



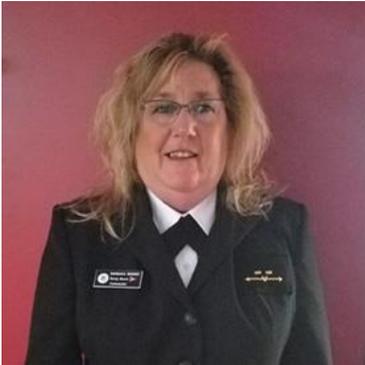
United States Power Squadrons®

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

ROCKY MOUNT POWER SQUADRON

THE COASTAL PLAINS SIGNAL

November 2017



Commander Barbara Ann Bruner, P

Many thanks to all of you that participated in the District 27 Fall Council/Conference on October 21-22 in Durham, NC. Everyone arrived safely and started to embark on a fun and work filled weekend.

Friday was for registering, getting your voting cards and beginning to renew old acquaintances and getting ready to meet new ones.

There were a few meetings that afternoon, the D-27 Bridge meeting, The Planning Committee, and the Commanders meeting. The Commander's meeting was one of the best I have attended. Every commander that attended had several new ideas on how to make the District meetings more enjoyable and fun for everyone with the hope of bringing in new members as well.

Our member's reception was held in a beautiful terrace setting in a tent at the hotel. The weather was wonderful for this event. There was an incredible buffet with a little bit of everything on it along with a cash bar. Unfortunately, that is where everything ended for me, with an unexpected trip to the ER. My weekend that I was looking forward to completely ended.

Executive Officer Lt/C H. Clay Helm, JN filled in for me in the commander's chair for the Council/Conference. District pictures were being taken by Lt/C Lorraine B. Ryan, P and P/C Linda K. Joyner, S. Many thanks to D/Lt Christopher E. Payne, AP for handling the situation with quick response. Great teamwork from our squadron! I have much appreciation for all of you. Thanks from the bottom of my heart for helping me out in my time of need.

Remember our annual Past Commander's Pig Pickin on Sunday 1600 November 12. See the flyer enclosed in the newsletter for details. Hope to see everyone there.

Sincerely,

Cdr. Barbara A. Bruner





United States Power Squadrons®

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RMPS Calendar 2017-2018

1300 Friday 10 November	NC State Fish Barn Tour 3903 Inwood Road Raleigh, NC	1800 Monday 11 December	RMPS Bridge Meeting El Jimador, Rocky Mount, NC
1600 Sunday 12 November	RMPS Past Cdr's Pig Pickin 400 Speight Ave. Tarboro, NC 27886	20 January	D27 Annual Training Resurrection Lutheran Church Cary, NC
1800 Monday 13 November	RMPS Bridge Meeting El Jimador, Rocky Mount, NC	18-25 February	USPS Annual Meeting Orlando, FL
1800 Friday 08 December	RMPS Xmas Party & Annual Meeting Myrtle Grove Plantation	1800 Saturday 03 March	RMPS Change of Watch Location TBD

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

P/C/C L. M. Barnes III, SN 252 442-1066
P/C Christopher E. Payne, AP 252 641-1233
P/C Robert H. Bruner 252 908-2494

Telephone

Email

lbarnes701@gmail.com
cepsmpcs@aol.com
r.h.bruner@gmail.com

Primary Area of Safety

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

Education Report

Summer has come and gone. Even though fall still feels like summer do not procrastinate. It is time to prepare for the winter season, which means winterizing your boats and pwc's and any other boating equipment you have, including your trailer. You will need to check belts, hoses, lights and clean all the ground connections. Servicing wheel bearings is a must do item. Your trailer tires should be replaced every five years.

When draining water from inboard engine blocks, remove the plugs and run a stiff piece of wire up into the opening to remove any crud that may have prevented all the water from draining. After I drain the block, I remove one of the plugs from the intake manifold and with the aid of a funnel add antifreeze to the engine block until I can visually see it four out the engine block drain. You know the rest of the drill, replace the pugs and fill it up. Fresh water systems would be your call as to whether you use RV antifreeze or low-pressure compressed air to force water out. Next job is to condition the heads.

