



The Piedmont Binnacle

Savannah River Sail and Power Squadron

A Unit of District 26

Official Publication

Serving The Central Savannah River Area



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Vice Commander Mary Abbot speaking during the Chief Commander's Presentation at the Hilton Head Meeting

Members & Guest Meeting Information

Date: Tuesday, 15 March 2016
Time: 1830-2030
Where: Partridge Inn, Augusta
Program: D-26 COW Planning

Date: Tuesday, 19 April 2016
Time: 1830-2030
Where: Wilcox Inn, Aiken
Program: Social Meeting
P/C Butch Rachal




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*Articles, opinions, and advertisements contained here-
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endorsement unless so designated.*



Message from the Commander

Please consider attending our monthly dinner meetings. The one for February was another outstanding presentation. Dr. Sam and Janet Hardy spoke on their European travels by land and water. They showed their trip to Auschwitz. Wish you could have seen it!

Have you signed up for the D26 spring conference at Hilton Head? Do consider attending.

Don't forget that on Oct. 7,8,9 the SRSPS will be hosting the D26 COW. We need all of our members to come and to help.

We'll be hosting from the Partridge Inn. We have great activities planned. Please put the dates on your planning calendar.

Hope to 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
May-June 2016 edition of *The Piedmont Binnacle*:
Saturday, 10 April 16, 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

Membership renewal is coming-up for a lot of our squadron members. Every year I like to remind members that, in addition to informative monthly meetings, educational classes, promoting boating safety and camaraderie, there are extra advantages to being a member of the Savannah River Sail and Power Squadron. I've gone to the USPS website to get the most current benefits.

The benefits are structured to the USPS MEMBER, and can only be obtained by a person with a current membership card. Below is a list of benefits, categorized and in alphabetical order

Advancing Education

- Great Lakes Cruising Club School
- Mariner's Learning Guide - Captain's License Soft-ware

Goods and Services

- 11th Hour - Printing Promotional Services
- Caskey Monogram & Embroidery
- CVS Photo business Account Program
- Helms Briscoe
- Life Lock
- Office Depot/Office Max
- Smart-Plug
- Solude Coffee
- Trawler Fest

Health Benefits

- American Hearing Benefits
- Heart-Sine
- Life Line Screening
- USPS Prescription Savings Card

Insurance Benefits

- BoatUS
- LTCR Long Term Care Insurance Program
- Met-Life Auto & Home Insurance
- USPS Boat Insurance Program
- VPI Pet Insurance

Marine Benefits

- C-Map
- Coastal Explorer from Rose Point
- Frigid Rigid
- GPS for Mariners
- Hamilton Marine
- Maritech Industries
- McGraw Hill
- Pyrocool
- Rigid Boats
- Sea Tow
- Soundings
- Weems & Plath
- Wow Training Aids

Travel Benefits

- Avis
- Budget
- Cruises Only
- Endless Vacation Rentals
- On Call International Medical & Travel Assistance
- Orlando Vacations. Com
- Motel 6
- Red Roof Inn
- Road Scholar Program
- TNT Vacations
- Wyndham Hotels
- USPS Vacation Center

USPS Benefits

- Educational Opportunities
- Highway Mariners
- Opportunities for Members
- The Compass Electronic Newsletter
- The Ensign® Magazine
- USPS Port Captains Program

For details about these benefits, go to: <http://www.usps.org/index.php/departments/14000/14900/benefits-alphabetical.htm>.

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

P/C DeMetrice Allen, AP

Educational Officer

“Online Seminars”

The Power Squadron is slowly entering the age of on-line education. There are numerous on-line courses available now. Two new and very good seminars are discussed below:

Boating on Rivers, Locks, and Lakes Helps you learn to safely navigate our nation’s vast river and lock systems. Locking seems a simple concept where you enter a compartment, the gate closes, and the water either rises or falls to a new level, and you exit the lock. There are several practices as to when, where, and how to enter the lock chamber, secure your boat, and maintain control when the water entering or leaving the lock chamber causes turbulence. There is helpful information on navigating inland rivers such as our own Savannah River from North Augusta to the Atlantic Ocean or the mighty Mississippi. Finally, there is information on navigating the Great Lakes.

Partner in Command You love boating and navigating your local lake, and you have lots of experience handling your boat on these waters. But how about your spouse or partner? Does he/she know how to get you home in the event you are disabled by accident or illness? This seminar covers all practical facets of the subject.

Thurmond Lake Squadron is offering ***Partner in Command*** on April 20 at the McCormick County Library on April 20 at 10:00 am. They are offering ***Advanced Power Boat Handling*** on June 15 at 9:00am at the Resort Marina Beach in McCormick at 9:00 am. ***Using GPS*** is offered at the Recreation Center in McCormick on July 20 at 9am.

Other USPS seminars are listed below:

- **Anchoring**
- **Basic Coastal Navigation**
- **Basic Weather and Forecasting**
- **Boat Handling under Power**
- **Crossing Borders**
- **Emergencies on Board**
- **Fuel and Boating**
- **How to Use a Chart**
- **Hurricanes and Boats**
- **Knots, Bends and, Hitches**
- **Man Overboard**
- **Marine RADAR**
- **Mariner's Compass**
- **Mastering the Rules of the Road**
- **Paddle Smart**
- **Practical On The Water Training**
- **Sail Trim and Rig Tuning**
- **Tides and Currents**
- **Trailer Your Boat**
- **Using VHF & VHF/DSC Marine Radio**

If you are interested in any of these seminars, contact me at steve341p@bellsouth.net.

Steve Phillips, N

USPS – DISTRICT 26 - FALL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 7-9 2016



PARTRIDGE INN

WHERE: Augusta, Georgia – Historic Partridge Inn
WHEN: October 7-9, 2016

PLANNED ACTIVITIES:

Friday Afternoon – Meetings will be held at the Partridge Inn

Friday Evening - Savannah River Dinner Tour Aboard Small Ship, “Patriot”

Saturday – Meetings and Dinner will be held at the Partridge Inn

Saturday Spousal Treat – Trolley Tour of Historic Augusta. Pick-up at the Inn, Tour, Lunch and Tour at the boyhood home of Woodrow Wilson, Return by Trolley to the Inn.



Note from the Editor

Things are heating up rather nicely here in the CSRA and I am sure that many of you are taking full advantage of the beautiful weather that we have been having by enjoying your time out on the water. I am publishing articles from the National Marketing/PR committee. This issue features “Co-Op Charting - National”. Next issue: “Fog”. Don’t forget to include the website address, 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
February 2, 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 & Nettie Dumais.

Minutes of Jan 5, 2016 meeting were approved as published.

Treasury Report: Balance in bank is \$4059.01.

SEO: Steve discussed JN and N, navigation software packages.

Possibility of offering courses via Go To Meeting format. Especially good for small squadrons or Squadrons that do not have a qualified instructor in certain courses. Members can pay for the text and software to take the course and then make arrangements to take exam through their own squadron.

Beaufort is offering GTM class in Marine Electronics starting end of February. Book cost approx. \$15.

GTM class meeting once a week for approx. 6 weeks.

D-26 SEO's will be holding "go to meetings" once a month.

Discussed having ABC course starting sometime in March. RE: advertising of ABC.--- SC DNR

Will advertise boating course. Paulette will contact Teresa Wilsdorf in Golden Isles to find out about Ga. DNR policy.

DeMetric will try to enter past few years ABC course graduates on line.

Assistant Commander: Re: Vessel Safety Check for ms---Paulette thinks they are available on line and can be printed out. After inspections done, can enter information on line.

Discussed doing Co Op Charting some weekend in March.

COMMANDER: D-26 Spring conference is March 4,5,6 at Hilton Head. Paulette cannot attend but Butch and Lynne will be there and do power point presentation on Partridge Inn and plans for D-26 COW in Augusta on Oct 7,8,9 2016..

To include Friday night river cruise on Patriot, Spouse luncheon and trolley tour of historic Augusta.

Paulette is attending Bi-weekly D-26 Commanders' Go To Meetings. She said these are very informative and helpful.

Other Business:

Discussed D-26 COW in 2016.

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

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

Mar. 15, T's in Augusta or Partridge Inn.

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, 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,

Lt./C. Nettie Dumais, Secretary, CRP

Published by the Marketing/ PR Committee
United States Power Squadrons®
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The Sun and the Water

Spring has officially sprung, and those of us in the cooler climes are anxious to get on the water. While it's been a mostly mild winter, nothing beats what Nat King Cole called, "those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer". However, we need to be aware of the fact that while summer certainly will feel great again, the heat of the sun that we yearn for can have an unwanted impact on us.

A sunny and warm weekend brings out more boat traffic. If you've taken United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) or United States Coast Guard Auxiliary classes, you may think that you're a pretty safe boater. But, what about the other guy – does he know the "Rules of the Road"?

As the day goes on, even white boating "defensively," we may not be as sharp, tired, and -maybe- dehydrated. The crew may not be much help because they too may not be any more observant than are you.

So what can we do about it? We're not going to avoid going out on the water, so here are a few simple things to help you:

If you have a bimini on the boat, put it up over your crew and yourself. Run the boat from under the shade it gives you. You will be cooler and the shade will make it easier to see your surroundings. Tanning will still occur because UV rays will reflect off the water and your boat's surface.

If you don't have a Bimini, wear a hat. The brim will shade your eyes, and you'll actually feel cooler.

Wear good polarizing sunglasses. These will block much of the sun's UV rays, and you'll see much better. When we are outside, the sun's long-term effects on the eyes can cause problems.

Drink, drink, drink –not beer or other alcohol, which actually accelerate dehydration. Water is best, and juices and other fluids that are good. On a hot day in the sun, if you and your crew aren't perspiring or don't use the head, chances are you're dehydrating. In the extreme, this can cause heat stroke. At minimum, you'll feel more tired.

If you're feeling tired, anchor up or pull in someplace until the sun goes down some more. The rest will also help refresh you.

Remember, there's no substitute for common sense. When you're on the water in an unstructured environment, you need to be sharp. Reinforce your boating skills by taking a boating course. Check for your local Power Squadron's education schedule or contact it through our national website, www.USPS.org.

As members of the United States Power Squadrons remind us:

Boating is fun . . . we'll show you how.

XXXXXX

P/D/C Pete TenBrink
Feature Writer
Marketing/Public relations Committee
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usps.org/localusps/savannahriver



COMING EVENTS ~ DON'T MISS 'EM

WHEN

WHAT

WHERE

March 2015

TUE 15 1830-2030

D-26 COW Planning

Partridge Inn, Augusta

April 2015

TUE 19 1830-2030

Social Meeting
P/C Butch Rachal, SN

Wilcox Inn, Aiken

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