

The NANSEMOND Light

Nansemond River Power Squadron

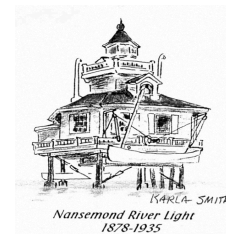
DISTRICT 5

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

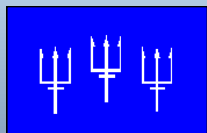
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October 2014, Vol 21, No. 7

Proudly Celebrating 50 Years of Safety on the Water!



Commander's Corner



Cdr Rana Weaver, AP

Where does the time go? It seems like just yesterday it was Spring and now it is already Fall. Hope you and your family had a good summer and a great boating season. But wait! It's not over yet! We still have one cruise to Hampton City Piers left and I hope you will decide to participate. With Doug and Julie as our ODs it is sure to be a good time!! Unfortunately I have to report that we only used our Sea Ray once so far this year (but there is still time if Norfolk Naval Shipyard will allow it). We used our 21 foot Carolina Skiff only 2 times. However we were able to use our 14 foot Carolina Skiff several times. We cruised the Chuckatuck Creek with our Basset

Hounds crabbing and fishing a little bit. Okay I agree that is better than not being able to boat at all. Maybe the Navy Yard will be less demanding of Donnie's time in 2015 (for sure in 2016 since he will be retired).

Thanks to all of you who helped to make the NRPS Anniversary a great success! From Betty Sue Burris, P and her crew (2 of her grandchildren, LT Gene Presson, P and Mike Michael) who hauled and set up tables and chairs, to Doug and Julie Fisher who provided us with a full range of liquid refreshments, to Lanny and Janet Horn who acquired the lovely and delicious cake and provided an appetizer, to LT/C Frank Brown, AP-IN who emailed and mailed our invitations and provided music speakers, to Cheryl Hanbury who provided us with a mix of songs from 1964, to Mary South and Grace Brown, P who provided an appetizer to hold us over until it was dinner time, to P/C Donnie Weaver, AP who worked really hard to clean out his barn and provide a dry location for our function. Thanks to all members who took a part in this event. We had 11 Past Commanders of Nansemond River Power Squadron as well as 1 Past Commander from another squadron in attendance. I think good food and fellowship was had by all!!

The plans for our annual auction are already well under way as the committee has already met once. I would ask that you look around your house, garage, boat and start collecting your donations for the auction. Then start saving your cash for those purchases that you will want to make on 1 November. Donnie and I got great finds last year (and some not so great that you may see again)!

Hope to see you back at Georges for our General meeting on 14 October.

Commander Rana

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Executive Officer's Report

Lt/C Doug Fisher



Good Day Boaters

USPS® has devolved a great training tool in partnership with the Coast Guard. Working with partner Virtual Driver Interactive and soliciting support from other organizations, United States Power Squadrons is the proud owner of five Boating Skills Virtual Training units available for use by USPS® districts and squadrons. The Boating Skills Virtual Trainer embodies high end technology, featuring three computer screens with a rotating field of vision up to 225 degrees, a responsive steering wheel with console switches for horn and navigation lights and a Mercury Marine throttle. It reacts to variable setting for trim, current and wind. In simulation, students may maneuver a 20 foot Boston Whaler powerboat designed from the specs of the boat used by USPS® for the practical on the water training. Conducting exercises in a virtual environment, without the risks of having a real boat on the water. Students perform training exercises in a helm seat that can be set up at a regular desk or conference table. The realistic boating experience is the result of sophisticated water physics software developed by VDI and funded through a U.S. Coast Guard grant. Other participating partner organizations include the National Safe Boating Council, the Boat US Foundation, Brunswick Marine, Mercury marine and Boston Whaler.

The five units owned by USPS® feature nine exercises tailored to complement the Practical On the Water training curriculum. The exercises include Departing the Dock, Working with Spring Lines, Maneuvering in Fairways, Pivot Turns, Moorings, Docking, Running a slalom Course, Crossing/Overtaking/Meeting Other Power and Sail Vessels, and Emergency Stops. The Units are designed to be used with a live instructor who can adjust the controls for additional advanced training.

This new tool sounds like a great opportunity to hone our boating skills. Not only will it assist us in our own boating safety, I think it would be a fantastic recruiting tool at boat shows and other venues where like minded folks are hanging out. The bridge looks forward to getting this great tool in our area. More to follow, stay tuned. Check this out <http://www.driverinteractive.com/boating-skills-virtual-trainer-usps-boating-simulator>



Administrative Officer's Report

Lt/C Lanny Horn,
AP-IN



Summer is now behind us and we have fall to look forward to. Fall is a great time for boating with the moderate temperatures and lower humidity. At this point in time, our last scheduled cruise for the year at Waterside on 17-19 October was cancelled due to low participation. Unfortunately that date coincided with too many other plans for our members. At the last meeting Lt Doug Fisher indicated he will try to set up another cruise in October. He will follow up with information when it is available.

The cruise to Blue Water Yacht in Hampton VA actually turned out rain free. Rain all around, but none on our dock and everyone had a wonderful time for two days. We had a great turnout which included 8 past commanders. It's so nice to see so many past commanders who remain active in our organization. We all say thank you! The OD's, P/ C Donnie and Commander Rana Weaver, planned great meals, great drinks and a great time! As always, we had more than enough delicious food.

13 September was the 50th anniversary of the Nansemond River Power Squadron. We had a wonderful party at the home of Commander Rana Weaver and Donnie Weaver. There were 36 in attendance, which included 11 past commanders and Lily Stone, who joined us from another squadron! It was a special day for special people! We'll see everyone at the 100th??

A quick reminder to everyone concerning the boat shows in Annapolis, MD. The U.S. Sailboat Show will be 9-13 October and the U.S. Powerboat Show will be 16-19 October. This will be the 43rd year for the oldest in-water boat show in the world.

Our biggest fund raiser for the year, our annual auction, will be held on Saturday, 1 November at the Magnolia Ruritan Club in Suffolk. Details are below:

1700- Refreshments and appetizers

1730- Dinner

1830- Auction will begin

All donations, except perishables, must be delivered or picked up no later than Sunday, 26 October. These items can be delivered to the Weaver's barn or if you would like them picked up, please call Lanny Horn at 539-6649. Any items received after that date, will be held until next year's auction. We're sorry, but we cannot accept any tube type television sets. However, flat screens will be accepted. As in previous years, P/C Larry Roundtree, AP will conduct the auction, with assistance from P/C Norman Fisher, AP and Butch Baxter, P. I hope everyone joins us to help raise funds to support our activities for the next year! And remember, our NRPS Cookbooks will be for sale at the auction-\$9.00 a piece. Great Christmas item!

We'll see everyone at our next dinner meeting on Tuesday, 14 October!

Educational Officer's Report

Lt/C Frank Brown,
AP-IN



Our Educational program will have another first in October as we offer the Operations Training program. It is on 4 Thursday evenings, 9, 16, 23 and 30 October at the Chuckatuck Fire Station. We'll meet from 1900-2100 hrs (7:00—9:00 pm). The cost is \$8, covering the copying and binding costs. Sign up today by emailing me at education@nrpowersquadron.com. Don't miss it!!

As we come to the end of summer cruise season, now is the time to look at Education. The new branding for USPS® is **Come for the Boating Education ... Stay for the Friends**. I've heard most of the reason not to take a class. "I've taken many boating classes already!" Or "I've been boating for years!" How about "If I have boat trouble, I can always just pull into the nearest shop to get it fixed."

We've all heard these excuses; however, we can never learn enough to stay out of trouble on the water. Look at marine electronics. Today our boaters have a rich array of instruments to help get them from point A to point B. These instruments are getting more powerful, "sexier" and cheaper, too! However, having a tool and using it effectively are two very different things. But as most of us know,

"user manuals" are written for techies, not for users! To help get full use out of my investment you can look at classes available to help you understand and use virtually any piece of electronic equipment.

Murphy's Law tells us that if something can go wrong, it will! We know the marine environment is especially harsh on electronics; it's not uncommon for something to work perfectly today and not work tomorrow. At some time during everyone's on-board adventures, it will become necessary to revert to manual boating skills such as finding the way or getting an engine started.

The question then is, "how can we make sure that we have a complete package of boating skills?" The obvious answer is "education!" To that end, we all need to keep taking classes that help us improve our boating skills. Winter is the perfect time to take classes. Look for offerings this winter. Already taken classes? You can help by volunteering as an instructional proctor. Each time you help with a class, you often learn something new, or at least reinforce what you already know. Take the time, be a part of our Education program. You'll be glad you did.

