

VOLUME 59 NUMBER 1  
MARCH 2006

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768-1861

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556-3258

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768-4740

**Lt/C Art Clark, P**  
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**Lt/C Chuck Altschul, S**  
388-0680



**Squadron Headquarters Bldg.**  
1376 Orange Grove Road  
Charleston, SC 29407

**MEETINGS**

**Executive Committee -1<sup>st</sup> Thursday @ 1830**

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**SAFE BOATING THROUGH  
EDUCATION**

## From the Commander Cdr Janice Kromer, AP



**T**he big news this month is that the District 26 Spring Conference is just about upon us. By now, all of you should have signed up for the Friday, Saturday and Sunday festivities. If anyone still would like to participate in the Friday night party, the Saturday night Banquet or the Commander's Brunch on Sunday, please call either Joan King or me.

Along with the Kridler's, Steve and I attended the District Winter Council in Columbia early in February. During the meeting, Charleston was given two Power of One pins to distribute to P/C Fred Wichmann and member Bobby O'Neal. These gentlemen have the distinction of influencing at least one member to join our squadron. Also during the meeting, a proposal to increase the number of members on the District Nominating Committee was sent to the Rules Committee. It seems that two of the three current members have moved out of state, and the Nominating Committee is having a hard time functioning. Increasing the number of members to five was one of the ideas proposed as a solution to this problem and avoiding it in the future.

At its February meeting, our Executive Committee voted to have the Charleston Squadron participate in the Headquarters Annual Billing Program. This program was introduced over two years ago, and we are confident that all of the kinks have been worked out by now. Lt/C Chuck Altschul and myself investigated the success of HQAB, and all to whom we spoke had nothing but good to say about it. In fact, Charleston was one of only four squadrons in the District not participating. National is now responsible for all dues billing and collection, and new members will be billed for their annual renewals on their anniversary date of acceptance into USPS. That will spread our renewal income through the year and help our cash flow. Current members will see a big benefit, too. Dues may

now be renewed by check, credit card, or on-line. Detailed instructions will be printed on your renewal form. Our Treasurer will have the ability to view on-line the status of the renewal process for each and every member. He will also see payment advice on the money that will be transferred by National into our bank account. We are told that these reports are updated daily and are very accurate. If any member has any questions on how to renew or on the program in general, please don't hesitate to contact Chuck Altschul or me.

And my last bit of news this month is the most important – and most exciting. P/Lt/C Martin Gipe has earned the distinction of attaining the status of Life Member in the United States Power Squadron. Martin earned his 25<sup>th</sup> Merit Mark this year, and he will be honored with a plaque and a pin during the Spring Conference. The entire membership of the USPS thanks Martin for all of the service he has provided to this organization. Congratulations from all of us, Martin!

Cdr Janice Kromer

## Upcoming Member Events

*Mark 'em on your calendar!*

**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.

**25 March** – Member Meeting, Vessel Safety Checks, and Hornick Cruise. Buzzard's Roost Marina.

**13 April** – Member Meeting at Headquarters. Featured speakers will be Michael Murray and Carl Mahler from the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, Maritime Research Division, Charleston. Michael and Carl will speak regarding interesting maritime archaeological sites and artifacts found in the local area. This will be pot luck, so bring your best dishes!!!!

## ***March Madness***

We ain't talkin' college roundball, it's cruise time x 2!

### **Cape Romain Lighthouse Cruise**

4 March 2006 0900AM

**D**inner at the Crab Pot in McClellanville following lighthouse visit.

Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge is a 64,000-acre Class I Wilderness. It was established in 1932 as a migratory bird refuge and is accessible only by boat. Today, it is the largest nesting site for loggerhead sea turtles outside of Florida, averaging 1,000 nests per year. It is also home to many other endangered species, among them the American kestrel, bald eagle, glossy ibis, least tern, osprey, peregrine falcon, and wood stork.

#### *Directions by car*

Take Highway US 17 from Charleston to McClellenville (about 40 miles). Turn right on Pinckney Street and go 1.1 miles and turn right on to Water Street; Leland Marine Services is about 300 feet ahead.

#### *Directions by boat*

Turn at flashing daybeacon #35 near ICW Standard Mile 430 turning west into Jeremy Creek. Leland Marine Services is about 1 mile ahead on the north shore of Jeremy Creek.

#### *Address and Phone Numbers*

Leland Marine Services, 541 Water Street, McClellenville, SC 29458, (843) 887-3641

The Crab Pot, 10024 North Highway 17, McClellanville, SC 29458, (843) 887-3156

If you are bringing your boat and can take passenger to the lighthouse, let us know. If you are coming by car and want a boat ride to the lighthouse, let us know. We will be matching up boats and passengers.

Remember to bring lunch or something to snack on and plenty of fluids.

## **Hornick Cruise**

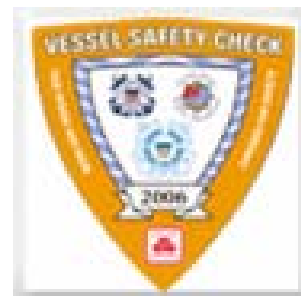
25 March 1200

**B**e ready for a great lunch with some beer batter hamburgers after getting your boat a safety inspection. There will be a team of Vessel Safety Examiners to check your boat out starting at 1000 hrs. You may also bring your boat on a trailer. We are looking forward to seeing many squadron members. There will be a small donation for the lunch. Also the squadron bar will be available.

For more info please call P/C Tony Ward 843-830-3027.

### **Please Note:**

The 9 March member meeting has been combined with the 25 March Hornick Cruise at Buzzard's Roost Marina. There is *NO* meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>...



**Executive Officer**  
**Lt/C David E. Walsh, AP**



**T**he Charleston Boat Show was held the weekend 27, 28 and 29 January. This year the squadron's booth was located between the National Weather Service and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. So, we had prestigious neighbors as well as competition for people interested in a safe boating course. Glenn and Mary Workman had the first shift and reported that most of the people were passing our booth but stopping at the Coast Guard Auxiliary's booth. Traffic continued slowly at our booth until we started giving away extra large "Jumbo" Tootsie Rolls. After that, traffic turned and we started attracting people, talking up boater education and distributing our brochures. By the end of the boat show, we had names and phone numbers for 36 people asking to be contacted about BoatSmart or squadron membership. Special thanks goes to Jim Davis our Boat Show Chairman and his volunteers, Glenn and Mary Workman, Art and Merle Clark, Jim and Peggy Bass, Richard Brannan, Mike Page and Laura, Stan and Karen Whitman, Bobby Carrier, Steve Poe, Martin Gipe, Johan Prins, Maria Sindram and Wendy Walsh for a job well done.

The next Boat Show is the In-Water Boat show, scheduled for 27-30 April at Patriot's Point. The sponsor, South Carolina Marine Association, is providing space in their tent for the squadron's booth. As always, we need volunteers to represent the Charleston Power Squadron at the booth on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. If you can help, contact squadron Boat Show Chairman Jim Davis and volunteer. If you volunteer, you will get into the In-Water Boat Show for free and can have one of the squadron's, now famous, extra large "Jumbo" Tootsie Rolls. Please contact Jim Davis at 388-2303 or e-mail [jim.davis@seaport.com](mailto:jim.davis@seaport.com).

Cooperative Charting is off to a start with the first charting trip of 2006 on January 16. New member Steve Poe and I charted the ICW in the Casino Creek and

McClellanville areas with Steve's new Sea Hunt boat. We stopped to eat our lunch on Leland Marine's dock at McClellanville. While there, we met Duane Merritt, Leland's new dockmaster who showed us some of the improvements he is making to the facility. Among the improvements are 100 feet of floating dock, a new gas and diesel fuel station and 30 and 60 amp electrical outlets. The squadron is planning a cruise to McClellanville on the weekend of 4 March to celebrate Fred Wichmann's birthday and visit the Lighthouse. Duane welcomes squadron boats to use his dock at no charge that weekend.

Dave

## **Flowertown Festival**

**A**s some of you already know, Charleston Power Squadron will be involved in the Flowertown Festival in Summerville this year. The dates are Friday the 31st of March through Sunday the 2nd of April (with the set-up date being Thursday the 30th of March)

The dates are quite near, thus we need to "kick it into gear" to be successful there. As of now, the committee consists of Steve Yeomans, John VanWay, Art Clark, and myself -- anyone interested in joining that, please contact us.

Spread the word throughout the Squadron; we need fundraising ideas (CPS can sell or raffle anything but food and beverages) -- koozies, kids' wooden boats, educational materials, etc...

We'll let y'all know of a planning meeting very soon.

Thanks,  
Cat

P/C Charlotte F. Yeomans, P  
Charleston Power Squadron  
[cfyedisto@aol.com](mailto:cfyedisto@aol.com)

## **Administrative Officer Lt/C Art Clark, P**



**O**ur drive to attract new members and retain our existing members continues. Since of our last article, we have implemented new surveys for new members and, sadly, for current members who choose to let their memberships lapse. This entire effort is aimed at making certain that the Squadron is providing you with the activities that you desire. For example, we added the shopping trip to Savannah this year based on member inputs. Last year we added the cruise to Short Stay (Lake Moultrie) and, based on attendance and member feedback, we are repeating the cruise this year as well.

A number of us attended Operations Training for Bridge members at the end of January. For those of us who attended, we want to thank Ken Beeber for his excellent presentation and the Kromer's for opening their home to our group and providing a most excellent dinner (Janice's world famous ziti...we agree). One big lesson I learned is that, although we all report to Janice as our Commander, The Commander reports to the general membership. This is true at all levels within USPS. So you can see that we truly want to be responsive to your expectations in all that we do. Please don't be shy about letting us know what you expect.

That said, we can use some help from everyone. Please fill in those survey forms when you get them even if you are not renewing. It could make a great difference for our Squadron. The other thing is to ask you all to keep on referring new members so that we can get them into the Boat Smart course.

Thanks to Ray Harp for a great cruise to Shem Creek (Water's Edge Restaurant). The food was terrific as were the bloody Mary's, and you couldn't beat the company. This was so much better than our original schedule for Vickery's. It turned out that The Vickery had little dock space and could not seat us all together in

the restaurant. We had 15 folks come by boat, mostly on Tony and Boo Ward's Knotless. Art Clark, Dave Walsh and Bobby Carrier also came by boat. A little raft-up and we could have easily accommodated more boats. Thanks also to all 44 members who attended.

### **More New Members**

Joseph Eisinger	Summerville, SC
Robert Kovach	Charleston, SC
Greg Clark	Gainesville, GA
Gail Clark	Gainesville, GA

Art

### **January Cruising Season Kickoff Luncheon**

Our January cruise and luncheon turned out to be a beautiful day for boating and meeting at the Water's Edge Restaurant on Shem Creek. There were four boats that cruised across the Charleston Harbor to Shem Creek. Tony and Boo Ward and their guests came on the Knotless II. Dave and Wendy Walsh and their guests came on the Reely Fun. Bobby and Debra Carrier came on the Phunee Buoy. Last but not least, Art and Merle Clark came on The Sunday Drive. Bob and Mary Anne Gulbrandsen left their marina on the Morningstar II but developed electrical problems and returned for repairs. Sorry Bob and Mary Anne, we missed you.

We had to make a last minute switch from Vickery's Restaurant to Water's Edge due to lack of adequate dock space. Water's Edge accommodated us very good with the dock space we needed and a private dining room that would seat everyone. The food and service was great and people enjoyed the fellowship and meeting. There was nearly fifty people in attendance. Thank you all for coming out and making the cruise successful.

Ray Harp

**Educational Officer**  
**Lt/C Stephen C. Kromer, AP**



Steve reports nothing to report this month. Look for an update in April.



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**Secretary**  
**Lt/C Robert A. Gulbrandsen, S**



**F**rom the Secretaries Desk Top, we are up to speed on the organization of your squadron for the 2006 boating season. All the necessary documents have been filed and put in place with both District and National Power Squadrons offices. So we are looking forward to another exciting year of activities and boating.

Have you been receiving your squadron's electronic updates and notices? Several of our AOL users are having their messages bounced back to us as undeliverable. I am told that AOL and some other companies are filtering out any emails not on the users address list.

If you are not seeing the Squadrons emails on your system, I am told that you would need to add our email address to your address book to resolve this problem. Please add [Morningsta804@msn.com](mailto:Morningsta804@msn.com) to your contacts or if you wish not to receive these emails, please drop me a message asking me to remove your address from our listing.

The Squadron 2006 Directories have been mailed and you should have received them by now. We try are best to keep abreast of the frequent changes in our members contact. If you have changes or updates, please let me know as to keep your squadron friend in contact with you. We have a number of new members and transfer members joining our ranks everyday. I keep an electronic directory withal the up to date information on it. If anyone would like these updates or just wish to have an electronic copy of our directory. I can email one to any member on email request.

As always we are looking to post articles about you and your boat. Send us a picture and a little note about your boat. Your Squadron is anxious to share 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. 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. Also any squadron member is welcome to submit an article to your Palmetto Log. Just email them to our editor Jerry Kemerer at JKemerer@comcast.net And 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.

Bcb



## 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 many 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



## Safety Officer

### P/C John Sikes, AP

The recreational boating safety (RBS) program has been wildly successful, probably beyond anyone's hopes 30 years ago. Back then, 1500 or more Americans died every year in boating accidents. Fast-forward to today; we have probably three times the number of registered boats on our waters, and below 700 fatalities. What has happened?

We used to define safety improvements using the 3 E's:

- Engineering
- Education
- Enforcement

This partnership worked to bring us to where we are today. Even with the advent of new technologies, such as personal watercraft (PWC), and the recent surge in paddling sports, the statistics show that everyone is doing a much better job of saving lives. The alignment of governmental forces conducting recreational boating safety efforts underwent a huge change, which gave the States a much larger share of the responsibility (and added state funds to the total effort). The Wallop-Breaux mechanism to use boating fuel taxes to assist States and the U.S. Coast Guard, as well as spur innovation through the non-profit grant program, has certainly contributed.

But, have we now reached an "acceptable" level of acceptance? Are our cries for more attention, funding, resources, and public awareness beginning to fall on deaf ears? A recent "Tiger Team" looking at the efficacy of the National Safe Boating Week Campaign actually concluded that the success of the program has reached an admirable plateau, and that it's becoming more difficult to convince those providing funds that the cause is still very needy. When one compares 676 lives lost in boating accidents to the slaughter of tens of thousands on the nation's highways, one might start looking around to see how many people died of bee stings, lightning strikes, or bicycle spills, and conclude

that boating is just fine and doesn't deserve further or elevated energy.

I think other factors enter the picture here, and that maybe we should be measuring and representing boating accidents in a different way. Societal costs associated with a boating accident can become pretty impressive. The NTSB has said that the level of boating fatalities is second only to automobiles across all transportation modes, and places RBS on their "Most Wanted" list — a list of the most critical and immediate problems facing our transportation system. So the need is still great and present.

One way I look at it, is that just about every boating fatality is preventable. The discussions about mandatory education or mandatory life jacket wear are symptoms of raising awareness to prevent some of the needless losses, and they are healthy for our recreational pastime. However, we must be aware that our successes are beginning to crimp our apparent need.

My advice is to keep paddling. The boating community has done a magnificent job, and the present measurements indicate that our work to keep boating enjoyable is really working. It's just great to see the statistics fall — let's not get complacent and go back 30 years. Safer boating is more enjoyable, don't you agree?

Reprinted from, Way Points: December 2005  
By Bill Griswold, Captain, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.)



## Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, 2 February 2006

The meeting was called to order by Cdr. Janice Kromer at 1830 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, Lt/C Art Clark, Gene Gilfillin, John Van Way, Wendy Walsh, M.L. P/C Billy Lynes, P/C Charlotte Yeomans, P/C Steve Yeomans, Bobby Carrier, P/D/C Ken Beeber and P/D/C Bob Gissell. A quorum was established and the Executive Committee was called to order.

**Executive:** Per Lt/C David Walsh: The recent Boat Show had very good traffic and squadron exposure. Over 36 people that visited the booth signed up for more information from the squadron. The committee decided that a portable squadron banner was needed for events like this show. David reminded the committee that a copy of our insurance contract was needed for the upcoming In Water Boat Show. P/C Cat Yeomans made a presentation about the upcoming "Flower town Festival" and proposed that the squadron present squadron safety booth there. P/C Steve Yeomans motioned that we have the booth at the festival. Lt/C Steve Kromer seconded the motion and the Committee voted the carry the motion.

**Educational:** Per Lt/C Stephen Kromer: The spring class schedule will begin in February. The Tuesday night Boat Smart classes continue to have five or six people to attend each night.

**Administrative:** Per Lt/C Art Clark: The 9<sup>th</sup> of February will be our members meeting at the downtown T-bones restaurant, we have about 28 people signed up as of now. March 4<sup>th</sup> is our Cape Romain Cruise still on track with P/C Fred Wichmann as cruise captain. The squadron is working on member's surveys and non-renewal surveys in our membership drive. Wendy Walsh submitted Joseph Eisinger as a new member. The Committee voted to accept him as a new member.



**Secretary:** Per Lt/C Bob Gulbrandsen: No new business or old business to report on from the Secretary office.

**Treasurer:** Per Lt/C Charles Altschul: Chuck presented the committee with the results of the recent financial audit of the squadrons books. Per Cdr Kromer the Auditing Committee wanted to compliment Chuck for the outstanding job he has done on our bookkeeping system. Chuck made a presentation about the National Billing system and the bringing in the use of credit card to the squadron. The feedback from other squadrons that are using this system is all positive. There will be no fees passed on to the squadron and Chuck highly recommended that we go to this system. Lt/C Art Clark motioned that we put this billing system into place. Gene Gilfillin seconded the motion and the committee voted to carry the motion. The squadron is looking into the acquiring of wireless credit card readers at a cost of \$250.00 and a user fee of 25 cents per transaction or \$7.00 monthly fee.

**Commander:** Per Cdr. Janice Kromer: The winter council will be this week, Ed and Cindy Kridler Steve and Janice Kromer plan to attend. The squadron Change of Watch is now scheduled for November 3<sup>rd</sup>. 2006.

**District Report** The Charleston Power Squadron will be hosting the 2009 District Change of Watch.

**National Report** The Charleston Power Squadron will be hosting the 2019 District Cruise.

**Old Business:** The squadron would still like to visit the upcoming 60<sup>th</sup> Squadron Anniversary and the possibility of some type of celebration.

**New Business:** Bobby Carrier made a presentation about the possibility of adding a Charleston Power Squadron "Yahoo Group Page". The page would be a way to promote the squadron but would be open to the public upon being accepted by our own mediator. Lt/C David Walsh motioned that we investigate with na-

tional legal department the possibility of doing this. Lt/C Steve Kromer seconded the motion and the Committee carried the motion.

Cdr. Janice Kromer asked for suggestions that the squadron become involved in the upcoming "National Safe Boating Week May 20<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>". Members of the committee will look into possible events to be involved with.

Wendy Walsh asked the committee if we wanted to begin charging for Associate membership in the squadron. The Committee examined the pros and cons of this membership and decided to leave it stand for now with no fees.

The meeting adjourned at 2000.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BARGAIN MART</b> <b>USED BOATING SUPPLIES</b> 4662 Rivers Ave. N. Charleston, SC 29405 Phone 843-747-4144</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INSIDE THE USED FURNITURE STORE HARDWARE - PLUMBING - BRASS ROPE - RODS - REELS - GAS TANKS MOTORS - OUTDRIVES - SAILS ANCHORS - ELECTRIC HARD TO FIND BOAT PARTS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONSIGN OR SELL US YOUR USED PARTS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thanks Power Squadron for your work and dedication in Boating Education and Public Safety. <i>Barney M. Metts</i></p>
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## Top Ten New Year's Resolutions from the BoatU.S. Foundation

The BoatU.S. Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water suggests the following New Year's resolutions to make boating safer, cleaner, and more rewarding for everyone:

1. Don't let your loved ones be at the whim of spotty cell phone coverage—buy them a VHF radio. Handheld, portable VHF's are affordable, easy to carry, and don't require installation.
2. Save the alcohol for when you arrive safely back at the dock. Alcohol use, when reported as the primary cause of an accident, resulted in 16 percent of all boating fatalities in 2004.
3. Make sure you have a correctly-sized life jacket for a child. Kid's life jackets can be borrowed (at no cost) at over 350 Kids Life Jacket Loaner Program locations across the US. Go to [www.BoatUS.com/Foundation](http://www.BoatUS.com/Foundation) and click on "Boating Safety Programs" for the location nearest you.
4. Give Mother Nature a break. Don't chase, harass, or feed wildlife.
5. Leave no trace. When packing up your beach party at the end of the day, pick up one or more extra pieces of trash that you find and dispose of it properly.
6. Fuel up your boat without spilling a drop overboard this entire season. Contain engine room drops and spills with bilge pads and socks. The cumulative effects of a drop here and there add up.
7. Set up separate trash and recycling containers aboard. A readily available disposal system helps everyone keep trash out of the water.
8. Give the ramp rookie a break. Be patient or offer to spot for those who have little experience backing down—you were once in their shoes.
9. Join a club that benefits the body of water on which you boat. Do something with the group that makes your waterway better, safer, or cleaner.
10. Make a donation to your favorite educational or marine conservation group. In doing so, you will make a positive difference for every boater in 2006, and gain a great sense of personal satisfaction.

The BoatU.S. Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit education and research organization funded by recreational boaters nationwide. For more information visit <http://www.BoatUS.com/Foundation>.

A complete issue of Waypoints, the monthly newsletter of the BoatU.S. Foundation may be downloaded at <http://www.uscgboating.org/waypoints/pdf/waypoints-jan06.pdf>.



## Gravity Wave Event 3 Feb 2006

The following is some additional information from the National Weather Service regarding the high winds that caused damage and injury on the evening of 3 Feb 2006.

### PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE CHARLESTON SC 606 PM EST SAT FEB 4 2006

HIGH WINDS IMPACTED MUCH OF THE CHARLESTON HARBOR AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES BETWEEN 1130 PM AND 130 AM LAST NIGHT. NUMEROUS REPORTS OF HIGH WINDS AND WIND DAMAGE WERE REPORTED TO FORECASTERS AT THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN CHARLESTON DURING THIS TIME. PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE DAMAGING WINDS WERE CAUSED BY THE PASSAGE OF A VERY STRONG GRAVITY WAVE THAT MOVED THROUGH THE CHARLESTON AREA BETWEEN 11 PM AND MIDNIGHT. THE GRAVITY WAVE APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN GENERATED BY A LARGE CLUSTER OF SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS THAT IMPACTED MUCH OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA AND FAR SOUTHEAST GEORGIA LATE FRIDAY EVENING.

AS THE GRAVITY WAVE APPROACHED...SURFACE PRESSURES AROUND THE HARBOR DROPPED BETWEEN 4-5 MB IN LESS THAN AN HOUR...THEN BEGAN TO QUICKLY RISE AS STRONG DOWNWARD MOTION DEVELOPED AFTER THE PASSAGE OF THE WAVE. THIS STRONG SINKING MOTION LIKELY RESULTED IN THE MIXING OF MUCH HIGHER WINDS ALOFT DOWN TO THE SURFACE. THE OPEN FETCH OF THE CHARLESTON HARBOR LIKELY ENHANCED THESE WINDS RESULTING IN CONSIDERABLE WIND DAMAGE.

THE MOST SEVERE DAMAGE OCCURRED AT THE CHARLESTON CITY MARINA WHICH IS LOCATED ON THE ASHLEY RIVER ON THE SOUTHWEST SIDE OF DOWNTOWN CHARLESTON. HERE HIGH WINDS IN EXCESS OF 75 MPH PRODUCED SIGNIFICANT WAVE ACTION /LIKELY ON THE ORDER OF 4-5 FT/ ON THE EXPOSED REGION OF THE CHARLESTON HARBOR WHERE THE HARBOR MEETS THE LOWER REACHES OF THE ASHLEY AND STONO RIVERS. THE COMBINATION OF HIGH WINDS AND SIGNIFICANT WAVE ACTION DAMAGED BETWEEN 20-30 SAILBOATS AND YACHTS. A 40-50 FT SAILBOAT SANK WHEN LARGE WAVES PUSHED THE BOAT ONTO THE DOCK AND SEVERELY CRACKED ITS HULL. THE ESTIMATED VALUE OF THE SUNK VESSEL IS 200-300 THOUSAND DOLLARS BASED ON INTERVIEWS WITH LOCAL MARINERS. ONE BOAT OWNER ALSO HAD HIS HAND AMPUTATED WHILE TRYING TO TIE DOWN HIS BOAT DURING THE HIGH WINDS.

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME PEAK WIND GUSTS THAT WERE MEASURED BY A VARIETY OF SURFACE OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT LOCATED IN AND AROUND THE CHARLESTON HARBOR...

CHARLESTON COAST GUARD..... 65 MPH.  
FOLLY BEACH CITY HALL..... 65 MPH.  
WANDO TERMINAL..... 62 MPH.  
ISLE OF PALMS..... 56 MPH.  
SULLIVANS ISLD FIRE DEPT... 56 MPH.  
WATERFRONT PARK..... 53 MPH.  
WCBM MOUNT PLEASANT..... 50 MPH.  
FOLLY BEACH C-MAN..... 49 MPH.  
CAPERS ISLAND NOS SITE..... 49 MPH.

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**THIS IS YOUR PUBLICATION  
MEET THE DEADLINE for MARCH  
23 March 2006**

**Jack and Le'Anne Meyer  
Cruising Activities  
Phone: 843-875-9337**

### **Upcoming Events For February and March**

- 2 March – Executive Committee Meeting – Headquarters – 1830
- 4 March – Cape Romain Lighthouse Cruise
- 25 March – Hornick Cruise/Picnic/VSC – Buzzard's Roost Marina
- 25 March – Member Meeting – Buzzard's Roost
- 6 April – EXCOM Meeting – Headquarters – 1830
- 13 April – Member Meeting – Potluck/HQ – 1830
- 21 thru 23 April – Savannah Shopping Trip - Savannah

**SAFE BOATING THROUGH EDUCATION**