



# The Piedmont Binnacle

Savannah River Sail and Power Squadron

A Unit of District 26

Official Publication

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Serving The Central Savannah River Area

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Paulette being sworn in as Commander

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### Members & Guest Meeting Information

**Date:** Friday, 8 January 2016  
**Time:** 1830-2030  
**Where:** Pinnacle Club, Augusta  
**Program:** COW

**Date:** Tuesday, 16 February 2016  
**Time:** 1830-2030  
**Where:** Casa Bella  
**Program:** Dinner Meeting, "Cruise in Europe"  
Sam and Janet Hardy




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**2014 Bridge**

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Augusta, GA 30909  
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**Treasurer**

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*Articles, opinions, and advertisements contained here-  
in do not necessarily reflect USPS policy or  
endorsement unless so designated.*



**Message from the Commander**

Please say thank you and congratulations to our bridge members for 2016. They are:

- Paulette P, Harris, SN-commander
- Stephen Phillips, SN-Squadron Educational Officer
- Bernie Pohlman, SN-Assistant Squadron Education Officer
- DeMetrice Allen, AP-Administrative/Executive Officer
- Nettie DuMais AP-Secretary/Treasurer
- Butch Rachal, SN-Past Commander

In addition,  
William Allen AP-Flag Lt.

Please note that we shall host the 2016 D26 COW on Oct, 7,8,9  
Please put these dates on your calendars. We want and need your help!  
Do come to the monthly dinner meetings and do watch for announcements from our SEO about courses you will want to take!

Sincerely,

**Cdr Paulette Harris-Holmes, SN**  
Savannah River S&PS Commander  
706-829-3909  
[pharris1@gru.edu](mailto:pharris1@gru.edu)

**EDITORIAL DEADLINE**

Deadline for articles, photos, and reports for the  
" **March-April 2016** edition of *The Piedmont Binnacle*:  
" **Saturday, 13 February 2016.**

" If any member has photographs or SRS&PS stories he or  
" she would like to submit, please send them in **DIGITAL**  
" **FORMAT** to the editor for consideration.

### Assistant Commander

Happy New Year! As in the previous year, I look forward to continuing to work with Commander Paulette Harris, the bridge officers, and squadron members to help realize the United States Power Squadron's mission: *"To promote recreational boating safety through education and civic activities while providing fellowship for our members."*

This year it is my hope that the Savannah River Sail and Power will experience growth and contribute to the well-being of the local boating community.

Remember, *"Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends"*.

*P/C DeMetrice Allen, AP*

## Educational Officer

### Squadron Education Information

We have a new SEO, Steve Phillips. He is our most knowledgeable instructor, and undoubtedly will be a great asset to our squadron this year. Our education program has been inactive over the holidays. We hope to start a Seamanship course soon.

*Bernie Pohlmann, SN*

*Asst.SEO*

January 2016

SEO Report

Go To Meeting

The District 26 education department is now fully engaged in the use of Go To Meeting software. The SEOs meet at least once/month to discuss current programs, education topics, and new ideas using this software package. Now the District is offering their first district wide offering of Electronic Navigation under the leadership of the Beaufort Sail and Power Squadron. This will be especially useful to squadrons lacking qualified instructors to provide the wide variety of course material to their members. The District is compiling a list of instructors available to each squadron on all squadron courses to gauge the need within the District. For example there are several squadrons in the District that lack a qualified instructor for Junior Navigation and Navigation. GPS systems on board have diminished the need for celestial navigation, resulting in fewer members interested in taking or teaching these courses. But there are members that would like to complete their qualification for Senior Navigator and lacking a qualified instructor in celestial navigation is a major impediment.

An Opportunity in Georgia

The State of Georgia requires that persons born after January 1998 that operate a boat must have passed a Georgia DNR approved boating safety course. The USPS America's Boating Course (ABC) meets the Georgia DNR requirement. As these young folks grow older the need for ABC will only increase. South Carolina DNR is also helping the squadrons publicize their ABC courses by listing available boating safety courses, schedules and locations on their website.

Let Me Know

If you have interest in any course, please let me know. My email address is [steve341p@bellsouth.net](mailto:steve341p@bellsouth.net) or call me at 803-522-0066.

*Steve Phillips SN*  
*SEO*

**SAVANNAH RIVER SAIL & POWER SQUADRON**  
**December 1, 2015 Bridge Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was held at Paulette's house on Park Ave. at 7 pm. - Commander Paulette Harris Holmes presiding.

Present: Paulette Harris Holmes, DeMetrica Allen, Butch Rachal, & Nettie Dumais.

**Minutes** of Nov 3, 2015 meeting were approved as published.

**Treasury Report:** The balance in the bank is \$4,444.67. A portion of this amount will go to SGAE (Student Ga Assn of Educators) as their proceeds of Scholarship Dance silent auction.

