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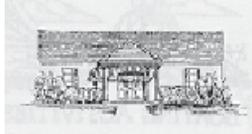
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MEETINGS

Executive Committee -1st Thursday @ 1830

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**SAFE BOATING THROUGH
EDUCATION**

From the Commander Cdr David Walsh, AP



Two boats from the Charleston Power Squadron made the trip from Charleston to Jacksonville, FL for the Annual Meeting of the United States Power Squadrons. Art and Merle Clark went in their cruiser "Sunday Drive." Wendy and I made the trip in our boat "Reely Fun." Our trip went well with both boats operating at their peak and good weather, for the most part. In fact, we made the entire trip on schedule, leaving Charleston on 20 February and returning on 28 February. Also attending the USPS Annual Meeting (but going by car) were the Squadron's Educational Officer Chet Rogers, Staff Commander Harl Porter and Betsy Porter, Past Commander Ed Kridler and Cindy Kridler and Past District Commander Robert Gissell and Nancy Gissell. Here is a brief report on the 2007 Annual Meeting.

The USPS Annual Meeting had a full agenda including the Governing Board, and special meetings on education, membership and a variety of other topics. Members from Charleston attended many meetings, placed an entry into the national teaching aid competition and participated in the Governing Board and the Annual Business Meeting.

Chief Commander Ernest Marshburn opened the Annual Meeting and reported on the state of the USPS. He said that many changes were made at the National Headquarters in the past year. Most significantly were cost savings and staff reduction that resulted in the first balanced budget in many years. Membership stabilized last year with the organization's "head count" almost the same as the previous year. Commander Marshburn said that USPS is struggling to maintain membership and that many more changes are needed to assure the long term health of the organization.

Organizationally, USPS is about to be modernized. The National Planning Committee recommended that

the USPS overhaul the way it conducts business. This initiative would empower the National Bridge to act decisively and in a timely manner on behalf of the organization. The complex system of voting at national meetings that requires different colored cards for each member group will be simplified. The Governing Board will be expanded to better represent districts, squadrons, and individual members. An Operating Committee composed of the national officers will be given greater flexibility in implementing the various directives of the Governing Board. More details on these changes will be published in upcoming issues of the *Ensign*.

A major change affecting local squadrons was the Governing Board's decision to waive the boating safety examination requirement for membership eligibility in USPS for the next three years. Up until now, prospective members were required to pass a USPS or other proctored boating safety exam or have a captain's license before being eligible for USPS membership. Now, boaters can join the squadron without passing an examination. Subsequent to this decision, the Charleston Power Squadron's Executive Committee voted to follow National USPS's decision and waived our testing requirement for membership. The reason for this change was to make it easier to recruit new members to the power squadron.

-Dave



Educational Officer
Lt/C Chet Rogers, P

After attending the USPS Annual Meeting in February and the District 26 Spring Conference in March, I have the distinct impression that our squadron is one of the most effective in making use of Boat Smart, both as a teaching device for new boaters and as a recruitment device for bringing new members to the Power Squadron. For those of you unfamiliar with our program, we offer Boat Smart every Tuesday evening. It takes four weeks to complete the course, but students may start on any Tuesday evening, and after completing four consecutive classes, they are ready to take the exam. If they miss a class, they can wait until the next time that class comes up and then take the exam. While most squadrons are offering Boat Smart two or three times a year, we are, in effect, offering it twelve times a year.

We should thank Steve Kromer and David Walsh who teach the course. They have invested a great deal of effort into structuring it so that any student can complete Boat Smart in four weeks from the time that they first show up at Headquarters on a Tuesday evening. We should also thank Janice Kromer and Wendy Walsh who also attend the class sessions, take care of the paper work, and, most importantly, recruit Boat Smart students for membership in the Squadron. It has been a very successful effort, and is a major reason why our squadron is growing at a time when most squadrons are decreasing in membership.

Chester B. (Chet) Rogers
Education Officer

Administrative Officer
Lt/C Dick Howells, P

With several events under our belts The Charleston Power Squadron is ready to swing into summer in a big way. Our Cruise to the Cooper River Marina for the annual Vessel Safety Check was a lot of fun and we had plenty of food and lots of vessel examiners in their new red shirts. Being a vessel examiner is a great way to perform a public service for the boating community. If anyone is interested in becoming one, contact Harl Porter. If anyone needs to have their vessel checked, also call Harl.

Our meeting at Gilligan's in Mt Pleasant was a great success. We reserved their biggest banquet room and there wasn't an empty seat. Our speaker from the Coast Guard did an excellent job and we are grateful to Commander Casey White for her presentation. The Commander is the Deputy Sector Commander for the Coast Guard and an excellent and dynamic speaker. Charleston ports are certainly benefiting from the coordinated security efforts being tested here.

The Tail Race cruise is coming and there is an article elsewhere describing the trip. Our Cruise Captain for this is BJ Smith. He is so dedicated that he talked four of us into making the trip March 8th to check everything.



The trial cruise was a great success but we are trying to identify the mystery passenger in the stern. My guess is he is publicity shy (or cold). BJ is smil-

ing because he has his 2007 Safety Check sticker proudly displayed on his windshield.

As you may know, the National Power Squadron has changed their dues schedule to simplify things. Wendy Walsh has been able to simplify that simplification so that even I can understand it and her article appears elsewhere.

Upcoming events are as follows. The April 12th meeting is “Cooking On The High Seas” and as of this time we have @ 8 places available if anyone is interested. Remember this is by prepaid reservations only so call or email me ASAP.

The May 10th meeting will be at Headquarters and will feature Reg Brown from the South Carolina Maritime Heritage Foundation. He will be speaking on the research and building of the “The Spirit of Carolina”. There is a slight chance that we could meet onboard the schooner but that is dependent upon a protective canopy over the deck and at this time that is uncertain.

Enough for now...I hope to see you on a dock or out on the water soon.

-Dick

IN THE WATER BOAT SHOW MARITIME FESTIVAL AND TALL SHIPS

We will have two boat shows coming up in the next few months. The In The Water Boat Show will be at Ripley's Light Marina beginning Thursday, April 26 and will run through Sunday, April 29. The Squadron will have a booth and we will need volunteers to man the booth. Since this event will be soon, we will need you to check your calendars be prepared to sign up at the next CPS meeting.

Although we have been obtaining volunteers to work during the Tall Ships visit at the Maritime Festival, we will also have a booth at this event. We will need volunteers to man this booth. The Maritime Festival will Start on Thursday, May 17 and will run through Sunday, May 20. Those who are not planning on working on the various Tall Ships events, we will need you at our booth.

Please consider both events and remember to sign up for the In The Water Boat Show at our next meeting.

-Jim Easley

BOATSMART SCHEDULE

For Updated Information See
<http://www.usps.org/localusps/cps/>

Date	Subject	Instructor
13-Mar-2007	Rules Of The Road	Steve Kromer
20-Mar-2007	Getting Started	David Walsh
27-Mar-2007	Reading Charts	Steve Kromer
03-Apr-2007	What's Required	David Walsh
10-Apr-2007	Rules Of The Road	Steve Kromer
17-Apr-2007	Getting Started	David Walsh
24-Apr-2007	Reading Charts	Steve Kromer
01-May-2007	What's Required	David Walsh
08-May-2007	Rules Of The Road	Steve Kromer
15-May-2007	Getting Started	David Walsh
22-May-2007	Reading Charts	Steve Kromer
29-May-2007	What's Required	David Walsh

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HF Radar System Measures Ocean Waves and Surface Current

Three Charleston Power Squadron members attended the South Carolina Sea Grant Extension Program HF Radar Outreach Workshop on Monday 5 March. Cdr David Walsh, Wendy Walsh and Harl Porter drove to Fripp Island (near Port Royal) then boarded a small boat for Pritchards Island which is owned by the University of South Carolina. Boat trip was approximately five minutes followed by half mile walk on the beach to their facility.

