CROSSED ANCHORS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WINSTON-SALEM SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON November, 2011 Volume XXI No 6

A Great Year

Upcoming Events

5 December	Executive Committee meeting at the London home
17 December	Christmas Party at Hawthorne Inn on Marshall St. 6pm, $25/person, please RSVP By Sat., Dec. 17

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Feel free to contact any of the officers above if you have questions.

From the Helm

Cdr. Debbie Mayfield, S

At our November meeting we reviewed our accomplishments for the year 20ll and held Bridge elections. It has been a very busy year with Public Education Courses, member training courses, boat cruises, socials, meetings, and the hosting of the D27 USPS Fall Meeting. We also held a small silent auction that raised more funds for the club treasury. I wanted to thank Linda Brigadier for her hard work collecting and putting together our pictorial "Year in Review" slideshow.

I invite you to attend our December meetings which are discussed within this newsletter. We welcome both members and interested guests !

Happy Thanksgiving!

Education Officer

P/C Dawn Gaskill, AP

EDUCATIONAL COURSES TO REVIEW FOR 2012

Five Advanced Grade courses are offered by USPS. They are designed to be taken in sequence because each builds on skills taught in the previous course.

- **Seamanship (S)**
- **Piloting (P)**
- **Advanced Piloting (AP)**
- **Junior Navigation (JN)**
- **Navigation (N)**

Six Elective Courses are offered by USPS. They cover separate and independent topics and therefore may be taken in any order according to a person's interests and time.

1. **Cruise Planning**
2. **Engine Maintenance: EM101 (Basic Engine Maintenance), EM102 (Advanced Engine Maintenance)**
3. **Instructor Development**
4. **Marine Electronics: MES (Marine Electrical Systems), MCS (Marine Communication Systems), and MNS (Marine Navigation Systems)**
5. **Sail**
6. **Weather**

Administrative Officer

Lt/C Marilyn Shuping, S

Dear Fellow Boaters:

Thank you for coming to our November Membership Meeting at Buena Vista Grill and contributing to our Holiday Food Drive. There is still time to bring a contribution to our Executive Committee meeting next month on December 5 at the London's home. It starts at 6pm. Everyone is welcome to these informative, planning meetings. If you have something to offer our squadron we'd love to have you attend and help with the success of the club.

Also, next month is our Christmas Party. This year it will be held at the Hawthorne Inn on Marshall Street. We will have a buffet with some great food, entertainment, etc. It will be on Saturday, December 17th starting at 6pm. The cost is $25 per person. A cash bar will be provided. Please send your checks to Kathy Vestal. We'd like to get a ballpark headcount so please let us know you are coming, by Saturday, December 17. You can call me (972-2382) or email me at mbshuping@tdarx.com. It will be a great time.

There will be NO meeting in January as our COW (Change of Watch) will be held on February 4. Reid London is heading up the committee for the COW and I'm certain he can use your help.

That's about it from the Admin Officer. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving! We have so much to be thankful for.

Marilyn

Fish House Chronicles

By P/C Don Breault, AP

These are moments frozen in time while cruising or pretending to be cruising. "The Fish House Chronicles" is a unique collection of short story's and essays of the experiences of the infamous coastal cruisers of the Winston-Salem Sail & Power Squadron. At least we try and sometimes pretend that we are all having a good time cruising with our boats. Even when they break-down or go hard aground once in a while. We even have the best slip cruising stories ever told on land.

"The Return of Felix"

(The case of the sunken Squiggle)

Now Felix is feeling very confident about his seamanship abilities as he just finished his last class learning about Weather that was taught by a "Captain Bligh". Felix was told in this class that if he went to a boat store to purchase a new or almost new "Rinker", he could cruise far off into the sunset and begin to really live the dream. Felix was told that this is the ultimate boat because the small engine was real good on gas and it had a real nice cockpit that had more room than anyone needed to include storage for a small inflatable.

