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768-1861

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388-0680



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1376 Orange Grove Road  
Charleston, SC 29407

**MEETINGS**

**Executive Committee -1<sup>st</sup> Thursday @ 1830**

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**SAFE BOATING THROUGH  
EDUCATION**

## From the Commander Cdr Janice Kromer, AP



In my article last month, I promised to give you an account of the motions presented at the Governing Board held in New York on 19 August 2006. Although I haven't yet received the official minutes of the meeting, I did get a report from Stf/C Harl Porter, who represented the Charleston Squadron, and I also received an e-mail from D/C Dick Erler.

The most controversial subject addressed was the motion to eliminate the educational requirement for membership in USPS. The issue was discussed during the D/C—DXO meeting and because of the continued controversy and lack of answers to the many questions, the vote on the motion was put off until the Annual Meeting to be held in February 2007. The straw vote taken during our last D/C meeting was quite close to 50/50, so, as does our Executive Committee, there are many who see the benefit of eliminating the requirement. The motion to consolidate the dues classification for the National portion of the assessment will be consolidated to two classes. When it becomes effective, there will be only active and family members. Dues for the family will be set at 150% of the active member dues. National dues will be increased by \$1.80 next year, and the new member administration fee paid to National will be changed from \$10 per person to \$25 per family.

As of 30 June 06, operating revenue exceeded expenses by a little over \$30,000. This is significant news, since last year's figure was negative by over \$100,000. The budget for 2007 was approved for \$1,799,621, which compares favorably to the 2006 budget of \$1,988,215.

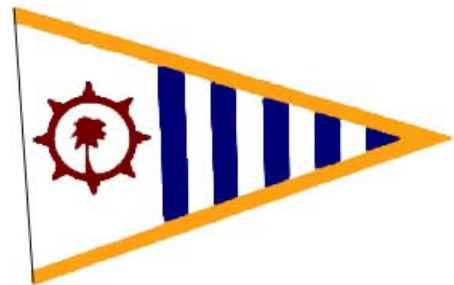
Membership remains the number one problem, with dues off by over \$12,000. However, National believes the decline is beginning to bottom out.

If anyone wants further, information, as always, please call or email me and I'll try to get what you need.

### Annual Meeting

Please plan on attending the Annual Meeting on 12 October 2006. We will be voting for the nominated Bridge and Executive Committee members, along with members for several other committees. A quorum of our Active and Additional Active Member is needed, so your attendance is important. The meeting will be held at Headquarters with Social Hour beginning at 1830. Dinner will be a pot-luck buffet.

*Janice Kromer*  
Commander



### GPS Seminar

The Charleston Power Squadron will be teaching a seminar on GPS for Boaters on Saturday, 14 October at the West Ashley High School, which is off the Glenn McConnell Parkway. The instructor will be Captain Harl Porter who is the co-author of the USPS GPS Learning Guide. The seminar will include hands on practice. Students must bring their own GPS, preferably a Garmin GPS 72 or GPS 76 model, and they will be given a GPS Learning Guide and Captain's Quick Guide on GPS. The class will run from 0900 to 1500 with a break for lunch. If you'd like further information on attending this informative seminar, please contact Steve Kromer at [skromer@telecomdb.com](mailto:skromer@telecomdb.com) or call (843) 906-5631.

*Janice Kromer*

**Executive Officer**  
**Lt/C David E. Walsh, AP**



This month's Executive Officer report focuses on recent Cooperative Charting activities of the Charleston Power Squadron and the Experienced Boater Initiative of USPS.

**Cooperative Charting**

Cooperative Charting volunteers have been-on-the water conducting training exercises and measuring aids to navigation charts 11518 and 11522. In the past two months Cooperative Charting volunteers Art Clark, Gary Whitley, Peggy Bass, Jim Bass, Steve Poe, Marge Bannon, Mike Page, Steve Kromer, Dick Howells, Jim Easley and Wendy Walsh submitted reports to NOAA. These reports covered aids to navigation from Beaufort, SC to McClellanville, SC. Charleston's Cooperative Charting volunteers also filed Small Craft Facility reports on marinas in the Charleston, SC and Beaufort, SC areas. Thanks for your good work. Your efforts are making a major contribution to safe boating in South Carolina.