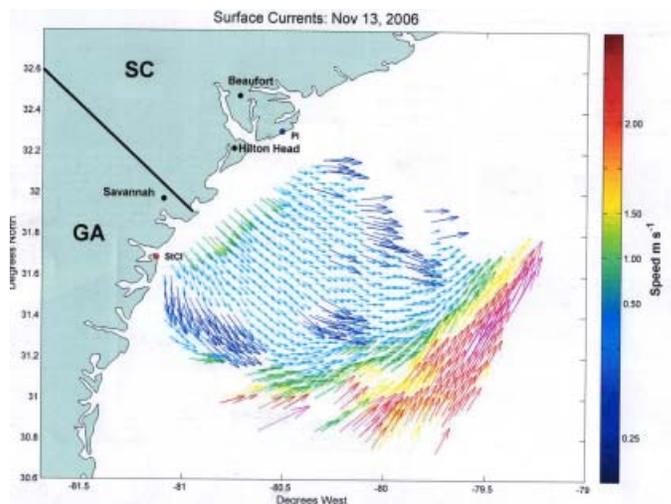
The 23 invited guests were briefed by the Project Manager, Dr. Rich Styles, and two others on their HF Radar wave measuring program. We were first given briefings on both HF Backscatter Radar principles and its application to measuring wave speed and direction. Then all were given a tour of the antenna arrays on the beach followed by looking at the transmitter, 12 receivers and data processing equipment back at their facility. The workshop concluded with a “show and tell” of the wave data they had collected.

Technical characteristics of the \$180K HF Backscatter Radar systems are: Frequency -8.35 MHz, Power - 30 watts, frequency modulation with 0.43 second chip into four transmit antennas. The 12 receive antennas are arranged as a linear array (in line) along the beach and the system calculates the direction of the received signal from the phase angle at each antenna. Coverage area is up to 120 nm in a 120 degree fan.

The system is composed of a minimum of two sites. Currently there is only one other site in the Carolinas and Georgia. It is located south of Savannah on St. Catherine’s Island. They would like to obtain funding and install a third system near Folly Beach. Each site operates on the same frequency and the transmitters alternate every 15 minutes. System is near real time; latency is approximately one hour (time to process the data from both sites and make it available on their web site).

For more info on this program visit their web site at <http://sampit.geol.sc.edu> then click on “HF Radar”. They hope to start posting near real time results from their HF Backscatter Radar system in April. Here is a plot of surface current (waves) on 13 Nov 06 (looks better in color, visit the *Palmetto Log* on our web site).

-Harl Porter



Plot of surface current (waves) measured using HF Radar



Squadron members David Walsh and Harl Porter at the Pritchards Island Sea Grant HF Radar Installation. Shown is part of the cable system that sends data from the radar antenna field to research station.

April Cruise and lunch at Gilligan's

Come one, come all, for a great journey up the Cooper River so close to the mouth of Lake Moultrie. This great odyssey will occur on April 21st. You can either drive, launch your boat at various boat ramps, or you can boat up the Cooper River to meet everyone for lunch at Gilligan's restaurant. Gilligan's has first-come first-serve docking space but no shore power or fuel.

It's about fifty miles up the river from Charleston and should take about 2.5-hrs, from our Bushy Park starting point, so we will need to leave early. For those of you who plan to join the flotilla, we are going to rendezvous at Bushy Park Boat Landing (Channel Marker 90) at 0900 hours for the 2.5-hour ride at 10 knots. We welcome all to join us especially those with boats that need to have the Strawberry Landing (6.5 ft closed vertical clearance) railroad bridge opened. I have spoken with the bridge operator who tells me we need to call the day before to make arrangements. I will coordinate the bridge opening for our flotilla. The bridges are operated from 7AM to 3:30PM daily.

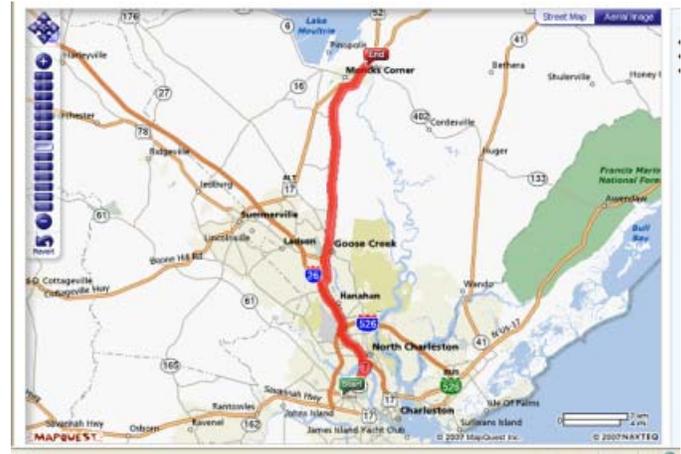
Lunch at Gilligan's promises to be a great dining experience. Gilligan's has worked hard to build a reputation as a fine family restaurant by serving the freshest seafood and other ingredients in a very friendly, casual atmosphere. Our entrée choices are: Fried Combo (Shrimp & Flounder); Grilled Chicken; Grilled Shrimp; and Low country Stir Fry (Shrimp, sausage, cabbage, w/ Cajun). Our side is Red Rice and Salads will be provided for all entrees. Cost is 6.50 per person.