Boating education in the fall Americas Boating Course was cancelled due to a lack of public interest. Oh well, we got credit for trying.

SEO Rocky Mount Power Squadron
D/Lt 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.

Everything You Wanted to Know About Geodetic Markers

By P/C Lorraine B. Ryan, P

District 27 Executive Officer Greg Shay, JN was our guest speaker at our September Family Night at Ribeyes Restaurant in Nashville. He and his wife Connie have been members of the Raleigh Sail and Power Squadron since 2006. Greg has previously served as its Commander and his wife Connie, S, now serves as Commander. Greg will most likely step up to serving as Commander of District 27 next year.

Everyone in attendance was mesmerized by Greg's presentation, "The Joy of Geodetics", which just won first place at the Dallas Governing Board Meeting in the Public Relations category. Greg first explained that there were several resources to assist in marker recovery, the most useful being:

<https://www.ngs.noaa.gov/NGSDataExplorer/>. You can also use an app called *Solocator* which when downloaded to your phone will take a picture with the date and time.

Greg first talked about why Geodetic Markers are important. Surveyors, mapmakers, builders and engineers all use geodetic markers. Each mark has its own PID or *Permanent Identifier*. It consists of two letters and four digits. There are both horizontal and vertical markers with approximately 1.2 million markers around the country with around 200,000 vertical marks never recovered.

Some markers are recessed in metal casings while others can be located at the top of spires, water towers or tanks. You can see a satellite view of the marker to assist you in recovery.

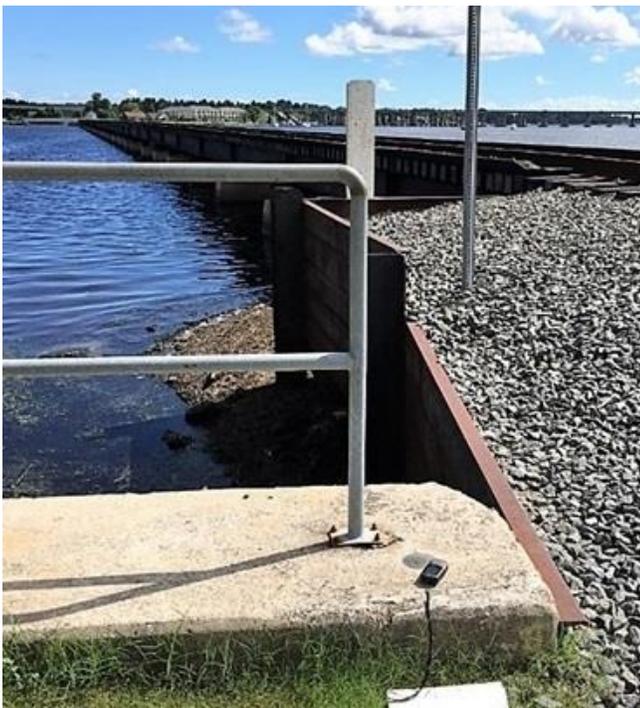
He listed of recommended equipment to use for marker recovery besides the usual datasheet include camera or Smart-phone and hand held GPS, a tape measure, compass, probe (screwdriver), metal detector, spade or small shovel, gloves, water & towels, reflective vest and a first aid kit. Greg did not go into detail for the use of the first aid kit!

Greg explained the recovery classifications, the reporting requirements and the credits given for recovering various markers. He also explained the steps for reporting the marks and submitting the marker recovery reports. The most fascinating part of his presentation, in my opinion, were the many and varied photos that Greg took of all the markers that he reported. They ranged from a marker in mountains in his hometown state of Montana to a marker in Corolla, NC at the Currituck Beach Light House.

