

THE BULLHORN



AUGUST 2012

The Newsletter of the Durham Sail and Power Squadron - A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons

Commander's Message

Cdr Fred Cooke, S

“Improvise, adapt, overcome!” said Clint Eastwood as Gunnery Sergeant Highway in the 1986 movie *Heartbreak Ridge* when describing the efforts of his platoon as they completed their mission. Well Durham Sail and Power Squadron did a little improvising of their own during our day cruise from Beaufort to Oriental on July 21 as the weather scuttled the original plan to have several boats head up the ICW



and across the Neuse River. Twelve of us took the ferry over instead (hey, it counts!) and spent a warm afternoon knocking around Oriental and enjoying a fine lunch. We were joined by D27 Commander Harold O'Briant and his wife Bobbie Hill as well as D27 XO Bob Howd. The decision to drive turned out to be a wise one as a SEVERE thunderstorm cropped up just as we were ready to leave. We did, however, manage to get some quality cruising time as the weather cleared later in the day and Sunday morning. I was able to take two groups from Beaufort up the ICW to the Neuse River where you could see Oriental and return, making about 80% of the cruise we had originally planned.

One of my goals for this trip was to learn the way myself, and with Bob Howd on board to guide me the first trip, the mission was accomplished. I tell this story first of all because the outing was fun, but also because it clearly illustrates the benefits of being with other boaters and learning from them. I now have a trip in my chart plotter I can make anytime,

and I look forward to exploring this newfound territory with fishing tackle aboard.

The summer is halfway over, and we have a full slate of activities planned for the remainder. Ann McKenzie has set up our Jordan Lake outing for August 25, so bring a boat if you have one and come on out. Beth Haskell needs volunteers to work the boat show at the state fairgrounds the weekend before that. What a great opportunity to showcase our squadron and promote upcoming courses. Ron Mosley has scheduled ABC and Seamanship to run concurrently beginning September 17. If you have taken the ABC course, sign up for Seamanship and expand your knowledge. I am also working on a co op charting trip for early September and will furnish details as soon as the date is confirmed.

As always, be safe and set the example for others when you are out on the water.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Wayne Estabrooks and his family on the loss of his daughter, Lorrie Estabrooks Vernon.

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Volume 51, Number 8
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Birthdays in August

P/C Bev Hudgins, JN Aug 3

P/Lt/C Mike Moorman, JN Aug 3

Janet Estabrooks, S Aug 4

Rob Shoaf Aug 8

Lt/C Beth Haskell, JN Aug 13



Upcoming Events

Aug 17-19 Fall Boat Show, State Fair Grounds

Aug 25 Jordan Lake Cookout, Shelter #2

Sep 2-9 USPS National, Detroit

Sep 13 DSPS Member Meeting, Pomodoro's

Sep 17 ABC Boating Course/Seamanship Starts

Sep 27 DSPS ExCom Meeting, Pomodoro's

Oct 12-14 D/27 Fall C/C, Wrightsville Beach

Jan 5 D/27 Training, Raleigh

DSPS August Outing at Lake Jordan

Lt/C Ann McKenzie, S

The next DSPS gathering will be at Jordan Lake, Ebenezer Point, **Shelter #2**, on **Saturday, August 25**. There is a per car fee to enter the park on the weekends. The fee is \$6 per car, or \$4 per car for seniors (62 years and older).

Friends and family are welcome to attend. Plan to arrive around 1130. Lunch will be served about 1200. As in the past, hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided by the squadron. We ask you to bring a beverage of your choice (no alcoholic beverages, please) and a side dish or dessert to share. Also bring chairs and any lawn games you may like.

We need to know how many will attend so we can provision accordingly for hamburgers and hot dogs. Please RSVP to annmckenzie01@yahoo.com or by phone at 919-920-0569 by **Thursday, August 23**. Earlier responses are greatly appreciated!

Also, please let me know if you plan on bringing a boat. Jordan Lake is beautiful by boat -- it will be fun to enjoy a ride on the lake after lunch!