To round out the day, we must be underway not later than 1415 to ensure we get back to the Strawberry Bridge by 1500 before the operator leaves for the day. So, bring the family for a wonderful fun packed Charleston Power Squadron day!!

Please note, I need a fairly accurate "head/boat" count to plan the day and make arrangements for your boating needs. Call me at 843-767-1491 or 843-514-

9638 soonest. Let me know if you plan to drive, trailer your boat, boat up the river independently, or join our flotilla. Leave a message if I am not available or you can send me an e-mail at smithbj@sc.rr.com.

Driving directions to Gilligan's:



Maneuvers	Distance	Maps
1: Start out going NORTHEAST on ORANGE GROVE RD toward ROYAL PALM BLVD.	0.5 miles	Map
2: Turn SLIGHT LEFT onto SAM RITTENBERG BLVD / SC-7. Continue to follow SC-7.	1.8 miles	Map
3: Merge onto I-26 W toward COLUMBIA.	7.5 miles	Map
4: Take the ASHLEY PHOSPHATE ROAD exit- EXIT 209- toward US-52.	0.8 miles	Map
5: Merge onto US-52 W via EXIT 209A toward MONCK'S CORNER / KINGSTREE.	20.4 miles	Map
6: Turn RIGHT onto DOCK RD.	<0.1 miles	Map
7: End at 582 Dock Rd Moncks Corner, SC 29461-3149, US		Map
Total Est. Time: 43 minutes		Total Est. Distance: 31.18 miles



Cruise To Beaufort

Some things to do to get ready for the June 2-4 Cruise to Beaufort. There will be a BBQ buffet and Jazz Friday night. Saturday will be lunch at the Beaufort Waterfront Park, district meetings and a low country boil dinner at the Best Western. Sunday morning will be the Commanders breakfast.

1. If you have a slip reservation at Port Royal Landing (843-525-6664), please get on the waiting list for the Downtown Marina 843-524-4422). Apparently there have been a number of cancellations recently.
2. If you haven't made a slip reservation, either get one at Port Royal and then get on the Downtown Marina waiting list or just get on the Downtown waiting list directly (Harl) as you prefer.
3. If your going to stay at a motel (either from your boat or driving down), please get your reservations made at the Best Western Sea Island Inn 843-552-2090). District has reserved 45 rooms which is essentially the whole motel. It's right in the downtown district.

-Art

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New Dues Rates Beginning June 1, 2007

National USPS has announced a change in the National Dues Structure. The change only affects the portion of your dues paid to National. Active and Additional Active Members will not notice much of an increase. Those members with a Family Member will see an increase of \$8.40. Both National and District stressed that we value Family Members. *National will send a letter to these members and include a coupon for \$10.00 good at the National Ship's Store or \$10.00 off on educational materials.*

National will mail dues notices by the end of April, and dues are due by June 1, 2007. Those members who joined after June 1, 2006 will not receive dues notices until their anniversary month.

The change is only for dues, there will be no changes in Status - that is, we will still have Active, Additional Active, and Family Members.

Neither District 26 nor our Squadron charges dues for Family Members.

District 26 portion of dues remains the same - \$7.50 for each Active and each Additional Active. They do not charge for Family Members.

Charleston Power Squadron dues portion remains the same - \$34.00 for each Active and each Additional Active. Our Squadron also does not charge for Family Members.

Dues for Renewing Members Effective June 1, 2007

Total dues (including National, District 26 and Charleston)

Active Member - (Single Member) will be \$75.10

Active Member plus Additional Active will be \$133.40

Active Member plus Family Member(s) will be \$91.90

Dues for New Members Effective June 1, 2007

National has increased the one-time Entrance Fee to \$25.00, whether or not it is a single member or single member with Additional or Family Members. To obtain new member dues, add \$25.00 to each category above.

