



# Sound of the Pamlico

April 2009

Volume 11, No 2

**PAMLICO SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON**  
**A unit of United States Power Squadrons®**  
**Sail and Power Boating**  
On the web at <http://www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org>

## PSPS March Membership Meeting



**Webmaster Dan Meyer explains it all!**

PSPS members met on March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Washington Yacht and Country Club. After a social hour and dinner, Communications Chair, Chris Young, introduced our new Webmaster, Dan Meyer. Dan and Chris, along with Mia Ramsden and Edie Miller, are responsible for the development of our new web site, [www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org](http://www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org).

After a brief overview, Dan demonstrated the site for members. The committee's goal was to make the site easy to use. Members need to be able to quickly and easily retrieve the information they want. We want to encourage members to use the site for up-to-date information on programs and events.

Cdr. Waite introduced a new feature at this meeting, called Best Boating Question, or BBQ. He solicited boating questions from the group, then selected the ones to answer. The winning question was, "You have no chart plotted and you wake up on your anchorage and need to get to the next marina and it is foggy with sun trying to break though but won't do so. How do you find the buoys to get to the next marina?" Con-

*(See meeting, on page 6)*

## Radar Seminar a Success

A cheerful group gathered at Lifestyles Fitness Center at 8:30 on Saturday, March 21, to learn everything about Radar. Instructors were Tom Penders, Ed Galston, Don Dunlap and Ben Reed.

The course, open to the public as well as squadron members, fo-



**SEO Tom Penders**

cused on how to use your on-board radar most effectively.

This is one in a series of seminars developed at USPS to allow 2 - 3 hour classes on specific aspects of boating.

Future seminars will deal with topics such as: Boat

*(Radar, Continued on page 5)*

## CALENDAR

### April

**13 - 160**  
Executive Committee Meeting - Chamber of Commerce  
Dinner at Riverwalk SteaKs

**18 - 0900**  
Vessel Safety Check  
Cypress Landing Marina & Pamlico Plantation Marina

### May

**2-10** - Southbound Spring Cruise

**11 - 1600**  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Chamber of Commerce  
SOTP Deadline

**21 - 1800**  
Membership Meeting WYCC

**15 - 17** - Belhaven Rendezvous

**16** - Vessel Safety checks  
Washington Waterfront and Cypress Landing Yacht Club

**16 - 22** - Natl. Safe Boating Week

**29 - 31** - Cruise  
Washington Waterfront

check "Calendar" at [pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org](http://pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org) for up-to-date info on PSPS activities.

**BRIDGE****Commander**

Cdr. Bill Waite, S  
252-946-0322  
[waite@mac.com](mailto:waite@mac.com)

**Executive Officer**

Lt/C Bob Young, P  
252-946-7853  
[youngsters@suddenlink.net](mailto:youngsters@suddenlink.net)

**Squadron Educational Officer, S**

Lt/C Tom Penders, JN  
252-946-2100  
[nittanymt@aol.com](mailto:nittanymt@aol.com)

**Administrative Officer**

Lt/C Tom Miller  
252-975-6479  
[ectgmiller@suddenlink.net](mailto:ectgmiller@suddenlink.net)

**Secretary**

Lt/C Alan Blue  
252-946-4128  
[mraeblue@aol.com](mailto:mraeblue@aol.com)

**Treasurer**

Lt/C Jim Cope  
252-948-0347  
[spiritofthethebay@suddenlink.net](mailto:spiritofthethebay@suddenlink.net)

**Executive Committee**

P/C Joyce Colwell, AP  
252-975-2550  
[joycecolwell@suddenlink.net](mailto:joycecolwell@suddenlink.net)

P/C Don Dunlap, SN

252-974-7791  
[dondunlap@embarqmail.com](mailto:dondunlap@embarqmail.com)

P/C Fred Kaplan, P

252-974-5486  
[fredbmsg@earthlink.net](mailto:fredbmsg@earthlink.net)

P/C Mike Staples, AP

252-940-1683  
[bungene@suddenlink.net](mailto:bungene@suddenlink.net)

**Communication Officer**

Chris Young, S  
252-946-7853  
[chrisyoung@suddenlink.net](mailto:chrisyoung@suddenlink.net)

**Newsletter Editor**

Edie Miller  
252-975-6479  
[ectgmiller@suddenlink.net](mailto:ectgmiller@suddenlink.net)

**Webmaster**

Dan Meyer  
[webmaster@pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org](mailto:webmaster@pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org)

**Commander's Corner**

Cdr. Bill Waite, S

It is with great pleasure that I announce our new and enhanced website. Our goal in producing this website is to provide our members with the most up-to-date Squadron and other boating and membership information. We'll be notifying you when there are significant updates or new information that will enhance your membership in the Pamlico Sail and Power Squadron. The address is: [www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org](http://www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org) I suggest that you establish a link to the Squadron Calendar as one of your favorites.

