

SOUTH CAROLINA

**THE
PIEDMONT BINNACLE**

Official Publication
SAVANNAH RIVER SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON
A Unit of District 26
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

SERVING THE CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA

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Members & Guest Meeting Information

Date: Saturday, 7 November 2015
Time: 1830-2030
Where: Julian Smith Casino, Lake Olmstea
Program: Harvest Ball

Date: Tuesday, 8 December 2015
Time: 1830-2030
Where: Pinnacle Club
Program: Christmas Dinner Meeting




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in do not necessarily reflect USPS policy or
endorsement unless so designated.*



Message from the Commander

At our annual meeting on Tuesday, October 20,2015, the following officers were approved for our SRSPS Bridge for 2016:

- ◆ **Commander: Paulette P. Harris-Holmes, SN**
- ◆ **Assistant Commander: DeMetris Allen, AP**
- ◆ **SEO: Stephen Phillips, SN**
- ◆ **Assistant SEO: Bernie Pohlman, SN**

In the Fall of 2016, SRSPS will host the D26 Fall conference and COW at the Marriot On The River. Please help us prepare for this.

We shall hold our annual SRSPS Scholarship Dance at the Harvest Ball on November 7, 2015 (Saturday). Dinner will be catered by Sconyers Restaurant. We'll have a live band and silent auction. Our scholarships will be given to students that evening. Tickets are only \$20 if you reserve them NOW. Call 706-737-8113 to do so.

See you soon!

Cdr Paulette Harris-Holmes, SN

Savannah River S&PS Commander
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EDITORIAL DEADLINE

Deadline for articles, photos, and reports for the
January-February 2016 edition of *The Piedmont
Binnacle*: **Saturday, 19 December 2015.**

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

Over the past few years I've highlighted fall safe boating tips. Here they are again. The Savannah River Sail and Power Squadron continues to promote safe boating. The America's Boating Course and free vessel safety checks are still being offered.

To transition into fall boating, here are five tips from the BoatUS Foundation:

- 1. Dress for the water, not the weather:** *The sun may be shining, but water temperatures are cooler. Always bring extra layers and rain gear this time of year. Fast moving storms can bring sudden temperature drops, and water temperatures are now getting closer to the zone where a simple fall overboard could be a big problem.*
- 2. Tell a friend:** *A float plan could be as simple as letting a family member know where you are going and what time you expect to return, or a more detailed written plan for longer trips, easily left on a windshield, or given to a friend. (Also, take the USPS Cruise Planning Course)*
- 3. Always check the weather:** *With today's technology, it's easy to keep an eye on it. (USPS has a great weather course)*
- 4. Always check the boat:** *Do a once-over inspection of the engine, communications and safety gear to ensure all are in good shape and ready to go. (Get a free USPS vessel check!)*
- 5. Leave the drinks for home:** *Beer, wine or distilled spirits all do the same thing – they quickly drain your body of heat bringing on hypothermia's deadly effects much sooner when compared to warmer months. Help yourself by avoiding alcohol while you're out on the water.*

For winterizing tips, go to: <http://www.boatus.com/seaworthy/winter/winterizing.pdf>

Happy safe fall boating!

P/C DeMetrice Allen, AP

Educational Officer

Recently I attended the Education Department Meeting at the District 26 Conference in Myrtle Beach. One of the interesting things I learned was that non-members can take advanced courses. My comment was that this will probably lead students to not join the Power Squadron. Others disagreed. They believe that students taking advanced courses will have more contact with us and therefore be inclined to join. This may be the case especially when they offer the one day Americas Boating Course.

I also had a chance to operate the boating simulator. The simulator is available from the South Carolina DHR. It is intended help students learn hands-on boat operation on dry land. It would be a good introduction to boating before taking on the water instruction.

Weather was great in Myrtle Beach. Next time I will bring my boat.

Squadron Education Information

Bernie Pohlmann, N

Farewell And Hello

My good friend, Sean Rachal, has finally gotten around to doing what he'd been threatening for some time, and has plotted a course toward different waters than our own. In doing so, he has handed the guiding of this particular vessel over to yours truly. Join me, if you would, in wishing him Fair Winds, and Following Seas! I can only hope that I will do as good a job (if not Better!) as Sean has done.

To reiterate what Sean has previously said, I will continue publishing articles from the marketing and public relations committee. We are always looking for quality and relevant information to include in each issue. Please let me know if there is anything you would like included. This is a boating education organization, and I think it would be very helpful if someone would send boating safety articles or subjects to be created to include. You may send any requests or comments to lgmichaelr7@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Michael Rosenberg
Editor, 2012-October 2015

Note from the Editor

Things have cooled down quite a bit recently especially with all the rain. Please remember to check with the weather resource links listed on our website before going out on the water! I am publishing articles from the National Marketing/PR committee. This issue features "*Fog*". Next issue: "*Fire*". Don't forget to include the website address, usps.org/localusps/savannahriver/ on your flyers and brochures. It can be a powerful recruiting tool. I am very interested in any and all interesting and relevant articles from our members.

As it happens, I ran out of boating safety articles to adapt from past issues. I would be interested in obtaining any pertaining to boating safety. Please feel free to send me any other ideas that you have.

23rd Annual

Harvest Ball

Dinner, Dance & Silent Auction

Saturday, November 7th, 2015

7:00 to 11:00pm

**Julian Smith Casino
on Lake Olmstead**

**Live music by Frank Sandy &
Company with the Marilyn Adcock Band
Ballroom, Shag/Line Dancing & Cash Bar**

Tickets: \$20 in advance & \$25 at the door

For advanced tickets call 706.737.8113



**Dance Proceeds benefit the scholarship funds of
the Savannah River Sail and Power Squadron**

Nov 1 is National Family Literacy Day. Silent auction benefits literacy.

PIX FROM “THE PATRIOT”

On 14 July, we took a dinner cruise on the Patriot on the Savannah River. Sandwiches, chips and drinks were provided. This time we had some children with us who delighted in asking questions of the captain, and even getting the chance to drive the boat. The weather was great, and the tour informative. Overall, a great time was had by all. Nettie was on the spot with her camera and has graciously shared the pix with the rest of us. Thanks Nettie!

Sean Rachal





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®

SAVANNAH RIVER SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

October 6, 2015 Bridge Meeting Minutes

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

Present: Paulette Harris Holmes, Bernie Pohlmann, DeMetric Allen, Butch Rachal & Nettie Dumais.

Minutes of Sept 1 2015 meeting were approved as published.

Treasury Report: Balance in bank is \$4,155.12.

SEO: Butch will call those who took ABC to see if interested in Seamanship. If anyone is interested can begin within a week or so. To be held at Literacy Center

Assistant Commander:

Butch Rachal and Steve Phillips did co op charting at Lake Thurmond in September. They found that Corps of Engineers had done nothing about the missing buoys since last Spring. Those missing then are still missing now. Butch has sent the information to the Corps.

COMMANDER:

Bernie Pohlmann attended D-26 Fall Conference. Andy Hyman was elected to serve another term as D-26 Commander.

Paulette did receive 5 additional VSC decals. Butch has done 10 inspections. Still need additional VSC checkers. Until Ed is back on his feet and able to do inspections, only Paulette and Butch are certified.

Butch will be doing Merit Marks and asked everyone to get their information to him. He needs before Nov 1. District 26 has approved our Change of Watch date from Nov 13 2015 to January 8 2016. We will hold it at The Pinnacle Club.

Since Savannah River is hosting the 2016 D-26 COW Paulette had prepared a power point presentation of our tentative plans for Bernie to present at the D-26 COW in Myrtle Beach.

Other Business:

Nov 7 – Harvest Scholarship Ball at Julian Smith Casino. On Saturday, Nov 7 at Julian Smith Casino.

Tickets will be printed and mailed out to prior attendees and supporters. Paulette will be reviewing the scholarship applicants.

Sconyers will be providing the bar-b- cue and accompanying sides at a very reasonable price. We will provide the servers. We will also have red velvet cake, spice cake and pound cake for dessert

Discussed D-26 COW in 2016 and at the Dec Bridge meeting we will set up a schedule of regular planning meetings for the 2016 D-26 COW.

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

October 20 Annual Meeting / The Garlic Clove Butch to discuss their trip to Italy.

December 8 Christmas Dinner at Pinnacle Club.(Nettie)

Bridge meetings, Nov 3, Dec 1 at Paulette's home on Park Ave.

Respectfully submitted,
Nettie Dumais, Secretary

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COMING EVENTS ~ DON'T MISS 'EM

WHEN

WHAT

WHERE

November 2015

SAT 7 1830-2030

Harvest Ball

Julian Smith Casino, Lake Olmstead

December 2015

TUE 8 1830-2030

Christmas Dinner Meeting

Pinnacle Club

January 2016

FRI 8, 2016

Change Of Watch

Pinnacle club

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