

# Southport Sail and Power Squadron Lightkeeper's Log



**October - November 2018**

## **COMMANDER'S REPORT**

**Cdr Dave Bolea**

Welcome to the Lightkeeper's Log of America's Boating Club of Southport.

I hope all are well and on their way to recovery from hurricane Florence. I am thankful to report that all of our Club members came through the hurricane without any serious injuries or health problems. However, the hurricane did disrupt some of our scheduled events. Our September monthly membership meeting at the Cape Fear Yacht Club was cancelled due to the hurricane. The good news is that we are back in business and looking forward to participating in the upcoming Wooden Boat Show on November 3, 2018.

I attended the Fall District Conference in Raleigh Durham this past weekend and am pleased to announce that District 27 has chosen our member, **Norm Greisen- N** as the nominee to represent the District at USPS National for the **Charles F. Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching**. This is one of the most honored and challenging awards presented by the USPS, America's Boating Club. On behalf of all our Club members, congratulations to Norm and our Best Wishes that he is the future 2018 recipient of the Charles F. Chapman Award.



## Winterizing your boat!

This is the time of year when boating season is winding down. Pretty soon, it will be time to winterize your boat. Al Rose has written a highly informative and hands on step by step process to winterize marine engines. I encourage you to take the time to read Al's article as he shares his many years experience on the water. You'll find this article and Al's other article explaining "Why you should have a galvanic isolater installed on your boat if you are connected to shore power", on our website [www.sspsnc.org](http://www.sspsnc.org), under the Technical Tips section.

## Opportunity to become an Instructor

First, I would like to congratulate Max Sykes and Christy Beavers for successfully completing their training as class instructors. We have room for more instructors as our Piloting and Seamanship courses are being offered in separate sessions this coming Spring season. Max is our Education Officer and would gladly share with you his recent experience in completing the training for class instructor.

## Joint lunch with the Shallotte Club at Tommy's Grill in St.James

The Shallotte Club will be having lunch on Thursday, Nov 1 at Tommy's Grill at the St. James Marina following their Co-Op Charting Cruise to Southport waters. To our new members who may not know the history of our Southport Club, I thought you may want to know that our chartered members all came from the Shallotte Club. Our Club was chartered on January 2, 2002. In the coming months, both Clubs hope to continue building a bridge to where we can all join in on boat cruises, co-op charting and sharing education courses and seminars.

## CONTRIBUTING ARTICLES

### *Shrimp Boil at Waterway Park*

By Cdr Dave

I am very happy to report that we had a great turnout for our annual Shrimp Boil Fest at Waterway Park. Those who attended were treated to some wonderful North Carolina shrimp and specialty sauce prepared by the Two Bob's. Again, we all thank Taylor for undertaking this squadron event that is not only a great tradition for our Club, but also gives each member an opportunity to invite neighbors and friends to find out what our mission of safe boating education is all about.

# ***Oktoberfest at the Cape Fear Yacht Club***

By Cdr Dave

Big thanks go out to all the cooks that worked really long and hard to provide us with a wonderful selection of German delicacies.



The gathering was a good time for all of us to kick back and relax after the great year our Club is having from participating in the Southport Spring Festival, District Rendezvous in New Bern, the Girl Scout Day at the Maritime Museum, Pot Luck Dinner for the Coast Guard shipmates on Oak Island, Shrimp Boil at Waterway Park, and now the Wooden Boat Show.

## ***Education Training***

By Max Sykes, Education Officer

As we approach the fall and winter months, there are several items of note regarding our education program:

1. We have an ABC course scheduled for Monday, November 5
2. Plans are underway for 2019 classes
3. SSPS has two new certified instructors

Yes, we have an ABC course scheduled for Monday, November 5 (a workday for those of you who remember work). There are 15 people scheduled to attend the class, which is to be held at the Maritime Museum. This is the last planned class for this year, but we are looking forward to 2019.

Current planning for the first quarter of 2019 is:

- January – ABC course, Partners in Command seminar
- February – Boat Handling (new Seamanship)
- March – Tides and Currents, Celestial Navigation class (developed by Norm Greisen)

Christy Beavers and I completed the Instructor Development class and received better than passing grades on the required submission to National. Thanks to Andy Bunch and Bob Klug for supporting us in this effort. If you are interested in becoming an instructor, please get in touch with me and we will work out a schedule.

# Vessel Safety Inspections

By Kevin Jones



Even if you pay careful attention to safety, dangerous mechanical problems can crop up on the best-maintained boat. That's why the U.S. Coast Guard recommends that all recreational boaters (including personal watercraft users and paddle craft such as canoes and kayaks) take advantage of the free Vessel Safety Inspection every year. A Vessel Safety Check is a courtesy examination of your boat (vessel) to verify the presence and condition of certain Safety Equipment required by state and the federal regulations. The Vessel Examiner is a trained specialist and is a member of the

America's Boating Club. They will also make certain recommendations and discuss certain safety issues that will make you a safer boater.

The following will be covered when our Inspectors conduct your Vessel Safety Check utilizing the United States Power Squadrons® VSC Pre-Check List:



- Required Boating and Safety Equipment
- Display of required numbers
- Registration and Documentation
- Personal Flotation Devices (PFD's)
- Visual Distress Signals (VDS or flares)
- Fire Extinguishers
- Ventilation
- Backfire Flame Control
- Sound Producing Devices
- Navigation Lights
- Pollution Placard (vessels of 26+ feet)
- Marpol Trash Placard (vessels of 26+ feet)
- Marine Sanitation Device (head)
- State Regulations
- Navigation Rules
- Overall Vessel Condition (Deck free of

Hazzards, Electrical/Fuel Systems, Galley/Heating Systems)

To Learn More about the America's Boating Club's Vessel Safety Check Program go to:

<http://www.usps.org/index.php/2015-05-08-10-34-31>

To schedule a Vessel Safety Check and get a current Vessel Safety Check decal for your boat, contact one of the following certified examiners:

Kevin Jones [kjones235@nc.rr.com](mailto:kjones235@nc.rr.com) 910-391-7578

Harold M Sykes [hmsykes@atmc.net](mailto:hmsykes@atmc.net) 910-253-7998

## Check Out these Member Benefits:

By Morris Beaver

The graphic is titled "Insurance Benefits" in a blue serif font. It features several logos arranged in a grid-like fashion. In the top left is the United States Power Squadrons logo, which is a circular emblem with a ship's wheel and the text "United States Power Squadrons". To its right is the AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB logo, featuring a stylized sailboat with a red and blue sail. Below the United States Power Squadrons logo is the MetLife logo in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. To the right of MetLife is the TRAVELERS logo, which includes a red umbrella icon above the word "TRAVELERS" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below MetLife is the vsp logo, with "vsp" in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font and "Individual Vision Care" in a smaller font below it. To the right of vsp is the McGRIFF, SEIBELS & WILLIAMS logo, which consists of a brown shield with a white cross and the letters "M S W" in the center. To the right of the shield is the VPI PET insurance logo, featuring a yellow cat face and the text "VPI PET insurance". Below vsp is the LTCR logo, with "LTCR" in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font and "LONG-TERM CARE RESOURCES" in a smaller font below it. To the right of LTCR is the SEA//INSURE logo, which includes the text "Sea Tow Savings Club." above "SEA//INSURE" in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font with yellow diagonal stripes.



# Travel Benefits



# Marine Benefits





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