Now that you have heard about Greg's passion for geodetic markers, it is time for you to start looking. However, please, find it without having to use the first aid kit!



The picture on the left was taken of Greg while making his presentation to the Rocky Mount Power Squadron. The other pictures are of some of the Geodetic Markers Greg has observed during his travels.



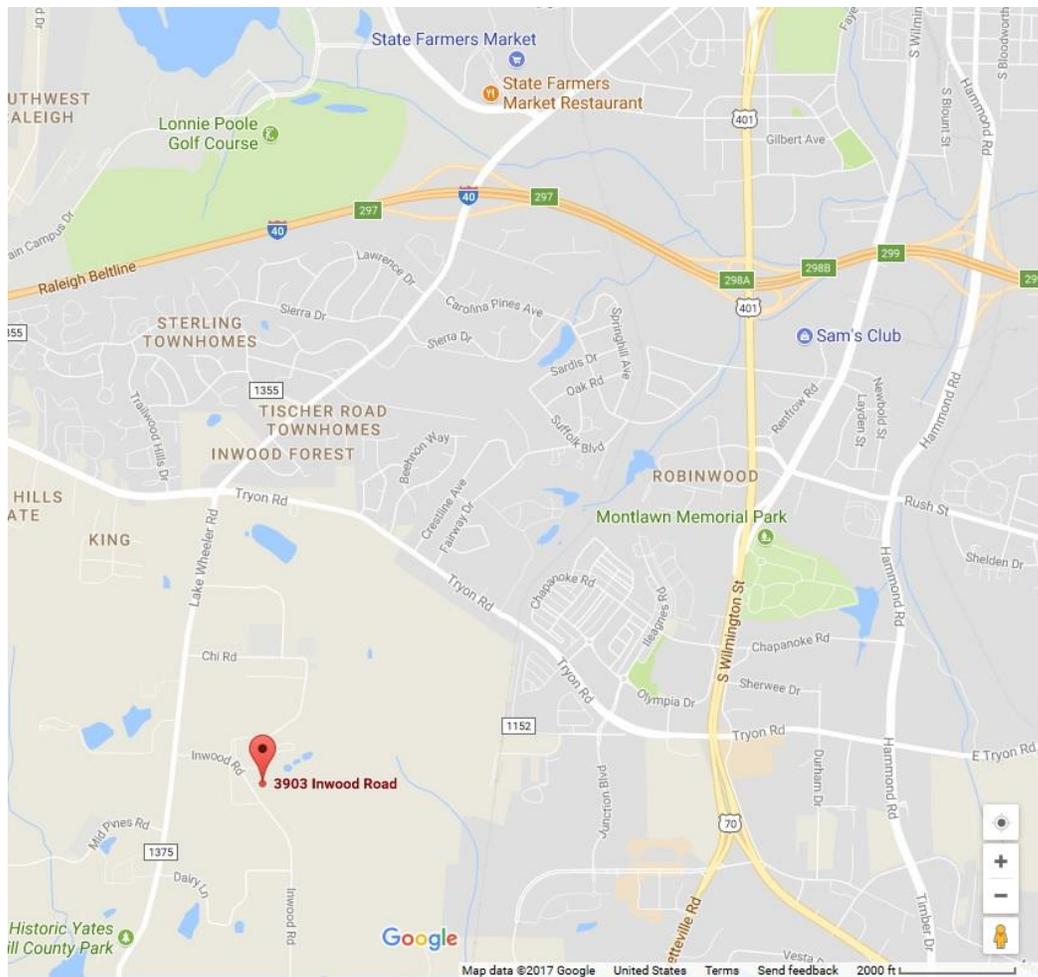
NC State Fish Barn

By P/C Lorraine B. Ryan, P

Ever wanted to find out how fish farms operate? The Fish Barn at North Carolina State is a research, demonstration and teaching unit, which is focused on intensive aquaculture production with a particular emphasis on closed recirculating systems. They have been operational since 1989. North Carolina is a natural for aquaculture, and aquaculture is, indeed, among the fastest growing segments of N.C. agriculture. The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences research and extension programs focus on providing growers the information they need to be successful. They have conducted pioneering research to develop innovative waste treatment technology for freshwater aquaculture.

