



United States Power Squadrons®

Come for the boating education...Stay for the FriendsSM

ROCKY MOUNT POWER SQUADRON

THE COASTAL PLAINS SIGNAL

July 2017



Commander Barbara Ann Bruner, P

I truly believe we are in the dog days of summer! And around this time while we are enjoying ourselves outside doing fun water sports, it is also a good time to reflect on our squadron. And ask ourselves what are we looking for in our squadron?

As all of you know the three primary objectives of USPS as stated on our organization's web site are Community service, continuing education and enjoying the friendship and camaraderie of our fellow members. It is understandable why friendship and camaraderie are listed last in the statement. Community service and education are certainly important as is the promotion of safety on the water. However, I think that all too often, the fellowship aspect of USPS membership could be taken for granted. This dynamic could affect a squadron in several ways, such as declining attendance at meetings and an eventual crisis when the squadron becomes troubled to the point of considering deactivation. There is no doubt that the quality of education current or future boaters receives through USPS classes is invaluable in recruiting new members. But I also believe that one of the initial motivations of potential members is their expectations of enjoying the camaraderie with others who share similar interest. I believe our squadron fully understands this concept, and do a great job of catering to their members desires with lively meetings and other social activities.

I am always looking for new ideas! New fun things to do. Let's continue to put our heads together for some new and great ideas!

Also please don't forget to register for the District Rendezvous Aug 25-26 in Wilmington at the Hilton Riverside Hotel. All other information can be found on the D-27 website. Reservations and payment are due by July 24, 2017. Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,
Cdr Barb Bruner, P

“AMERICAS BOATING CLUB”



United States Power Squadrons®

Come for the boating education...Stay for the FriendshipSM

RMPS Calendar 2017

1800 Monday 14 August	RMPS Bridge Meeting El Jimador, Rocky Mount, NC	1800 Monday 25 September	RMPS Family Night Ribeyes Steakhouse, Nashville, NC
25-26 August	D/27 Rendezvous Wilmington, NC	30 September	Boating Class Braswell Library, Rocky Mount
1800 Monday 11 September	RMPS Bridge Meeting El Jimador, Rocky Mount, NC	1800 Monday 09 October	RMPS Bridge Meeting El Jimador, Rocky Mount, NC
10-17 Sept.	National Governing Board Hilton Dallas Lincoln Center Dallas, TX	20-23 Oct.	D/27 Fall Council/Conference Double Tree Suites by Hilton Durham, NC
23 September	Boating Class Braswell Library, Rocky Mount	1800 Monday 13 November	RMPS Bridge Meeting El Jimador, Rocky Mount, NC



VESSEL SAFETY CHECK

P/C Christopher E. Payne, AP

Chair VSC Committee

Call any of our Vessel Examiners to get your Free Vessel Safety Check today. We have plenty of VSC decals on hand. You can even prepare ahead of time by performing your own pre-VSC online at www.safetyseal.net by clicking on "Virtual Vessel Safety Check".

Thanks Chris

Contact me at 252 641-1233 or cepsmpcs@aol.com if you would like to become a

Vessel Examiner.

Vessel Examiner Checks

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Primary Area of Safety

Rocky Mount, Beaufort
Tarboro, Hertford, Edenton
Nashville, Rocky Mount

“There is a lack of good judgement and education among visitors to our coast.”

You may ask why a SEO would make such a statement. In recent weeks several incidents have made headline news that exemplify the need for education to our fellow boaters and beach visitors.

Breaking news!

One can assume poor swimmer, good swimmer, no matter how good or poor, the lack of good judgment will allow rip currents to take you out. There are warning signs posted along our beaches warning about rip currents, along with procedures on how to recognize rip currents and how to swim to get out of one. Where does the responsibility lie? The victim of course is the lack of education.

Breaking News!

Drowning by electrocution. A person jumps overboard in a marina to cool off only to be electrocuted by taken hold of the metal latter to climb back on board. Where does the responsibility lie? The question is whether or not the responsibility lies with the skipper for not warning his guest about the hazard of electrical current flowing in the water. Again there is a lack of education.

Breaking News!

A boat catches on fire at the fuel dock while being fueled through a rod holder instead of the fuel tank fill. Where does the responsibility lie? The responsibility of the skipper is to assure his crew knows the proper procedures. When it comes to boating we have three categories, boaters, fisherman, boaters and fisherman, the category of boater and fisherman has most likely taken a boating class.

I recently observed a fisherman leave a boat dock in a no wake zone with the hammer down. Again there is a lack of education. In this case the boater does not realize he is responsible for the problem his wake can create. Would a boating education totally eliminate accidents? No, but it would certainly reduce the chances of being in one.

