



# Bow Lights



Raleigh Sail and Power Squadron – Newsletter  
District 27 A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®

June 2007  
Volume 4, Edition 4

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## Index:

From the Bridge	1
ET CETERA	2
Education Page	3
Membership	5
Meetings Page	6
Boating Activities	7
D27 and USPS	10

## From the Bridge, by Cdr Dave Simons, AP

The month of June will be an interesting month. We have RSPS events and District 27 events planned, as well as looking ahead to major events just a short distance down the road. The one fact which should be more and more obvious to our newer members is that there is no such thing as a "quiet" month with the Raleigh Sail & Power Squadron!

The second weekend in the month we will have our first lake event of the year with the cruise and camp-out at Kerr Lake. I am not a camper, but I plan to be there for much of the weekend and I hope to see many of our RSPS members there also. Be sure to contact Luis Lopez so that he knows who is coming and who will have space for additional crew. Then we have our own P/C Ralph Daniels leading the District 27 cruise leading up to the D27 Rendezvous in New Bern over the weekend of June 22-24. I had planned to go by water with my own boat, but the Sheraton Hotel Marina has an overwhelming waiting list for slips. So if you were smart enough to get a reservation early, you are among the lucky few! But I still plan to be there. But I am sure that Ralph will be happy to have anyone who wants to join the parade be part of the D27 cruise.

We have just completed a Boat Smart class and have a good number of new members whom we should get to know. If you are a member of long-standing (defined as more than one year), make it a point to introduce yourself to someone you don't recognize. The current membership is close to being, if not exceeding, the highest number of members our RSPS has ever had! This is great! I want to say "Welcome Aboard" and "Glad to Have You With Us" to all of those new members. We have a wide variety of activities to offer and positions where you can put your talents to work. Just ask any Bridge member and we will get you in touch with the right person to help you get involved. USPS, in general, and RSPS, in particular, offer a wide variety of classes, meetings, cruises and other opportunities such that it is almost impossible for anyone not to find something which interests him/her.

I also want to make you aware that USPS is about to undergo a major restructuring in order to be able to operate more effectively and with less bureaucracy. You will be seeing more about this since it will be a major subject at the USPS National Governing Board meeting in Norfolk in September. This will be addressed as a major revision to the USPS Bylaws. For this reason, as well as other local situations which must be addressed, we must also do a thorough review of our own RSPS Bylaws.

PS – Be sure to mark July 22 on your calendar so you can be there for the Commander's Picnic!





# Education

**Education Officer:** Lt/C Wilbur Chapman, JN, (919) 848-9182 or email: [chapmanw@bellsouth.net](mailto:chapmanw@bellsouth.net)  
**Assistant Education Officer:** 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. George Malindzak, JN, (919) 870-1834 or email: [polaris6@bellsouth.net](mailto:polaris6@bellsouth.net)  
**Chairman Local Boards:** Lt. Gary Zeller, (919) 341-4402 or email: [gwzeller@earthlink.net](mailto:gwzeller@earthlink.net)

## **Advanced Grade Classes:**

See web for latest update: <http://www.rsps.org>

### **Seamanship (S)**

Date: Fall 2007  
 Location: TBD  
 Instructor: TBD  
 Contact: George Malindzak  
 Email: [polaris6@bellsouth.net](mailto:polaris6@bellsouth.net)

### **Piloting (P)**

Date: Fall 2007  
 Location: TBD  
 Instructor: Lynn Dail  
 Email: [dail.lynn@epa.gov](mailto:dail.lynn@epa.gov)

### **Advanced Piloting (AP)**

Date: Winter 2008  
 Location: TBD  
 Instructor: George Malindzak, (919) 870-1834  
 Email: [polaris6@bellsouth.net](mailto:polaris6@bellsouth.net)

### **Junior Navigation (JN)**

Date: Fall 2007  
 Location: Suite 201 of Venture III on Centennial Campus  
 Instructor: John McLendon, (919) 829-6313  
 Email: [postmasters@bellsouth.net](mailto:postmasters@bellsouth.net)

### **Junior Navigation (JN) Workshop**

Date: In progress – Monday Nights  
 Location: Suite 201 of Venture III on Centennial Campus  
 Instructor: Ralph Daniels at  
[ralph.daniels@spirent.com](mailto:ralph.daniels@spirent.com)

### **Navigation (N)**

Date: Fall 2007  
 Location: TBD  
 Instructor: Ed Deyo (919) 467-6691,  
[edeyo1@nc.rr.com](mailto:edeyo1@nc.rr.com)

## **Bow Lights Editor's Note:**

The Bow Lights is published 11 months a year by the Raleigh Sail and Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons. Reader comments, suggestions and articles of interest to the Squadron members are welcomed. Articles in the Bow Lights reflect the opinions of the authors. The United States Power Squadrons is not responsible for editorial comment.