The current research projects at the facility located just off Lake Wheeler Road in Raleigh consist of flounder and tilapia. Those Rocky Mount Power Squadron members and guest are invited to tour this facility on Friday, November 10.

Our tour begins at 1:00 pm so please arrive on time. Just plug in the address in your GPS: 3903 Inwood Road, Raleigh. The facility has several buildings, but everyone can simply park either next to the greenhouse, or to the right near where our host's car and a pickup are parked. It is pretty open and there is no issues at all for parking or permits. Please contact Lorraine and let her know that you will be attending so we can wait for everyone to begin the tour.



District 27 Fall Conference/Council

By P/C Lorraine B. Ryan, P

Doubletree Suites in Durham was a perfect venue for the District 27 Fall Conference/Council meetings. It was located in an idyllic setting with two lakes including a waterfall and walking path and an indoor pool/hot tub and fitness center. Our cocktail party and meals were served in a white tent located on the hotel grounds, just outside the main hotel with all meals absolutely delicious and plentiful. Our guest speaker on Saturday morning was from the NC Humanities Council, which is a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Ben Casey, MA is an award winning photojournalist and author who has written several books all focusing on our eastern NC rivers. He first showed a video of his travels down the Neuse River in a canoe and followed that with a slideshow of photos taken in and around the waters of our coast. His next book is focusing on the Core Sound and the people who make their living on NC waters.

Expo exhibits were set along the hallways in the hotel displaying the Vessel Safety Check program, Aids to Navigation, the District Program Committee and others.

The meeting began with those District Members that Crossed Over the Bar. Past District Commanders and Guests were introduced and Dave Simons explained the rules of voting during both the conference and the council meetings. It was announced that the Albemarle Sail & Power Squadron was dissolved.

V/C Gary Cheney, SN was the Chief Commanders Representative who discussed reestablishing name recognition with *America's Boating Club* and the new image.

The various reports from all committees were given and the proposed slate of officers for the 2018 Bridge was announced.

Commander – Greg Shay, JN

Executive Officer – Pat Hakanson, JN

Education Officer – Dave Parsons, JN

Administrative Officer – Hugh Hayes, JN

Secretary – Dawn Gaskill, SN

Treasurer – Lynn Dail, SN

Assistant Education – Tom Graham, SN

Assistant Administration – Sarah McCurry, AP

Assistant Secretary – Robert Bruner, AP

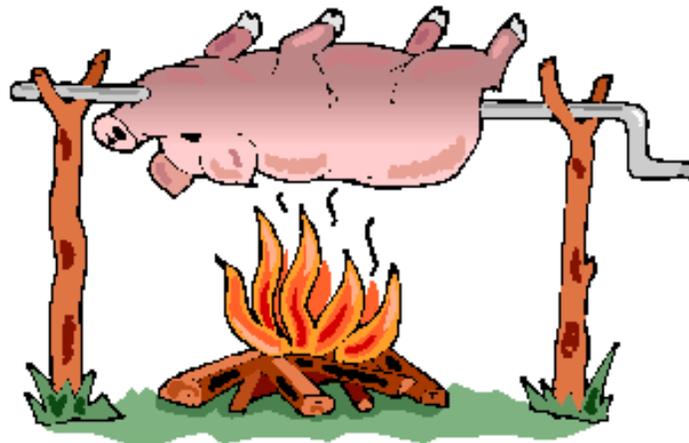
Assistant Treasurer – Barbara Beers, S

It was announced that Winter Training would take place in Cary on January 20, 2018; the National meeting in Orlando February 18-25th; 2018 and District 27 Spring Conference/Council March 16-18th, 2018 in Cary. The site for the summer 2018 Rendezvous has yet to be determined.

