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Cdr Janice Kromer, AP
768-1861

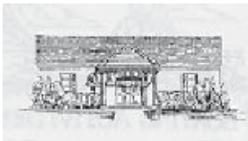
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MEETINGS

Executive Committee -2nd Thursday @ 1830

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**SAFE BOATING THROUGH
EDUCATION**

From the Commander Cdr Janice Kromer, AP



Since this is my first Palmetto Log Article of the new squadron year, I want to thank all of the members for electing me as your Commander. I appreciate your faith in me, and I'll try to live up to your expectations. To set the tone for this year, I'd like to paraphrase the acceptance speech I gave at the Change of Watch.

The theme of my speech was "taking an extra step". When I was first getting to know the Charleston Power Squadron, the members took an extra step and made me feel welcome within their organization. And it was that acceptance that got me started with my involvement in the Squadron.

The emphasis this year is going to be on membership, both getting new members and keeping current members interested. The Bridge has been talking for almost a year about how to get you more involved and how to make the leadership responsive to your needs. When I was getting ready for my speech, the answer just came to me - it's so simple. We ALL, the Bridge, the Excom, the membership - we all just have to take that one extra step. Your Bridge this year is made up of a group of men who are dedicated, intelligent individuals. I am often amazed at the time and effort they devote to these voluntary, unpaid jobs. This Bridge doesn't take one extra step; it take leaps and bounds to make our Squadron successful. It's really my privilege to be working with Lt/C Dave Walsh as Executive Officer, Lt/C Steve Kromer as Educational Officer, Lt/C Art Clark as Administrative Officer, Lt/C Bob Gulbrandsen as Secretary and Lt/C Chuck Altschul as Treasurer.

These officers will be joined on the Executive Committee by Past Commanders, Steve Yeomans, Mike Page and Ed Kridler, along with Mike King and Gene Gilfillin. The Excom sets the direction of the Squadron and makes the decisions, so you need to keep in touch with these men and let them know where you want to go and what you want to do. Wendy Walsh and Merle Clark will be leading our efforts to get our new members enrolled and melded into the group, and John VanWay has volunteered to hear our Membership Involvement Committee.

These people will work hard for you, but they can't do it alone. I'm asking every member of the Charleston Power Squadron to take an extra step to get involved and keep our squadron strong.

If anyone ever has a suggestion or a comment on how the squadron is working for you or should work for you, I really want to know about it. You can contact me anytime through email at jkromer@telecomdb.com, or feel free to call me at (843) 768-1861. I sincerely want to hear from you!

Cdr Janice Kromer



Executive Officer
Lt/C David E. Walsh, AP



In writing this column for the Palmetto Log, I thought about on what I learned last year and began looking forward to the coming year. Last year, I learned that Administrative Officer's job is a lot of work. However, most of work, planning meetings, serving food and organizing a variety of cruises, was done by the Administrative Committee members and especially my spouse Wendy. So thanks, folks for all your help and efforts. You made 2005 a great year for the squadron.

In the coming year, I will be your squadron's Executive Officer. To help me in this job, I have a group of talented people volunteering their time and energy to serve on Executive Department's team. Here's who they are.

Joan King has agreed to stay on as the Squadron's Public Relations Officer. Last year, Joan developed relationships with news media and got the word out on squadron events. She was particularly successful in publicizing our Boat Smart course. Her publicity efforts attracted new members and increased community awareness of the Charleston Power Squadron. We are glad to have Joan's energy and knowledge guiding our public relations effort in 2006.

Jack Meyer has agreed to serve as Cooperative Charting Chairman. The Charleston Power Squadron will be verifying aids to navigation on Nautical Charts 11518 (Intracoastal Waterway from Casino Creek to the Beaufort River) and 11522 (Stono and North Edisto Rivers). Cooperative Charting is an important national program that helps NOAA keep navigation charts up to date. If you have a boat or can serve as crew for Cooperative Charting, contact Jack Meyer and volunteer to help.

Jim Davis will be in charge of the squadron's participation in two boat shows this year. The first one is the

Annual Charleston Boat Show 27-29 January 2006 at the Charleston Area Convention Center Complex. The Charleston Power Squadron will have booth #302 in the commercial exhibit area of the main building. Next one is the In-Water Boat show 27-30 April 2006. Details regarding the In-Water Boat Show will be covered in the March issue of the Palmetto Log. Jim needs help staffing and setting up the squadron's booth for these events. Especially needed is a volunteer who has a pickup truck to transport the booth and supplies to the boat shows. If you can volunteer to man the booth or have a truck, please contact Jim ASAP by phone at 388-2303 or E-mail at jim.davis@seaport.com.

John Sikes will be the Squadron's Safety Officer for the coming year. John is very knowledgeable about boating safety. Look for his column featuring the latest news on safety procedures and equipment each month in the Palmetto Log.

Speaking of safety, Bob Gulbrandsen will head the squadron's Vessel Safety Check (VSC) program. This year the squadron is planning a number of VSC events. The VSC program starts the year at the annual Hornick Cruise in March and continues through out the year. Bob also is our first member to be certified in the squadron's new Visitor Program. As a Visitor, Bob will be calling on various boating interests (boat dealers, marine retailers and boating clubs) to distribute squadron literature and promote the VSC program.

Gene Gilfillin will serve as Radio Technical Officer, Scott Blustein will stay on as our Legislative Officer and Past Commander Ed Kridler will serve as Liaison Officer for the coming year.

These Chairmen need help in filling committee positions. If you are interested in serving on a squadron committee, please call the chairman or me to volunteer. I can be reached by phone at 556-3258 or by E-mail at wals6563@bellsouth.net.