So with some horse-trading and a little down payment along with a 3rd mortgage on his metal fabricated house in Yadkinville, Felix was getting pretty pumped up. You know the anxiety one feels when you just buy a new boat. That feeling you get in your stomach when you can't even sleep a wink the first night. So Felix gets up in the middle of the night to admire his new acquisition that was sitting on a used steel trailer in his gravel driveway. He stood there dreaming of running this new beast of a boat that he thought measured only a couple feet shorter than his older flat roofed metal fabricated house. He even noticed that the boat trailer had an identical hitch to the one in front of his house.

The alarm clock did not even have to do its job as Felix was already dressed and ready for that special occasion of launching "This New Boat" at his favorite lake in Iredell County. The famous Lake Norman!!! So once he had hooked his restored 1972 shiny red Dodge Power Wagon to the trailer, and having checked all of the tail lights for proper illumination, Felix was feeling pretty proud as he wondered who would be looking at him as he drove this sweet new rig along the interstate on the way to the boat launch Saturday morning. But there was one thing missing. CREW !!!

Felix thought that at the last minute that he could handle this 25' cabin cruiser by himself and he would kind of find crew along the way or perhaps at that famous floating bar near the route 150 bridge in Mooresville. Someone from the Greensboro Sail & Power Squadron told Felix that was a good place to pick up single women. So the question of the hour was; do I call someone or just wing it. You see, Felix did not have such a good experience last time he did this, so he thought he would just wing it. On the road again was Felix and he felt very fine as he pulled on to interstate 77 south. In no time at all he was looking at the somewhat long line of wanna be fishermen with their shiny new metal flake glass bass boats launching into the lake by two's. They had the launch area all tied up because it appeared they may have a tournament going on today. As soon as they launched, they were drag racing their 300 HP outboards to a secret fishing hole 2 miles away. Felix somehow thought that someone leaked out the location of the secret fishing hole as it was surrounded by at least 25 bass boats.

While Felix was making last minute preps on his new cruiser, a smoking hot young lady came along and asked Felix if he needed a push off the dock. With his jaws open wide and his heart beating fast he was lost for words and just said, OK, just jump right in!! Then Felix silently prayed to God: "Please God, let her be 18". With informal introductions and a new girl named Mandy, Felix had his crew for the day. Or maybe just part of the day. So this is how Felix and Mandy begin their journey on Lake Norman. Now Felix had someone to impress with his new boat but most important, someone to show off his new seamanship skills he just learned. This is where the real fun will begin.

Remember those rude fishermen? "Well now," said Felix, we will just go see what kind of fish they are catching. So off he goes to that very secret fishing hole no one is supposed to know about and behold, Felix creates a wake like a whirlpool as he circles around them at half throttle. Annoyed with this, the fisherman take off with their rocket boats to the other secret fishing hole in the south end of the lake. Felix just continues to a secluded cove near the state park. I guess by now, Miss Mandy wants to see how this new complicated marine toilet works. So Felix brings his new boat up to cruising speed and he puts the boat on auto pilot and goes down below to show her how to use it. Moments later Felix emerges from the cabin and behold, he has company. One of those funny center consoles with blue lights on it like a police car in the water.

It appeared that Felix blew past this Wildlife Officer and Felix shot him a wake that almost swamped the law enforcement boat along with the boat he was inspecting. So now it is Felix's turn to get inspected. With a little help from Mandy as she distracted these young wildlife officers with her smoking hot bikini, Felix gets off with just a warning. A few moments later, Felix was off to his destination. After a few more miles and a small GPS correction, he had stopped this new boat to lay anchor for a non eventful afternoon lunch.

Now there was another boat in this secluded cove called "Mad Dog". It was a small inboard cruiser almost the same size as Felix's new boat. The crew of Jim & Genny waved as they went by being extra careful to not shoot Felix a wake. Felix admired the way they handled their boat and he had hoped that some day people would think the same of him. Now what was "Mad Dog" doing in this secluded cove so early in the day? After a few beers later and a small snack from the galley, Felix heard some small shouts of "help" coming deep inside this cove that was laden with old submerged stumps, rocks, and other things that can wreck havoc with propellers and out drives.