**SEO:** No report. Bridge discussed possibility of classes in 2016 and source of students.

**Assistant Commander:**

Co-op Charting results to be entered in computer.

**COMMANDER:**

Vessel Safety Checks have been done. Paulette has entered hers, and Butch will enter his.

Paulette gave Nettie some additional Harvest Ball donations to be deposited.

Final report will be available at a later date.

PDW Ed Leibfarth has emailed that, due to his health, he is unable to continue as Photographer or Vessel Safety Check chair.

Nettie to send request for Steve Phillips approval as SEO for 2016.

SRSPS Change of Watch is to be on Jan 8 at the Pinnacle Club.

**Other Business:**

Discussed D-26 COW in 2016. To have preliminary planning meeting Sunday, Dec 6 At Augustino

**Future meeting** dates/locations/programs. ("making arrangements")

Jan 8 - COW Pinnacle club (Nettie) no additional Jan meeting

Feb. 16 - Red Pepper, Aiken (Butch)

Mar. 15 - T's in Augusta (Paulette or DeMetrica)

Apr. 19 - Red Lobster or Casa Bella in Aiken (Butch)

May 17 - Snug in Augusta (Nettie)

Jul 19 (Aiken) Butch

Sep 20 - (D-26 Planning meeting for SRSPS)

Oct 7,8,9 - D-26 COW

Nov 15 - Annual Meeting (moved from October due to D-26 COW)  
(plan 2017 SRSP COW for January 2017)

Dec 6 or 1 - Christmas dinner

**Bridge meetings**, Jan 5, 2016, Feb 2, Mar 1, Mar 28 or Apr 12, May 3, June 7, July 5, Aug 2, Sept 6, Oct 4, Nov 1 and Dec 6 or 13 at Paulette's home on Park Ave.

Respectfully submitted,

Nettie Dumais,

Secretary

**Note from the Editor**

It has been a very choppy start this new year for the Binnacle, but we finally got it batted down! I know that you all have been awaiting this edition, and I hope that you'll enjoy it. I would like to encourage all of our readers to contact us and let us know what you would like to hear from our regular contributors. Or.... Maybe, you yourself have a tid-bit or two that you would like to submit which would enlighten the rest of us on some aspect of boating safety. Send it in! If it can help someone or other out of a tight spot on the water, I'm sure the rest of us would like to know. And don't forget to send in your boating & boating-safety photos. Just remember that all submissions are to be in digital format.

Don't forget to include the website address, [usps.org/localusps/savannahriver/](http://usps.org/localusps/savannahriver/) on your flyers and brochures. It can be a powerful recruiting tool. As always, I am on the lookout for any and all interesting and relevant articles from our members.

**SAVANNAH RIVER SAIL & POWER SQUADRON****January 5, 2016 Bridge Meeting Minutes**

Meeting held at Paulette's house on Park Ave. 7 pm. Commander Paulette Harris Holmes presiding.

Present: Paulette Harris, DeMetric Allen, Steve Phillips, Butch Rachal, Steve Ruby & Nettie Dumais.

**Minutes** of Dec 1, 2015 meeting were approved as published.

**Treasury Report:** Balance in bank is \$4,573.37.

**SEO:** Seamanship class is not scheduled for January. Paulette said that some of the Augusta Sail Club members are still interested in taking some of our courses. Steve is working with Barry Sroka, who is trying to get certification from the American Sail Assn. He said they are not using an up-to-date Celestial Navigation Course.

**Assistant Commander:**

Co-op Charting results have been entered. Vessel Safety Check results have been entered.

Paulette said that National sent the new VSC decals to the wrong persons so they have been resent.

**COMMANDER:**

SRSPS Change of Watch will be held at The Pinnacle Club on Friday, January 8, 2016. Arrive between 6:30 and 7:00. We will be on the 17<sup>th</sup> floor. Bill O'Neill, D-26 DEO will be installing the new Bridge and bringing the Commander's message.

Nettie to send request for Steve Phillips approval as SEO for 2016.

SRSPS Change of Watch to be Jan 8 at Pinnacle Club.

**Other Business:**

Discussed D-26 COW in 2016. Nettie and Paulette said Partridge Inn had been redone and, especially, the penthouse suite would fit our needs wonderfully.

**Future meeting** dates/locations/programs. ("making arrangements")

January 8, COW Pinnacle club (Nettie) no additional Jan meeting

Feb. 16, Casa Bella, 120 Chesterfield SE in Aiken (Butch)

Mar. 15, T's in Augusta (Paulette or DeMetric) Sam & Janet Hardy "Cruise in Europe"

Apr. 19, Wilcox Inn in Aiken (Butch) - (social meeting --no program, j

May 17, Snug in Augusta (Nettie)

July 19 (Aiken) Butch

Sept 20 (D-26 Planning meeting for SRSPS)

Oct 7,8,9—D-26 COW

Nov 15, Annual Meeting (moved from October due to D-26 COW)

(plan 2017 SRSPS COW for January 2017)

Dec 6 or 13 Christmas dinner

**Bridge meetings**, Feb 2, Mar 1, Mar 28 or Apr 12, May 3, June 7, July 5, Aug 2, Sept 6, Oct 4, Nov 1 and Dec 6 or 13 at Paulette's home on Park Ave.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nettie Dumais,  
Secretary



### Calling All District 26 Members

Just like spring the D26 Conference is fast approaching and **NO W** is the time to register! The Hilton Head Sail And Power Squadron is proud to host this years' meeting at the and Omni Hilton Head Ocean front Resort on March 4-6, 2016 and we can't wait to show you around!

The conference promises to be both informative and fun. The business agenda is packed with seminars, council meetings and more. Friday night's dinner will feature an Italian buffet with music by the Hilton Head Plantation Big Band. For guests not attending Saturday's meetings, we have scheduled a narrated dolphin boat tour with Capt. Sonny Compher. Saturday night's dinner offers your choice of either Citrus Chicken or Grouper and as always, throughout the weekend our Silent Auction will feature a variety of enticingly beautiful items that are sure to please any boater or coastal enthusiast.

### [Interactive Registration Form](#)



### [CLICK FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS](#)

A limited block of rooms is available at a discounted rate. Room rates range from \$129 to \$169 per night plus taxes and fees.

Or, call the Omni Oceanfront Resort at 1-800-843-6664 and use booking code 030116HHSAILPOW.

If you're boating to the conference, we want to hear from you as soon as possible!! Contact Smitty [halhal-ler@aol.com](mailto:halhal-ler@aol.com) Haller at or Barry Moore [wbm2877@gmail.com](mailto:wbm2877@gmail.com) at for more information on dockage at Shelter Cove Marina.







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Contact R/C Greg Scotten, SN [gscotten@comcast.net](mailto:gscotten@comcast.net)

### **PETS ABOARD?**

We certainly love our pets. They are everywhere: the parks, the stores, on our walking paths and much is written about pets in all the newspapers. Our dog, JoJo, enjoys being on the boat and often goes with us. But there are safety considerations when boating with pets.

Unless below deck in a cabin, cats and dogs should be fitted with life vests. It is best if you take your pet to the store for a fitting. Make sure the vest is buoyant enough to handle your pet's weight and that device buckles, support straps, the thickness of the floatation material don't make it difficult for your pet to move about or lie down comfortably.

Never boated with your pet? I suggest starting slowly with short trips on calm days, building to longer days. Some pets are prone to motion sickness. Check with your veterinarian before administering medicines. To avoid heat issues, keep plenty of fresh water and provide a shaded area. Non slip rugs in areas most traveled, will reduce the risk of your pet sliding off of the boat.

Cats generally get plenty of exercise by roaming above and below deck. Dogs, however, tend to be more sedentary. Be sure to allow your dog plenty of activity before or after a day aboard. If your pet/dog has never been in water, give him a chance to touch it, to understand the properties. Calm water can look very much like a shiny floor.

Potty-training on board might be challenging, but there are several options. A piece of carpet that has been rubbed on the grass where the dog has urinated will often work. Hosing the carpet down is an easy clean up and will not destroy the scent, to your dog. Some boaters simply stop at a marina or dock and walk the dog periodically. If you are planning on staying overnight at a marina, be aware that some do not allow pets. It is a good idea to have pet updated vaccine records with you. Keep your pet on a leash and remain very diligent as to its whereabouts, whether on the water or at the dock.

Many tragic accidents have occurred at docks. Pets can slip off the boat, while you are busy with other tasks. Walkways at docks are often wet and slippery. If you are planning on extended time boating, an over-board pet drill is a very good idea.

Our pets make our lives much richer, in many ways. Taking the time and making the investment to secure their safety will prevent the guilt and heartbreak associated with pet accidents aboard. To learn more about confident and safe boating, contact your local unit of the United States Power Squadrons

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or their national website at [www.USPS.org](http://www.USPS.org).

Its members always send the invitation: **“Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends.”**

We welcome suggestions you may have for future topics.  
Be safe boaters!

Leigh Ann Long  
Mark Long  
Staff Writers  
Public Relations Committee  
United States Power Squadrons

XXXXXXX

SAVANNAH RIVER SAIL & POWER SQUADRON  
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## ***COMING EVENTS ~ DON'T MISS 'EM***

### **WHEN**

### **WHAT**

### **WHERE**

#### **January 2016**

FRI 8 1830-2030

Change of Watch

**Pinnacle Club, Augusta**

#### **February 2016**

TUE 16 1830-2030

**“Cruise in Europe”  
Sam & Jant Hardy**

**Casa Bella**

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