David

Administrative Officer Lt/C Art Clark, P



The new CPS year begins with a bang with 57 members or guests attending the Change of Watch. It was a wonderful event including dining, dancing, a poignant speech by Janice and an all around good time. Details provided by Dave Walsh in another article in this issue.

As we enter this year the Admin Department remains dedicated to attaining and retaining members, and providing the activities that are of most interest to our members. To do that we have launched our “shipmate” program that will help introduce new members into the Squadron. We are simultaneously revisiting our administrative process that reviews and approves potential new members to ensure applications are timely processed. And we are returning to the practice of finding out about new member interests and background. At the suggestion of our Commander, Janice Kromer, we have established a “featured member” article for the Log each month; Steve Yeomans has the lead. We are all excited about this initiative as well. As you might suspect, our focus this year will be on people and having fun as we pursue our basic charter of boating safety. All comments are welcomed.

Admin Department Committee Chairs

As expected, we have some really terrific Committee Chairpersons. Our goals have been set by the Bridge and we are quickly moving ahead. Our success will be determined by how well we fulfill Squadron member needs as measured primarily by member retention.

-Wendy Walsh – Membership Committee. Member since 1999, instructor, event photographer and second term as Membership Committee Chair.

-John VanWay – Member Involvement Committee. Member since 1994, one of our top instructors, deeply involved in many aspects of the Squadron.

-Ray Harp – Boating Activities Committee. Member since 1985, all around supporter of our squadron.

-Ken Beeber – Operations Training Committee. Member since 1961, former Squadron Commander, former District Commander, currently teaching marine electronics and portions of Engine Maintenance, calling committee member.

-Art Clark – Meetings, Programs and Entertainment Committee. Member for two years, engine maintenance instructor, former Squadron Safety Officer.

2005 New Members

We were especially successful in attracting 29 new members to our Squadron so far this year. We welcome our new members.

Altschul	Nancy	Mt Pleasant, SC
Arceneaux	Bill L.	Charleston, SC
Arrington	Bridget K.	Charleston, SC
Arrington	Ed S.	Charleston, SC
Bass	James K.	Charleston, SC
Bass	Peggy	Charleston, SC
Brannan	Richard C.	Mt Pleasant, SC
Byrnes	Clifford (Neil)	Summerville, SC
Byrnes	Denise V.	Summerville, SC
Carrier	Bobby L.	Mt. Pleasant, SC
Clark	Jean	McClellanville, SC
Clark	Terry	McClellanville, SC
Jorgens	Elise	Charleston, SC
Meisenhelder	Dwana	Charleston, SC
Merriken	Michael S.	Charleston, SC
Merriken	Lauren S.	Charleston, SC
Miller	Bob	North Canton, Ohio
Miller	Jane	Charleston, SC
Prins	Johan G.M.	Charleston, SC
Reves	Jenny	Charleston, SC
Reves	Jerry	Charleston, SC
Sindram	Maria T.M.	Charleston, SC
Tipton	Brian L.	Summerville, SC
Tipton	Jean H.	Summerville, SC
Vermillion	Marty	Mt Pleasant, SC
Viering	Carol	Hollywood, SC
Viering	George	Hollywood, SC
Walden Jr.	Robert D.	Bishopville, SC
Whitman	Stanley H.	Charleston, SC

2006 Cruise Schedule

It looks like we have a challenging schedule again this year. On the other hand we have included family fun days aimed at youngsters and a shopping day in Savannah. Two of the outings have been combined with member meetings. If you have any comments or questions please call Ray Harp (881-2284) or Art Clark (849-9467).

21-Jan

Vickery's Restaurant Mt Pleasant

Cruising Season Kickoff Luncheon and member meeting.

4-Mar

Cape Romain Lighthouse, McClellanville Area

Dinner at the Crab Pot following lighthouse visit.

25-Mar

Hornick Cruise, Buzzard's Roost Marina, John's Island

Cookout, potluck luncheon, and boat inspections, as well as member meeting.

21-23 Apr

Savannah Shopping

Drive or boat. Two days of sightseeing/shopping

20-21 May

Short Stay, Monck's Corner

Pot Luck picnic in a reserved shelter

23-25 Jun

Georgetown Landing Marina Georgetown, SC

Dinner at local restaurant. Harbour Walk Festival in town.

22 July

Charleston Aquarium

Lunch cruise.

19-Aug

Raft up at Sandy Point near Folly Beach

Lunch aboard, fun on the beach.

2-4 Sept

Labor Day weekend to Shelter Cove Marina Hilton Head SC

Dinner at local restaurant.

14-Oct

Toad Hall Oyster Roast

Potluck, oysters and bar.

17-19 Nov

Bohicket Marina, Johns Island

Dinner at local restaurant.

2-Dec

Parade of Boats

Upcoming Member Events

Mark 'em on your calendar!

21 January - Lunch at 1200 at the Vickery Restaurant in Mt. Pleasant. Dock space will be reserved for those who wish to cruise to Vickery's on Shem Creek. Perhaps Fred will organize another great trip on Distant Isle. As always, we will order from the menu. The food is excellent as is the service. We will combine this cruise with January member meeting. Call Ray Harp at 881-2284 (rharp1@comcast.net) for reservations.

9 February – Member meeting at T-Bonz downtown on Market St. We have the upstairs reserved where we will not be disturbed. The Coleman's will tell us about their six year around-the-world odyssey on their 41 ft. sailboat. Sounds like a great time. Cocktails at 1830 and dinner at 1900. Dinner selections will be from the menu. The food is excellent at a reasonable cost. Call Art Clark at 849-9467 (adclark1@bellsouth.net) for reservations.

