

THE BULLHORN



SEPTEMBER 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

It seems that I take to the water with the expectation that I will witness at least one instance of boater negligence, and I am seldom disappointed. While waiting on the dock at Jordan Lake to help put Eric Lytle's Renkin (more on this later) back onto his trailer, I watched a dad with four kids aboard trying to maneuver his new SeaDoo jet boat out of the ramp area. Now I really don't know how those things work, but I'm told that



they are powered by dual jet ski motors. As I recall they require power to steer. Anyway, he was on the inside of one dock, and another larger boat was along side tied up to the inside of the opposite dock. Now it would seem to me that one could simply push off into open water, fire it up and cruise away. Instead, the "captain" tried to turn around between the two piers and while fumbling with the throttles promptly backed into the other boat broadside, even while his wife and other bystanders shouted out warnings. Of course, the damage assessments and apologies ensued, and it appeared that the damage was cosmetic and slight. The owner of the large boat just shook his head and muttered references to the other guy's gene pool. Another good day on the water gone bad. Training and common sense too often take a back seat, and it's up to us to redouble our efforts to make boating fun and safe.

DSPS has been busy. Thanks to X/O Beth Haskell, we helped staff a booth at the recent boat show, sporting a brand new banner and passing out updated

tri-fold brochures and class information. Our ad appeared twice in the Herald Sun advertising our ABC class set to begin on September 17, so spread the word to your boating friends.

Last Saturday we braved gusty winds and whitecaps as we gathered at Jordan Lake for our late summer outing. Thanks to A/O Ann McKenzie for setting things up and Eric Lytle for being the grill master. We had a good time. The food was great, and nobody got in trouble. Beth and Mark brought their sail Hobie and took it out on the water, and Eric brought his vintage Renkin, aboard which your Commander took a ride. Of course, Murphy's Law reared its ugly head as the engine died, stranding us in the middle of the lake! Fortunately, One of Eric's friends was participating in a raft-up on the lake and gave us a tow. (I smell another special award in the offing here.)

There are a number of other events coming up as well. I'm still working on a co-op charting trip, but scheduling has been a bit of a challenge. So be on the lookout for emails from me on that topic. The District 27 Fall Conference is just around the corner, and you can find details in this newsletter. Also, USPS has recently sent out an electronic member survey. Please take the time to thoughtfully respond as we strive to make USPS better. Finally, the Fort Macon Squadron is planning to conduct their annual Aids to Navigation Cruise on Saturday, October 20 in Morehead city. I have taken this and found it very helpful as well as fun.

Our next member meeting is September 13 at Pomodoro's. See you there.

Fall Boat Show

Lt/C Beth Haskell, JN

We had four DSPS members who volunteered to work the Fall Boat Show at the fairgrounds in August. Cdr. Fred Cooke, A/O Ann McKenzie, Ed. Officer Ron Mosley and I joined 15 members of



RSPS to hand out literature and meet with the boating public and talk about boating safety, as well as hand out fliers for the upcoming boating classes.

You can see in the photo that DSPS now has a sign that we can use for boat shows and other activities.

The four of us each took a shift (Ron even took two!) and we worked along side RSPS members at their wonderful booth.

They have a great DVD that shows many boating mistakes and accidents, as well as sample questions from some of the boating tests. The DVD tends to draw people to the booth, where we can then ask them if they have had a boating safety class and hand them our schedules.

Both before and after the shift we worked, we were able to wander the show and check out the other vendors and do a little boat shopping. It was really an easy way to do our part to fulfill the civic service part of DSPS. Hope you will join us next year.



It's Basic: Learn the Fundamentals of Safe Boating

P/C Charles D. Hayne, S

One question often asked at the annual Safe Boating informational exhibits is: "Why do I need to take a boating course?" This is a simple, honest question. The answer you give to someone who asks it can be very important to the questioner.



There are a number of reasons that you can offer; the important thing is that that you heighten the awareness of the need for training in order to ensure that recreational boating is a safe, enjoyable and satisfying experience. Moreover, state marine officials are increasing pressure to legislate the requirement for education and licensing of boat operators.

You wouldn't advise anyone to operate a vehicle without first learning the fundamentals of safe operation. Imagine the chaos potential of an untrained person driving off in an auto or taking off into the wild blue yonder in a plane without first learning what it's all about. Yet every day folks think nothing about jumping aboard a boat with a picnic basket and the family in tow and heading out on the water.

The Safe Boating course (ABC) provides the student with valuable information on proper safety, boat handling, basics of navigation – rules of the road, so to speak. By learning a few crucial "how-to's" a boater can help to minimize the likelihood of getting in harm's way. The course teaches how to identify aids to navigation, right of way procedures, and safety precautions for proper operation and maintenance of the vessel. Even simple things like tying knots. Docking a boat properly helps to avoid damage and the chance of your boat drifting away. A few hours invested in learning the basics can help to avoid situations and incidents that can present danger and expense which could threaten the fun and relaxation of recreational boating.

See Fundamentals on Page 5

Ed Dept Scuttlebutt

P/C Ron Mosley, AP

Greetings from the Education Department! Here's another tip about things Nautical from the USPS web site. If you're looking for items with a nautical flavor for yourself or as a gift, check out the "member benefits" page located at http://www.usps.org/national/admin_dept/membenefits.htm.



This is in addition to the "Ship's Store" at <http://www.shopusps.org/>. On the member benefits page one will find member discounts on all things nautical at Weems & Plath. There are also discounts on books from McGraw Hill,

travel from the USPS Vacation Center, Soundings Magazine, rental cars, hotels, RV travel, charts and charting software, insurance, etc.

The fall "ABC3" Boating Course is scheduled to begin September 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 enrolment in the boating course. This course is the primary source of our new members, the life blood of our organization. Along with several fellow boaters from the Raleigh Squadron, I spent more than 6 hours at the Raleigh boat show (August 17 and 18) to help recruit students for our boating course. While I talked to several prospects that lived in Raleigh, I didn't find a single person from the Durham area. I would like to thank the other squadron members, Cdr. Fred Cooke, Lt/C Beth Haskell, and Lt/C Ann McKenzie who volunteered their time at the boat show. The lack of traffic at the boat show illustrates that we will have to work harder than usual to obtain recruits for our class. If any members have the opportunity to post an advertisement in an advantageous location such as on your office door or a bulletin board at work or elsewhere, please contact me and I will arrange to get a poster to you.

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.

I must apologize for my carelessness in last month's article. I misspelled the web address of the Apps page I was recommending. I'm sorry if anyone was unable to access the web page. I have corrected the spelling below. If you are still interested, type this address <http://www.usps.org/eddept/misc/apps.htm> into your web browser to go to the Apps page. I actually tried it this time and it worked! For reference, I'm repeating the previous paragraph as it should have read.

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 <http://www.usps.org/eddept/misc/apps.htm>.

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.

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 your 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.

Fundamentals from Page 3

Onboard safety of the operator and passengers is a major concern on the water. Learning to use communications devices, navigational equipment and some basic info on weather, the proper use of personal flotation devices and how to react in emergencies can greatly reduce the incidence of harmful situations. Just as in any game or sport, knowing the rules is necessary to help you enjoy and participate in the experience. Learning the rules and regulations, the customs and courtesies, the boating terms, verbal and non-verbal methods of communication, such as horns, flags and lights are important to the flow of information from vessel to vessel. Knowing what the other operator is doing or intends to do makes for more efficient movements. The competence and confidence gained from a Safe Boating course can decrease your chances of making an error that causes damage or injury and can protect you from liability. Insurance companies often give a discount on policies if you have proof of successful completion of a safe boating course. States are looking seriously toward requiring the certificate of completion, and a number already have such legislation in place, including North Carolina.

Jordan Lake Cookout

Lt/C Beth Haskell, JN

There was a taste of fall weather at Jordan Lake for the DSPS outing last month. The weather forecast called for winds of 5-8, but when we got home and checked the weather history, they showed that winds were closer to 16, with gusts to 20, with air temps barely making it to 80. The white caps on the lake were our big clue that the forecast was off.

About twenty squadron members showed up, with 2 boats, one representing the Sail and one the Power, of DSPS. As usual, we had a wonderful selection of side dishes, and we all gave our compliments to our chef for the day, Eric Lytle. Thanks also to A/O Ann McKenzie for organizing such a fun day.

I can't tell you how the power boaters fared, but I can tell you it was a unique day for sailing our rather wet riding Hobie Tandem Island. Mark, Noah and I,

launched the boat around 1100, and Noah and I sailed it down to the cove near shelter 2 to await the arrival of the rest of the squadron. Mark had to leave us to go sing in a barber shop quartet for an anniversary party, but showed off his stylish black, white and grey formal attire, with his brown Crocs. After eating, the only person Noah and I could convince to go sailing with us was Wayne Estabrooks. We launched from the cove and had a slight problem requiring us to circle back to pick up Noah, who failed to climb aboard right away as his Croc had come off and he needed to rescue it. After successfully retrieving the Croc and the boy, we took off. It was truly a unique experience to sail that day. The water was incredibly warm, and the wind, amazingly chilly for August. We really liked it when the waves washed over us, but got chilled when we were sailing along without being splashed. We crossed the lake and gave Wayne the full Hobie Tandem Island experience, letting him work the foot pedals, as well as operating the tiller from the rear seat, while I kept watch and handled the lines from the front seat. Noah was our moveable ballast and moved across the boat from trampoline to trampoline, staying on the windward side to help keep us level.

It was a wonderful day at the lake. Hope to see you at the next boating outing. Pictures can be found on Page 7.

The Fort Macon Sail and Power Squadron
are offering their 9th annual
Aids to Navigation Cruise
Saturday, 20 October, Morehead City

The event includes:
*Review of aids to navigation
*Buffet meal at Captain Bill's
*Observing Aids on a 2-hour cruise in
daylight and in darkness

For additional details go to their website:
www.fmsps.org/cruise
or contact Richard McKeon at 252-822-0022

D/27 2012 Fall Council/Conference
 October 12-14, 2012
 The Blockade Runner Hotel - Wrightsville Beach, NC

Rank	First	Last	Grade	Cert. #

Address	City	State	ZIP

Phone	email address	Squadron
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Facility Fee for EACH attendee \$ 5.00 x ____ = \$ _____

Friday 12 October:

All Receptions for members --- NO CHARGE – Number attending ____

ICW Cruise, Dinner, Dancing (cash bar) – Baked BBQ Chicken,
 NC Barbecue, Parsley New Potatoes, Honey Baked Beans, Green
 Beans, Garlic bread, Tea, and Desert. \$ 47.00 x ____ = \$ _____

Saturday 13 October:

Spouse's Coffee NO CHARGE – Number attending ____

Awards Luncheon – Club Croissant Sandwich – Ham, turkey
 and cheese served on a croissant with baby greens salad, coffee and tea.
\$ 18.00 x ____ = \$ _____

Banquet (cash bar) – Blockade Runner Salad with House Dressing,
 Thyme-seared organic chicken breast served with Andouille sausage,
 Yukon Gold mashed potatoes, garden vegetables sauté finished with pan jus,
 hot rolls, coffee and tea. \$ 39.00 x ____ = \$ _____

OR

Blockade Runner Salad with House Dressing,
 12 oz. pork loin chop, Yukon Gold mashed potatoes, garden vegetables
 Sauté finished with Merlot demi. \$ 39.00 x ____ = \$ _____

Total \$ _____

New member since January 2012 ____ 1st time at District meeting ____

Make checks payable to: District 27
 Send completed form and payment **no later than 28 September, 2012** to:

Cdr Lorenda Overman, JN
 1132 Overman Road
 Goldsboro, NC 27533

Jordan Lake Picnic



Photos courtesy of Frank Schubert and Fred Cooke

First Class Mail

THE BULLHORN
 3101 Doubleday Pl
 Durham, NC 27705

The next DSPS Member Meeting is Thursday, September 13 at Pomodoro's Italian Kitchen, Hillandale Road, Durham, 1830.

SEPTEMBER 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Labor Day	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 DSPS Member Meeting, Pomodoro's	14	15
16	17 Fall ABC Course begins - 1900	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 ABC Course Bullhorn Articles Due	25	26	27 DSPS ExCom, Pomodoro's, 1900	28	29
30	Oct 1 ABC Course	2	3	4	5	6