## **Elective Grade Classes:**

See web for latest update: <http://www.rsps.org>  
*Interested in a class? Call the instructor and let him know you want to sign up.*

### **Engine Maintenance**

Date: January 2008  
 Location: TBD  
 Instructor: Glenn Faurot (919) 233-9853  
 Email: [glennfaurot@hotmail.com](mailto:glennfaurot@hotmail.com)

### **Weather**

Date: September 2007  
 Instructor: Tom Taylor (919) 266-1860  
 Email: [tomt@ncleg.net](mailto:tomt@ncleg.net)

### **Cruise Planning**

Date: January 2008  
 Time: 7:00pm  
 Location: TBD  
 Instructor: Bob Belvin (919) 846 2846  
 Email: [bobbel22@aol.com](mailto:bobbel22@aol.com).

### **Sail**

Date: September 10, 2007  
 Time: Mondays at 7:00pm  
 Location: 2008 Sterling Silver Dr. Apex  
 Instructor: Michael Dykstra (919) 387-8483  
 Email: [Michael\\_dykstra@ncsu.edu](mailto:Michael_dykstra@ncsu.edu)

### **Marine Electronics**

Date: September 5, 2007  
 Time: Wednesdays at 7:00pm  
 Location: Millbrook Masonic Lodge, 2400 New Hope Church Rd, Raleigh  
 Instructor: Burt Pearson (919) 496-2865  
 Email: [pearson@touchnc.net](mailto:pearson@touchnc.net)

### **Instructor Development**

Date: June, 2007  
 Location: Call Larry  
 Instructor: Larry Stockett (919) 788-0300  
 Email: [stockett@worldnet.att.net](mailto:stockett@worldnet.att.net)

### **USCG Captain's License Workshop**

Date: Summer, 2007  
 If interested contact:  
 Stefan Ufer 919 247-7696, [sufer@email.unc.edu](mailto:sufer@email.unc.edu)  
 George Malindzak 919 870-1834, [polaris6@bellsouth.net](mailto:polaris6@bellsouth.net)

# Education

## **SEO Update, by Lt/C Wilbur Chapman, JN**

**Don't have time for a long class? Try a 2 hour USPS Seminar.**

- June 11, Monday – **"Using VHF & VHF/DSC Marine Radio"**
- June 13, Wednesday – **"Using GPS"**
- June 19, Tuesday - **"How to Use a Chart"**
- June 26, Tuesday - **"On Board Weather Forecasting"**

**Time:** 7:00 pm

**For USPS Members** the cost is \$25. For non members it is \$35.

**Location:** Knights of Columbus, 4301 Columbus Club Dr, Raleigh.

**Register online:** Go to <http://www.rsps.org> then select the Education page and you will see the seminars down the left hand side.

**Invite a friend!**

**Put that education to good use.**

Interested in helping to teach Seamanship? We are looking for instructors for that and other courses. You would not have to teach the whole course but could co-teach with an experienced instructor or get your feet wet by teaching just one session. We have plenty of openings. Contact Wilbur Chapman at [chapmanw@bellsouth.net](mailto:chapmanw@bellsouth.net) or 919-418-0764 or George Malindzak at [polaris6@bellsouth.net](mailto:polaris6@bellsouth.net)

***Take a course, Teach a course, call me!***

## **Nautical Trivia by P/C Tom Taylor, AP**

**Below are the answers to the trivia questions in the May Bow Lights:**

1. **What is a "bumpkin"?** An iron bar (projecting out-board from a ship's side) to which the lower and topsail brace blocks are sometimes hooked.
2. **What does "piping the side" mean?** A salute on the bos'n's (boatswain's) pipe performed in the company of the deck watch on the starboard side of the quarterdeck or at the head of the gangway, to welcome or bid farewell to the ship's Captain, senior officers and honored visitors.
3. **What is a "kelson"?** The timber immediately above the keel of a wooden ship.