4 March – Cape Romain Lighthouse Cruise with Fred Wichman. Always a great adventure on Fred's trawler Distant Isle. Come listen to an important piece of our local history talk about life as a lighthouse keeper's son and his family, and tour the Island where Fred began his life. Dinner will be at the Crab Pot on Rt. 17 in McClellanville.

9 March – Member Meeting at Headquarters. Pot Luck dinner. The bar will be open.

Art

Educational Officer
Lt/C Stephen C. Kromer, AP



Hi everyone. I really only have 2 things to cover this month.

SPRING CLASSES – STARTING THE WEEK OF 20 FEBRUARY 2006

Seamanship

Price: \$55

This course is open to all members and is recommended for new members as the starting point for their continuing education on navigation.

Advanced Piloting

Price: \$70

Recommended for those members who have completed Piloting.

Marine Electronics

Price: Members \$65 / Non-Members \$110

Open to all members and for the first time also open to non-members. So if y'all know someone who would like to take this course but is not a member, please have them contact me and we'll get it done.

Cruise Planning

Price: \$60

Open to all members

Sail

Price: \$60

Open to all members

We have not yet firmly decided what nights we are going to offer any of these classes, so if you have a particular night you would like for one of these courses, please let me know and I'll see what I can do to accommodate you.

As we have done for the last year or so, it will be required that you sign up and pay for the class before we order materials for you, so please contact me as soon as possible if you want to take a class.

Also, as we did in the fall, we will hold a "meet the teachers night" on 13 Feb 2006 at 1830 for you to pick up your course materials, meet your instructors, and generally get all of the paper work out of the way. The specific days that each of the classes will be held will be announced in next month's log.

FREE ELECTRONIC CHARTS FROM MAPTECH

Maptech, as part of its on going relationship with USPS, has made all of their electronic charts available to any member for free. Here's how you go about getting them:

1. Log onto www.usps.org
2. Click on "Members Area". Highlight the tab on top for the "Educational" Department
3. Pick "Ed Dept Home Page" from the list by clicking on it
4. Now this is the tough part – click on the big box that says "Maptech Free Charts"
5. You will be connected to a page that asks for your certificate number and zip code. Fill these in and click on continue. There is an option here for you to allow the site to put a cookie on your machine to remember you information.
6. You are now on Maptech's web site.
7. Again, click on the big box that says "Download Free NOAA Charts"
8. Follow the instructions and you'll get the free download. From this same area you can download Maptech's chart navigator software.

The beauty of this whole thing is if you have the chart navigator software, you can use the free charts to work out routes on your computer for taking your boat somewhere and then upload the routes to your GPS.

Try it. It's fun. If y'all want to have a class about how to use Chart Navigator and the electronic charts, let me know and we'll see if we can't schedule something.

See ya'll at the Vickery's lunch in January.

Steve

Secretary

Lt/C Robert A. Gulbrandsen, S



Hello everyone! Well the days of pleasant sailing weather, cool afternoons and oyster roasts are at hand. It is truly the perfect seasons to get out and enjoy our beautiful waterways and country sides. But, don't let your guard down. While you are out in these quiet afternoons and pleasant days remember our motto, be a safe boater. We want you back safe in port for that next squadron event.

I would like to welcome aboard our new editor for the Palmetto Log, Jerry Kemerer. Jerry will be taking over command of the log from Nelson Hicks who is planning to devote more of his time to cruising. We look forward to working with Jerry in the coming months, as he continues supplying us with this great publication. And not to forget Nelson, thanks for all your time and effort over the past years as editor of the Log. You made the Log an enjoyable monthly treat for our membership. So welcome aboard Jerry and may you have fair wind and following sea Nelson. Thank you both.

We are still looking to post articles about you and your boat. Send us a picture and a little note about your boat. We would love to see your photo in the next issue of the Palmetto Log, we want to get to know you and your boat. Please send information to Jerry Kemerer at [Who's Boat JKemerer@comcast.net](mailto:JKemerer@comcast.net). Or by snail mail to his address in the directory. He will be happy to return your photos after we post them in the log.

Don't forget, we still offer advertising space in the Palmetto Log. Do you know a friend or local business that could use our news letter to reach more people? We would be happy to talk to them. Or for information contact me at **Palmetto Log Ad** at Morningstar804@msn.com.

Do you enjoy looking at boats and wondering what they must be like up close and personnel? Well then, becoming a Vessel Safety Examiner might be right up your alley. Our squadron has a small group of examiners that provide vessel safety inspections for the public as a courtesy. It's a job that you can do on your own schedule, and a chance to meet some really interesting boaters. If this sound like something that would interest you, please give me a call or email and we will get you set on a course to become a VSE. It's a great opportunity to serve the boating community and have great fun doing it.

See you on the water!

Robert

Discount on Books

USPS has arranged for members to receive a substantial discount (up to 40%) on boating books offered by International Marine. To take advantage of this member benefit:

Go to www.usps.org

Click on Members Area

Click on Educational on top center of page

Click on Ed Dept Home Page

Click on McGraw Hill in the upper right section of the page

Click on USPS Book Store

You will see the list of books in the center of the page.

Executive Committee Date Change

The Executive Committee meeting for Thursday January 5th 2006 has been rescheduled to Thursday January 12th 2006 at 1830. This is due to a conflict in schedules with the National USPS Annual Meeting. We believe this will give more members the chance to attend the National event without a conflict in timing. Questions can be addressed to Cdr Janice Kromer at 843-768-1861, jkromer@telecomdb.com or Bob Gulbrandsen at Morningstar804@msn.com.



Safety Officer

P/C John Sikes, AP

Below are our Squadron's achievements for the past year. What I came to realize is that most of what we do is inherently safety related; everything from community service to just plain having fun. We did a great job last year at a great time to boot.

Public Boating courses – Included on local NOAA radio for National Safe Boating Week.

Post & Courier Editorial – Comments concerning two local teenagers lost at sea for several days while fishing

Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program – One member is certified and our campaign to promote boating safety through local businesses and marine dealerships has begun.

School Program – We have begun teaching boating safety at Burke and West Ashley schools. The first Boating Safety courses begin next week at the two schools.

Newspaper Article – Our School Program is listed in the Community Education insert in the Post and Courier, Charleston's local paper.

Boat Shows – We manned our USPS booth at major boat shows; one in-water at Brittlebank Park and the other at the Charleston Convention Center. Emphasis is on boating safety through course offerings, safety and related handouts, and USPS membership.

VSE Program – We now have five members who conduct VSE inspections as requested at our monthly functions and wherever needed.

-Conducted VSE days at Charleston City Marina and participated in the National Marina Festival at the Cooper River Marina where we conducted VSE checks and operated our safe boating booth.

-Numerous VSE checks were successfully achieved at both events and throughout the year.

-Two VCS officers attended the Great Loop Association Rendezvous providing safe boating information and conducting VSE checks.

-Boating Safety Courses – We are now conducting boating safety courses every Tuesday. Each course has five segments. One segment is offered each Tuesday making it possible to offer a total of 10 courses per year. This schedule also provides maximum flexibility for participants.

Strategic Planning – We have created a viable strategic plan to improve boating safety and squadron operations. One goal is to increase membership thereby creating safer boating in Charleston. Emphasis is on encouraging participation of potential members in the Safe Boating Course which is a membership prerequisite.

Articles – Relevant and informative boating safety articles are included in The Palmetto Log, our monthly newsletter.

Mall Activities – We set up and manned our booth one time this year at a local mall. Results were disappointing compared to other booth activities such as boat shows.

Parade of Boats – We have partnered with the City of Charleston in conducting the Christmas Parade of Boats in the Charleston Harbor in early December. Our functions are to provide escort services to and from the event for participating boaters who are uncomfortable with night boating, buoy illumination, administrative support and general safe boating during the event. This is a major safe boating undertaking by our squadron.

Cooperative Charting – During this year we completed 80% of chart 11518 and 100% of chart 11524. Additionally we have agreed to add chart 11522 to our cooperative charting program. This year we found five discrepancies in day marker or buoy conditions; all were reported.

Art Clark

Editor's Note: This is Art Clark's last article as Safety Officer. John Sikes' first article will appear in next month's issue.

Bridge Blast

A 500-foot, 1,000 ton section of the Pearman Bridge over Drum Island and Shipyard Creek was explosively demolished on Tuesday 15 November 2005. To witness this historic event, squadron members Art and Merl Clark, Stan and Karen Whitman, Chet Rogers and David Walsh took Clark's boat "Sunday Drive" into Charleston Harbor. "Sunday Drive" left Duncan's Boat Harbour at 0830 with Art at the helm. The group met earlier for donuts and coffee and planned to anchor in a designated safety viewing area off Drum Island. The day was a boater's dream, 70 degrees and nearly calm winds. When we arrived in Charleston Harbor many boats were already anchored. Captain Art skillfully maneuvered "Sunday Drive" through a sea of small boats to anchor at a location giving us an excellent view of the Pearman Bridge. We arrived at 0945 and awaited the demolition. Through binoculars we could see yellow painted areas at strategic points on the bridge structure. Presumably, the yellow paint indicated the placement of charges. Just before 1000 a horn sounded indicating the 5-minute warning. Later, a second horn sounded and then the bridge came down. Even though we were prepared, the sound and concussion of the blast was startling.

Leadership Development Class

CPS is offering a one-time leadership development course for Bridge members who have not yet taken the course. Any member who is interested may also take this offering at no cost. This material is being incorporated into the Seamanship course, adding one day to that course. The material is designed to explain how the Power Squadron operates, its guiding principles and general etiquette.

The course will be given on January 28th at 115 President Circle in Summerville. Time will be 1300 with cocktails and dinner to follow at about 1800. Call Janice Kromer at 873-9200 ext 7126 for directions. Call 821-1861 the day of the training if you get lost on your way to Summerville.



Left to right, Stan Whitman, Karen Whitman and Merl Clark get ready to see the blast from "Sunday Drive".



Left to right, Art Clark and Chet Rogers viewing the bridge from "Sunday Drive."



Detonation of the charges demolishing a 500-foot section of the Pearman Bridge.

Change of Watch Ceremony

4 November 2005

The Charleston Power Squadron held its annual Change of Watch Ceremonies on Friday, 4 November, 2005 at the North Towne Grill in North Charleston. Outgoing Squadron Commander Ed Kridler, SN reviewed the progress that the Charleston Squadron made during the past year. Commander Kridler cited progress the squadron has made with recruiting new members and building financial reserves. He introduced District 26 Secretary John R. Powers, SN who gave the keynote speech and presided over the swearing in ceremony. D/Lt/C Powers said that District 26 is one of the most active and growing districts in USPS. He congratulated the Charleston Squadron on its progress in 2005. Incoming Commander Janice Kromer addressed the group and promised to implement the Charleston Squadron's Strategic Plan. She said that squadron membership involvement and new member recruiting were among the top goals for 2006. Prior to the installation of the new bridge, Past Commander Tony Ward presided over an awards ceremony. Many members stayed after dinner for dancing to 50's music provided by a disc jockey. All had a wonderful evening of fellowship, good food and dancing.



District 26 Secretary John R. Powers giving the keynote speech.



Tony Ward presents an award to Fred Wichmann.



2006 Bridge Officers. Left to right, Bob Gulbrandsen, David Walsh, Joan King, Chet Rogers, Chuck Altschul and Art Clark. (not pictured, Steve Kromer)



Charlotte Yeomans, Janice Kromer, and Steve Kromer enjoy the Change of Watch.

Bohicket Cruise

The weekend of November 18, 19 and 20 proved to be a merry time for all who participated in the Bohicket Cruise. The parties started off on Friday night with a pot luck dinner at Cruise Captain, Janice and Steve Kromer's condo at Seabrook. The main course was sausage and peppers supplemented by pot luck offerings of salads, breads (some loaves were home made by Lt/C Dave Walsh) and lots of wine. And ASEO Chet Rogers showed off his talents with a wonderful vegetable casserole. It seems our Bridge is really "cooking" this year – in more ways than one. Our newest members, Lauren and Mike Merriken attended, along with potential new members and Jules and Dan Moore.

On Saturday, the Piloting Class Outing got off to a shaky start due to the infamous currents and winds at Bohicket Marina. But No Sense left the slip safely, and the cruise was informative and fun for all. Saturday afternoon brought a shopping trip to Fresh Fields, and all agreed that the new grocery store, Newton Farms, is awesome.

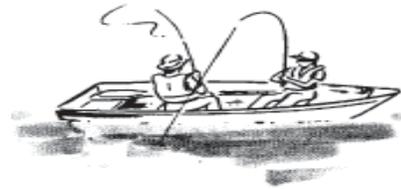
Saturday night's dinner at The Privateer was very well attended. Twenty-seven members and potential members came along, and for a crowd that size, the service was really very good. Bob and Janet Schwerzl joined our Squadron Members. They are a newly cruising

couple from Atlanta, and they keep their boat at Lady's Isle. They would like to join the Charleston Squadron and spend many weekends participating in our cruises.

The weather on Sunday morning wasn't great, but the Meyer's, the Art Clark's and the Walsh's arrived home safely. Nelson & Joanne Hicks traveled further south to the Hilton Head area for 10 days of cruising.

I think all involved will agree that the Bohicket Cruise was something special this year. Many thanks to everyone who came.

Cdr Janice Kromer



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Thanks Power Squadron for your work and dedication in Boating Education and Public Safety. **Barney M. Metts**

Parade of Boats

The Parade of Boats turned out to be a totally awesome event for the Charleston Power Squadron. We had over 50 members participate in various functions. Due to a donation from one of our members, participants were given a specially-embroidered Charleston Power Squadron 2005 Parade of Boats baseball cap. Funds left over from this year will be earmarked for the Parade of Boats for next year. Our squadron provided the Parade with the Command Boat, the Lead Boat, the Judges Boat, the WorkBoats, and quite a few Parade Boats. We've asked several members for input as to their reaction to the Parade and their thoughts for next year, so please read on:

From Lt/C Dave Walsh – Captain of Participating Boat “Reeley Fun”

“This was the first year that the Walsh’s participated in the Holiday Parade of Boats. Wendy and I decided to decorate and enter our boat “Reeley Fun” with an outline of the new Cooper River Bridge in the parade. We had a great time and enjoyed decorating and parading. Participation with other squadron members made the experience enjoyable. Squadron members Ray Harp helped decorate and Dick Brannan served as crew. We even had our boat mentioned in the Post and Courier. Here is an excerpt from the Post and Courier article that appeared on December 4, 2005.

“It could have been a parade of faux pas along the lines of two girls showing up for the prom with the same dress. The Reeley Fun motored in for Saturday’s Parade of Boats sporting a rendering of the Ravenel Bridge. And then someone noticed the Que Sera had the same image strung between its masts. Que Sera Captain Gene Merkel said – what else? – Whatever will be will be. But with just a pinch of competitiveness. “Yeah, but do they have fireworks?””

Well, we didn’t have fire works or win any prizes. We just had a “Reeley Fun” time. Would we enter our boat next year? Yes, and we recommend others to join in the fun.”

From Lt/C Bob Gulbrandsen - Crew of the “Victory” - Work Boat at Marker G5

“A good time was had by all aboard the Victory. We supplied light to the danger point (shallow water) near the G5 marker by lighting the marker and directing the parade in to safe waters. We also, by position, got front row seats to the parade and the fireworks during the parade. A cool and clear evening provided a beautiful backdrop for the evenings festivities. Duty aboard the Victory was low keyed, monitoring the event on VHF radio, supplying a safe direction for the parade boats to follow, enjoying the holiday lights and the fellowship aboard ship.”

From Bobby Carrier – Captain of Parade Boat Phunee Bouy

“We had a fantastic time. The boat ran great - only problem was my mic went out on the radio but that was okay as I was planning on replacing the unit anyway. It was old and crappy. We followed David and Art down to the MUSTER area then followed David back. This is a MUST DO event on our calendar every year. I dressed up as Santa Claus and took my bullhorn with me. We had the crowds going pretty good and gave the squadron some good plugs. I have talked to a few people that were spectators and said they could hear me LOUD and CLEAR along the battery.”

From Nick Russo - Captain of the Command Boat Oops in Charleston Harbor

“We started out short one VHF Radio – which is a real problem for the Command Boat. But we contacted No Sense, and then pulled up along side of her at the City Marina and borrowed one of there’s. Anyone who knows Steve Kromer knows he always has spares of everything! We had some trouble lining up all of the boats, but the Parade turned out great.”

From P/C Charlotte Yeomans – Spectator near Battery Park

“The Parade looked good to me. The boats seemed to stay in line and, in general, they stayed together. It looked well organized as you watched from the shore.”

