

# THE BULLHORN



APRIL 2013

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

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## Commander's Message

*Cdr Fred Cooke, S*

Well, March is behind us, and I for one am glad of it. It's time to get this warm weather jumpstarted and our boats in the water! We'll be kicking things off April 27 at Jordan Lake for our spring outing and



cookout. Ann McKenzie has arranged for Tom Jones from Wake-Falls Mobile Marine to visit with us and offer tips on getting our boats ready for the season. There is additional information elsewhere in the Bullhorn regarding details of the cookout.

But while March may have been cold, it didn't keep our squadron from being busy. Twelve of us have just recently finished the Piloting course and are now laboring over the exam! Coffield Knight did a great job of leading the class along with fellow instructors Frank Schubert and Ron Mosley. Also during the month members from our squadron joined forces with members from the Raleigh Sail and Power Squadron to volunteer at the UNC-TV annual telethon. Thanks to Wayne Estabrooks for coordinating our participation in this annual public service effort. Our next joint venture with Raleigh is the shoreline cleanup day at Jordan Lake April 6 from 10am to 12:15pm.

The District 27 Conference, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Change of Watch was held in Raleigh March 22-24. Durham Sail and Power Squadron was the host squadron, while Cape Fear was an honorary host squadron. I want to thank those who helped out with this event and worked so hard to make it

a success. We decorated tables, arranged balloons, procured freebies and stuffed attendee goodie bags, created tickets and place cards, brought food for the receptions, registered guests, and collected tickets at the doors at mealtimes (Joe Donaghy wore his best bouncer face).

A special thanks and major kudos to Paula Schubert for her tireless dedication and hard work heading up this project, and thanks to the other members who attended as well: Joe and Sandy Donaghy, Wayne and Janet Estabrooks, Fred Cooke, Ron Mosley, Ann McKenzie and Eric Lytle, and Frank Schubert. Sally and Coffield Knight also attended the COW Saturday night. It was a fun event, and we retired D/C Harold O'Briant in style while welcoming the new D27 Commander Bob Howd and his wife Sandie.

During the conference Durham was presented with two awards. We received a 2012 Doing It Right Award for dedication to the ideals and mission of USPS, and the staff (really? We have a staff?) of The Bullhorn was presented a Distinctive Communicator Award by the National Communications Committee. Congrats, Paula.

Remember to mark your calendars for some DSPS events as you plan your summer:

- May 12-18 -- National Safe Boating Week
- June 20-22 -- District Leadership Training in Raleigh
- July 27 -- Day cruise and Co op charting
- August 3 -- Lake Jordan Cookout with Raleigh

See you on the water!

# THE BULLHORN

Volume 52, Number 4  
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## Birthdays in April

Jay Darrah  
P/C Joe Donaghy, SN  
Nolan Trehy

Apr 9  
Apr 15  
Apr 23



## Upcoming Events

**Apr 25 ExCom Meeting 1900**  
**Apr 27 Jordan Lake Cookout, 1130**  
**May 9 Monthly Member Meeting, 1830**  
**May 12-18 National Safe Boating Week**  
**Jun 20-22 District Leadership Training**  
**Jul 27 Day Cruise/Co-op Charting**  
**Aug 3 Jordan Lake Cookout with RSPS**  
**Aug 8-11 D/27 & D/5 Rendezvous,  
Cape Charles, VA**

## No Monthly Member Meeting on April 11th.

Since we will be holding our spring picnic at Jordan Lake on April 27, we are cancelling the scheduled April 11 Monthly Member Meeting at Bennett Pointe Grill and will instead have our meeting and speaker at Jordan Lake.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 9 at Bennett Pointe Grill. Other meetings are: June 13, September 12, October 10, and November 14. There are no monthly meetings in July or August.

We hope to see you at these meetings to keep updated on Squadron activities and listen to informative speakers!

## Spring Outing and Cookout

Lt/C Ann McKenzie, S

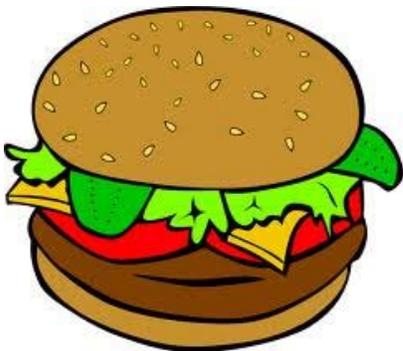
The DSPS Picnic will be held at Ebenezer Point, Picnic Shelter #2 at Jordan Lake on April 27, 2013. Plan to arrive by 11:30 am and we'll have hot dogs and hamburgers ready around noon. Please bring a side dish to share, chairs, and a beverage of your choice (non-alcoholic). Boats and other water craft are welcome -- let us know if you can bring one.

To reach Ebenezer Church from US 64, at Wilsonville, turn south on Beaver Creek Road/SR1008. The park entrance is 1.6 miles on the right. There is a \$6 fee per car on the weekends and a senior citizen discount.

Tom Jones, Wake-Falls Mobile Marine, will be giving great information on getting the boat ready for the spring after the food feast. This will include battery preparation, how to successfully start your boat after it's been sitting, how to test your fuel system for water and what to do if you find water. Also included are the dos and don'ts about launching and loading. It will last approximately 30 minutes or slightly longer with a question and answer period. Tom spoke to our group last fall and was very well received.

So that we may purchase the appropriate amount of food and supplies, please contact me at [annmckenzie01@yahoo.com](mailto:annmckenzie01@yahoo.com).

We hope to see you on Saturday, April 27th!



## Ed Dept Scuttlebutt

P/C Ronald Mosley, AP

Greetings from the Education Department!

Our latest Piloting Course got off to a roaring start on January 28 under the leadership of Coffield Knight, SN. The class meets on Monday nights at McMannen United Methodist Church, 4102 Neal Road, Durham, NC 27705. We have 10 industrious students: Daniel Caswell, Fred Cooke, Benjamin Edkins,



Ken Krebs, Eric Lytle, Ann McKenzie, Jonathan Smith, William (Buddy) Taylor, Graham Whitesell, and Judy Whitesell, who are learning about inland and coastal navigation. The class will be completed on April 1. That's when the students will begin a very demanding open book exam. Good luck all! We look

forward to them all having the new grade of Piloting. Hopefully they will all be eager to take Advanced Piloting in the near future. Other members who have been waiting to take Advanced Piloting, keep an ear to the ground for the beginning of the new Advanced Piloting course. I will try to schedule one sometime after the upcoming boating season, probably in the fall or winter.

One of the squadron's major outreach activities each year is meeting and talking to people at the local boat shows. We tell them about the objective and activities of the Durham Sail & Power Squadron as well as the national organization and invite them to attend our ABC course. The Raleigh Convention Center Boat Show was held Feb 7 – 10 at the Raleigh Convention Center. DSPS shared a booth with the Raleigh Squadron where we displayed our banners, advertised the activities of both squadrons, and our respective boating courses. Each 3 hour session was manned by 2 Raleigh members and 1 from Durham. Thanks to the five Durham members: Doug Campbell, Fred Cooke, Joanna George, Rhett George, and Ron Mosley who worked at the booth. While recent boat

**See Education on Page 5**

## What Can Weigh Several Tons, Run at 60 mph and Has No Brakes?

*P/C Charles D. Hayne, S*

If you said: “A GMC minivan” you’re reading the wrong Safety Article. We’re talking ‘bout boats here.



All kinds of boats -- from kayaks and dinghies to high-powered motor yachts. Don’t get that smug look on your face because you’re a sailboater. You are in the mix, too. Safe boating is everyone’s concern. Handling your vessel in a safe and competent manner, no matter how large or small,

whether wind or power-propelled, is what puts the fun in recreational boating for you and all the other boaters who are sharing the waterways with you.

There’s no question that recreational boating ranks right up there at the top end of the scale of fun leisure activities. Even in this period of economic stagnation, recreational boating is holding strong and the number of boats on the rivers, lakes and oceanscape is near an all-time high. Unfortunately, the number of accidents and deaths is holding fairly steady, as well. Some experts say that the increased emphasis on boat safety education and required boat safety courses along with stronger law enforcement have kept the rate from skyrocketing. While boating enthusiasts have become more cooperative and aware over the past few years, there is still the lingering attitude that commuting to work in the car is serious business and requires discipline, but boats are for playing around so you can relax and let your guard down: Life vests become a bother to wear, so who needs them? There are no white lines on the water, so go where you want. Who needs “rules of safe handling and navigation”? Who needs speed regulations on the water? Go as fast as you want. It gets hot out there, so why not have a cold beer... or two?

Those questions and similar ones are where boating safety education must enter the picture. Boat operators simply should not drink alcoholic beverages while in charge. More accidents involve alcohol than not. On top of the safety aspect, operating a vessel while

under the influence is unlawful and can subject you to penalties, just like motor vehicle violations. A number of recent fatalities in local waters involved boaters being ejected from their boats in crashes and drowning for lack of a life vest. Even if you are a good swimmer, wear a flotation device; it could keep you afloat long enough to be rescued. Take the time to practice “man overboard” and “fire” drills. Show your passengers how to operate the electronics to call for help. Check to make sure you have adequate safety equipment for emergencies and a life vest for every one.

Finally, if you boat at night, be sure to have your running lights turned on and your eyes and ears keenly alerted to your surroundings. Some people are surprised to find that you do have a modicum of “night vision” that will enable you to navigate in the dark. Just be sure not to flash a white light and ruin the effect. There are special lamps and flashlights with reddish glow that preserve your “visual purple” for night vision. ASIDE: There’s a guy here on Buggs Island Lake who likes to drive around at night on his pontoon and stop here and there to seine for baitfish. He bought a USArmy night vision device so he can move about. It amplifies available light and lets you see images; not as plain as day, but passable. Another has put auto headlamps on his pontoon so he can go faster and avoid “floaters” during his night cruises with his wife. Interesting/not necessary/expensive...you decide.

If you need a refresher on the various aspects of boating safely, see your Squadron Education Officer and obtain the manual used to teach the public boating course. Study it like you did the DMV booklet when you were going to take the state driver’s exam to become a first time licensed driver all those years ago. It’s that important!

### *Education from Page 3*

shows have not been as well attended as they were before the recent economic downturn, there were quite a few people looking at the boats on display. During the several hours I spent at the boat show, I talked to a number of people from lots of places. Unfortunately, none of those people were from Durham. In the past we have attracted a few students to our course each year from the boat show. That has not been true during the last 2 years.

After the boat show was over, Greg Shay (Raleigh's new Commander) surveyed all the participants about their experience at the boat show. He asked them to respond to about 6 questions:

Approximately how many people stopped at our booth during your time slot?

Responses varied from about 5 to 25. Some commented that Thursday and Friday nights were very slow.

What was of most interest to those who stopped by?

Most said learning about the courses we offer. Some were interested in the pamphlets available. Most were attracted to the video clips displayed on the monitor.

What was the typical age group?

Some said senior citizens. Others gave the range of 30 to 50 years old.

Would you change anything in the booth, and if so what?

More emphasis on boating education in the displays, add information about the courses to the video clips, and reduce the clutter on the tables by reducing the number of brochures on display.

Should we do this event again?

The majority said yes.

Other comments?

A couple of Raleigh members made positive comments about joint participation with Durham. They said they enjoyed doing it with Durham and that it shows that we are a larger organization working together.

In spite of the positive experiences with the boat show, the spring "ABC3" Boating Course planned to begin Feb. 18 at McMannen United Methodist Church did not gain any students from that activity.

In fact it had to be canceled because too few students registered for the class. We will try again in the fall. In the meantime, we are trying to schedule an 8 hour ABC class to be taught in two 4 hour sessions during the spring.

As always, if you have an interest in taking a course, please let me know. Send me an email ([RonMosley@Frontier.com](mailto: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.

### **D27 50th/Conference/COW**

#### **Successful**

*P/C Paula Schubert, AP*

Many thanks go out to the DSPS folks who helped with this meeting in Raleigh on March 22-23. Special kudos are extended to Joanna George who sewed the DSPS Bull (and all his glory) on the battle ribbon used during the COW Ceremony and who helped me stuff envelopes and welcome bags and to Sandy Donaghy who picked up items for me from the Raleigh Visitors Bureau, for picking up the balloons for use at the 50th Anniversary Celebration, and for helping out at the Spouse Coffee on Saturday morning.

Special thanks also go to Carolyn Simons (RSPS) who assisted me with the Spouse Museum Tour on Saturday, and to Sandie Howd, Bobbie Hill, Margaret Pearson, and Kathy Wrenn for their assistance with the Spouse Coffee.

Also, extra special thanks go to our honorary hosts, the Cape Fear Sail and Power Squadron and Commander Jonnie' Chardon for their greatly appreciated help with the Silent Auction and the 50/50 Raffle.

We couldn't have had such a successful event without everyone pulling together!

## Executive Department Report

*Lt/C Beth Haskell, JN*

Sorry to be MIA for the past 2 months, but other able DSPTS members stepped in and took over for me in great fashion. Thank you to Ron Mosley who took over the Raleigh Boat show and organized our volunteers. Thanks also to: Doug Campbell, Rhett & Joanna George, Fred Cooke, & Ron Mosley, who joined Raleigh Sail and Power Squadron (RSPS) at their booth at the show. Thanks to Paula & Frank Schubert who updated our tri-fold brochure with this year's activities so they could be handed out at the show. It was great to get feedback from RSPS that their members who worked the show liked our participation and wanted that to continue.



Thank you to Wayne Estabrooks for organizing our participation in UNC TV's Festival on Sunday March 24. It was a cold, wet miserable day to be out and about, so we are very thankful to the following DSPTS members who showed up: Ron Mosley, Doug Campbell, Mimi Chitty, and Janet & Wayne Estabrooks. Thank you also to the RSPS members who braved the bad weather too to help out: Cdr. Greg & Connie Shay, Bruce, Linda & Casey MacRae, Paula & Ken Mizell, Dave & Nancy McMahan, and Barbara and Barry Wilder.

Upcoming in April is the Jordan Lake Adopt-a-Shoreline clean up event. This is an activity that RSPS is making a commitment to, and has asked us for our help. There are 3 clean up dates for this year, April, August & December. The first is coming right up: Saturday, April 6, 2013, from 1000 to 1215. Pick up trash along the Beaver Creek shoreline. Meet near the north end of the bridge across the road from the south entrance to Ebenezer Church Recreation Area ramps at 10:00 am. Wear closed-toe shoes and work clothes. Bring bug spray! No children under 16 years old.

If you desire to participate, drop me an email ([bethandmark@mac.com](mailto:bethandmark@mac.com)), so I can keep track of our volunteers.

Have a great Spring, when it finally gets here!

## UNC-TV Festival

*P/Lt/C Wayne Estabrooks, AP*

On Sunday March 24 several Raleigh Sail & Power Squadron Members joined with DSPTS members to answer phones at the UNC-TV Festival fundraiser. DSPTS has participated in this event for many years and this year we invited the Raleigh Squadron to join us. In total there were 16 members from Durham and Raleigh participating.



## Boat Fees Could Rise to Pay for Dredging

Citations: WRAL.Com and BoatUS Governmental Affairs

Senate lawmakers are debating a bill that would raise fees on boats across the state to pay for dredging for coastal inlets. The state has enough money for dredging only to cover the rest of 2013.

The Division of Water Resources estimates keeping up with dredging will require a minimum of \$6 million a year.

Under current law, owners of boats of all sizes pay a registration fee of \$15 a year. Senate Bill 58 would raise the fees July 1, 2013, as follows:

- Boats under 14 feet – still \$15 a year
- Boats 14 to 19 feet – \$25 a year, a \$10 increase
- Boats 20 to 25 feet – \$50 a year, a \$35 increase
- Boats 26 to 39 feet – \$100 a year, an \$85 increase
- Boats 40 feet and over – \$150 a year, a \$135 increase

Paddle-propelled vessels like kayaks, canoes and rowboats would continue to be exempt from the fee, as would small sailboats.

The measure also increases the boat titling fee from \$20 to \$30.

Half of the new revenue would be used for motorboat access needs and safety programs. The other half would go into a fund for dredging.

But critics of the bill say it's inaccurate to call it a user fee because all boat owners would have to pay it, even those whose boats never leave the state's freshwater lakes.

In an action alert dated April 1, 2013 BoatUS said, "While we support the need for preserving access

to waterways, as currently written this bill places an unfair financial burden on recreational boat owners, raising registration fees significantly, while not raising fees for commercial fishing boats and for-hire charter fishing and head boats."

"Please contact your State Senator today and respectfully urge them to oppose S.B. 58 as currently drafted. Ask them to consider a more reasonable way to pay for dredging coastal inlets and waterways.

Here's why:

- Boaters who solely boat on the state's lakes and rivers will be paying for projects they will never use.
- The registration fee for a 20ft boat would jump 275% for a 3-year registration. For a 40ft boat, a 3-year registration will skyrocket 1025%!
- S.B. 58 would make a 3 year registration in North Carolina more expensive than Virginia or South Carolina for any size of boat."

To view the entire SB 58 go to [www.ncleg.net](http://www.ncleg.net) and type the bill number (S58) under the "Find a Bill" menu on the top banner. To find out who your Senator is, click on "Senate", then "Senate Member List".

Ship's Infirmary --

P/C Charles Hayne is recovering well following open heart surgery. You can send a card or letter to him at:

Charles Hayne (Room 506  
C/O Meadowview Terrace  
184 Buffalo Road  
P. O. Box 1600  
Clarksville, VA 23927

First Class Mail

THE BULLHORN  
 3101 Doubleday Pl  
 Durham, NC 27705

**The next DSPS gathering is scheduled for Saturday, April 27 at Ebenezer Point, Shelter #2, Jordan Lake, beginning at 1130.**

## APRIL 2013

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	19	20
21	22 Earth Day	23	24 Bullhorn Articles Due	25 Ex Com Meeting	26	27 Jordan Lake Cookout, Shelter #2, 1130.
28	29	30	MAY 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Monthly Member Meeting, BP Grill	10	11