**Experienced Boater Program**

The Charleston Power Squadron has been actively recruiting new members. As we all know, to join the squadron, boaters must have completed a membership qualifying safe boating course (e.g., USPS Squadron Boating Course®, BoatSmart®, US Coast Guard Auxiliary Boating Skills & Seamanship®, America's Boating Course® or other NASBLA-approved boating safety course), or have a boat captain's license. Recently, the US Power Squadron announced an initiative for boaters who have been boating for years but have not completed a qualifying course. They are invited to apply for expedited membership through the Experienced Boater program. This program recognizes that many experienced boaters have already mastered the fundamentals of safe boating. Therefore, we are making available to experienced boaters the opportunity to demonstrate their qualification for mem-

bership through fast-track process. This enables boaters to qualify for USPS membership easily and quickly, and enjoy the benefits of USPS membership sooner. Here is how our Experienced Boater program works:

1. Any USPS member can invite a friend, relative, or other acquaintance to consider joining USPS as a member.
2. The USPS member then will serve as this person's guide through the Experienced Boater process. One of the best ways to prepare your Experienced Boater is to review USPS *BoatSmart* manual. This can be done using the squadron's PowerPoint presentations. This review is in four sections, takes about 1 hour and covers the following topics:
  - Boat terms & types
  - Propulsion systems
  - Boat handling
  - Required safety equipment
  - Boat registration
  - Federal, state and local regulations
  - Navigation rules
  - VHF channel usage
3. When your Experienced Boater is ready, contact squadron Educational Officer, Steve Kromer, and schedule the Experienced Boater to take the BoatSmart exam. This exam takes about 45 minutes to complete. After successful completion of this exam, the Experienced Boater is eligible for membership in the Charleston Power Squadron. It is a simple, painless and an excellent way to invite your experienced boating friends into the squadron.

*-Dave*



**Administrative Officer  
Lt/C Art Clark, P**



Helen Kovach Charleston  
B.J. Smith N. Charleston  
Daisy Proctor Summerville

What a great month we just had. Heyward and Charlotte Coleman gave us a follow-up presentation of their six year ‘round the world sail, and then we had a highly successful raft-up. Over 30 folks attended, 10 boats and lots of kids. It was a great day. For sure we appreciate all who attended, but a special thanks to Fred and Joyce Wichmann, and their family for providing a safe and very roomy anchor vessel. I had never seen *Mobjack* up close before and I’d have to say it’s impressive. Another special thanks goes to the Kromer/Russo clan on *Oops!* for their in-transit rescue of a stranded boat about halfway down the Stono. And another big thanks for all who brought the terrific food. We had a terrific day!! No doubt we’ll do this again next year.

**Many Thanks**

I need to take this opportunity to thank all my committee members for their hard work this year. Our Commander Janice Kromer set our direction to retain members and improve our new memberships. We have participated mightily in that effort and the squadron has substantially reduced non-renewals and improved its membership to over 160. We were proud to be part of this total effort. Thanks to Wendy Walsh (Membership Committee Chair), John VanWay (Member Involvement Committee Chair), Ray Harp (Cruise Committee Chair) and Ken Beeber (Operations Committee Chair). Thanks also to all who helped us at our various events. Without your help, the year would never have been as good as I think it was.

**New Members**

We welcome the following new members. Please help us welcome them into our squadron.

Edward Oeters Ladson  
Maureen Oeters Ladson  
Nicholas Pastis Johns Island

**Upcoming Events**

We’ve got lots to offer this fall season, Let’s mark ‘em on your calendars.

**12 October - Pot Luck dinner**

Bring your best stuff. This is the annual meeting when we **vote on the new Bridge, approve the upcoming budget, and organize the Charleston Parade of Boats** coming up in December. This is an extremely crowded yet important meeting, so please plan on attending. For our new members, we co-sponsor the parade on boats with the City of Charleston. Participation can be in a support role centered on boating and event safety or as a participant, as you desire. Merle and I will participate again this year and, like others, will be looking for some “crew”. We had fantastic time last year. After the parade, there will be a brunch paid for by the city that Sunday, cash bar available...party on!!

**14 October - Toad Hall Oyster Roast**

Sponsored by Fred and Joyce Wichmann. This is always a great affair and our one and only fund raiser. Steve Rustin and Terry Marinko are planning to man the cooking pots and grill (for those who are not enamored by oysters). Plan to attend and have a great time. It starts at 1600. This will be a fund raiser, so we are asking \$15 each. Cash bar. Hey, bring some friends!!

**3 November - Change of Watch**

Where we welcome the new Bridge. This will be a coat and tie affair. Location is at the former Officers Club at the Naval Weapons Station. We are planning on dinner, dancing and appropriate ceremonies. There will be an open bar.

**17-19 November - Bohicket Marina Cruise**

At Seabrook Island. There will be a potluck at the Kromer’s on Friday and dinner at a local restaurant on Saturday. This is always a fun event where

you can come by car or boat. If by boat, it's a short run to Bohicket from Charleston.

**2 December - The Charleston Parade of Boats**

This is a great event. You can either be in the parade or provide parade support. Please plan on attending the coordination meeting on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Last year we had a great time at the parade and the Sunday event (food provided by the City of Charleston). Needless to say, we would like a very big turnout for this event. So mark it on your calendars now.

**14 December - Squadron Christmas Party**

At headquarters, a catered dinner and Chinese auction. Come prepared for a good time. Also, bring a gift valued at \$10 or less for the auction. Merle and I already have our gift and it's a gas! Let the games begin!

*-Art*



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**Educational Officer**  
**Lt/C Stephen C. Kromer, AP**



**BOATSMART SCHEDULE**

**For Updated Information See**  
**<http://www.usps.org/localusps/cps/>**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
05-Sep-2006	Rules Of the Road	Steve Kromer
12-Sep-2006	Getting Started	David Walsh
19-Sep-2006	Reading Charts	Steve Kromer
26-Sep-2006	What's Required	David Walsh
03-Oct-2006	Rules Of the Road	Steve Kromer
10-Oct-2006	Getting Started	David Walsh
17-Oct-2006	Reading Charts	Steve Kromer
24-Oct-2006	What's Required	David Walsh
31-Oct-2006	No Class Halloween	

*-Steve*

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Thanks Power Squadron for your work and dedication in Boating Education and Public Safety. *Barney M. Metts*

**Secretary**  
**Lt/C Robert A. Gulbrandsen, S**



**L**t/C Robert Gulbrandsen, Charleston Power Squadron Secretary is happy to announce the 2007 bridge nominations from our Nominating Committee. They are as follows per:

Nominating Committee selections iaw para. 6.8 Of CPS bylaws.

**Executive Committee:**

Commander: David Walsh, AP  
Executive Officer: Art Clark, P  
Educational Officer: Chet Rogers, P  
Asst. Educational Officer: Kirk Williams, JN  
Administrative Officer: Jack Meyer, AP  
Secretary: OPEN  
Treasurer: Chuck Altschul, P  
Members at Large: Mike King, AP  
Gene Gilfillin, SN  
James Davis, AP  
Steve Poe

**Rules Committee:**

Boo Ward, JN

**Auditing Committee:**

Ernie Godshall, SN

**Housing Committee:**

Ray Harp, P

**Chairman of the Nominating Committee:**

P/C Billy Lynes

Please take note of these nominations; the final selection will be done at the annual squadron's business meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October at our headquarters building at 1830 hours. Please attend this event to confirm your selections.

*-Bob*



**Safety Officer**

**P/C John Sikes, AP**

**T**he USCG Auxiliary asks the boating public to be careful when buying nautical charts.

There have been several reports that retail chart sellers have been selling out-of-date nautical charts to the boating public.

Proper up-to-date nautical charts are the first step in taking any cruise, whether its around the local bay or from San Diego to Catalina Island. Without accurate charts, the boat, its crew and passengers face increased risks from the ever-changing ocean.

Each week, the United States Coast Guard's Navigation Center ([www.navcen.uscg.mil](http://www.navcen.uscg.mil)) issues nine regional Local Notice to Mariners. These Notices detail specific changes in the waters within the region.

NOAA, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration is charged with producing Nautical Charts. Before purchasing any Nautical Chart, boaters should stop by their website and check on the latest edition of their chart. This page is located at: <http://chartmaker.ncd.noaa.gov/mcd/dole.htm>.

For more information on the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, visit us at [www.cgaux.org](http://www.cgaux.org).

Contact: Aux. Wayne Spivak  
Division Chief - External Communications  
Public Affairs Department  
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary  
<http://www.auxpa.org>  
516-353-9155  
[Media@auxpa.org](mailto:Media@auxpa.org)  
From Commander Bob's Boating Safety Handbook  
[www.commanderbob.com](http://www.commanderbob.com)

*-John*

## Change of Watch

**Y**ou are all cordially invited to attend the Charleston Power Squadron Change of Watch on Friday, 3 November 2006 at 1800. The venue for the affair this year will be the Fireside Room at the Storm Pointe Conference Center on the Naval Weapons Station in Goose Creek. The entrée choices will be Roasted Turkey or Baked Red Snapper, served either as plated dinners or buffet style, dependent on the number of guests. The cost per person will be \$25. Please reserve your space as early as possible by calling me at 768-1861 or email to [jkromer@telecomdb.com](mailto:jkromer@telecomdb.com). The Weapons Station does not allow payment at the affair, so you will need to give me your credit card number, or send a check before 20 October. If you send a check, please note what dinner entrée you prefer.

Your Bridge is graciously providing a DJ for easy listening during dinner and dancing after our ceremony. And we've decided to revert to past tradition and make our Change of Watch a fairly formal affair. Dress code will be Class A uniform, Black Tie optional, or coat and tie for the gentlemen. Ladies may wear Class A uniform other appropriate attire.

To get to the Storm Pointe Center at the Weapons Station, take Interstate 26 Exit 205B (Route 78) towards Goose Creek. You will pass a state park and then go over on overpass. At the second traffic light, make a right onto Red Bank Road. You will feel like you are going forever into the Naval Weapons Station and past the guard shack. After you pass the shack you will follow the left curve to the Storm Pointe Center. The Center will be on your right and there will be a pavilion on your left. If you get lost, call Red Bank Catering at (843) 764-7797.

We look forward to your attendance.

*Janice Kromer*  
Commander

## Oyster Roast and Cruise 14 October @ 1600

**E**veryone is invited and encouraged to come on out to the Oyster Roast and Fund Raiser on Saturday 14 October 14 at 1600 hours.

Fred and Joyce Wichman are so gracious again to sponsor this event at 125 Riverland Dr. Charleston SC.

This is always is a fun event on the beautiful Stono River at Toad Hall. There will be plenty of oysters, and also hamburgers and hot dogs for those that would rather not eat oysters. The squadron bar will be there too.

We are requesting that you bring a salad or desert to share with others. The cost will be 15 dollars per person and proceeds will go toward the building fund.

Steve Rustin and Terry Marinko will be roasting the oysters and have always done a great job in the past.

Come by car or boat. Directions if coming from Charleston side: take Folly Rd to Maybank Hwy turn right, to Riverland Dr. turn right, and come down to 125 Riverland Dr. There will be a Power Sq. Ensign at Fred's drive way on the left.

If coming by boat through the Elliot Cut turn to port in to the Stono River and you will see the *Mobjack* and the *Distant Isle* at Fred's dock on your port side.

Come on out and enjoy the fun, hope to see you there.

*Ray*



The Palmetto Log  
Jerry Kemerer, Editor  
764 Creekside Drive  
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

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**THIS IS YOUR PUBLICATION  
MEET THE DEADLINE for OCTOBER  
18 October 2006**

**Ray Harp  
Cruising Activities  
Phone: 843-881-2284**

**Upcoming Events For October and November**

- 5 October - EXCOM Meeting - Headquarters - 1830
- 12 October - Annual Meeting - Headquarters - 1830
- 14 October - Oyster Roast - Toad Hall - 1600
- 2 November - EXCOM Meeting - Headquarters - 1830
- 3 November - Change of Watch - Naval Weapons Station - 1800

**SAFE BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION**