history updates provided by Fred Wichmann are very enlightening. See our Cruise announcement in this publication or visit the web for additional information.

Thanks to James Rowe and his cruise committee, our new 2009 Cruise schedule is close to being finalized. It will be published on the website soon and available for viewing. Please visit our 'Award Winning' WEB site that Steve Poe so diligently maintains and plan ahead for a great year of "Power & Sail Squadron" cruising. Be prepared for a LOT of fun this year! March will be just as exciting as February with the annual Hornick cruise hosted at the Rivers Edge Marina. Please take

advantage of this event and get your boat inspected free by Squadron Vessel Examiners.

Larry Dorminy has a great program lined up for February. Larry and DJ are doing an excellent job of setting up programs for the coming year. Keep your eyes and ears open for some exciting programs!

Speaking of programs:
You will not want to miss our 12 February 2009 membership meeting! I am very excited about this one. Our very own Harl Porter will present: "Rescue 21 – DSC is coming to SC in 09"

2009 is the 'YEAR OF THE OX'. Come celebrate the Chinese New Year at Headquarters in style as Helen prepares Chinese fare – MSG free – Soup, Fried Rice, Vegetables and Spicy Orange Beef and Ginger Chicken. Don't miss getting your Year of the Ox refrigerator magnet. Make your **reservations** today so that we have a space for you. Deadline is 10 February. Call or email me to reserve your seat for this fantastic event!

See you on the water soon!
Angie Ireland



Educational Officer Lt/C Chester B Rogers, P



Winter/Spring, 2009 Schedule of Classes

Our next round of classes will begin Monday 23 February. **"Meet the Instructors" night, an opportunity for students to pick up course materials and initial assignments, meet instructors, and generally get all of the paper work out of the way, will be held on Monday, 16 February.**

"Meet the Instructors" and all classes will meet at Headquarters (1376 Orange Grove Road, Charleston) at 1830. The schedule of classes are listed below. In order to take a class, you must sign up with me (Chet Rogers) and pay the class fee either by check made out to the Charleston Power Squadron and sent to me or by credit card with Wendy Walsh (556-3258). Please sign up and pay the class fee as soon as possible because I cannot know how many sets of class materials to order until I have your payment in hand. Power Squadron members who are taking their first course will have their fee reduced by \$25. If this is your first class, please let me know when you sign up.

Schedule of Classes, Winter, 2009

Class	Cost
Beginning Date	
Instructional Development	Free
Tuesday, 24 Feb	
Seamanship	\$70
Monday, 23 Feb3	
Advanced Piloting	\$55
Wednesday, 23 Feb	
Marine Electronics	\$65
Wednesday, 25 Feb	

*CPS members taking their first class receive a \$25 discount.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly either by phone or by email.

Chet

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Johns Island, SC 29455
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Seamanship Course

Following the introductory boating course, The United States Power Squadron offers a continuing boating education program consisting of a number of basic and elective courses. Seamanship is one of the first to follow the introductory course.

Seamanship is the perfect course for the person new to recreational boating as well as a great way to achieve the required boating basics for the accomplished boater or old-time mariner. The course concentrates on small boat handling of outboard runabouts, small stern drive boats, and inboard cruisers. Seamanship issues of docking, anchoring, mooring, rafting, and emergencies at sea are all addressed. The course includes a section on marlinspike (lines and knots for boating) requiring the student to demonstrate basic knots. A thorough introduction to the Rules of the Road is a part of the Seamanship Course with the provision of a supplementary text entitled "The One Minute Guide to the Nautical Rules of the Road". This text satisfies Coast Guard requirements for carrying the rules on board and can be used by the student who wishes to gain a Coast Guard Mariners License.

The Seamanship Course has been recently upgraded to include full PowerPoint computer aided presentations. Additionally, the Course now includes, at a minimum, one session "on the water" enabling students to practice what they have been taught. The course is taught by accomplished boaters with years of experience including extended cruising.

Completion of the Seamanship Course will provide the student, as captain or mate, increased confidence and pleasure on the water.

Nelson Hicks

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Charleston, SC 29401
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nelsonhicks@comcast.net

2008 Awards

The following awards have been made to our members either by United States Power Squadrons, District 26 or the Charleston Sail and Power Squadron. Our congratulations to all for their contributions and efforts.

50 year Membership

Fred Wichmann AP, P/C

25 year Membership

Jim Easley AP

Mike Page P, P/C

Ira Davis S

Ed Kridler SN, D/Lt/C

Cindy Kridler AP

Ray Harp P

Alice Harp P

Life membership Award for 25 years of continuous service with merit marks:

Steve Rustin S

Order of Mariner for recognition of exceptional service. Honorees have earned 15 merit marks and completed Advanced Piloting and 3 elective courses.

Glenn Workman

Education Awards:

Chapman Excellence in Teaching Award

John Sikes AP

Fred Taylor Award for contributing the most educational efforts to the Squadron:

Harl Porter SN Stf/C

Education Award for members who have passed Seamanship, Piloting, Advanced Piloting and 3 elective courses:

Wendy Walsh JN

Student of the Year Award for the member who has passed the most courses for the year:

Dick Howells JN, XO, Lt/C,

Cooperative Charting Awards for superior performance in providing information to the Office of Coast Survey Chart Maintenance:

Charleston Squadron

Steve Poe AP, 1/Lt

Patrick Keegan

David Walsh JN, P/C

BJ Smith P, Admin., Lt/C

Boating and Service Awards:

Power of One

Helen Kovak P

Wallace C. Till Award for the member who has contributed the most effort above and beyond the call of duty:

Helen Kovak P

Commanders Award for the member who has been of special help during the year:

Wendy Walsh JN

Bronze Propeller Award for the member who has used their boat or property to benefit the Squadron most:

Dick Howells JN, XO, Lt/C

Spark Plug Award for the member who was most active and contributed the most to the squadron :

Gary Whitley 1/Lt

Boner Award for the member who *got caught* with the biggest goof-up:

Harl Porter SN, Stf/C

Submitted by

Dick Howells, JN, Commander

Upcoming Program Events at Headquarter Membership Meetings

12 February 2009: Harl Porter will present
“Rescue 21 – DSC is coming to SC in 09”

12 March 2009: Georgia Nettles will present on this
year’s “Charleston Harbor Fest”

09 April 2009: Howells vs Rowe BBQ Challenge and
Cook Off – Feature Surprise Judges

Upcoming Squadron Cruises

13 Feb 2009 – 15 Feb 2009: Annual Cape Romain
Lighthouse Pilgrimage – Cruise Captain’s Fred & Joyce
Wichmann

14 March 2009: Hornick Picnic/Vessel Safety In-
spections – Rivers Edge Marina – Cruise Captains Harl
& Betsy Porter

24 April 2009 – 26 April 2009: Joint Cruise hosted
by Lake Hartwell

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January's Cruise to Vickery's at Shem Creek



Our first cruise of the year was 10 January 2009, to one of the Low Country's most picturesque locations.....Shem Creek, Mt. Pleasant!

WOW! What can I say....We could not have been blessed with a more perfect day for a January Cruise! The weather was fantastic! Shem Creek was picturesque! We had excellent seats so we could take in the views of the marsh and the creek as it opened into the Harbor and we had unimpeded views of the south side of the Shem Creek and the surrounding marsh.

We had a total of 26 people attending and three boats. No Sense II, Sunday Drive and Distant Isle. Special thanks to all who helped with dock lines. It was close, but all the boats fit in the available dock space, with Distant Isle rafting to No Sense II.

The currents were a little 'hairy' when it was time to leave, but the ever so experienced captains did a wonderful job leaving dock and heading out.

Fun was had by ALL!

Cruise Captain,
Angela Ireland

Cape Romain Cruise

13 Feb 2009 – 15 Feb 2009

It's that time of year again, for the annual pilgrimage to the Cape Romain Lighthouse, the birth place of Fred Wichmann. This cruise is highly recommended for its breathtaking views, hair raising excitement and the very enlightening history updates provided by Fred Wichmann.

You will not want to miss this event!

Every year this cruise is an adventure within itself - creating new stories to be passed on from year to year!

All vessels are requested to rendezvous at the Leland Marine in Jeremy Creek at McClellanville Friday afternoon or evening on 13 February 2009. Otherwise, you may arrive early Saturday morning before 0830. Departure for the Cape will occur at 0900 Saturday, 14 February 2009 with high tide at 1100.

Remember, waters around the Cape are very shallow, so larger boats will anchor as waters become thin. Shallow-draft boats will ferry passengers to shore. Caution: There is no dock! So make sure you bring high boots to wade ashore. We have about one hour to explore, and then return to our boats before the falling tide catches us.

Adequate libations must be provided all crews and passengers, especially upon return to Jeremy Creek. We'll be ready for the libations by then. We are asking that cars be provided for adequate transportation to the dinner site for those who may need them.

Dinner will be held at Pat Brown's Buckhall Retreat only a few miles from McClellanville. Directions by water and land will be provided at a later date. James Rowe will be cooking a special Valentines/Birthday dinner for everyone. He is still putting together a sumptuous menu for us

to enjoy and will let us know what the fee will be at a later date. James is an excellent chef and caterer, and I can't wait to sample his fare again.

Please contact Joyce Wichmann (795-9172 or cell 843-296-9129 or joyce.wichmann@gmail.com) to confirm your dinner reservation by 12 February 2009.

After a quiet sleep Saturday night, Sunday morning will provide an enjoyable and safe voyage to our respective homeports always REMEMBERING TO RENDER ASSISTANCE TO ANYONE IN DISTRESS.

P/C Fred Wichmann, AP

Vessel – DISTANT ISLE

SALE

SALE

SALE

Shipmates, your Ship's Store is having its first winter sale. All summer apparel we have in stock is marked down 15%. Come join the fun and get your Polo Shirts, T-shirts and hats at new lower prices while the supply lasts.

For Sale

2001 Sea Ray 260 Sundancer

5.7 EFI 260 HP Bravo III Mercruiser engine 240 hours, A/C, GPS, Vacu-flush Head, Full Galley, Luxurious cabin that sleeps four. Bimini tops and full camper package. Excellent condition. \$44,000 or best offer

Call Chuck Altschul 367-6425



America's Boating Course Schedule

"boating is fun ... we'll show you how."

Location: Squadron Headquarters
Address: 1376 Orange Grove Road, Charleston, SC
29407 (West Ashley area)
Contact: Gary Whitley (843) 469-4782
Cost of Course Materials: \$50
Time: 1830 to 2030

February 2009 Course Schedule

Monday, 02 February 2009

Instructor: David Walsh
Material Covered: Registration, Required Safety
Equipment and Basic Seamanship

Monday, 09 February 2009

Instructor: Captain Helen Kovach
Material Covered: Finding Your Way, Anchoring and
Marine Radio Communications

Monday, 16 February 2009

Instructor: Steve Kromer
Material Covered: Rules of Navigation, Charts,
Navigation Aids, Light and Sound Signals

Monday, 23 February 2009

Instructor: David Walsh
Course Review and Examination

Monday, March 02, 2009

Instructor: Steve Kromer
Material Covered: Optional Electronic Navigation and
Digital Charting

Date: Arranged by Appointment

Instructor: Captain Lane Jefferies
Material Covered: Optional On-the-water Training

March 2009 Course Schedule

Monday, 02 March 2009

Instructor: David Walsh
Material Covered: Registration, Required Safety
Equipment and Basic Seamanship

Monday, 09 March 2009

Instructor: Captain Helen Kovach
Material Covered: Finding Your Way, Anchoring and
Marine Radio Communications

Monday, 16 March 2009

Instructor: Steve Kromer
Material Covered: Rules of Navigation, Charts,
Navigation Aids, Light and Sound Signals

Monday, 23 March 2009

Instructor: David Walsh
Course Review and Examination

Monday, 30 March 2009

Instructor: Steve Kromer
Material Covered: Optional Electronic Navigation and
Digital Charting

Date: Arranged by Appointment

Instructor: Captain Lane Jefferies
Material Covered: Optional On-the-water Training

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Charleston Power and Sail Squadron Vessel Examiners will perform a FREE Vessel Safety Check of your boat if requested. The following members are qualified Vessel Examiners for calendar year 2009.

Dick Howells

Steve Kromer

Terry Melloy

Harl Porter

George Viering

David Walsh

Tony Ward

Stan Whitman

P/C Harl Porter, SN

Chair, Vessel Safety Check Committee

Charleston Power and Sail Squadron

**Remember to get a Vessel Safety Check
Call Harl Porter at 843-832-9423**



Interested in becoming a Vessel Examiner?

If you are interested in becoming a certified 2009 Vessel Examiner for Charleston Sail and Power Squadron contact Harl Porter at 107Harl@sc.rr.com. Initial training consists of a two hour Saturday class at Headquarters, followed by a 45 min open book exam before lunch and five supervised Vessel Safety Checks at Rivers Edge Marina after lunch. Requalification for VEs who did less than five VSCs in 2008 consists of three supervised Vessel Safety Checks which will be done on the same Saturday afternoon at Rivers Edge Marina.

P/C Harl Porter, SN

Chair, Vessel Safety Check Committee

Charleston Power and Sail Squadron

Squadron Christmas Party Pictures



Commander Dick Howells Presents the 50 Year Member Award to Fred Wichmann



Harl Porter Receives a Boating Award from Squadron Commander Dick Howells



Gary Whitley Displays New Banner for the Squadron's Parade Float



**Helen Kovach Prepared an Excellent Dinner
Bob Kovach Managed the Bar**



Ed Kridler, Eleanor Franey and Bart Franey



Cindy Newberry Gets a Lighted Baseball Cap

More Christmas Party Pictures



Kathy Rogers Gets a Vacuum Cleaner



Pat Brown Wins a Lighted License Plate Holder



Eddie Hiers Gets the Elvis Presley Candy Gift Set



Adam Barwick Gets Holiday Pajama Bottoms

The Squadron decorated Gene Corbett's boat and Billy Lyne's truck for the Charleston and Mount Pleasant Holiday Parades. Shown at the right is the "Float" with Shirley and Terry Melloy aboard.



THE PALMETTO LOG
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Wendy Walsh, Membership
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THIS IS YOUR PUBLICATION
MEET THE DEADLINE for March
13 February 2009

BJ Smith
Cruising Activities
Phone: 843-767-1491

Upcoming Events

- 12 February - Member Dinner Meeting at Headquarters 1800
- 13 February - Annual Cape Romain Lighthouse Pilgrimage
- 12 March - Member Dinner Meeting at Headquarters 1800
- 14 March - Hornick Picnic & Vessel Safety Inspections
Rivers Edge Marina

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