



Sound of the Pamlico

December 2009

Volume 11, No 6

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 November Membership Meeting



Collecting Toys on Main Street

51 members attended the November 19th membership meeting held at the Meeting Place in downtown Washington. Commander Bill Waite planned this meeting as his thank you to the members of the squadron who have made his tenure as commander a very enjoyable experience.

Attendees brought their contributions of unwrapped toys for the “Toys

for Tots” campaign.

After a social hour, Cdr. Waite called the meeting to order. Jim Hackney offered a prayer and Larry Colwell led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Cdr. Waite’s remarks included thanks to all the volunteers who had helped him this past year. He then presented a membership certificate to Mia Ramsden, who has worked very hard on the PSPS Web site. He also reminded us of the Flotilla on December 5, and asked for volunteers to help the Salvation Army by ringing the bell and taking donations on the afternoon of December 15th.

A new ABC course will start January 16, 2010, and run through February 20. Scott and Inza Mackenzie will lead a

(See meeting, on page 4)

2009 Christmas Flotilla



“Cold Duck” - “Best in Show” Winner

It was a dark and stormy night.....really, it was! In fact, there were white caps on the Pamlico at the water front as the afternoon rain stopped and a strong wind drove in from the north west. Quite a few brave souls came out to watch the flotilla, and a few really brave souls sailed their decorated boats passed the viewers and the judges. P/C Mike Staples and his crew had a

(See Flotilla, on page 5)

CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 11 - 1800 Friday, Holiday Party, WYCC
- 14 - 1600 Bridge, CoC

JANUARY, 2010

- 4 - 1900 Junior Navigation Lifestyles Fitness Center
- 9 - **Change of Watch WYCC**
- 11 - 1600 Bridge CoC
- 14 - Cruise Planning Course 1:30-3:30 PM Brown Library
- 16 - America's Boating Course 10:30 AM -1:30 PM Brown Library

FEBRUARY, 2010

- 8 - 1600 Bridge CoC

MARCH, 2010

- 8 - 1600 Bridge Coc
- 18 - 1800 WYCC
- PSPS 10th Anniversary Gala**

For more information, go to: <http://www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org>

Commander's Corner

Cdr. Bill Waite, S



Ginny and I would like to express our thanks to all the people who have brought so much fun into our lives and thank, yet again, all those that have assisted me in carrying out my duties and responsibilities in support of the squadron's many endeavors. Here we are at the recent Moss Landing rendezvous. Ginny is standing next to me as she has stood with me throughout my life. It has been a privilege to serve as your Executive Officer and Commander during the past two years. I have enjoyed writing for this wonderful publication over that time. It has been a delight for me to share my thoughts and opinions and to promote the Squadron and all its attributes. As I close out, Ginny and I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and the best of the holiday season.

Thank you for this picture of happiness...

Boating is fun - we'll show you how!

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Executive Officer's Report*Lt/C Bob Young, P*

Thanks to so many members who stepped up to support the Washington Christmas Flotilla and surrounding events this year. PSPS again contributed by coordinating the “on the water” activities and collection of Toys for Tots. Thanks to Past Commander, Mike Staples, who lead our participation in this annual event.

Special thanks and recognition goes to Fred Schroeder and his team of Vessel Safety Examiners. This year they increased their goal for safety checks to 150, and they exceeded that number! We all appreciate your efforts in furthering boating safety in our local waters.

With our fall and winter boating season upon us, the cooler weather brings much colder water. Boating in cold weather can be as much fun as boating in summer months, however, personal safety becomes a much more critical factor during colder seasons as the risk of exposure and hypothermia are greatly increased. Falling overboard into cold water is life threatening, and the onset of hypothermia can be very rapid. Survival times vary by person and by the amount of time spent in certain water temperatures. Enjoy the fall colors and cool weather, but be safe, wear the appropriate clothing and keep your life jacket out and ready.