From my own experience, I was a fisherman for many years, and once I enrolled in the United states Power Squadrons Basic Boating class and join a squadron, I found out how much I did not know about safe boating and power boating skills. To become a knowledgeable boater and angler is a win-win situation. When it comes to a quality education, the United States Power Squadrons boating courses are second to none.

SEO Rocky Mount Power Squadron
D/1Lt Robert H Bruner AP

USPS PLEDGE

*"I do solemnly pledge to:
Abide by the bylaws of the United States
Power Squadrons;
Promote high standards of navigation and
seamanship;
Maintain my boat and operate it legally;
Render assistance whenever possible;
And conduct myself in a manner that will
add prestige, honor, and respect to the
United States Power Squadrons.*

The Chosen – A Book to Read and Remember

By P/C Lorraine B. Ryan, S Pictures provided by Cdr Barbara Bruner, P

Retired Staff Sergeant Timothy Payne grew up in Buffalo, NY and graduated high school in August 2001. After the attacks on 9/11, he joined the United States Army as a Paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division. After 7 years, he was deployed twice to Iraq and became an expert infantryman. After four Special Operation attempts, 11 years and three deployments SSG Payne was severely injured while his Squad was under attack by Taliban forces in Southern Afghanistan. The attack resulted in the traumatic amputations of both his legs and severe damage to his dominate arm and hand.

After 120 surgeries, 100 blood transfusions and flat lining multiple times SSG Payne fought through medication addiction, depression and suicide, and then turned it all around into an inspiration. He felt CHOSEN to endure it all and significantly enough his unit was known as CHOSIN! He lived by a set of Army Values Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless-Service, Honor, Integrity and Personal-Courage, spelling the acronym LDRSHIP. Chosen-LDRSHIP! SSG Payne felt chosen to endure all his hardships and now spearheads adversity by sharing lessons learned to others. He touches on the personal account of medication addiction, depression and being suicidal. The Doctors told him it was the MIND, BODY, and SPIRIT to healing which he did and he turned his life around.

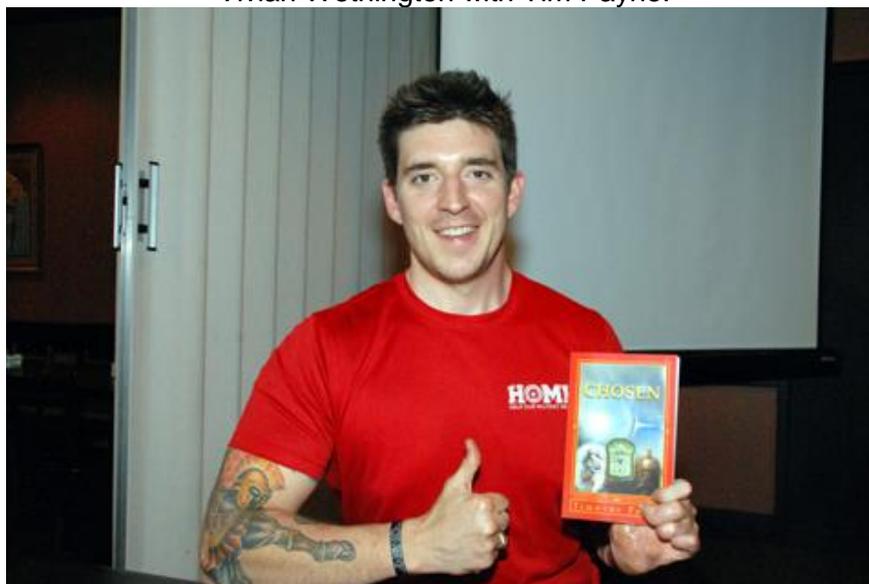
He is an inspiration to all that hear his story and all that attended the June meeting of the Rocky Mount Power Squadron listened attentively to his personal story of failure, loss and acceptance. Besides telling his story in his own words, Tim used a Power Point presentation, which included photos of his squadron members and workers in Afghanistan. He even used personal drawings to depict the area where he stepped on the IED that changed his life forever. He answered all of the many questions that our members asked and then personally autographed his book "Chosen" for everyone. I believe that some members were obtaining his information so that they could arrange future meetings at their churches. For those not in attendance, I will be glad to lend you my copy of his book to read. A definite *Must Read* for all.



Lorraine introducing Retired Staff Sergeant Timothy Payne.



Vivian Wethington with Tim Payne.



Tim Payne showing his book, Chosen.

TO: ALL UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS MEMBERS

FROM: Tammy Brown, USPS Director of Marketing

RE: America's Boating Club™

In June the Board of Directors approved the use of the name America's Boating Club™ in marketing United States Power Squadrons®. The support for this new direction from our members has been overwhelmingly positive!

In addition, the Board of Directors approved a new logo for America's Boating Club™ and a new tag line, "For Boaters, By Boaters". This tagline was chosen after we surveyed both members and nonmembers.