From Steve Kromer, Captain of the Judges Boat – No Sense

“Our departure from The City Marina with all five Judges and their families on board was rather ominous. We had a great plan for undocking and plenty of crew. But our dockhand insisted on doing things his way, and we managed to leave crewmember Mike King on the dock and our boarding ladder hanging into the Harbor. We recovered both ladder and Mike by redocking further down the Megadock. But we had the same stubborn dockhand, so that didn’t go as smoothly as planned, either. Once we got off the dock the parade was great. We anchored right off the Battery just at the point where the parade turns to enter the Ashley River. We had a great view of the boats coming from our port side, turning in the Ashley River and then going by on our starboard side. Funny thing, none of the old-eyed judges could see the numbers on the boats. The kids we had on board could, though, and so they read the numbers of the boats for the judges. The cruise back to the dock was uneventful..”

I’m having a hard time finding the words to express my appreciation for all of the hard work and the extraordinary participation of the members who made this the most successfully Parade Of Boats in some years. This is the most enthusiastically received event that we’ve had since I’ve been in the Charleston Power Squadron.

Perhaps the best statement about our participation was from Ray Swagerty from the City Of Charleston who told me that he wasn’t sure that he would have been able to pull off the parade this year if not for the Squadron help.

Congratulations to you all and thank you. Next year we’ll do it again and have even more fun.

Steve Kromer



Bobby Carrier, captain of Phunee Bouy.



Nelson Hicks at the Parade of Boats.



Getting to Know Your Squadron Friends

Steve Poe and Marge Bannon are new members of the Charleston Power Squadron. They have lived in Charleston for over 30 years and currently reside in West Ashley. They have been together for 32 years and married 28 of those years. Marge is a realtor covering the tri-county area while Steve is a computer programmer analyst in Mount Pleasant for Government Solutions Group. Both hold very strong beliefs in boating education as well as in safety on and around the water. They support legislation for boating safety courses as well as for required licensing for boaters. Being such strong believers in boating safety education, three generations – themselves, their son, and their grandson – took the Boating Safety Course at Middleton High School many moons ago. Steve and Marge are acquiring a 17' Sea Hunt (power) in January; they also thoroughly enjoy paddling a canoe. They cruise with family and friends. As a note, Steve and Marge are looking for potential crew as their main crew (their son and grandson) are moving to North Carolina soon.



Dan Moore and Jules Breedan-Moore are also new members of the Squadron. While Dan moved to Charleston five years ago, Jules is a native to the land of pluff mud. They have been together now for three and one-half years. Dan is a self-employed Marine Surveyor. Jules was recently hired by Roper Hospital to be on their night nursing staff. They were referred to the Squadron by friends Dave Coleman and Allison Ryan. Of the Squadron, Dan says, "It is a super-nice group of people who have a significant amount of nautical knowledge to offer with a great willingness to share it." They are live-aboards at the City Marina on a 35' Wauquiez (sail) named "Champagne." They cruise with family and friends as well as their 16-year old black lab named "Bear." Dan and Jules are looking for crew who would force them to roll up their doormat, take their home away from the dock, and put it to use in the water sailing.



Please welcome your new boating friends the next time you see them!!

P/C Steve Yeomans



Minutes of Annual Meeting 13 October, 2005

The meeting was called to order by Cdr. Ed Kridler, SN. Invocation was offered by P/C Billy Lynes.

Past commanders and other guests were introduced by Lt/C Janice Kromer S.

Roll of those present is attached.

New Members were introduced by 1sr/Lt. Wendy Walsh AP. The list of new members is attached.

Executive: Lt/C Janice Kromer S reported that co-op charting is going well.

Education: Lt/C Steve Kromer AP reported "It's in the Log".

Administrative: Lt/C Dave Walsh P reported the following:

Thanks to Art and Merle Clark for their leadership in planning the cruise to Lake Moultry.

The next event is the oyster roast at Toad Hall. Help is needed.

The Bohicket cruise is November 19. There will be a pot luck dinner aboard No Sense on Friday evening at 6:00 pm. BYOB. If it is cold we will move to the Kromer's condo at Seabrook. Saturday there will be a piloting class adventure aboard No Sense. Saturday evening dinner will be at the Privateer Restaurant. Call Janice and the marina for reservations.

Secretary: No report

Treasurer: No report

Finance Committee: Lt. Kirk Williams, P presented the proposed 2006 budget (copy attached). This budget shows a net asset decrease of \$4,385. This is because we will spend funds from our savings to put a new roof on the headquarters building.

Discussion included:

We need to have a balance sheet as well as the budget and or monthly finance report.

Ed asked for a separate account for the spring conference income and expenses.

Question: "What is our source of income? Answer: Member dues and rent on building.

P/Lt. John Van Way made a motion to accept the budget as proposed. The motion was seconded By Johan Prine and passed unanimously.

Nominating Committee: P/C Billy Lynes AP presented the slate of nominees for 2006 (copy attached). P/Lt. John Van Way SN made a motion to accept the slate. Glenn Workman SN seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business: Lt/C Janice Kromer S reported that the Spring Conference registration will be published in the November issue of 026 True and will be posted on the District 26 web page. Charleston Parade of Boats will be December 3. We have many volunteers for crew and helping, but we need more boats to enter the parade. The Habitat for Humanity auction for the position of parade judge brought a donation of \$300.00.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Lt. Joan King AP,
acting secretary

Executive Committee Time Change

Please note that Executive Committee meetings will begin at 1830 as of February's meeting on 2 February, 2006.