JOIN US at the Fall Boat Show in August - for Free!

Lt/C Beth Haskell, JN

The fall boat show at the NC State Fairgrounds is coming up in August, and DSPS will be partnering with the Raleigh Sail and Power Squadron, and hand out literature informing the public about safe boating, USPS and our squadron's educational opportunities. The show runs from the 17th to the 19th of August.



Admission is \$6, but if you volunteer to work for a few hours at the Power Squadron booth, then the squadron will pay for your admission to the show. Admission is good for all three days. Think of it as a good way to go window shopping, and do your part to help out USPS and the squadron. Parking at the Fairgrounds is free.

Show hours available are:

Friday:

12:00 - 3:00 Beth Haskell

3:00 - 6:00

6:00 - 8:00

Saturday:

10:00 - 1:00

1:00 - 4:00

4:00 - 7:00

Sunday:

11:00 - 2:00

2:00 - 5:00

I will take the first time slot. Please let me know what date and times you want to work the booth, and I will see what I can do to accommodate your schedule. Contact me at 919-357-1054, or bethandmark@mac.com.

KEEP IT SAFE: Alcohol and Boating Don't Mix

P/C Charles D. Hayne, S

An Old Salt once said: "Alcohol and seawater do mix, but they make a lethal drink." Close, but no cigar. The number of crashes, injuries And fatalities caused by alcoholic beverages being made a casual part of an otherwise fun boating experience rises every year. At Buggs Island Lake, it is not uncommon to look out my panoramic lake view windows and see folks flitting by in their low-sided bass boats with the helm in one hand and a beer



in the other. I say "flitting" because these boats are packing some heavy horsepower to get them to the favorite fishing hole. Most of these boats can travel at highway speeds.

Buggs Island Lake is the result of the Staunton branch of the Roanoke River and the Dan River joining outside of Clarksville, VA, to form the Kerr Reservoir and Dam complex along the northern NC border. During periods of high water these two rivers bring with them all the floating trees and detritus that they pick up along their travels. The lake is a fisherman's delight, but floaters can be treacherous, because they often show little above water to give away their presence. All this is a way of saying that a flitter whose gaze is in the bottom of a beer bottle is an open target for the boat smashing that comes from hitting floaters at high speed. Hull holes are not good on a boat, as even the most novice of boaters knows.

Get serious about alcohol and boating: A recent article in the Richmond Times-Dispatch told a heart wrenching story of joy turned to tragedy in the blink of a moment. The cast of characters includes six adults and four children. The story line is a family outing turned to tragedy by alcohol and the laws of physics which govern motion and immovable objects. Ten, happy, whole human beings took off on a voyage, expecting to have fun. Nine survived; one

See Safety on Page 4

Ed Dept Scuttlebutt

P/C Ron Mosley, AP

For those smart phone users who are not aware, the USPS website has an Apps page with more than 100 Apps covering a wide range of boating related topics including astronomy, navigation, travel, sailing, weather, tides, knots, radar and much more. Many of the Apps are free. There is both an iTunes store and an Android market.



While I can't vouch for the quality of the apps, most seem to have reviews available. You can find this page at the shortcut <http://sn.im/MobileApps>.

It's once again time to start advertising our fall boating course! The fall "ABC3" Boating Course is scheduled to begin Sept 17 at McMannen United Methodist Church, 4102 Neal Road, Durham, NC 27705. If you have friends who are interested in the course, have them contact me. We need everyone's help to increase enrollment in the boating course. This course is the primary source of our new members, the life blood of our organization. In this light, I would encourage as many of you as possible to volunteer to work at the upcoming boat show (Aug 17 – 19) to help recruit students for the course.

We will also be offering Seamanship at the same time and location. We are planning to follow up with a Piloting Course shortly after the completion of Seamanship.

The Raleigh Squadron is planning to teach the JN (Junior Navigation) Course in the Sept-Nov timeframe. They have invited Durham members to take the course. If you are interested, let me know. The instructor, Lynn Dial, lives near Durham and is looking for a location in this area to teach the class. Raleigh is also offering the Instructor Certification class this fall. If anyone needs quick certification, contact me.

The Raleigh Squadron will also be holding a weather seminar on Tuesday 21 August, 2012 1900 at the Resurrection Lutheran School, 100 W. Lochmere Dr., Cary, NC. The discounted squadron member price will

be \$30, the non member price is \$60. This seminar qualifies as credit towards your Inland Navigation Certificate. Anyone interested in attending (to ensure there will be enough materials) please notify LT/C Glenn Faurot, P at educationofficer@rsps.org or the instructor, PC Tom Taylor, AP at tomtaylor3@yahoo.com.

As always, if you have an interest in taking a course, please let me know. Send me an email (RonMosley@Frontier.com) or give me a call (919-489-8468) to discuss the courses and the desired time to take the classes. Some lead time will be required to arrange instructors and meeting locations. Any of the courses can also be self studied.

P/C Art Duser has a Davis MK25 sextant available for \$80. If anyone, such as a potential JN/N student, is interested in purchasing this instrument contact me.

Safety from Page 3

was found the next day, drowned with no life vest. Among the survivors was the operator, a decorated career firefighter with only a minor traffic infraction 20 years ago, his wife and 11 year old son, his brother and brother's wife – a family group in a 22 foot Chaparral bowrider powerboat. The deceased was the fiancée of one of the survivors who was planning her wedding a few months away. With a few drinks under his belt and an alcohol/blood level of nearly twice the legal limit, the impaired firefighter crashed the boat into an immovable channel marker going the equivalent of 35 mph. According to the statements of witnesses the crash scene was one of carnage, with fractured limbs, injured organs and one death. Of the nine who survived, the 11 year old son was most heavily damaged, with brain injury, a lacerated colon and liver. Even though it took 40 minutes for help to arrive at the crash scene, boaters nearby were able to help out and all nine survivors are on the road to recovery.

The outcome was not as pleasant for the operator, who faced seven felony charges. One of the trial lawyers was quoted as saying "this is a tragedy of

huge proportions.” The charges: manslaughter, four counts of child endangerment, two counts of maiming in connection with the injuries, reckless operation and operating a vessel under the influence of alcohol, together they warrant a maximum sentence of up to 52 years in prison. Imagine trading a fleeting moment of lack of alertness for fifty-two years behind bars; going from hero firefighter to felon in the time of a trial.

Unfortunately, this is only one story among too many. Every town and city that has a newspaper can have this kind of story, too often illustrating the tragedy of drinking while operating a vessel on the water. Sun, heat, the outdoors and alcohol can all too easily become a toxic mixture and turn your joy to tragedy. The moral of the tale isn't that you should stop enjoying a beer or a cocktail, but that you should save your drinking of alcoholic beverages for the appropriate time, say when you are at dockside. Or, at the very least, enjoy your beverage in moderation while someone else is operating the vessel with all faculties at top level. To paraphrase the political mantra that “it's all about the economy, stupid”. Let's adapt it to say “IT'S ALL ABOUT SAFETY, BOATERS”.

15th Annual Youth Poster Contest

D/1st/Lt Paula Schubert, AP

“Let's boat safe and clean” is this year's theme for the 15th Annual Boarman Youth Poster Contest. The poster contest cash awards are given annually by Woody Boarman of Vero Beach Sail and Power Squadron to promote youth appreciation of the water and how safe boating is fun boating.

The contest is open to all children ages 6-14. A first place award of \$150, second place award of \$100 and third place award of \$75 are given in three age groups: 1) 6-8 years, 2) 9-11 years and 3) 12-14 years. I know that we have many talented youth in D/27 so let's get the word out. Any child who wants to participate may do so as long as their posters are submitted through a squadron in the district.

Each squadron may submit first, second and third place winners in each of the age groups for the district judging that will take place at the Fall Council and

Conference on October 12 in Wrightsville Beach.

The district may submit only one first-place winner in each age category to the USPS Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, FL in January for the national judging. The Grand Prize winner and two runner-up posters in each age group will be displayed at the USPS Annual Meeting. All participants at the national level will receive certificates of appreciation signed by the Chief Commander.

The posters will be judged for the idea presented more than artistic ability. There are specific rules and requirements regarding the posters, paper, and media that can be used. For contest instructions, a submission form, guidelines and tips, go to this shortcut <http://sn.im/postercontest>.

If you have questions or concerns don't hesitate to contact me at paula.schubert@earthlink.net. The more squadrons that participate, the more the word is getting out about USPS.



Day Trip from Beaufort to Oriental

P/C Paula Schubert, AP

The day trip was scheduled for Saturday, July 21, and kudos goes out to Bev Hudgins for arranging the outing. Frank and I were looking forward to this trip since we've never been to Oriental before.



Frank and I headed out from Durham on Friday and met D/C Harold O'Briant at The Ruddy Duck in Morehead for lunch. After lunch we went with Harold to

Radio Island Marina in Beaufort and looked at a 39' Carver for sale through Crystal Coast Boats. Then we headed over to Core Creek Lodge, where we thought most of the DSPS folks were staying.

Since most people were staggering their arrival times, it was difficult to pin-point a specific time to meet for dinner. D/Lt/C Bob Howd suggested that we all go to the VFW Post for dinner since they were having steak night. People gathered at our room at Core Creek and headed out in a caravan around 6:30 p.m. The dinner was fabulous and consisted of a choice between rib eye, prime rib, and shrimp with a salad bar, potato, and dessert. The bar was also open for business.

After dinner a number of folks gathered outside our room and shot the bull for a couple of hours, watching the storm clouds and lightning roll in. When everyone called it a night the sky opened up with a terrific thunder storm.

Beverly had decided that the boating part for Saturday was going to be out of the question based on the weather forecast. So, instead, we met at the Ferry Dock around 10:30 a.m. to head over to Oriental.

Twelve of us proceeded to board the ferry and the ride to Oriental was uneventful. Most were able to gather at the front of the boat but some of us were

stuck in our cars due to the close proximity of the vehicles. I rolled down the window and asked Bob Howd if he had any Grey Poupon, but he didn't.

We arrived in Oriental with plenty of time before our 12:30 p.m. reservation at the Toucan Grill. The men went one way and the women went shopping. I met up with Harold and Bobbie Hill as they arrived from New Bern and staked a claim at the bar while we waited for everyone else to show up.

We had a great time with 14 of us at lunch. The waitress was very forgiving. The storm started building and by the time we left it was already starting to rain with lightning and thunder. We were glad that we weren't on a boat at the time of our departure. After the trip back on the ferry we split up and went our separate ways for a little while only to meet back up at the Monkey Bar in Atlantic Beach.

A few of us arrived a little early and staked out a large party that looked like they were getting ready to leave. We pounced on the table as soon as they got up and the 14 of us had a great evening of drinks, dinner, and companionship.

Sunday morning, Fred took seven of us out for an outing on his boat. We even had the chance to see



some of the wild ponies on the beach. It was a perfect ending to a great weekend.

Those participating from DSPS were Fred Cooke, Joe and Sandy Donaghy, Leon and Beverly Hudgins, Eric Lytle and Ann McKenzie, Ron and Mary Mosley and Frank and Paula Schubert. From FMSPS were Harold O'Briant and Bobbie Hill, and Bob Howd.

Day Trip to Oriental



Photos courtesy of Sandy Donaghy and Fred Cooke

First Class Mail

THE BULLHORN
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The next DSPS Member outing is on Saturday, August 25, at Jordan Lake, Ebenezer Point, Shelter #2 beginning at 1130.

AUGUST 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
					Carolina Fall Boat Show - Raleigh	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Carolina Fall Boat Show - Raleigh					Bullhorn Articles Due	Jordan Lake Cookout - 1130, Shelter #2
26	27	28	29	30	31	Sept 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Labor Day					