With the quick thinking of a recently trained mariner, Felix quickly had Mandy blow up the inflatable boat that was neatly stored behind the cockpit seating. Soon the two were rowing over to the shallows deep inside this secluded cove near the state park. They discover a horrible sight. It is an older power boat captain in the water holding on to what appears to be a sunken runabout called "Squiggle". The man in the water introduced himself as the original Alex Cooper. Other wise known as the infamous "Duke Of Earl". Alex claimed that there was a conspiracy against him and that someone sunk his boat on purpose.

Now who would ever do this asked Felix. Alex tried to blame it on all of the Yankees moving into Mooresville from Connecticut but he had to admit it could have been a guy named Dwight. Dwight, the prince of the cove near the west end of the Lake. Now with this short rescue and back into Felix's new boat, Alex was saved and given refreshments. But he was also scolded for stepping on the new upholstery with his shoes on Felix's new boat. How did this happen asked Felix? Alex said that guy Dwight had an evil pontoon boat with three pontoons and two outboard engines. He had flames painted along the sides of his pontoons which made it look bad and fast. He also said the front of the pontoons had shark teeth painted on them that were as big as chain saws. This made the pontoon boat look more bad and mean. Alex also cried that with the two outboard engines on this pontoon boat, it allowed him to win all of the slow boat races because who would ever think that a pontoon boat would have two engines and go faster than a speeding bass boat to that secret fishing hole no one was supposed to know about. Alex cried more and stated that this is unfair and justice had to be served.

Now Felix had Mandy haul up the anchor and chain and away they went in search of this evil killer pontoon boat that was responsible for sinking a "Squiggle". The only clue Felix had was a "Mad Dog". A Mad Dog of the lake. Now what an investigation this can turn out to be. Looking for an evil pontoon boat with two many pontoons and extra outboard engines maybe aided by a "Mad Dog" that helped create an end to the Squiggle.

Stay Tuned to Part Two: "Who Sunk Squiggle"

See You On the Water

P/C Don Breault
"Liberty"

In Memoriam

Mike Vestal was 30 years old when I met him. We met at work thrown together by corporate organizational changes. I worked for L'eggs and Mike worked for Hanes Hosiery. As these two companies became one, Mike and I were thrown together in a high tech Automation/Packaging Engineering Group of which I became Manager. I became Mike's boss. It did not take me long to understand Mike was a very sharp individual. He had the ability to take packaging projects and run with them. We bounced many ideas off one another, but Mike was the one that made the project go. We traveled all over the US together for many years, and I can truly say this guy was always a joy to travel with. Well maybe except once. We were in Boston Mass working on a packaging machine and Mike had a foot problem to come up. I had to push Mike around in a wheelchair for two days. Yes, it was a problem to push this guy around for two days, but I would have pushed him around for two months, or two years if I needed to. You know, because he would have been there for me. That was Mike Vestal.

For 25 years we never had a cross word with each other. That was Mike Vestal. This guy became more than a great employee. This guy became more than a great asset to the company. This Guy became a true friend to all who knew him. That was Mike Vestal.

Mike did have one bad fault. He pulled for the Blue team. (UNC) We did argue many times about NCSU vs. UNC. Just proves we do all have at least one fault. That was Mike Vestal.

Just talking to Mike and listening to him talk about his "Girls", (Wife and two daughters) I knew Mike was a good husband and father. He never said a bad word about them around me, or indicated that things were ever anything but good a home. That was Mike Vestal.

When I was commander of the WSSPS, I wanted Mike to be my Admin Officer and he said yes. He said yes, now what do I need to do. But he said yes first. That was Mike Vestal.

We had several good years in WSSPS. Mike even went with me several times on "My Girl" when I needed help moving the boat. He was a very good first mate. Mike and Kathy both were able to go on a very good memorable trip to Ocracoke, NC that we still talk about today. That was Mike Vestal.

You can sum it up this way. Mike was a work associate, automation/packaging machine specialist, technical innovator, first mate, fraternity brother, side kick, helper, just "BEST FRIEND". That was Mike Vestal. I have known Mike for many years and I think the best way to put it in words is just "BEST FRIEND". That was Mike Vestal.

I will always remember "Mike Vestal".

Reid London

Ship's Store

New WSSPS logo polo shirts (white)
Mens: Medium-X-Large
Ladies: Small-Large
$25

WSSPS coffee cups & can "huggies"
$3 each or 2 for $5
WSSPS 50th Anniversary burgees $25

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Winston-Salem Sail & Power Squadron

Calendar of Events for 2012

Date	Event Date:11/07/2011
January 7, 2012	D-27 Winter Training Meeting. NC State University Club, Raleigh, NC
January 25-29, 2012	USPS Annual Meeting. Hyatt Regency, Jacksonville, FL.
February 4, 2012	WSSPS Change Of Watch "Pinebrook CC"
February 6, 2012	Executive Committee Meeting "Cathy & Tom Lovelace House"
February 15, 2012	Monthly Meeting. Buena Vista Grille, Stratford Rd. Winston-Salem. "TBA"
March 5, 2012	Executive Committee Meeting "Breault's Boston Bar & Grill"
March 21, 2012	Monthly Meeting. Buena Vista Grille, Stratford Rd. Winston-Salem. "TBA"
March 23, 2012	D-27 Spring Conference & COW. "New Bern Hilton" 3/23 to 3/25
April 2, 2012	Executive Committee Meeting "George & Margie Lamb House"
April 18, 2012	Monthly Meeting. Buena Vista Grille, Stratford Rd. Winston-Salem. "TBA"
May 4-5, 2012	D-27 Rendzvous. Little River, NC
May 7, 2012	Executive Committee Meeting "London Times Lounge"
May 12, 2012	May Fest, Pilot Mountain, NC
May 16, 2012	Monthly Meeting. Buena Vista Grille, Stratford Rd. Winston-Salem. "TBA"
June 9-17, 2012	Coastal Cruise
June 4, 2012	Executive Committee Meeting "George Ellis House"
June 18, 2012	Low Country Boil "TBA"
July 4-8, 2012	Coastal Cruise
August 6, 2012	Executive Committee Meeting "George & Margie Lamb House"
August 15, 2012	Monthly Meeting. Buena Vista Grille, Stratford Rd. Winston-Salem. "TBA"
September 1-3, 2012	Coastal Cruise
September 15, 2012	Commanders Picnic "TBA"
October 1, 2012	Executive Committee Meeting "Breault's Boston Bar & Grill"
October 12-14, 2012	USPS Fall Governing Board. Detroit, MI
October 13-21, 2012	Coastal Cruise
October 17, 2012	Monthly Meeting. Buena Vista Grille, Stratford Rd. Winston-Salem. "TBA"
November 5, 2012	Executive Committee Meeting "Cathy & Tom Lovelace House"
November 2-4, 2012	Coastal Cruise
November 21, 2012	Monthly Meeting. Buena Vista Grille, Stratford Rd. Winston-Salem. "Our Year In Review"
December 3, 2012	Executive Committee Meeting "London Times Lounge"
December 15, 2012	Annual Christmas Party "TBA"

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A PUBLICATION OF

WINSTON-SALEM SAIL AND POWER

DISTRICT 27

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons

WINSTON-SALEM SAIL & POWER SQUADRON
204 Hadley Ct., Winston Salem, NC 27106

Important events

5 Dec.	ExCom Meeting at London home Social 6pm, Meeting 7pm
17 Dec.	Annual Christmas Party at Hawthorne Inn on Marshall St. 6pm, Please RSVP by Sat. Dec. 17

BRIDGE

Commander	Cdr Debbie Mayfield, S
Executive Officer	P/C Wayne Creekmore, JN
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Marilyn Shuping, S
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