Lt/C Robert Gulbrandsen
Secretary

Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, 3 November 2005

The meeting was called to order by Cdr. Edwin Kridler at 1900 at the Headquarters Building. Those in attendance were: Lt/C Bob Gulbrandsen, Lt/C Chuck Altschul, Kirk Williams, Lt/C Steve Kromer, Lt/C Janice Kromer, P/C Billy Lynes, Cdr Ed Kridler, Joan King, Lt/C David Walsh, Ray Harp, Mike King, P/D/C Ken Beeber and P/D/Lt/C Mike Page. A quorum was established; the minutes for the month of October 2005 stand as published in the November Palmetto Log and accepted by the Executive Committee.

Executive: Per Lt/C Janice Kromer: The Executive office had no business to report .

Educational: Per Lt/C Stephen Kromer: The Educational department report is in the Palmetto Log.

Administrative: Per Lt/C David Walsh: David motioned that the Executive Committee accept the Merriken's family as new members of the Charleston Power Squadron. The motion was seconded by Steve Kromer and the Executive Committee voted to accept the motion for membership. The upcoming cruise in November is the Bohicket Cruise. There will be Potluck dinner on the 18th and Piloting cruise, shopping trip and dinner at the Privateer Restaurant on the 19th of November.

Art Clark and Ray Harp presented the 2006 proposed cruise schedule to the committee.

Secretary: Per Lt/C Bob Gulbrandsen: No new business to report on, this office has not received any communications from National or District offices.

Treasurer: Per Lt/C Charles Altschul: The squadron presently has \$13,710.00 in assets, and the insurance premium for this year has been renewed..

Commander: Per Cdr. Ed Kridler: Ed introduced the incoming Commander, Cdr Janice Kromer to the Executive Committee. At that point she took over the

podium and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

District Report No District business to report.

National Report No National business to report.

Old Business: Lt/C Steve Kromer reports that we have all the judges set up for the upcoming Charleston Parade of Boats. They plan to do a media relations interview this coming week about the parade. Seven squadron boats are set to participate in the parade and four squadron boats will be acting as work boats.

Lt/C Janice Kromer noted that the spring conference is on track and all the plans are progressing well. We are in contact with the Lake Hartwell squadron and asking for tips, as the recent conference was so successful.

New Business: Lt/C David Walsh presented a plan for the squadron to participate in two major boat shows this coming year. David motioned that the committee accept the proposal to do these shows. Steve Kromer seconded the motion and the committee voted to accept the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 1940.



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Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, 1 December 2005

The meeting was called to order by Cdr. Janice Kromer at 1900 at the Headquarters Building. Those in attendance were: Lt/C Bob Gulbrandsen, Lt/C Chuck Altschul, Lt/C Steve Kromer, P/R/C Ed Kridler, Lt Joan King, Lt/C David Walsh, Mike King, P/D/Lt/C Mike Page, Lt/C Art Clark, P/C Steve Yeomans, Gene Gifillin, John Van Way and Lt Chet Rogers. A quorum was established and the Executive Committee was called to order.

Executive: Per Lt/C David Walsh: All offices and Committees for the Executive department have been filled. James Davis has taken on the task of Boat Show Committee chair. We plan to man a booth for the January 27th to 29th Boat show as well as the April 27th to 30th In Water Boat Show.

Educational: Per Lt/C Stephen Kromer: The Latest Piloting course has had a successful on the water event. Steve motioned that we open squadron elective courses to the public with an additional fee to apply. Art Clark seconded the motion, and after some discussion the executive committee voted to accept the motion.

Administrative: Per Lt/C Art Clark: The Cruise schedule for the upcoming year is set and David Walsh provided the committee members with copies of the schedule on business cards. The Shipmates program is well underway, with John VanWay organizing the effort. The calling tree is also working well with a good response from our membership. The Operation Training class is on track with Ken Beeber to be the instructor. The February membership meeting is set to be held at the downtown T-Bones restaurant with speaker that have just returned from an around the world cruise.

Secretary: Per Lt/C Bob Gulbrandsen: Lists of Squadron Officers and Committee Chairs have been filed with both District and National Secretaries for publication. The Annual Squadron Historian Report for 2005 has been completed and submitted to both Dis-

trict and National representatives. We are currently working on the 2006 Membership Directories and plan to have them ready for January 2006 presentation. Bob presented prospective members names Robert Schwerzel and Janet Schwerzel for a vote of membership the Executive Committee. The Committee voted to approve their membership.

Treasurer: Per Lt/C Charles Altschul: The squadron presently has a positive cash flow of \$11,571.58 dollars. Chuck addresses the National offices program of the use of credit cards for renewal and membership dues. Art Clark motioned that we need to investigate the venue further. Bob Gulbrandsen seconded the motion and the Committee voted to accept the motion. Cdr. Janice Kromer volunteered to research the issue further and bring her finding to the Executive Committee.

Commander: Per Cdr. Janice Kromer: The National Convention will be on the 8th of January. Chet Rogers, Cindy and Ed Kridler and Steve and Janice Kromer intend to attend it in Jacksonville Florida. Janice presented an award to Ed Kridler for his year of service as Commander in 2005. Charleston has received a National award for Cooperative Charting for 2005. Art Clark motioned that the Committee accept the Strategy Plan for 2006. John VanWay seconded the motion and the Committee voted to accept the plan as published.

District Report No District business to report.

National Report No National business to report.

Old Business: Lt/C Steve Kromer reports that we have 8 boats entered in the competition in the Charleston Parade of Boats. We also have 7 boats working the parade as guide, safety and judge's boats, and 45 squadron members involved in the presentation of the Parade of Boats.

New Business: No new business to be reported.

The meeting adjourned at 2015.

Day-Cruise to the Shem Creek for Lunch 21 January 2006

Come to Vickery's Bar and Restaurant Saturday 21 January for lunch and a gathering of friends. The restaurant is located on Shem Creek in Mount Pleasant, SC. So, you can come by boat or car. Lunch is planned for 1200. Food selection will be from the Restaurant's impressive menu. Here's a sampling of lunch items at Vickery's:

Appetizers: Bourbon Butter Shrimp, Oyster Bisque, Fried Green Tomatoes Tower, Crispy Vegetable Spring Roll and Southern Fried Squid.

Soups and Salads: Cayenne Chicken Salad, Jerk Chicken Salad, Crispy Fried Oyster Salad, Griller Salmon Caesar Salad and Cashew Encrusted Tuna Steak.

Specialties: Cuban Reuben, Black Bean Burger, Pan Seared Grouper, Porterhouse Pork Chops, and Seared Shrimp and Scallops Pesto.

(Prices range from \$5.50 for burgers to \$19.95 for dinner platters)

Vickery's location on Shem Creek offers a view of a working fishing village. For lunch, the Charleston Power Squadron has reserved dock-side tables providing us with an excellent view of Shem Creek and its daily traffic of shrimp boats and pleasure craft. Vickery's dock offers free docking for restaurant guests. The dock has room for about 10 boats. Don't worry if the dock is full, just raft up with another Squadron boat at the dock.

Directions to Shem Creek By Boat

Follow the well marked Mount Pleasant Channel northwest from ICW's flashing daybeacon #130 to the mouth of Shem Creek. Vickery's Restaurant is on the south shore of Shem Creek about ¼ mile. Docking is free on a first come basis.

Directions to Shem Creek By Car

From Charleston, take US Highway 17 to Mount Pleasant turning on to Coleman Blvd. Turn right on Shrimp Boat Lane before crossing the Shem Creek Bridge. Vickery's parking lot is at the end of Shrimp Boat Lane.

The address is 1313 Shrimp Boat Lane, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, Phone No 884-4440. Lunch is planned for 1200.

Reservations: Contact Ray Harp (843) 881-2284 by Thursday 19 January 2006



D/26 Spring Conference

You've been hearing about the D/26 Spring Conference for many months, and it's time to make your reservations for this great weekend. If you're new to the Squadron, you may not know that it's tradition that the Charleston Power Squadron be gracious hosts and make our guests glad they came to Charleston. Well, you can't do that if you're not there!

So mark your calendars for the weekend of March 10, 11 and 12, 2006, fill out your registration form, and mail it back to Joan King. Plan on attending at least one of the social functions – Friday Night Party, Saturday Night Banquet, or Sunday Commander's Brunch. And if you're interested in learning about the inner-workings of USPS D/26, by all means, come to the District meetings on Saturday.

Remember, this is an opportunity to shine the spotlight on the Charleston Power Squadron and renew our reputation for a welcoming, partying group!

Janice Kromer

**USPS DISTRICT 26 SPRING CONFERENCE
10-12 MARCH 2006
CHARLESTON, SC**

Member Last Name	First Name	Rank	Grade	Squadron
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Last Name (2nd Member or Guest)	First Name	Rank	Grade	Squadron
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Address	City	State	Zip	Telephone	
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				No. @ Price	Total
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Friday 10 March 2006

1500 – 1700	Registration, Town & Country Lobby				
1700 - 1830	Charleston Hospitality Room Open				
1830 – 2100	Buffet Dinner, Maritime Center (Cash Donation Squadron Bar)			_____ @ \$20	_____

Saturday 11 March 2006

0800 – 0930	Registration, Town & Country Lobby				
0900 – 1400	Spring Conference				
1200 – 1300	Member Lunch at Town & Country			_____ @ \$17	_____
1500 – 1800	Charleston Hospitality Room Open				
1800 – 1900	Cocktails, Town & Country Cash Bar				
1900- 2130	Dinner : _____ London Broil _____ Broiled Flounder (Fill in Number of London Broil or Flounder Dinners)			_____ @ \$40	_____
1030 - 1530	Spouse/Guest Program Bus Tour of Charleston/Shopping Downtown			_____ @ \$25	_____

Sunday 12 March 2006

0900 – 1100	Commander’s Brunch – Summerville				
				_____ @ Complimentary	

Activities Total: _____

**Mail this portion of the Registration Form with a check (non-refundable) payable to Charleston Power Squadron to:
Lt Joan King, AP, 562 Crestview Drive, Summerville, SC 29485
Questions? Phone Joan at (843) 276-4513 or email to mikejoanking@sc.rr.com
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 6, 2006 FOR HOTEL/ FEBRUARY 24, 2006 FOR ACTIVITIES**

HOTEL RESERVATION/INFORMATION

Mail, Call or Fax: Town & Country Inn	2008 Savannah Hgwy	Charleston, SC 29407
(800) 334-6660	(843) 571-1000	(843) 766-9444 Fax

Room Rate: \$99 plus 12% Tax	Prefer: ___ Smoking/ ___ Non-Smoking
Deadline: February 6, 2006	Mention: <i>USPS D/26 Charleston Power Squadron</i>

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____ Check in: 1500 Check Out: 1200

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State/Zip: _____

Credit Card No: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

The Palmetto Log
Jerry Kemerer, Editor
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Upcoming Events For January and February

- 12 January – Executive Committee Meeting – Headquarters – 1830
- 21 January – Cruise - Vickery Restaurant – Mt. Pleasant – 1200
- 21 January – Member Meeting – Vickery Restaurant – Mt. Pleasant – 1100
- 2 February – Executive Committee Meeting – Headquarters – 1830
- 9 February – Member Meeting - TBonz Downtown – 1830
- 2 March – Executive Committee Meeting – Headquarters – 1830
- 4 March – Cape Romain Lighthouse Cruise
- 9 March – Member Meeting – Headquarters - 1830

SAFE BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION