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Cdr J. Steven Yeomans, P  
869-7808

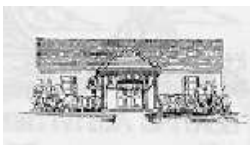
Lt/C Vincent Lombardo, S  
764-1844

Lt/C Stephen C. Kromer, AP  
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Lt/C Harold Lee Mims III, P  
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Lt/C Charlotte F. Yeomans, P  
869-7808

Lt/C Loretta Lombardo  
764-1844



**Squadron Headquarters Bldg.**  
1376 Orange Grove Road

**MEETINGS**

**Executive Committee - 1st Thursday @ 1930**

**Membership Event**

11 April @ 1830  
Headquarters Building

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19-21 April**

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SEO needs your input!!**

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Want to see it up close?  
See the Admin. Articles.**

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**SAFE BOATING THROUGH  
EDUCATION**

**From the Commander**  
**Cdr J. Steven Yeomans, P**



**W**hat a great time to be involved with the Charleston Power Squadron! It is an absolute fact that no matter what your interest or talent, there is something for you in our diverse group. On the national, district and local level, USPS is in the middle of a metamorphosis of sorts. Not only is it exciting to see what's happening, but also to see how things are progressing because of these changes. At the District Spring Conference held in Greenville on 16 March, V/C Les Johnson gave a presentation on the topics that C/C Ted Smith considers important at the national level. Some of these topics include:

**SQUADRON MEMBER BENEFITS:** This is an important topic that goes to the heart of recruitment and membership retention. We are partnering with many organizations (Boat US comes to mind as an example) that will give USPS members opportunities that others simply don't have. This makes selling membership within our organization even easier than it already is.

**SIMPLIFYING USPS PROCEDURES:** To streamline paperwork redundancy and make the flow of communication at all levels of our organization more efficient, national is looking at specific ways to remove administrative log jams that may have been an impediment in the past. The entire reorganization of the Educational Department is a good example of this.

**INCREASE EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN USPS AND GOVERNMENT:** Although we are a civilian organization, there are many ways that we can work in conjunction with governmental agencies (ex: Coast Guard) to further the goals of USPS.

**DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP:** Maybe next year you'll have a Commander who can figure out the right way to fill out these darned quarterly squadron reports!

There are other goals, too. For instance:

**NEW MEMBERSHIP GROWTH:** USPS has a national goal of 3% per year. Charleston Power Squadron's goal is currently 10%. With the 70 percent rate of people who successfully completed our last Boat Smart course signed up for membership, a 10% increase in overall membership this year with the remaining courses we plan to offer should be an easy task.

**LOCAL ADVERTISING IN "THE ENSIGN":** There are commissions (\$\$\$) involved for the squadron. Anyone can help promote this.

**A RENEWED EMPHASIS ON MARKETING AND PARTNERING:** The more people know about us, the more interested they become.

On the district level, meetings have become more streamlined, shorter, and more pertinent for the average member. With activities planned for the afternoon, as well as short informative breakout sessions immediately after the formal Council meeting, the district meetings are something all members should try to attend. Numerous members carpool to these meetings. . There's always room for more!

On the squadron level, we are as busy as ever. Our Educational Department is planning more Basic Boating classes than ever before, as well as upper level courses to keep our regular membership busy advancing their educational grade. We are now looking at the possibility of purchasing a special deal through national that would give us a computer projection system with a 3-year warranty for approximately \$2,500. This sounds expensive (and it is), until you realize that this unit usually retails for around \$5,500. This would give us the ability to make seriously professional presentations in our classes (both basic and advanced grades). With Power Point® (a software package) on the computer this device would hook to, actual motion, not just "frames", could be incorporated into the display. This will, of course, be discussed at our April Executive Committee meeting (all are invited to attend).

Charleston Power Squadron has, for the 21<sup>st</sup> time, won the USPS Educational Fund Certificate of Merit, and so

has District 26 as a whole. CPS also won the Website Award along with two other squadrons in District 26. Harry Darby, as always, sets the standards. What a great job!

Harry Darby has also agreed to help scan photographs of Past District Commanders (there are about 15 of them and they are currently in my possession) into his computer so that they can be eventually be added to the D/26 website.

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### Executive Officer

*Lt/C Vince Lombardo, S*



**A**s a result of the last boat show and other recruiting efforts we will have already received a number of new members - WELCOME TO ALL! Thank you for choosing USPS and Charleston Power Squadron to expand your boating knowledge and experience and improving our ability to bring our message to the public. Please let us know of your specific interests. Your active participation is what makes USPS successful and builds the comraderie among boaters that makes us a special group of people.

Arrangements with Ms. Jamie O'Brien, Executive Director of the South Carolina Marine Association, have been made and we will have a booth in the main tent at the South Carolina In-Water Boat Show, 12-14 April 2002. This is another prime venue in which to recruit boating class students and get our message to the public. **Please** contact Martin Gape and sign up to help with this project. Think "Merit Mark".

The Hornick Cruise will be in the past as you read this, but I know it will have been a social and educational success, as always. Congratulations to everyone who earned a new VSC decal.

The Capers Island Cruise is approaching so make plans. Last year was a fun-filled experience complete with guitar music, good food, a fireworks show seen at Joe Riley

Stadium, and a lightning show that filled the sky for 360 deg. We could do without the storm this year, but we are looking forward to the rest (even the raccoons). If your boat doesn't have sleeping room, come for the day on Saturday or come on Friday and pitch a tent on the island. P/C Billy Lynes does this with his family and says it's great. See the cruise schedule and contact Cruise Capt. Lee Mims to sign up. Watch your depth on the turns and let's have some fun.

Congratulations to Steve Kromer on a very successful Boat Smart class. Great location and obviously excellent instructors.

For those involved or interested in Cooperative Charting, new reporting procedures are coming very soon. More later.

That's it! Hope to see you all soon. Vince.

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### Educational Officer

*Lt/C Stephen C. Kromer, AP*



**B**oy, did we have a good month. First, Audrey Woodman (Ed: See photo on the next page), age 10, took and became the youngest person in the history of the Charleston Power Squadron to successfully complete the Boat Smart course. That alone would have made my month, but in addition, we had 18 other people successfully complete Boat Smart. Of those 18, we had 8 new or upgraded memberships applied for and approved. The people involved were:

- |                |                  |                |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Ted Fetner     | Donna Fleming    | Ken King       |
| Janice Kromer  | Robert Lewis     | Patrick Neeley |
| Stacey Purcell | Stephen Whitlock |                |

I figure Janice decided to get her own membership because she didn't like the way I voted in the past. We

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hope to see all these folks at the next membership meeting. Please say “hello and welcome” when you see them.

David Walsh, who is our cruise coordinator this year, has successfully completed Piloting. Congratulations, David.

Seamanship starts 1 April at Hobcaw Yacht Club. Also, another Boat Smart will be held on 11 May and 18 May at Squadron Headquarters. Starting with these two classes we will be posting the agendas for the courses on the Squadron web site, so if you’re interested in the course, take a look.

There are two other things that I would like to get opinions on:

1. As most of you know, the United States Power Squadrons have self study guides in any number of areas. Are you interested in setting up study groups for these guides? None of these guides are for rank or credit (as far as I know); therefore, the only purpose is gaining more knowledge of specific areas. Please send me an email ([skromer@tariffs.com](mailto:skromer@tariffs.com)) if you are interested in exploring this option.
2. Should we run a “Skipper Saver” program? For those of you unfamiliar with the concept, Skipper Saver is designed to teach first mates enough boat handling and navigation skill to safely get the boat into port and onto a pier if something happens to the skipper. Of course, to my way of thinking, they should call this “Self Preservation” instead of “Skipper Saver” but I guess we’re stuck with the name. Again, if you are interested in taking this sort of a course, please send me an email ([skromer@tariffs.com](mailto:skromer@tariffs.com)).



**Administrative Officer**  
*Lt/C Harold Lee Mims III, P*



**T**hank you to all of those who attended the meeting at the US Coast Guard base. I believe the Coast guard officers were surprised by our turn out, as we used their classroom and still there was barely enough room for us all. As always, the showing of more than 53 members and guests only strengthens our image within the boating community. A letter of thanks to the officers and personnel of the USCG will be passed around at the next meeting for signatures. We welcomed several new members from the boat smart course and others who have joined in the past few months. To those new members, **welcome**. Our numbers are strong and growing due to the quality and support of our squadron members who make it a point to help each other out when in need.

Our 11 April membership event will be held at headquarters. The dinner will be potluck. Everybody please bring your favorite covered dish!

Our May meeting will be held (still working on this) at the *CSS Hunley*. (See the article on page 10.) More news on this meeting will follow in next month’s newsletter.