Treasurer's Report*Lt/C Jim Cope*

This will be my last report as treasurer. It has been my pleasure to serve as the squadron treasurer for the last three years. I succeeded Ed Mann who setup our accounting systems and made the transition relatively easy to follow once I learned Quicken.



I would like to thank Commanders Mike Staples, Fred Kaplan, and present Commander Bill Waite for their assistance and support. When I became treasurer, I was new to the squadron and was not familiar with the procedures of the organization. It was exciting to learn all of the valuable things the Power Squadron does for the community and for the boating members of not only the squadron, but boaters through out Beaufort county. I was amazed to see how much time and effort was put into teaching boating class, organizing the Christmas Flotilla, Maritime days, and all the other related activities.

We are members of a great organization and I would encourage everyone to become involved. It is a wonderful way to work with an exceptionally talented group of people.

I would like to thank two gentlemen that I have worked with these last several years. Ken Fairchild

our Ships Store officer and Bill Ramsden Supply officer. Ken has resigned after four years of doing a great job. He maintained an inventory of merchandise, developed a working relationship with the suppliers and handled orders and delivery of all Ship Store items. Thank you Ken for your service to the squadron.

Bill is resigning this year as Supply Officer. Bill has performed this job for the last five years. He and Mia dutifully come to every meeting and bring and setup the sound system, flags, and any electronic devices needed for the program. Bill maintains the inventory of all our property. Which includes tents, tables, stands, printed material, PFDs,(used by vessel safety inspectors), projectors, etc. He also stores these items in his garage, giving up space to park a vehicle in the garage. Bill, thank you for your dedication to our squadron.

In giving the year end treasurer report I would like to recognize Commander Bill Waite for the efforts he has put forth to insure the financial well being of the squadron. Over the last several years, Bill through his work in securing paid advertising for the Sound of the Pamlico has generated thousands of dollars, which has allowed us to share in safety seminars and community activities, that would not have been possible without this source of income. Thank you Commander.

(See Treasurer, on page 5)

Communications Chair

Chris Young, S



Your Web Team continues to tweak the web site, improving the site and adding features for your interest. We will shortly add a full page of “*interesting boating web sites*” for easy access when you need them. If you have specific sites that you use for reference, purchasing items or simply enjoyable reading, share with us and we can include them for all members. Email any addresses for inclusion to:

communications@pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org

We have set up an Educational Blog to collect your feedback and interest for next year’s Educational Calendar. Robert Stanley and the educational team would like members to send suggestions with regard to what courses folks are interested in and would like to see provided next year. Be sure to take a moment to give him any comments you have that will set up a meaningful program of courses and seminars. The Blog address is: <http://www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org/education/>

I recently sent out an email note on the USPS Compass, an electronic newsletter that includes USPS and boating news and information. I’ve signed up for it for the last several months and it is a worthwhile communication covering numerous topics. My note also highlighted the new website USPS has adopted for communicating, SailAngle.com. We expect that this new site will mature to a very useful source of information. Both USPS sites can be reached from our squadron’s web site in the PSPS News & Info web page or simply check on <http://www.pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org/pubsop.html>

As we are closing out this watch year and plans for next year begin, think about increasing your participation in the squadron on the various committees or simply volunteering for specific events or activities. Don’t wait until someone asks you, get involved right away and enjoy the rewards of contributing to the squadron and to the local community.

BREAKING NEWS!

The Pamlico Sail and Power Squadron has received the Website Excellence Award from the United States Power Squadron for 2009. This award is presented to those websites that have gone far beyond the minimum requirements and provide the information in an especially organized, informative and artistic manner that encourages visitors to view all of the information available and be inspired to make contact for additional information. It is recognition of the webmaster's efforts to promote their squadron/district through the use of a website.

Congratulations to Webmaster, Dan Meyer, and Chris Young and Mia Ramsden, who have worked very hard to earn this award. The Website Committee started planning just last January, and they have devoted a great deal of time to getting the website up and running. To win this award in the first year of the site is remarkable, and we thank them for the massive amounts of their time and effort. Well Done!