New Active Member - (Single Member) will be \$100.10

New Active Member plus Additional Active will be \$158.40

New Active Member plus Family Member(s) will be \$116.90

Wendy Walsh, CH/Membership Committee

Charleston Power Squadron

843-556-3258

Wals6563@bellsouth.net



<u>Date</u>	<u>Cruise</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Dining</u>	<u>Cruise Captain</u>	<u>Coord</u>
21-Apr	Tail Race Park/Museum		Gilligan's	BJ Smith	BJ
12-May	Morris Island	1200	Pot Luck	Steve Ireland	Gary
1-3 June	Beaufort-District Conference		TBD	Art Clark	Wendy
21-Jul	Charleston Aquarium	1200	Acquarium	TBD	Gary
11-Aug	Sandy Point Raft Up	1200	Pot Luck	TBD	Wendy
15-Sep	Georgetown Landing Marina		TBD	Gary Whitley	Gary
27-Oct	Toad Hall		Oyster Roast	Dick Howells	Dick
16-18 Nov	Bohicket Marina, Johns Is		TBD	Janice Kromer	BJ

<u>CC Members</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Cell</u>
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Gary Whitley	wgary44@aol.com	843-557-0844	843-469-4782



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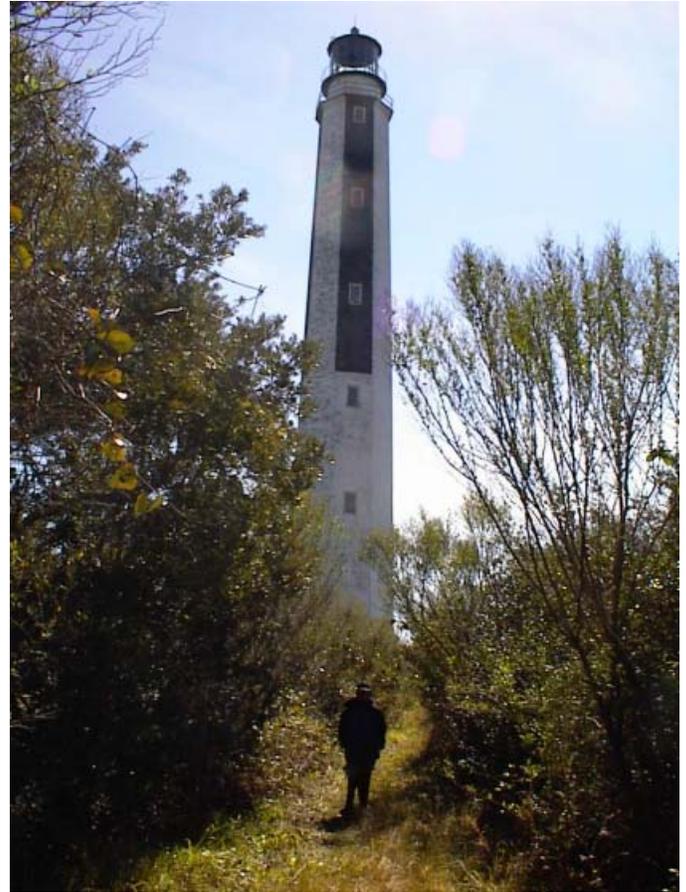
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Cape Romain Cruise

Another inimitable lighthouse safari completed, with hardly any “adventures” to write home about. Oh, darn! Well, there was one cantankerous port engine and several boots had a close encounter with a bit of pluff mud at the landing, but that was about it. When Distant Isle balked, Carol and Ross Burgess stepped right up with Ham and Letters IV to lead the caravan, followed by Off Site, Reel Busy, and Daisy Belle.

In all, 23 members and guests made the trip to the Cape, birthplace of Fearless Fred some few years back. We were carried back in time as Fred drew vivid pictures of his father’s many years there as Keeper of the Light. After an uneventful trip back to Leland Marine, Jim Hackett and Steve Ireland put their Engine Maintenance skills to work on the obstreperous port engine, and with a little help from Ross, soon had it purring once again. Dinner at the Crab Pot capped off a great day on the water.



Clean Up Day at Headquarters

If you visit the Squadron Headquarters you will notice how nice it looks. That's because the Housing Committee and squadron volunteers had a very successful clean up day on Saturday 3 March 2007. Special thanks goes to volunteers Betsy Porter, Chuck Altschul, Ted Fetner, Eugene Corbett, Steve Rustin, Ray Harp, Terry and Shirley Melloy, Tom and Nathaniel Hardy, Mike Page, Dick Howells, B.J. Smith and Gary Whitley who did the work.

The team did an outstanding job trimming bushes, clearing debris and washing the building giving it a freshly painted look. Terry and Shirley Melloy and BJ Smith replaced the front entry columns. Shirley figured out how to put them together and BJ and Terry cut and placed the columns. This time, the columns are made of aluminum so we won't have to replace them again. Here are some pictures of the work crew in action.

Gary Whitley, Chairman
Squadron Housing Committee



New member Eugene Corbett raking the back lot.



Chuck Altschul washing the building.



Ted Fetner working on the leaves.



BJ Smith, Terry Melloy and Gary Whitley setting one of the new entry columns.

New Member Richard Behling

As a recent graduate of our Boat Smart course, Richard Behling joined the Charleston Power Squadron to take advantage of our education courses. Richard and his wife, Marie, would like to join in our social meetings but residing up in St. George makes it difficult to get to Charleston for evening events. It does sound like Richard gets around, though. He has daughters in West Ashley and Hanahan and he visits frequently. George is a real estate broker, and his company also manages about 20 local home owner associations. He uses his 17' center console and 17' john boat to fish the waters off Folley Beach and the West Ashley river. However, the Behling's own a farm in McClelanville, and when Richard needs a break from clearing his land and building a log cabin, he'll probably stay closer to the McClelanville area. Richard would like to retire as soon as he can so he can devote more time to his many hobbies.

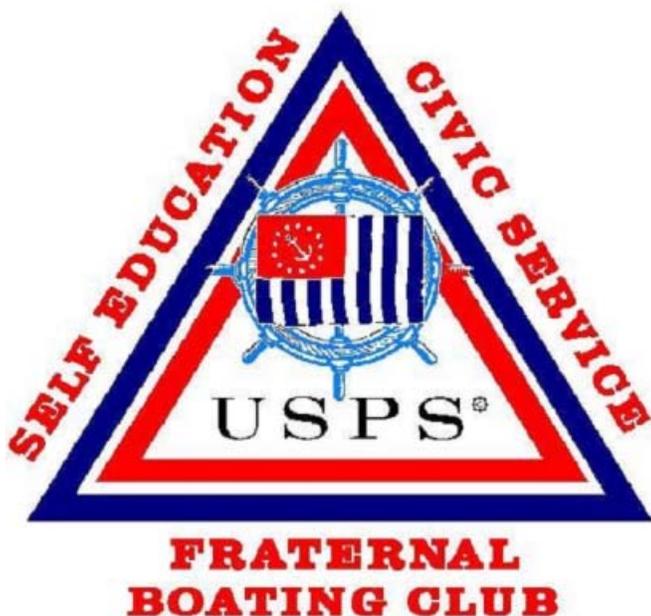
-P/C Janice Kromer



In Memory of Herb Wendling, SN

Faith Wendling sadly reports the passing on 27 February of her husband Herbert, of a fatal heart attack.. Herb and Faith are Associate Members of Charleston Power Squadron and members of the Buffalo Sail and Power Squadron. Herb was a Life member of USPS, an avid sailor and a supporter of the Girl Scout Mariner Program in Erie county N.Y. He was a friendly, affable man of considerable engineering and industrial accomplishments, of which he modestly did not comment. Our deepest sympathy goes to Faith Wendling for the loss of her husband.

Ken Beeber



The Palmetto Log
Jerry Kemerer, Editor
Wendy Walsh, Mailings
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**THIS IS YOUR PUBLICATION
MEET THE DEADLINE for May
15 April 2007**

**BJ Smith
Cruising Activities
Phone: 843-767-1491**

Upcoming Events For April and May

- 12 April - Member Meeting Downtown - 1830
- 21 April - Tail Race Park Cruise
- 26-29 April - In Water Boat Show - Ripley's Light Marina
- 10 May - Member Meeting Headquarters - 1830
- 12 May - Cruise to Morris Island
- 17-20 May - Tall Ships and Maritime Festival

SAFE BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION