



The Piedmont Binnacle

Savannah River Sail and Power Squadron

A Unit of District 26

Official Publication

Serving The Central Savannah River Area



MAY - JUNE 2016 Vol. LX, No. 3
Published Bi-Monthly beginning January
Website: usps.org/savannahriver



Looking out from the deck of the *Aisling* during Butch and Lynne Rachal's "Great Loop" trip

Members & Guest Meeting Information

Date: Tuesday, 17 May 2016

Time: 1830-2030

Where: Wilcox Inn, Aiken

Program: Social Meeting
P/C Butch Rachal

Date: Saturdays, May 21 & 28

Time: 1000 - 1400

Where: Broad St. Fire Station, Augusta

Program: America's Boating Course (ABC)




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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 place Oct., 7 and 8 on your calendars. The district 26 folks will all be coming to Augusta for the District 26 Change of Watch. We need the help of all our members and friends. Please contact me to help.

The SEO, Steve Phillips, SN, will offer the basic boating course on Saturday, May 21 and 28. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join the course.

Have you been to our wonderful dinner meetings lately? Please join us in Aiken at the Wilcox Inn on Tuesday, May 17 at 7:00 p.m.

We miss you! Please join our activities.

Cdr Paulette Harris-Holmes, SN

Savannah River S&PS Commander
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EDITORIAL DEADLINE

Deadline for articles, photos, and reports for the
July-August 2016 edition of *The Piedmont Binnacle*:
Saturday, 14 May, 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

The boating season has begun!

National Safe Boating Week is 21 – 27 May. The Savannah River Sail and Power Squadron is committed to educating the CSRA about boating safety. As members, we should recruit students for the ABC courses and encourage boat owners to get free vessel safety checks.

U.S. Coast Guard statistics show that drowning was the reported cause of death in approximately 68% of recreational boating fatalities in 2014, and that approximately 84 % of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets.

To help promote life jacket awareness, Savannah River Sail and Power Squadron members may want to participate in the National Safe Boating Council’s annual “Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day” event. The Day will take place prior to National Safe Boating Week on Friday, 20 May.

For more information about the North American Safe Boating Campaign, go to www.SafeBoatingCampaign.com .

Have fun and be safe while boating!

“Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends”

P/C DeMetrice Allen, AP

Educational Officer

4 H₂O – Another Boating Education Opportunity

The Lake Murray Association, in cooperation with the Clemson Extension Agency and the 4H Club, provide a one week summer camp for kids 11-14 years old. The program is called 4H₂O. The kids meet at the Lake Murray Park next to the Lake Murray dam for one week of education on water safety, science, and conservation which includes two days on the water.

Three pontoon boats are provided by Lake Murray Association members and carry the kids to several on-the-water locations. At the first stop, the Lexington County Sheriff's Department demonstrates a fire boat which includes a 750 gpm water cannon. The kids get to control the fire nozzle from a fine fog to a direct stream. Usually someone gets sprayed — which increases the fun. At the same stop, Sea Tow shows how they safely tow boats, and describes several rescue situations - including diving for a boat sunk by accident. The Coast Guard Auxiliary provides a good demonstration of boating safety and life jackets.

Another stop is a tour of the West Columbia water Treatment Plant that processes 24 million gallons/day of Lake Murray water made safe for drinking. It includes a tour of their laboratory where samples are analyzed to ensure each step in the purification process is operating as designed.

At several location along the route, we stop to take lake water samples and measure pH, temperature, and dissolved oxygen. One sample at each location is cultured to see what bacteria are present. Microscopic examination of the samples occurs later in the week.

The most popular stop is Sandy Beach, where the kids enjoy lunch and the most popular part of the day - swimming. In addition, the South Carolina DNR demonstrates their fish shocker boat, which allows them to determine the health of fish in the area. They tell the kids that alligators do not respond well to shocking. The kids get to see local fish that have been collected in the cove we are stopped in, and they help in the release of the shocked fish.

Each kid gets an opportunity to pilot the pontoon boats under the direct supervision of the boat captain. Each of the boats receives a vessel safety check at the beginning of the day courtesy of the Lake Murray Power Squadron. This popular activity is sold out each year to kids in the Columbia/Irmo area. Your SEO has been a volunteer captain for the last five years.

America's Boating Course (ABC)

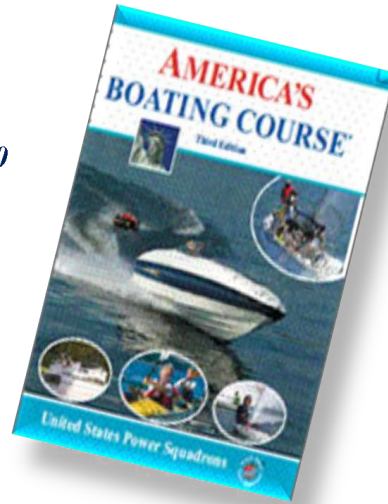
An ABC course will be offered at the Columbia Fire Station on Broad Street on Saturday, May 21 and Saturday, May 4 at 10:00am until 2:00pm each day. This is our best opportunity to recruit new members as well as provide a valuable public service. Georgia law requires that persons born in 1998 and later operating a boat must have taken a course approved by the Georgia DNR. ABC meets the requirements. Tell your friends and neighbors.

Steve Phillips, N



Savannah River Sail and Power Squadron's DNR Approved Safe Boating Course MAY 2016

- ❖ *All Types of Boating Including, Kayaks, Jet Skis, Personal Water Craft and Sail and Power Boats*
- ❖ *If you were born on or after January 1, 2000 you must have completed a boating education course to legally operate a boat in **Georgia***
- ❖ *In **South Carolina**, boat operators under age 16 must complete a boating course to operate a boat or personal watercraft*
- ❖ *Reduce Most Boat Insurance Premiums*



2 SESSION COURSE

Dates: *Saturday, May 21st & Saturday, May 28th*

Times: *10:00 AM – 2:00 PM*

Cost: *\$25.00 per person
(\$29.00 with 2nd person if sharing a book)*

Location: *Fire Station #1 Classroom
1 Broad Street- Augusta, GA 30901*

Register Now!

CONTACT

**Steve Phillips
803-522-0066**



SAVANNAH RIVER SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON
<http://www.usps.org/localusps/savannahriver/>

Note from the Editor

We are now in the full swing of Spring, and with it, the unpredictable weather patterns. so this issue's article from the National Marketing/PR committee is: "*Fog*". Next issue: "*Co-Op Charting - National*". Don't forget to include the website address, [usps.org/localusps/savannahriver/](http://www.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.

I am STILL out of boating safety articles to adapt from past issues. I would be interested in obtaining more. Please feel free to send me any other ideas that you have.

SAVANNAH RIVER SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

April 19, 2016 Bridge Meeting Minutes

Meeting held at The Snug on Davis Rd, Augusta at 7 pm. Commander Paulette Harris presiding.

Present: Paulette Harris, Steve Phillips, Butch and Lynne Rachal, DeMetrice Allen & Nettie Dumais and guests.

Introductions of guests.

Minutes of March 1, 2016 meeting were approved as published.**Treasury Report:** Balance in bank is \$3,933.**SEO:**

ABC course is scheduled for Saturday May 28 and Saturday June 4 from 10 to 2 at the Broad Street fire station. Steve said so far 5 people are interested. He said that Georgia law states that anyone born after 1998 must pass an approved course by DNR. Our ABC course qualifies. He said that in Florida anyone who operates a boat must have a similar course. Cost for the course will be \$25 DeMetrice will enter any participants who pass on the USPS National list.

Assistant Commander: Steve Philips and Butch Rachal did coop charting at Lake Thurmond on Sunday March 20. They have sent their report to The Corp and will enter the information on USPS site. Cdr Paulette thanked Steve and Butch for their efforts. Butch said he had received 10 Vessel Safety Check decals.

COMMANDER: Butch and Lynne attended the D-26 Spring conference at Hilton Head March 4,5. Paulette was unable to attend but Butch did a power point presentation on Partridge Inn and plans for D-26 COW in Augusta on Oct 7,8,9 2016..

Other Business:

Discussed D-26 COW in 2016. Butch brought some handout copies. Bridge discussed projected numbers, costs of hosting the COW, ideas for Spouse/Guest activity and need for items for Silent Auction.

Trolley will pick up those registered at the hotel, do a historical tour of Augusta, approx. 1 ½ hr

Then visit the Woodrow Wilson House, have lunch at The Lamar House and return to Hotel early afternoon. Suggestion made to contact Hildebrandts to cater lunch. (sandwich, potato salad, cookies or desert, drinks) Since we had to change location of April meeting to The Snug, the May 17 dinner meeting's at The Wilcox in Aiken

Next Bridge meeting to be May 3 at Paulette's on Park Ave. 7:30.

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

May 17, The Wilcox Inn, Aiken (Butch)

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, 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

Lt./C. Nettie Dumais, Secretary, AS

Published by the Marketing/ PR Committee
 United States Power Squadrons®
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LET'S CLEAR THE AIR



You wake up early to enjoy a long day on the water, hoping to be the first to your favorite fishing spot. Unfortunately, looking out the window all you see is a low flying cloud: “Pea soup.” Fog, is threatening your plans. Commonsense dictates that you delay your day until the fog lifts and you can safely navigate. How long will that take? The answer depends upon the type of fog. Is it radiation, advection, steam, or precipitation fog? To disrupt the conditions causing the fog, the weather must change. This occurs when the atmosphere heats, the wind speed or direction changes, or the rain ceases. Just sit tight and have another cup of coffee. Now let's focus on what to do if you are already on the water. In certain parts of the country advection fog can last for days but most times we see radiation fog which burns off from the sun or a slight increase in wind speed. We can, however, experience other types of fog such as precipitation fog which can roll in very quickly.

When fog occurs, there are a few rules with which you need to become familiar. Federal regulations dictate that: “Every vessel shall, at all times, maintain a proper lookout by sight and hearing as well as by all available means appropriate...” Basically this means that if you're in a collision and do not have a lookout, you can be cited.

It is worth mentioning that in over half of all marine accident hearings, both vessels in a collision have been charged with failure to maintain an effective lookout. If you are alone and fog is coming in and visibility is quickly diminishing, what now? Adjusting to a safe speed is crucial. In this situation, a “safe speed” is one at which you have the ability to stop your vessel within half the range of visibility. If you can see fifty yards, you must be able to stop within twenty five yards.

There are also regulations regarding sound. If you are underway you must blast your horn one long blast (4-6 seconds) every two minutes. If you are stopped, but not anchored, you must blast your horn two long blasts, repeating every two minutes. Whether anchored or underway, make yourself heard, listen for other boats, and pay very close attention to your surroundings.

If you want to learn more about fog or all things marine weather related, come take the United States Power Squadrons' Weather Course. We can't control the weather, but we can be prepared for the ever changing conditions.

To learn confident and safe boating contact your local unit of the United States Power Squadrons or the national website at www.USPS.org.

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

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

USPS Comm Com: News From National

The website for this year's Governing Board Meeting in Pittsburgh in August is now available. It can be accessed on the National Website from the Member Home page by clicking on Events and Activities then Calendar.

The conference hotel is the Sheraton at Station Square which is adjacent to over 30 shops and restaurants and a few minutes walk from the Station Square Dock of the Gateway Clipper Fleet.

It is recommended to make hotel reservations early as the rooms do fill up quickly. Also listed are daily tours that run from Tuesday 23 August to Friday 26 August. Most events and meal options are discounted until 13 July 2016.

Keep an eye out for the meeting agenda which is not posted as yet. Because of increasing meeting costs, there is now a minimal registration fee of \$35.00 to attend the meetings during the week. However, there is no fee if a member is only attending the formal meeting on Saturday 27 August.

Regards,

R/C Kathleen Lambert

SAVANNAH RIVER SAIL & POWER SQUADRON
Michael Rosenberg, EDITOR
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Check us out on the web:
usps.org/localusps/savannahriver



COMING EVENTS ~ DON'T MISS 'EM

WHEN

WHAT

WHERE

May 2016

TUE 17 1830-2030

Social Meeting
P/C Butch Rachal, SN

Wilcox Inn, Aiken

SAT 21 1000-1400

ABC Course

Broad ST. Fire Station, Augusta

SAT 21 100—1400

ABC Course

Broad ST. Fire Station, Augusta

June 2015

TUE 07 1830-2030

Bridge Meeting

Cmdr. Paulette's home

Inside This Issue

Page 3 — Cdr. Paulette Harris-Holmes Message
Page 4 — Assistant Commander Report
Page 5 — SEO Report
Page 6 — ABC Info Flyer

Page 6 — Note from the Editor
Page 7 — April 2016 Bridge Meeting Minutes
Page 8 — "Fog"
Page 9 — News From National