Following is the new logo:



Camera-ready artwork will be made available through the National Marketing Committee website and details found in the brand standards manual.

In the interim, national committees, squadrons, and districts may use America's Boating Club™. We suggest that if you choose to incorporate it then use one of the following ways:

1. United States Power Squadrons® is America's Boating Club™
2. United States Power Squadrons®. We are America's Boating Club™
3. (Your Squadron Name). We are America's Boating Club™
4. America's Boating Club™, trademark of the United States Power Squadrons®
5. Do you have another idea? Please contact one of us for assistance.

The work to be accomplished now is time extensive and we need help; our launch date is the Dallas Governing Board. We will be hiring a PR firm to help develop a communications plan and implement the official introduction of United States Power Squadrons® as America's Boating Club™.

Please be advised that we will send you regular updates on this important project. You can help us by sharing this information with your fellow officers and members.

Thank you for your support during this process!

Project Ad Hoc Committee Members:

V/C Mary Paige Abbott

R/C Paul Mermelstein

Stf/C Glen Sherman

P/R/C John Malatak

USPS Director of Marketing Tammy Brown

This may be the second time you received this email.

United States Coast Guard Headquarters
Inspections and Compliance Directorate
Washington, DC
May 12, 2017

Safety Alert 04-17

Whether at Work or at Play Remember it's a Shared Waterway.
Know the Navigation Rules and enjoy your day!

This Safety Alert reminds all operators of power-driven, sail, and human propelled vessels of the importance of maintaining a sharp look-out while on a shared waterway and recommends that all recreational boaters carry a DSC-VHF marine radio in order to communicate with other vessels.

Recently a catamaran type passenger ferry collided with a group of kayakers on a busy metropolitan waterway. The incident occurred during late afternoon while the sun was low on the horizon with an angle of about 15 degrees and the ferry was heading westerly into the sun's glare. The ferry had just begun its voyage and was operating at about 20 knots across the waterway while a group of kayakers was ahead of the ferry and heading south. The low angle of the sun created significant glare on the water, obstructing the ferry operator's view of the kayakers who were within the reflected light. The kayakers did not have a DSC-VHF marine radio with them and they were unable to hail the ferry. The ferry subsequently collided with multiple kayaks resulting in two serious injuries.

It is critical that all mariners, including recreational boaters, have a good working knowledge of the Navigation Rules before venturing out into a shared waterway. Commercial and recreational vessel operators need to know their responsibilities including the Steering and Sailing Rules, Conduct of Vessels in Sight of One Another, and Conduct of Vessels in Restricted Visibility. They also need to recognize the nautical lights and shapes and understand the sound and light signals that may be encountered in order to take appropriate actions to prevent collisions.

It is also critical that recreational boaters are able to communicate with all other vessels. If unsure of another vessel's intentions boaters need the ability to contact the other vessel on the radio in order to indicate their location and ask such questions as "Do you see me?" and "What are your intentions?". For more information on navigation rules and maritime communications please visit the USCG Navigation Center Website.

Operators of marinas and rental facilities are encouraged to develop guidelines for safety briefings, required safety equipment and for outfitting guides and renters with maritime communication devices. For more information please



**DISTRICT 27 SUMMER RENDEZVOUS
HILTON WILMINGTON RIVERSIDE
WILMINGTON, NC**



**HOSTS: CAPE FEAR SAIL & POWER SQUADRON
CHARLOTTE POWER SQUADRON**

DATES: August 25-26, 2017

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Friday, August 25

All day—Vehicles and Vessels arriving

1700-1800 Happy Hour Reception—Hilton Wilmington Riverside

1800-2100 Drop-in at the Docks—City docks in front of Hilton

Hosted by Cape Fear Sail and Power Squadron

Dinner on your own

Saturday, August 26

0800-0845 Flag Raising Ceremony—Battleship North Carolina

D/27 Bridge Officers Dress: White polo shirt/blouse; khaki pants or shorts; white baseball cap.

Other attendees: Squadron polo shirt/blouse; (white baseball cap for squadron commanders.)

0845-1630 Enjoy your day! Shopping, beach, dining, relaxation and fun!

Scheduled Games:

1000-1100 Corn Hole Competition- Hilton Riverside

1100-1145 Conch Blowing Contest- Hilton Riverside

Hosted by Greensboro Power Squadron

1150 50/50 Raffle winner announced

1630-1900 Dinner Cruise # 1—Caribbean theme aboard a covered powered catamaran from Wilmington Water Tours. Cash bar available.

1930-2200 Dinner Cruise # 2—Same as above.



D/27 Rendezvous in Wilmington, NC
Reservation Form
Come by boat or car: Aug 25 – 26, 2017



Dock Reservations by 07-01-17
 Hotel Reservations by 07-24-2017

Rank	First	Last	Grade	Cert. No.
Rank	First	Last	Grade	Cert. No.
Address		City	State	ZIP
Phone	email address		Squadron	

Reservations and Payment Must Be Submitted by 24 July 2017

Mail to: Jack Moore, 859 Linda Lane, Charlotte, NC 28211-2034

Checks should be payable to "District 27"

You may pay by PayPal  by going to the D/27 website Calendar page

www.uspsd27.org/calendar and click on the PayPal button.

Friday 25 August 2017:

Reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres plus cash bar \$18.00 x ___ = \$_____

Location: Riverside Hilton, Wilmington, NC

Dinner is on your own. See list of restaurants in welcome package.

Saturday 26 August 2017:

Dinner cruise, Caribbean theme, cash bar available \$55.00 x ___ = \$_____

(Cruise is approximately 2 hours long on 60' covered powered catamaran.)

GRAND TOTAL:

Boat Dockage Information:

The City of Wilmington maintains 450 feet of dock space on the Cape Fear River at the Hilton Wilmington Riverside Hotel, which can be rented by members attending the D/27 Rendezvous, August 24-27, 2017.

Dock space rental is \$1.25 per foot and includes water and WIFI. Electrical service is available for \$3 per day for 30-amp electrical service and \$5 per day for 54-amp electrical service.

Reservations may be made by calling Dockmaster Johathan Batts (910) 520-6875 and letting him know you are with "District 27 USPS". There are NO shower facilities but public restrooms are available.

This information may also be found at www.wilmingtonnc.gov and going to the Parks and Recreation Department pages.

For members trailering boats to the Rendezvous, there is a nice launching ramp with trailer parking space in downtown Wilmington approximately one mile (South) down river from the Hilton hotel at the end of Castle Street.

Dock reservations should be made no later than July 1, 2017

Down East Youth and Adult Bass Fishing Tournament

Story and Pictures by PC Linda Joyner(bug), S

The 10th Down East Youth and Adult Bass Fishing Tournament scheduled for May 20, 2017, began with a banquet on Friday evening at the Country Inn and Suites of Rocky Mount. At the banquet, the youth and boaters were assigned as teams. All the youth were given a rod and reel for the event. The raffle distributed many prizes. There was a tasty dinner of fish, chicken and hot dogs. The speaker was Vince Brown of the A Plus Test Prep, supplying information on SAT/ACT and how to pay for college. The ladies of the *J.W. MOORE ASSEMBLY #57 ORDER OF THE GOLDEN CIRCLE presented Williford School with much needed school supplies. Education Officer Robert Bruner of the Rocky Mount Power Squadron, talked with the teams on the importance of wearing their life jackets at all times while on the boat.

The tournament began at 5:30 am at the reservoir, the sun was just making an appearance. Everyone was so excited (and a bit sleepy also) about the day filled with fishing and fellowship. We started the event with our National Safe Boating Ready, Set Wear It Campaign. We had 32 participants in the photograph promoting safety on the water by wearing your life jacket. This was the most participants for our event in the last three years. It was a case of coincidence that the fishing tournament and the Wear It event fell on the same Saturday. The National Safe Boating Council Ready, Set Wear It event had a total of 8,911 participants for the year 2017. We are very proud that we contributed with a great group of school aged youth and fine fisher men from our local community.

Unfortunately John Mitchell from Cary Bass Pro Shop was not able to attend, but they did send a pontoon boat for the friends and family of the youth to ride on. Rodney's friend and co-worker Lillia captained the boat for the day. I brought along a 5 gallon container of the phosphate from Aurora Fossil museum for treasure hunting. There were many exciting finds from crocodile to sharks teeth and tiny shells.

There were many winners in the tournament with a grand prize of \$1000.00 donated by Cummins. The event had several winning categories. First place for weight and big fish went to Buddy Adams and Camren Small. Second place and third place for weight went to R.V. Mann/Isaiah Draughn and Curtis Cannady/Dylan Andrews, respectively. Marc Wood and LaShayla Smith won second place for big fish. LaShayla also was presented with the award of first place female.

All in all everyone was a winner on this day. There was much comradery and fellowship of youth and adults sharing life experiences and having great fun! All of the winners will attend a luncheon at the Cary Pro Bass Shop in the upcoming month. The Rocky Mount Power Squadron is thankful that we can help Rodney and Geno with their project to help these youth from Williford School. It is a blessed day when people take time out of their lives to help others and to mentor youth to become giving adults.

PC Linda Joyner(bug), S

Pictures from the Down East Fishing Tournament provided by P/C Linda Joyner, S.



Presentation at dinner the night before.



Some of the awards to be presented.



Some of the participants preparing for the start.



One boat working the shore line.



On board the pontoon boat.

THE COASTAL PLAINS SIGNAL

Published by the

ROCKY MOUNT POWER SQUADRON

A Unit of District 27

The United States Power Squadrons®

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1972-2017