**Below are a few more questions for you to ponder:**

1. What does "weather gage" mean?
2. What is the "orlop deck"?
3. What is the "mizzenmast"?

# Membership

## New Member Party By Lt/C Burt Pearson, AP

The home of Sue and Paul Schmidt was the scene for the most recent New Member party. The space was gracious and allowed the attendees to wander outside to enjoy the evening. Sixteen RSPS members assured that eighteen new members and guests were indulged with delicious hors d'oeuvres, beverages, and desserts. In between eating and drinking, there were a lot of information exchanges, informative, and mostly useful. The basic duties of each office in the Squadron were explained to help new members know what to expect, and who to contact if they need more information or if they wan to volunteer to help in some way.

We want to thank Jennifer Smith, New Member Chair, who incidentally has been a member just over one year, for keeping up with the new members and helping organize this function.

It was a good way for new members to get to know each other, and provided opportunities for the older members to get to know about the new members, and vice versa. Again, we are indebted to Sue and Paul for hosting this event and for Sue's activities coordinating the delicious food.




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# Meetings

**Administrative Officer: Lt/C Burt Pearson, AP - email: [pearson@touchnc.net](mailto:pearson@touchnc.net)  
Meetings and Programs – Lt. Glenn Faurot, P - email: [glennfaurot@hotmail.com](mailto:glennfaurot@hotmail.com)**

## June Membership Meeting

The June Membership Meeting will be held at the Knights of Columbus building near the corner of New Hope and New Bern in northeast Raleigh. Since the weather is getting quite warm, we will have a cooler, lighter meal catered by Sweet Tomatoes to make you feel cool on a hot summer night. The meal will consist of Tuna Salad Tarragon, Chicken Wonton Salad, 2 Cold Pasta Salads, Macaroni & Cheese, Baked Potatoes & Toppings, Assorted Muffins (Chocolate, Blueberry, Corn Bread), Chocolate Chip Cookies, Tea & Lemonade.

The speaker for the evening will be Beth Thomas, NC Division of Ferries. Since North Carolina has one of the larger ferry systems in the country, and we see them as we boat, it will be interesting to hear about this alternative to bridges.

**DATE:** Tuesday, June 5  
**TIME:** Social 1830, Meeting 1900  
**PROGRAM:** Beth Thomas, NC Ferry Division  
**LOCATION:** Knights of Columbus  
Raleigh, NC  
**MENU:** Cool Summer Special!  
**COST:** \$11.00 per person,  
children under 12 free  
**UNIFORM:** Team Casual

## Executive Committee Meetings:

The Executive Committee meetings are generally for bridge members and committee chairs, but all are welcome. The meetings will normally be the Monday before the membership meeting. Please try to call Carolyn Simons' ahead so proper refreshments can be ordered.

**Location:** Dave and Carolyn Simons' House  
2117 Cowper Drive, Raleigh, NC  
**Time:** 7:00pm  
**Dates:** Jun 4<sup>th</sup>, Jul 9<sup>th</sup>, Aug 6<sup>th</sup>  
**Directions:** I-440 to Wade; Exit toward downtown; Left on Oberlin Road; Right on Fairview at next light; Left on Cowper; 5<sup>th</sup> House on Left.

## July Membership Meeting

The July Membership Meeting will be held at the Knights of Columbus building near the corner of New Hope and New Bern in northeast Raleigh. The speakers will be Raleigh Sail & Power Squadron's own George and Marianne Malindzak, who will provide us with details, highlights, and adventures from their Great Loop Trip. You don't know what the Great Loop is? Well, come to the meeting to hear of this once in a life time adventure.

Since George and Marianne probably had to endure a lot of eating out during their adventure, we want them to share all of the local dishes that make RSPS cooks famous. We will have a covered dish dinner. Each person is requested to bring their specialty. If we have 50 desserts and nothing else, we will survive. Hopefully, there will be a variety of specialty dishes. Beverages and one meat, either sliced ham or turkey, will be provided.

***Please note that we will be starting this meeting earlier than usual to give George and Marianne plenty of time to talk. So try to arrive a few minutes early, and place your food right away. We will keep the rest of the meeting short.***

**DATE:** Tuesday, July 10  
**TIME:** Social 1830, Meeting 1845  
**PROGRAM:** George and Marianne Malindzak's Great Loop Trip  
**LOCATION:** Knights of Columbus  
Raleigh, NC  
**MENU:** Covered Dish  
**COST:** \$6.00 per person,  
children under 12 free  
**UNIFORM:** Team Casual



**Gary Zeller, AP**  
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[gary@neptuneyachtsales.com](mailto:gary@neptuneyachtsales.com)

# Boating

**Administrative Officer:** Lt/C Burt Pearson, AP, Phone 919-870-2980, Email: [bill.dunlap@forbo.com](mailto:bill.dunlap@forbo.com)  
**Coastal Boating Activities:** Lt. Morgan Chapman, S, Phone 919-848-9182, Email: [chapmanw@bellsouth.net](mailto:chapmanw@bellsouth.net)  
**Lake Boating Activities:** Lt/C Luis Lopez, P, Phone 919-790-0903, Email: [lopezlf@yahoo.com](mailto:lopezlf@yahoo.com)

### Kerr Lake Cruise

Venue: Kerr Lake  
 Date: 08 Jun – 10 Jun  
 Coordinator: Luis Lopez  
 Phone: 919-790-0903  
 Email: [lopezlf@yahoo.com](mailto:lopezlf@yahoo.com)

### D27 Cruise

Venue: Ocracoke, New Bern, etc  
 Date: 18 Jun – 22 Jun  
 Coordinator: Ralph Daniels  
 Phone: 919-795-9374  
 Email: [ralph.daniels@spirentcom.com](mailto:ralph.daniels@spirentcom.com)

### Lake Gaston Cruise

Venue: Lake Gaston  
 Date: 14 July  
 Coordinator: Bill Dunlap  
 Phone: 919-870-2980  
 Email: [bill.dunlap@forbo.com](mailto:bill.dunlap@forbo.com)

### Long Summer Cruise

Venue: Jamestown, VA  
 Date: 28 July – 05 Aug  
 Coordinator: Bobby Glover  
 Phone: 919-557-3663  
 E-mail: [bglover@nc.rr.com](mailto:bglover@nc.rr.com)

## Lake Gaston Cruise By Lt/C William Dunlap III, AP

The weather is finally warming up, Memorial Day has passed, gas prices have gone through the roof; it must be summer and time for our Lake boating events. July 14 will see the RSPS lake boaters enjoying our next cruise at Lake Gaston. The current plan is to trailer our boats to the Eaton Ferry launch site (you will need to pay your launch fee in the restaurant). From there we will raft up in the second cove on the left after leaving Eaton Ferry, same spot as last year, for some swimming, eating, floating on rafts, and whatever else we can/want to do. When the decision is made to break up the raft up, we will then proceed across the lake to ice cream stand for some cool refreshments. We had a great time last year and want to do the same again. The event should not cost much in the way of gas other than trailering your boat to and from the launch site and then two short rides in the boat (to the raft up area and then for ice cream) unless you want to do some skiing or tubing. We look forward to seeing you on Lake Gaston.

### Jordan Lake Cruise

Venue: Jordan Lake (August Meeting)  
 Date: 04 Aug  
 Coordinator: Tom Taylor  
 Phone: 919-266-1860  
 E-mail: [TOMT@ncleg.net](mailto:TOMT@ncleg.net)

### All Boats Cruise

Venue: Pamlico Sound  
 Date: 24 Aug - 26 Aug  
 Coordinator: Bobby Glover  
 Phone: 919-557-3663  
 E-mail: [bglover@nc.rr.com](mailto:bglover@nc.rr.com)

### Southern Carolina

Venue: Somewhere South  
 Date: 13 Sep – 16 Sep  
 Coordinator: TBD  
 Phone: TBD  
 Email: TBD

### Big Sweep

Venue: falls Lake/Cape Lookout  
 Date: 06 Oct  
 Coordinator: TBD  
 Phone: TBD  
 Email: TBD

### Pirate Cruise

Venue: South River  
 Date: 03 Nov - 04 Nov  
 Coordinator: TBD  
 Phone: TBD  
 Email: TBD

## WATER FEST 2007 By Lt/C Bill Dunlap, AP

Waterfest, Wake County's annual water appreciation day for students, was quite a success. Tuesday, the first day of Waterfest, was cold and windy but that didn't keep the kids from coming out. Burt Pearson, Bobby Glover, and Ron Olson talked to many kids about wearing life jackets and to make sure they had the right size. Wednesday dawned and the wind and cool temperatures were still there albeit not as severe as Tuesday. Bobby Glover did yeoman's work coming out a second day to work with me to again talk to many kids about wearing life jackets and to make sure they had the right size. Thursday turned out to be the best weather day and hence the most kids came out. Dave Simons, Anne Bailey, and John Bryant spoke to over a 1,000 kids about the benefits of wearing a correctly sized life jacket. Thanks to everyone who helped out at this year's Waterfest. Everyone should take a few minutes out of their hustle and bustle to work at an event like this. As a first timer I was a little hesitant but after the first group of kids arrived and they saw the importance of wearing a life jacket, it made proud to be out there.



# Boating

## June Lake Cruise to Clarksville, Virginia By Lt/C Luis Lopez, P

The June Kerr Lake cruise is less than a ten days away. This year, the plan is (weather permitting) to camp out on June 8<sup>th</sup> and June 9<sup>th</sup> at the JC Cooper campground at Satterwhite Point. For those not into tent camping, there are many rental properties on Kerr Lake including 2 cabins at Satterwhite marina. On Saturday morning, the campers and non-campers will meet at a designated site at Satterwhite marina around 10:30 AM (6470 Satterwhite Point Rd. Henderson NC 27537 Phone (252) 430-1300). From there we will travel to Clarksville, Virginia. The trip is about 25 miles one way so we should be there in time for lunch. There are several restaurants within walking distance from the public docks. These include Subway (434) 374-2052, Cooper's Landing Inn & Traveler's Tavern (434) 374-2866 <http://www.cooperslandinginn.com/>, Gino's Italian Restaurant (434) 374-9600, Great Wall Restaurant (434) 374-9719, I'll Be Dipped & Diner (434) 374-2340, Main Street Grill (434) 374-5600, McDonald's (434) 374-0198, Pizza Pub (434) 374-2080, The Lamplighter Restaurant & Lounge (434) 374-0230, The Pink Giraffe (434) 374-4220, and the Mariposa Cafe (434) 374-4646.

If you are interested in participating on this cruise/and or camping event please let me know so that I can plan accordingly. If you are interested but do not have a lake boat, let me know and I will try to find you a ride. If you plan to go and have extra room on your boat, please let me know how much room and what expenses you expect passengers to split with you. I can be reached at (919) 790-0903 during the evenings or at [lopezlf@yahoo.com](mailto:lopezlf@yahoo.com).

## North Carolina's Move-over Law Now Extends to Boating

From N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission  
([http://www.ncwildlife.org/fs\\_index\\_05\\_boating.htm](http://www.ncwildlife.org/fs_index_05_boating.htm))

**RALEIGH, N.C. (May 1)** – A new “move-over” law for waterways is now in effect for boaters in North Carolina.

Boaters approaching within 100 feet of a law enforcement vessel displaying flashing blue lights must slow down to a no-wake speed and use caution in passing. In narrow channels, the distance becomes within 50 feet of a law enforcement vessel displaying a flashing blue light.

Violators are subject to fines up to \$250 and court costs.

“The immediate area where blue lights are displayed becomes a no wake zone during that time,” said Capt. Chris Huebner, boating safety coordinator for N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, which enforces laws and regulations for inland waterways. “All approaching vessels are required to reduce to idle speed so there is no appreciable wake and it’s advisable to maneuver away from or avoid the area, if possible. The law is designed to protect the safety of boaters, law enforcement officers and emergency responders.”

The safety measure for waterways is much like the state’s move-over law for highways, which requires motorists to move into a lane away from a law enforcement or emergency vehicle with flashing lights, if possible, and to reduce speed.

For more information on boating safety and regulations, click <http://www.ncwildlife.org> or call: (919) 707-0031.



# Boating

## New Bern Kick Off Cruise a BIG Success ! By Lt/C Bill Dunlap, AP

The cruise to New Bern started a little shaky on Friday, April 27 with choppy waves and high wind speeds. About half of the 39 participants and 5 of the boats (all power boats) showed up on Friday anyway. We all went to the Caribbean Luau at the Sheraton about 6pm and enjoyed the live music and socializing with all the RSPS members! Saturday was definitely a much better day with calm waters and calm winds and great sunshine! The great weather allowed the arrival of 2 sailboats and more friends. Many people went shopping in historic New Bern and several people toured Tryon Palace. Burt Pearson and Greg Taylor completed 6 Vessel Safety Checks. We had a pre-dinner get-together on Emory and Jo Howard's yacht, "The Josephine". Thanks to the Howard's for hosting our large crowd. Then 39 of us showed up at 7pm for dinner at Morgan's Restaurant. They graciously gave us the entire upstairs for our group. The food and the fellowship were unbeatable! It was a shame to bring the weekend to a close the next day but it was a beautiful day once again. Everyone had safe journeys and enjoyed the weekend. Thank you to all the participants who made our Kick Off Cruise a great success!!

Below is a partial list of boats and crew attending:

- Layla** Crew: Stefan Ufer, Marita Schlessler & Guest
- Sue Fin** Crew: Paul Schmidt & Tommy Dunn
- Sally's Ride** Crew: Jennifer & Tom Smith, & John
- The Josephine** Crew: Emory & Jo Howard, Jim Gaston
- On the Wings of the Wind** Crew: Wilbur & Morgan Chapman

## Vessel Safety Check Program by P/C Lloyd Moore, JN

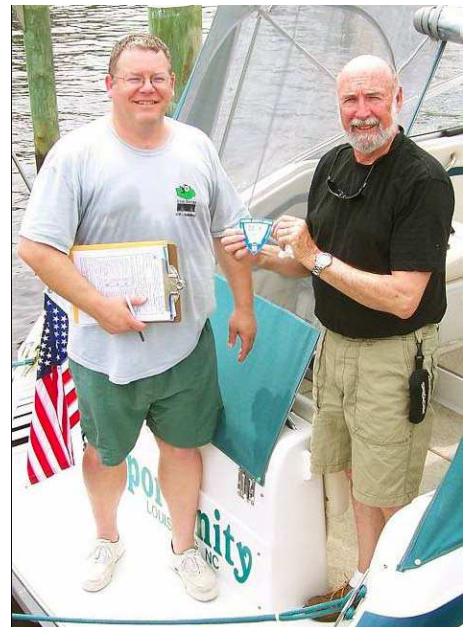
Being a Vessel Safety Examiner is a rewarding and interesting experience. It's great way to meet new boaters, and you perform a valuable service in the interests of boating safety.

A vessel safety check certifies that the vessel bearing the decal has been inspected and has been found to comply with all federal requirements. There are no penalties to the boat owner if one or more items do not comply. If the vessel is later boarded by the USCG, and deficiencies are found, the owner could be cited and fined.

It's easy to become certified as an examiner. All you have to do is go to the USPS' web site, [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org), and go to the Vessel Safety Check area. You can view the materials online or download and print it. Once you studied the requirements, you can take the qualifying exam online. After that, you will need to perform 5 vessel safety checks under the supervision of any VSE.

If you'd like to become a VSE, go to the USPS web site and study the information and take the exam. Contact Lt/C Stefan Ufer, AP to sign up for the next training session or to get more information.

Email: [sufer@email.unc.edu](mailto:sufer@email.unc.edu) or Phone: (919) 247-7696



## District and National

### **D/27 Rendezvous Time by P/Lt/C Dauna Gable, AP New River Sail and Power Squadron**

Tie a string around your finger. It will remind you to call the Sheraton New Bern Hotel and Marina at (252) 638-3585 or (800) 326-3745 to make your room or dockage reservation for the **22-24 June 2007 D/27 Rendezvous**. Ask for the D/27 block of rooms to get the special rate. New Bern is a neat waterfront town with lots of history and hospitality.

Start off Friday morning with a Hatteras Yachts Factory Tour. Wear flat shoes that cover your feet (no sandals or flip-flops). Friday afternoon hop on the guided Trolley Tour through historic New Bern with some fun stops including one at the birthplace of Pepsi. Friday evening D/27 will be hosting a cocktail party at Farmer's Market, which is just around the corner from the Sheraton. A Shrimp-a-roo will follow (shrimp, chicken and sausage with all the extras). Then, get ready for a karaoke contest with Ken Link as emcee. There is a rumor going around that D/27 Bridge has a *special* karaoke presentation! Bring your own music or choose from something that will be available.

Limit those sippies and get plenty of sleep so you will be at your best on Saturday for the games/competitions. There will be a boat-maneuvering contest to show off your skills!!! Get your teams ready for the beanbag nautical baseball game. It's lady friendly so hopefully there will be plenty of gals on your team. Do you need any cheerleaders? Let's give the Cape Fear Fog Horns some competition this year in the annual Conch Blowing Contest.

Saturday lunch will be at the Sheraton. Cdr Gordy has a fun luau scheduled for Saturday evening. Get out your best Hawaiian shirts and grass skirts (if you dare!) and get ready to party!

If you haven't been to a rendezvous make plans to be a "First Timer" in New Bern. If you always attend we will look forward to seeing you again. If you are driving or cruising now is the time to make your reservations for a fun weekend. Your commander has the reservation form and additional info.

If you have any questions call or email Sara Epperson at (910) 327-2989 ([whepper@charter.net](mailto:whepper@charter.net)) or Dauna Gable at (910) 327-1276 ([dgable@charter.net](mailto:dgable@charter.net)).

**New Bern, here we come!!!**

### **District 27 and National Calendar for 2007-2008**

Jun 22-24, 2007	D/27 Rendezvous	New Bern, NC
Sept 4-9, 2007	National Fall Governing Board	Norfolk, VA
Sept 21-23, 2007	D/27 Fall Council	Hickory, NC
Feb 19-24, 2008	National Annual Meeting & COW	Dallas, TX
Sept 2-7, 2008	National Fall Governing Board	Detroit, MI

## District and National

### **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN USPS AND D27 by Cdr Dave Simons, AP**

#### ***DATELINE: NEW BERN, NC***

Once upon a time in a galaxy far, far away; I was in junior high school. Today's equivalent is probably middle school. One of the required courses for a 7th-grader was Chorus. Every student had to audition. So I auditioned. The teacher asked me if what I sang was my best effort and I responded that it was. I was never asked to sing again. I once tried to sing in the shower at home and was told "shut up in there". Now comes the sad part. The District 27 Rendezvous in New Bern is now including karaoke. In my opinion, the perpetrators should be shot at sunrise; but we need to address the issue anyway. I am looking for one of our members with musical talent to stand up and represent RSPS. We will all be eternally grateful. Please contact me IMMEDIATELY!

District 27 has numerous activities designed to create interest and make for an exciting weekend event for everyone in the District at the annual District 27 Rendezvous. There is a great deal of information elsewhere in this edition of the Bow Lights about the Rendezvous. Our own Ralph Daniels is the Cruise Director for the D27 cruise leading up to the Rendezvous. As noted above in the dateline, this event is in New Bern and I KNOW that many of us know how to get there. I hope to see many of you there. I had planned to go by boat, but I have now determined that the end of the waiting list for dock space is not even visible.

USPS has had 3 national meetings per year for a long time. As part of each such meeting is the Governing Board. The Governing Board is primarily composed of the squadron commanders. This Governing Board is charged with making many financial and operational decisions concerning all of USPS. But we have now gone to a process of having only two such meetings per year, which leads to a problem of long time-gaps waiting for decisions. This problem is getting to be a bigger problem every day and the proposed change is to operate more like a corporation with a board of directors. The plan was to present an updated set of USPS Bylaws to be approved at the Annual Meeting in early 2008. But a careful review of the current bylaws determined that this plan would have delayed the actual implementation until 2009. This creates a dilemma and the solution is to present a proposal in advance of the up-coming Governing Board meeting in Norfolk in September. The net result is that what has usually been a relatively quiet USPS national meeting is going to be a BIG DEAL. The bylaws changes are far-reaching and need to be considered very carefully. You will be seeing and hearing more about this in the next couple of months. While I am on the subject, it is not every day that you have a USPS National Meeting right in your own backyard. This is a golden opportunity if you have ever had an interest in attending a USPS National Meeting. Please contact any member of your RSPS Bridge if you are interested.





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**Ocracoke Lighthouse**

Photo By: Wilbur and Morgan Chapman