(Meeting, continued from page 1)

Cruise Planning class starting in January, 2010, and running through March. Watch for the exact dates in a future announcement. Larry Colwell will teach a Junior Navigator Course starting on January 4, 2010

P/C Joyce Colwell, Chair of the nominating committee, presented the proposed slate of officers for the 2010 bridge. The slated will be voted on at the Change of Watch, to be held at the Washington Yacht and Country Club on January 9, 2010. (See the proposed slate on page 8)

AO Tom Miller held a 50/50 raffle, which was extended to include many of his “Fabulous Prizes.” He also reminded us of the Holiday Party at the Washington Yacht and Country Club on December 11th and the Change of Watch on January 16, 2010.

Administrative Officer's Report

Lt/C Tom Miller, S



The Administrative Officer is a lot like the social chairman of a fraternity - who would have guessed?

Everyone knows that all aspects of boating were in the Doldrums throughout 2009. Several of our planned longer cruises were cancelled for lack of participation. A few cruises, like Ocracoke and Oriental, did well because of the enthusiasm of the participants. Short trips, like Bath and Washington Waterfront, provided members the fun of cruising and socializing, without paying an arm and a leg for fuel. Spur of the moment gatherings, like the Moss Landing cruise, confirmed the fact that fun is always just around the corner.

Our dinner meetings continue to attract a good attendance with top-notch programs. WYCC will continue to be our main port of call, but, with our last dinner at the Meeting Place, we did prove that we have alternatives.

Our civic service and educational events received strong support from our volunteering members. Boating safety inspections and bell-ringing for the Salvation Army are typical of our contributions.

Our hope is that the spirit of the holidays, always in evidence at our Holiday dinner, will continue throughout 2010.

May all your prizes be fabulous! Tom and Edie Miller

(Flotilla, continued from page 1)

very exciting night as they coordinated the traffic on the water and helped with docking.

Once again, Camp Lejeune sent a contingent of US Marines in a very large truck, to pick up donations for the "Toys for Tots" campaign, which was filled with donations from local communities.

Our own Roger Tuttle and WITN-TV meteorologist Jim Howard served as commentators, telling the crowd about the boats and their themes. Four young Marines bravely saluted while maintaining their balance on the bow of "Little Boy Blue", sailed by PSPS member Alan Blue. And, for the third year, Bill and Mia Ramsden's boat, "Cold Duck," won the "Best in Show" Award for a boat full of lighted candy canes, a Christmas Tree, and towing a dinghy with a lighted snowman, waving to the crowd! "Little Boy Blue" won Honorable Mention in the Power category.

Finally, as always, Santa arrived, this year with Washington Mayor, Judy Jeanette, on the bow of the "Hyde Aweigh," sailed by PSPS member Larry Hyde.

As we packed up to head for warmth and food, we noticed quite a few spectators and participants heading for shelter in the "Pirate's Pub," including the Marines.

(Treasurer, continued from page 3)

We have received a tax refund check from District 27 for the period January- June 2009, in the amount of \$ 115.59. All taxes that are paid are recorded and itemized in order to get a refund paid thru district.

I am pleased to report we have \$6,560.46 in our checking account. We have no accounts payable.

It has been a pleasure to serve as Treasurer. Thank you all for your cooperation.

A NEW KIND OF RADAR

Jim Hackney, PSPS Technology Officer



Since the invention of RADAR (Radio Detection and Ranging) in the 1930's, the basic principle of operation has remained unchanged. A radio pulse of very short duration is transmitted in a known direction. Then, the time for the echo to return from a target (if there is one) is measured. The combination of the two produces an image with direction and distance on a display. The precision of the antenna's transmitted beam width is a function of antenna design: larger is usually better. Modern electronics (transistors instead of vacuum tubes) and displays (LCD instead of cathode-ray tubes) have reduced power consumption and the size of transceiver and display units, but the theory has endured. That is, until now.

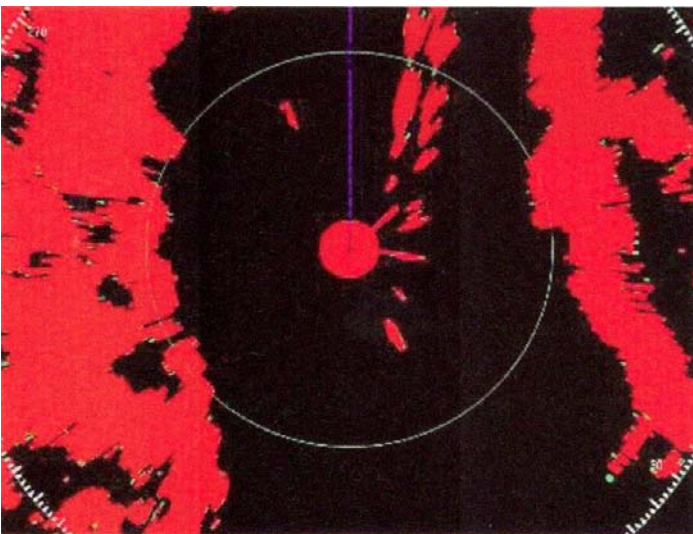
Beginning in 2008, a totally new and better concept in RADAR has appeared on the recreational boating scene which promises to make conventional pulse RADAR obsolete. It is generically called FMCW RADAR, for "frequency-modulated continuous wave". Some of the manufacturers are now referring to it as "Broadband" RADAR.

FMCW differs in that it transmits a continuous wave of microwave energy instead of short pulses. During the transmission, the frequency of the transmitted wave increases by 65 MHz over the beginning frequency. Because the transmission is continuous, the unit has separate transmit and receive antennas, stacked one above another, so that it can receive echoes while transmitting.

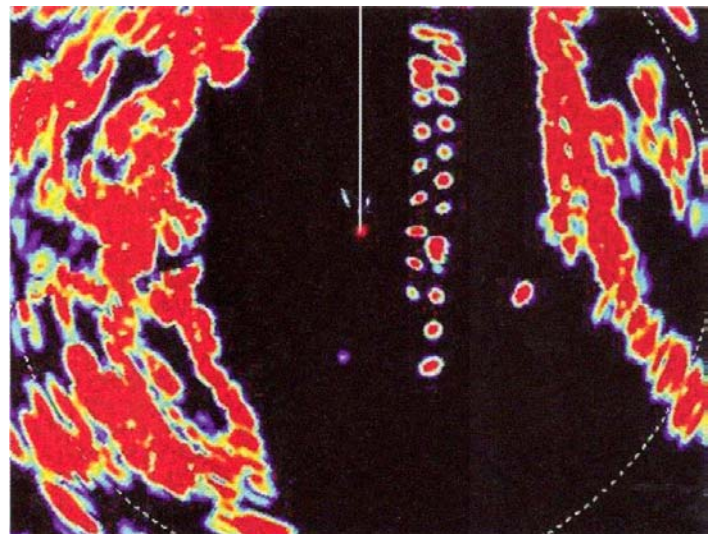
FMCW RADAR units remember the direction the antenna was pointing in relation to the frequency it was transmitting at that instant. The frequency of the reflected echo then establishes the direction to the target. The timing and frequency of the reflection are compared with the timing of the transmitted frequencies, establishing the distance. Antenna beam width is not important with FMCW RADAR, so antennas need not be as large as pulse RADAR.

FMCW RADAR offers a number of other advantages over its predecessor. First, the transmitted power is much less. Conventional RADAR pulses are typically 2KW or 4KW. FMCW transmissions are only 0.1 Watts, 1/20,000 of the 2KW pulse and about 1/10 the power of a cell phone. This is a safety advantage, in that users need not worry about exposure to high electromagnetic power levels, and it permits FMCW RADAR

(See Radar on page 7)



Radar - Conventional Image



Radar - FMCW Image

(Radar, continued from page 6)

antennas to be located in places not previously practical. There is no warm-up period for FMCW RADAR as there is with pulse RADAR, which uses a powerful magnetron tube for transmissions. Onboard DC power consumption is less.

FMCW RADAR provides much superior imaging definition, especially at close range where RADAR is most useful. Accompanying this article are photos of images from the same location from a 4KW pulse RADAR and an FMCW RADAR. The difference in definition is dramatic. This is a significant safety advantage in crowded waters. In addition, sea and rain clutter rejection is five-times better than pulse RADAR, making FMCW RADAR more useful in rough seas or bad weather.

Of course, there are some disadvantages. FMCW RADAR detail is not as good at long range. This shouldn't be a problem for the recreational boater, as the need for RADAR is usually for shorter distances. Display of rain is not as good on FMCW if you are trying to display weather. And, presently, it is slightly more expensive, although that is changing rapidly.

RADAR is a major safety feature for any boater who travels at night or might be caught in conditions of limited visibility. With the advent of FMCW RADAR, there's no reason to wait to install it on your boat.

Since the invention of RADAR (Radio Detection and Ranging) in the 1930's, the basic principle of operation has remained unchanged. A radio pulse of very short duration is transmitted in a known direction. Then, the time for the echo to return from a target (if there is one) is measured. The combination of the two produces an image with direction and distance on a display. The precision of the antenna's transmitted beam width is a



Someone told these boys to be sure the rear wheels of the car are in the water before releasing the boat, so they made darn sure! They definitely need the Trailing Your Boat seminar!

PAMLICO SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR 2010

BRIDGE OFFICERS

Commander	Thomas G. Miller, S
Executive Officer	James M. Cope, S
Education Officer	Robert D. Stanley, S
Administrative Officer	Gene R. Alligood
Treasurer	Bruce A. Billings
Secretary	Dan Meyer
Ass't Education Officer	Edward Galston, AP
Ass't Administrative Officer	William H. Paulson
Ass't Treasurer	Bill M. Peters
Ass't Secretaries	Nancy E. Jackson, Susan Penders

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

William J. Waite, S
Donald Dunlap, Jr. SN
Robert J. Hatala, SN
Joyce M. Colwell, AP

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joyce Colwell, AP (Chair)
Harold W. Stasch, JN
Donna J. Dunlap, P

RULES

James A. Hackney III, P (Chair)
Lawrence S. Colwell, SN
Michael Staples, AP

AUDITING

George C. Heidel, P
Lawrence Colwell, SN

Respectfully submitted by the 2009 Nominating Committee,
Joyce M. Colwell, AP (Chair)
Michael Staples, AP
Frederick M. Kaplan, P

November Meeting Pictures



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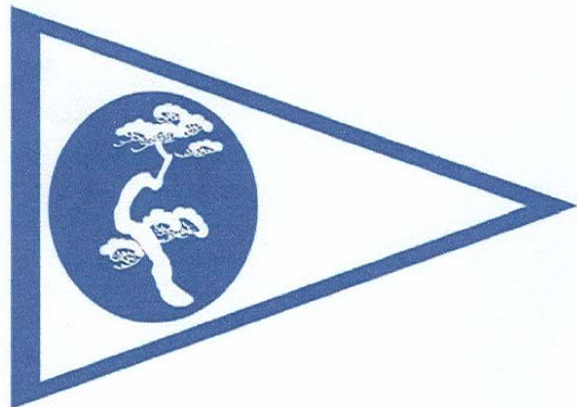
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Thank you, PSPS, for your continued promotion of boating safety and education!



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PSPS

Change of Watch

Saturday, January 9

WYCC— 1730

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soon, via email

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