**Attention: Current and Past D/27 District and Squadron
Commanders and Guest's**

It's time for the annual RMPS Past Cdr's pig pickin.

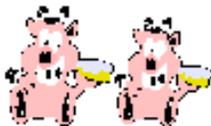
11/12/2017 @1600



This year the event will be at Past Cdr. Chris and Past Cdr. Cathy Payne's house located at 400 Speight Ave Tarboro NC 27886.

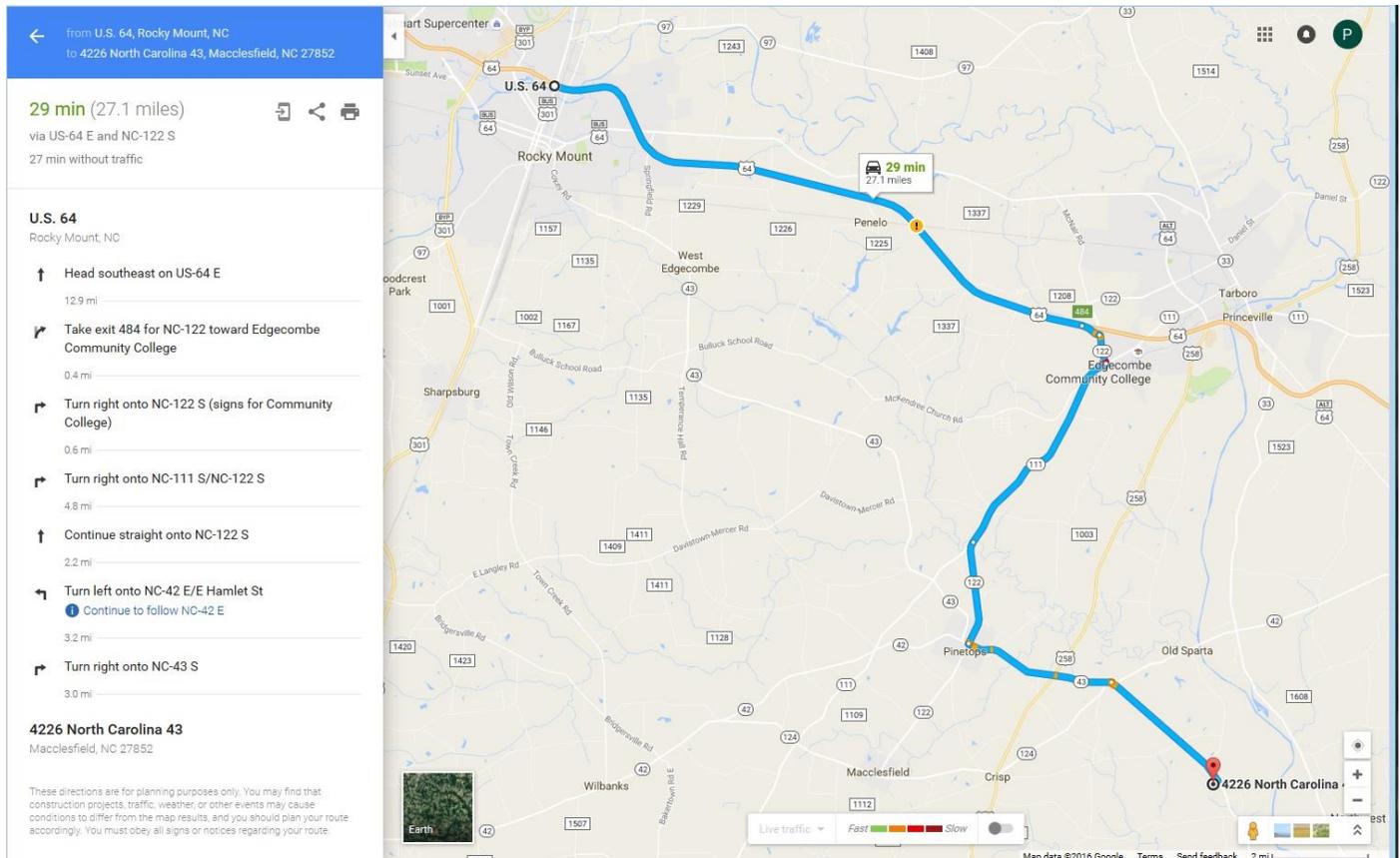
If you plan on coming please contact either Cathy or myself at one of the following phone numbers before 10/27/2017 so we can get a head count.
Home 252-641-1233 or Chris's cell phone 252-813-1188.

Please bring your drink of choice and any treats you would like to share with your fellow members.



Christmas Party and Annual Meeting

This year's event will be held at the Myrtle Grove Plantation in Macclesfield, NC on 08 December. This beautiful grand historic home will be fully decorated for the season and will provide a great meal for those attending. Please advise Lorraine Ryan of your intention to attend. For more information about the Myrtle Grove Plantation, you can visit their website at <http://www.myrtlegroveplantation.com/>



ROCKY MOUNT POWER SQUADRON

2018 NOMINATIONS

OFFICERS

Commander	P/C Linda K. Joyner, S
Executive Officer	P/C Clay Helm, JN
Administrative Officer	P/C Lorraine B. Ryan, P
Educational Officer	P/C Robert H. Bruner, AP
Secretary	Stf/C Phillip A. Benson, JN
Treasurer	P/C Christopher E. Payne, AP

ELECTED MEMBERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Directors:	P/C/C L. M. Barnes III, SN
	Sally A. Benson, P

GENERAL COMMITTEES

District Nominating Committee	P/C Lorraine B. Ryan, P
Alternate	P/C Barbara Ann Bruner, P

Squadron Nominating Committee

1 year	P/C Christopher E. Payne, AP
2 year	Stf/C Phillip A. Benson, JN
3 year	P/C Barbara Ann Bruner, S

Rules Committee	1 year P/C Christopher E. Payne, AP
	2 year Stf/C Phillip A. Benson, JN
	3 year P/C Barbara Ann Bruner, S

Auditing Committee	1 year P/C Christopher E. Payne, AP
	2 year Stf/C Phillip A. Benson, JN
	3 year P/C Barbara Ann Bruner, S

YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED FOR THE RMPS ROSTER

PIC Phillip A. Benson, JN

Are we missing your member number, grade, information about your work, home, or boat? Do you have a new boat, new address, new email, or new spouse? Let us know! We need your changes/additions for the RMPS Roster!

Please assist by sending your data by 15 January. Check your information in the current roster. Email, call, or mail with any changes. Only information that has changed need be reported. If I don't hear from

you, the new roster will carry the same information as last year!

RMPS ROSTER UPDATE INFORMATION

Please fill in the information, and send by mail, or email to:

P/C Phil Benson, JN
1100 Mashie Lane
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804
Phone 252 903-7365
bensonphi1028@gmail.com

Member Name, Grade	
Place of Work	
Work Address	
Work City, State, Zip	
Work Phone	
Work Fax	
Work Email	
Spouse's Name, Grade	
Spouse's Certificate Number	
Home Address	
Home City, State, Zip	
Home Phone	
Home Fax	
Home Email	
Boat Name	
Boat Model and Length	
Boat Type (Sailboat, Motorboat, etc.)	
Boat Location	
Marine Radio License Number	
Amateur Radio Call sign	
MMSI (Digital VHF Radio Number)	

THE COASTAL PLAINS SIGNAL

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ROCKY MOUNT POWER SQUADRON

A Unit of District 27

The United States Power Squadrons®

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ROCKY MOUNT POWER SQUADRON

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commanderlorraine@yahoo.com

Directors

P/C L.M. Barnes III, SN

1972-2017