As you browse the site, you will find much information about our Squadron. Additionally, there are links to the United States Power Squadron, our District 27 and other valuable boating information. Of course, this is a "member" website so you can catch-up on how we enjoy ourselves with topnotch boating safety and educational programs, community and civic activities, member benefits and our social and fraternal meetings and events. I hope you visit our website often.

I want to thank all the members that are contributing to this distinctive electronic publication. It is a testament to the dedication our members have toward safe boating, commit-



Cdr. Bill Waite

ment to community and just plain having fun while enjoying boating associated activities.

On another matter, I would like to report to you about our Executive Committee meeting which took place in mid-February. Most of the members

listed on the 2009 Pamlico Sail and Power Squadron Organizational Chart attended this meeting and get-together with their spouses. While the working members reported on their respective ongoing and planned activities for 2009, their spouses were treated to a special presentation by Ranger Sandra Fambrough of Goose Creek State Park. The talk was entitled "The Aquatic Life on the Pamlico River." We followed these events with dinner. It was a great evening and it gave me a chance to thank some of the many members who play a significant role in keeping this Squadron going on a day to day basis. On behalf of all us, I would like to say again how grateful we are for all the time and effort put forth by the individuals listed on the 2009 Organizational Chart. Please seek these people out and give them a well deserved thank you.

Finally, thank you for being a member. I hope to see you at many of our events and activities and, of course, along our beautiful Pamlico River.

**Boating is fun - we'll show you how!**

## Executive Officer's Report

Lt/C Bob Young, S



Our Webmaster, Dan Meyer, has worked tirelessly with our team of Web Editors over the last couple of months to meet the goal of implementing the new web site by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Mia Ramsden, Lead

Editor, has made a huge contribution working closely with Chris Young and Edie Miller. If you were unable to attend the March 19<sup>th</sup> Web Presentation, be sure to check out the website: [www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org](http://www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org).

Plans for this year's Vessel Safety Checks are in progress. Fred Schroeder met with our trained VSC Examiners and set the first two Vessel Safety Check Events for 4/18 and 5/16 with the balance of

the schedule very soon. You'll want to be sure to have your boat inspected to insure this year's boating season is a safe experience.

Mark your calendars – National Safe Boating Week is May 16 through May 22. PSPS supports and will again participate in this campaign to further emphasize the importance of safe boating. We are beginning the advance planning of activities for the week. If you are interested in being part of those activities, please contact me at 252-946-7853 or by email at: [youngsters@suddenlink.net](mailto:youngsters@suddenlink.net)



## Communications Chair

Chris Young, S



**Personal information** is more closely guarded in today's world and it is important that everyone understands the risks and the precautions to take to insure that their personnel details are not compromised. Our Webmas-

ter has provided two very interesting web sites that help you understand and manage those risks. I hope you will take a few moments to review the web sites and protect your personal information. As this topic relates to PSPS, we have made a decision to eliminate the use of personal email addresses on PSPS published material. This includes the web site, newsletters and publication materials. In place of personal email addresses, you will see group or department email addresses set up through our web site that will be automatically set to go to a specific member or members personal email. The advantage is that inquiries sent to these department addresses will always have multiple people available to respond quickly to the question or inquiry. Our key Bridge and Executive Committee members

will continue to have unique email addresses; however, the email address will be set up through the web site and again, will automatically forward into the individual's personal email. Using this method will prevent the possibility of unknown people seeing personal email address which can lead to unnecessary risks.

In addition to email addresses, and as an individual member, you have the ability to let us know if you prefer that PSPS do not print your telephone number or display your photograph in any materials. If you wish to insure your personal information is not used, simply contact Chris Young at:

[communications@pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org](mailto:communications@pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org).

**The new PSPS Web Site** went officially live on April 1<sup>st</sup>. There is lots of information in this publication regarding the introduction, so I won't repeat what has already been provided. We simply hope you enjoy it, find it a source of information and visit it frequently. Be sure to bookmark it in your favorites list for quick access! We are very fortunate to have a member as talented as Dan Meyer devoting hundreds of hours of time to this development. Dan, Mia, Edie and I have enjoyed working on this challenging project and hope to continue to build on its effectiveness for the squadron.

## EDUCATION CORNER

Lt/C Tom Penders, JN

For up-to-date information on courses and seminars being offered by the PSPS education department, please go to the new website:

[www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org](http://www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org)



It's finally spring and everything is coming into bloom. This is especially true for the Education Program at PSPS. If I

told you everything that was happening I could consume the whole Sound of The Pamlico. So, I'm going to hit the highlights.

Last month a recertification seminar was held to provide for a four year qualification of our instructors. Sixteen of our twenty four instructors attended. This program reminded me again of the richness of enthusiasm and experience of our "PSPS Faculty Group".

There are continuing improvements in the technology of instruction of boating courses. This was the focus of a good portion of the program.

At the end of this program an attempt was made, successfully, to recruit members to assist in the expansion and improvement of our education effort. As a result, PSPS now has a "School Board" consisting of a group of enthusiastic and talented members who will take defined responsibilities for part of our expanding boating education curriculum.

The breakdown is as follows:

Jim Cope will coordinate **Elective Courses**.

Phyllis Rumpp will honcho the **Advanced Course** effort.

Tom Miller will assume duties to oversee the **Seminars and Short Courses**.

Ken Fairchild will provide administrative coordination and liaison with USPS Headquarter to be sure that everyone has the course materials and required reporting is kept current.

It cannot be emphasized too much that this reorganization will dramatically improve our course schedule and allow us to offer programs to other boating community groups that we could not previously service.

The Education Schedule has been busy and will continue to be so through the year.

The **Advanced Piloting Course** is in process, taught by Scott and Inza MacKenzie. Twelve students are attending, four have joined from the Tar River Squadron.

The first module of the **Marine Electronics Course** was complete in December with 21 students attending. The second part of the program, Marine Communications, has begun in early March, taught by Larry Colwell, Bill Sholl, Jim Hackney and myself.

The upcoming schedule includes the provision of the newly revised **ABC Course, third edition**. This course will completely replace the **Squadron Boating Course**. Allan Weaver and his cast of teaching experts will begin this program on Tuesday, March 17, 6:30PM at the

Brown Library.

Ed Galston, Don Dunlap and Ben Reed delivered a new seminar topic, **Marine RADAR**. This three hour program was held at the Lifestyles Fitness Center on Saturday, March 21, from 9AM until noon.

Phyllis Rumpp is coordinating the efforts of several instructors in the provision of the **Seamanship Course** offered on Wednesday nights (6:30 to 8:30PM) at the Fitness Center beginning March 25th. This in depth review of skills useful to all boat owners is being offered to the public with the provision that anyone who takes the course join PSPS before the course begins.

Upcoming programs in the pipeline include: **Piloting**, next late fall or early winter, **Cruise Planning**, early winter, **Trailoring Seminar** in May and Part Three of the **Marine Electronic Course** in the fall. Other programs will be offered, driven by the results of a survey of member's preferences. Jim Cope will be canvassing all PSPS members as to what programs would best serve their education interests and needs. Please let Jim know what you think.

The "Local Education Board" will be meeting quarterly to plan for future programs, coordinate the growing list of course offerings and evaluate the effectiveness of our programs with a goal to further improving the contribution of those who have been so generous with their time and effort in making boating safer through education. Have a safe and enjoyable boating season!

**Administrative Officer's Report**

Lt/C Tom Miller



As you can see on the events calendar, the next few months are jam-packed with activities for your enjoyment. First the bad news - the inaugural cruise on the "Belle of Washington" has been postponed to early May. We will include a visit to the "Belle" as part of our Washington Waterfront event scheduled for May 29 - 31. One evening we'll have drinks aboard, and on another night, we'll try dinner at the new "Map Room," formerly the "Curiosity Shoppe."

Plans are underway for our long cruise, May 2<sup>nd</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>. We will stop at great ports between here and as far south as Wrightsville Beach. All the marinas on our itinerary are accepting reservations - better act quickly as some of the marinas fill up quickly this time of year.

Belhaven will welcome us May 15 - 17. We are resurrecting the boating gear and decor Auction and Swap Meet on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup>, along with all the

other fun. Start gathering your valuable items now.

Dock and hotel space will fill quickly over in Ocracoke during our visit to the Anchorage and Marina, June 25 - 28. Reserve your space now.

The May 21<sup>st</sup> general membership meeting will feature a Route -17 bridge update by Project Manager Mark Mallett. Mark has a spectacular photo sequence showing progress of the work to date. We will try another buffet.

A really neat party is shaping up for a joint D5 - D27 rendezvous at Cape Charles, VA, just north of the landfall of the Bay Bridge - Tunnel connecting Norfolk to the Delmarva peninsula. The dates are July 23-26. Lots more information will be forthcoming. Ben Reed and Don Dunlap will be our sources for details.

In closing, I'll urge you to think up a good question for the "Best Boating Question" (BBQ) segment of the May meeting. The runner-up question in March was "If your spouse happens to go overboard and he is insured for \$10 million, what do you do: 1. Call the Coast Guard, 2. Yell Mayday on channel 16, 3. Call the Mercedes dealer and tell him to hold the blue one?" See you next month!



Radar Instructors Galston, Dunlap and Reed

*(Radar, Continued from page 1)*

Trailing; Anchoring; Paddle Smart; Sail Trim and Rig Tuning; Using GPS; On-Board Weather Forecasting; and Using VHF/DSC Marine Radios.

Be sure to check the education calendar at: [www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org](http://www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org)

Phone numbers:	
Washington Docks -	252-975-9367
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**Treasurer's Report**

*Lt/C Jim*



I am pleased to report that we have \$7448.87 in the squadron checking account.

The dedicated efforts of all our members makes it possible to receive these funds which are used to promote safe boating. A special thanks to all our advertisers for your support of the Pamlico Sail and Power Squadron, and to all members who use the services of our advertisers. If you are new to them, please let them know you came to find out about the company and services. By supporting each other we can all enjoy and grow in this wonderful community we have all come to love as our home.

*(Meeting, Continued from page 1)*

test judges Larry Colwell and Bob Hatala agreed that the correct answer was “stay in port.” They did discuss locating buoys with the assistance of on-board radar, and then proceeding slowly from buoy to buoy. This was deemed a poor second choice. M. J. Peters won \$10.00 for submitting the best question. Not bad!

You have plenty of time to think up a prize-winning BBQ to pose at the May 21<sup>st</sup> membership meeting.

**Volunteer Opportunity!**

Bob Young is looking for a few good people to help with the PSPS Cooperative Charting program. PSPS has agreed to help monitor the Pamlico River area to make sure any changes that will affect boaters are noted. Major benefit of this job, in addition to the undying gratitude of your squadron, is that you will have a good excuse to get your boat out on the water and play around with some fancy equipment. If this sounds like your cup of tea, give Bob a call –252-946-7853 or email him at:

[youngsters@suddenlink.net](mailto:youngsters@suddenlink.net)

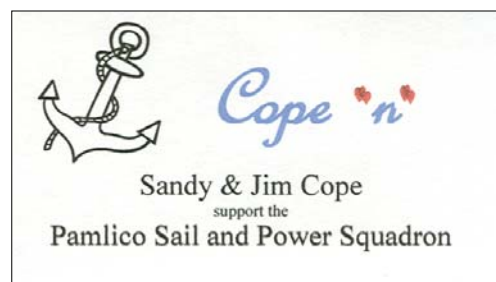
**Scuttlebutt.....**

USPS issued this announcement recently:

On 21 Feb., the Federal Emergency Management Agency announced a new affiliation with USPS in support of Citizen Corps, FEMA’s grassroots effort to strengthen community preparedness through civic participation.

“The alliance between Citizen Corps and U.S. Power Squadrons makes for a natural homeland security team as the U.S. Power Squadrons are playing an increasingly critical role in maritime safety and security via the America’s Waterway Watch and Waterway Awareness programs,” said Corey Gruber, acting deputy administrator of FEMA’s National Preparedness Directorate.


With more than 2,300 local Citizen Corps councils nationwide, Citizen Corps involves community and government leaders, community members and organizations in all-hazards emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response and recovery. USPS is the 27th Citizen Corps Affiliate. —The National Office of Citizen Corps, FEMA Community Preparedness Division



**MARCH MEETING IN PICTURES**



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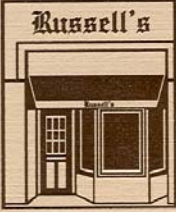
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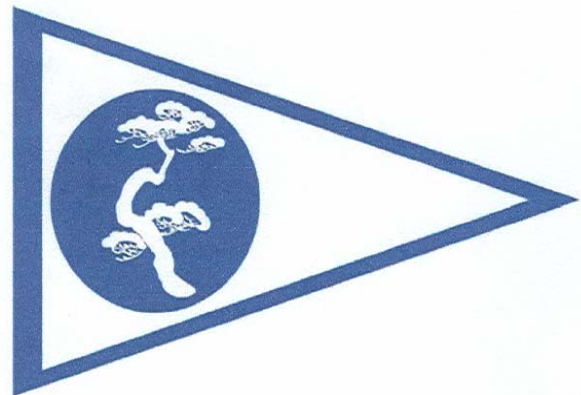
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## Thank you, PSPS, for your continued promotion of boating safety and education!



## The Cypress Landing Yacht Club

The Pamlico Sail and Power Squadron  
Next Membership Meeting

May 21, 2009

Washington Yacht and Country Club

Refreshments - 1800

Buffet dinner - 1845

Speaker: Mark Mallett, Project Manager  
Flatron/ United, Inc

Photo Tour of Route 17 Bypass construction,  
including the Tar River segment

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