CLASS SCHEDULES FOR EOY 2014

OPERATIONS TRAINING

Instructors: Lt/C Brown plus P/Cs
October – 4 weeks on Tuesday evening
Location-Hopefully Suffolk Fire Station 5

SEAMANSHIP

Instructor: TBD
Nov-Dec, 2014

Put education and fun on your calendar

B S S W F C R E G G I R T U O
H Y A C H T T K R Y H G N I D
P O N T O O N I E S H D A R G
F O V K A Y A K C T Y H C E H
I E N E U T R O I W D D I N F
S A R A R O W W E S R S O O T
O T F R R C H A U D O V A O R
G F E F Y A R B S O F E G H A
T F E A L R M A C R O R R C W
R I E E M A F A F Y I A R S L
O K R O R E Y F T T L E W Y E
C S R I N H R O A A Y C R H R
L Y N F F A E L S E C C E H R
R E L I A R C G A L L E O N A

A Fun Little Boating Puzzle...

KNOW YOUR BOATS

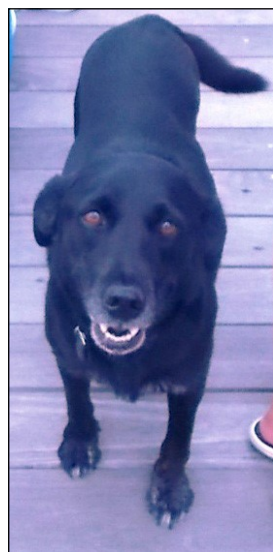
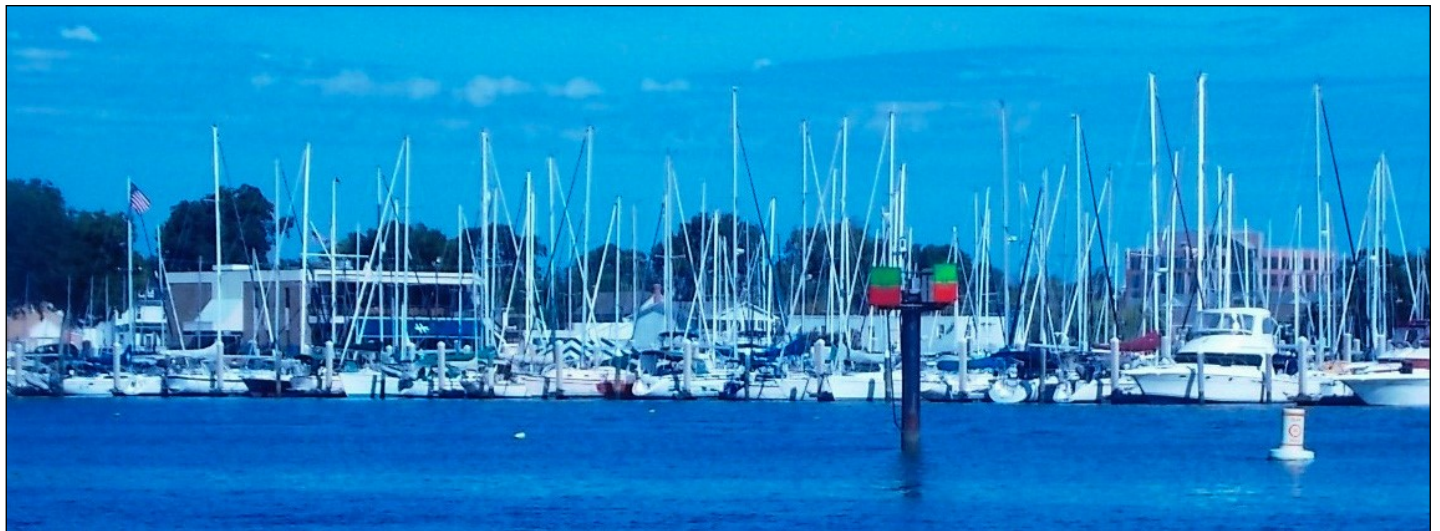
Find and circle all of the boats that are hidden in the grid.

The words may be hidden in any direction.

CANOE	PONTOON
CATAMARAN	SCHOONER
DINGHY	SCOW
DORY	SKIFF
FERRY	STEAMER
GALLEON	SUBMARINE
HOVERCRAFT	TRAWLER
HYDROFOIL	WHALER
KAYAK	YACHT
OUTRIGGER	

NRPS's 50th. Anniversary Cruise

Blue Water Marina in Hampton



NRPS's 50th. Anniversary Cruise

Blue Water Marina in Hampton



Safety Officer's Report

Lt Frank Brown,
AP-IN



Cell Phone vs. VHF Radio



VHF maritime radio. However, cell phones can have a place on board as an added measure of safety.



The Coast Guard does not advocate cell phones as a substitute for the regular maritime radio distress and safety systems recognized by the Federal Communications Commission and the International Radio Regulations -

- particularly

CELL PHONE LIMITATIONS IN AN EMERGENCY

Cell phones generally cannot provide ship to ship safety communications or communications with rescue vessels. If you make a distress call on a cell phone, only the one party you call will be able to hear you.

Most cell phones are designed for a land-based service. Their coverage offshore is limited, and may change without notice. Most everyone has experienced communications out to about 25 miles at times. Yet at other times they could not get through to a land based phone inside of 10 miles from shore. This might well create a communications problem in the event of an emergency at sea.

Locating a cell caller is hard to do. If you don't know precisely where you are, the Coast Guard will have difficulty finding your location on the water.

Note: In some areas, however, cell providers have established a special code (*CG) which, if you are in range, will connect you directly to a Coast Guard Operations Center. This service may only work with the carrier to which you have subscribed.

CELL/VHF MARINE RADIO COMPARISON

Cell phones do provide the convenience of simple, easy-to-use, inexpensive, private and generally reliable telephone service to home, office, automobile or other locations. Placing a shore-to-ship call to someone with a cell telephone is especially convenient. However, you usually cannot use your cell phone outside the United States, and you may need a special agreement with your carrier to use it outside that carrier's local service area.

VHF marine radios were designed with safety in mind. If you are in distress, calls can be received not only by the Coast Guard but by ships which may be in position to give immediate assistance. A VHF marine radio also helps ensure that storm warnings and other urgent marine information broadcasts are received. The Coast Guard announces these broadcasts on VHF channel 16. Timely receipt of such information may save your life. Additionally, your VHF marine radio can be used anywhere in the United States or around the world.

On VHF radios, however, conversations are not private and individual boats cannot be assigned a personal phone number. If you are expecting a call, channel 16 or the marine operator's working channel must be continually monitored.

SHOULD YOU RELY ON A CELL PHONE EXCLUSIVELY?

Actually there is no comparison between cell phones and VHF marine radio. They normally provide different services. The cell phone is best used for what it is, an on-board telephone -- a link with shore-based telephones. A VHF marine radio is intended for communication with other ships or marine installations -- and a powerful ally in time of emergency. If you have a cell telephone, by all means take it aboard. If you are boating very far off shore, a cell phone is no substitute for a VHF radio. But, if you are within cell range, it may provide an additional means of communication.

Courtesy of the Coast Guard Consumer Affairs and Analysis Branch



WHERE OUR FLAGS FLY...

The Mar Sue proudly flies USPS® and NRPS flags while docked in Edenton, North Carolina.

Nansemond River Power Squadron Celebrates 50 Years of Safe Boating in Suffolk!

NPRS's 50th. Anniversary Celebration was held 13 September at the Weaver's home in gala style! From a great bar, hors d'oeuvres , from engraved napkins to fresh flowers to a catered dinner spread that included roast pork roast and barbequed chicken. And a beautifully decorated cake! A special proclamation from the Virginia House of Delegates commemorated the occasion.



We had 11 Past Commanders in attendance, and they are pictured at right : Mark Presson, P; Thomas (Tiny) Andrews, Jr, P; Donnie Weaver, AP; Mary Fisher, AP; Mike Michaels, AP; Matt Schulze, P; Robert Eure, AP; Larry Rountree, AP; Lin Hanbury, AP; Norman Fisher, AP and Fletcher Beadles, AP



A wonderful time was had by all who attended. Pictured below right is the current PRPS Bridge, holding the cake. From left: L/C Betty Sue Burris, P; L/C Frank Brown, AP-IN; L/C Doug Fisher; C Rana Weaver, AP; L/C Lannie Horn, AP-IN, and L/C Janet Horn, AP



Nansemond River Power Squadron

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Smithfield, Virginia 23430-2308

Place
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NRPS Calendar of Upcoming Events



14 October
1830 Hours

General Monthly Meeting
George's Steakhouse
Holland Rd., Suffolk VA

1 November
1600 hours

Annual NPRS Auction
Magnolia Ruritan Club House
Suffolk VA



2014-2015 Bridge Officers

Commander	Cdr Rana Weaver, AP
Executive Officer	Lt/C Doug Fisher
Educational Officer	Lt/C Frank Brown, AP-IN
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Lanny Horn, AP-IN
Secretary	Lt/C Betty Sue Burris, P
Treasurer	Lt/C Janet Horn, AP
Safety Officer	Lt/C Frank Brown, AP-IN

Publisher's Statement

THE NANSEMOND LIGHT newsletter is published monthly. Deadline is the 25th day of each month for the following month's issue and we welcome articles & photographs of interest to our members.. *THE NANSEMOND LIGHT* published for the members & member families of the Nansemond River Power Squadron (NRPS), District 5 of the United States Power Squadrons®.

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