



United States Power Squadrons®

Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the FriendsSM

CROSSED ANCHORS

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September-October 2017



Commander

Lt/C Bill Davis, SN



If you like to wallow in other people's misery I'm your man. So, as the boat story continues in its ascension to perfection, the big XXX water separator works great except I couldn't get fuel to push thru it. The Yamaha engine fuel pump wasn't strong enough to draw gas thru its on engine filter, plus my new filter.

First, I bought a pump to push the fuel thru the big XXX water separator, but it was a piston type device and was too noisy. Next, I bought a small centrifugal pump that worked one time and then the gasoline dissolved it solid and blew a fuse (which I had to discover and figure out later). Finally, I found a rotary vane pump that for the moment is working. Will know for sure the next time I take the boat out.

Continuing on that saga line Eddie, Becky, and David did our good Samaritan thing at Belews Creek on September 16th with the Greensboro Power Squadron doing Clean Sweep. We had the third highest in poundage out of five boat picking up other people litter. Don't really get that but it happens.

Not being a connoisseur at accessing boat ramps, I got the boat trailer in some kind of hole in the concrete ramp in the water and bent the front strut of the trailer. Fortunately, the trailer is fairly new and the Karavan Trailer folks were able to make me a new one. However, when I tried to jack the front of the trailer up the other day all that did was tilt the trailer backwards and it never lifted off the front bunks. So now the plan is to take the boat and trailer to Belews Creek, dump the boat in the water, and work on the trailer without the boat on it. This will be much easier to work on.

That concludes my gripping about boats.

District Fall Conference is October 21 and I will be your trusty representative along with Dawn Gaskill who is your District Secretary. Nice to have an inside source. October 14 we did another Geodetic Survey as we hunt for long lost geodetic markers. That is always fun.

I hope next year USPS will have the Coop Charting program restructured. After all, isn't the plan to get out on the water and do some fun stuff!



Educational Officer

Lt. Kin Carrette

Unfortunately, no one signed up for the October Americas Boating Course – Third Edition class at the Old Town Recreation Center. However, the Winston-Salem Sail and Power Squadron will again offer the ABC-3 on Tuesdays, March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, and April 3rd 2018 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Old Town Recreation Center at 4550 Shattalon Drive, Winston-Salem, NC. The cost for the course is \$26 for the course or \$55 for the course and a 6-month membership in the USPS/WSSPS. We are also hoping in the spring 2018 to use the new Salem Lake facilities to teach an ABC-3 class.

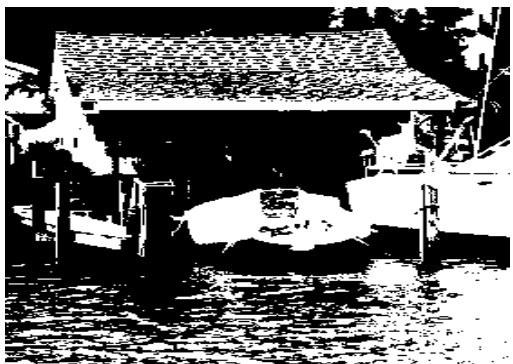
Don Breault is setting up a one-day ABC-3 class in the Atlantic Beach area over the late fall, winter, or possibly spring. The cost of this class will be \$26 to cover course materials. If you would like to help with teaching the classes here in Winston-Salem or at Atlantic Beach. Please contact Don or myself.

During the month of September and early October, I had the opportunity to teach the ABC-3 course to Boy Scout Troop 714 at New Philadelphia Moravian Church as part of the motor boating merit badge. Eighteen Scouts have successfully passed the test, and five more are doing a retest this week. These young men were excited about learning how to safely boat and demonstrated good seamanship practicing their newly learned skills on High Rock Lake.

The Winston-Salem Sail and Power Squadron will be offering the Instructor Development recertification course at New Hope United Methodist Church at 5125 Shattalon Drive in Winston-Salem on Thursday, November 2nd, starting at 7:00. We will meet in the Sea Scout room near the fellowship hall. If anyone would like to become certified as an instructor, please let me know and we can set up an initial certification class. You can contact me at (336) 413-6490 or email education@wssps.org.

Fair Winds!

Kin



Fish House Chronicles

By P/C Don Breault, AP



A Bridge Too Low

“Felix and Mandy Head South for the Winter”

Part 1

Felix decided one late October afternoon that he should think about making plans to move “Ester” his sail boat restoration project further south from the approaching winds of winter. So off to the Pelletier Country Club and Yacht Basin he drives to, so he can begin his preparations for his trip south. Now we have all recently learned that Felix is contemplating retirement very soon so this is a great practice run for him so he can plan his winters in Florida with the other “Snow Birds” who by now are traveling in a caravan of flotilla’s southbound in the Intracoastal Waterway. This is a sight to see, as every day squadrons of small and large sailing vessels and powered motor yachts, all traveling in a southerly direction looking for a late afternoon anchorage or marina to spend the night on this twice a year voyage. The Captain & Crews on these boats all seem to have similar attributes. A ragged old sweat shirt and funny looking boonie hats they seem to wear on windy days, with bleached stained shorts, and they all have white or gray hair. Some crews have the look of age fighting shapes and when you see them up and close.

Felix consults with Denny on what libations to pack, and he asks Reid what tools are best to take along. He also gets advice from other members of the Fish House crew on where the best bargains are for food and dry goods at the new Lidel grocery store in town. Hector, Felix’s brother also gave him advice on what fishing tackle to take so he can troll for his evening meals each day. Tom told Felix that the best tackle is found at the bottom of the creek as so many fishermen have lost it there last year while fishing off the docks near Franks Marina. So much advice and so little time to comprehend the data, Felix begins to feel anxious to get going as he knows there is little time to do this while still working for a living. So he calls his friend Bill Davis to see if he has any more updates on that new chart plotter on sale at West Marine. But he thinks that Bill may be on the land out of cell phone range looking for geodetic markers in Wilkes County somewhere.

Now after a day of planning, Mandy shows up to help Felix with the food-gathering and beverage purchasing. She had a short list of food such as chips and dip but a large list for the ABC store. I guess she thinks Felix believes that man cannot live on bread alone. But staples and canned goods were something they can easily store into those tight compartments on Ester, so she introduced some creative menu planning involving chili, beans, spaghetti “O’s”, canned salmon, tuna, and canned chicken. We can all imagine the dinner for the day could include a bottle of Tums and an extra roll of toilet tissue for the night.

While Mandy is shopping, Felix runs to the gas station to get a 5 gallon jug of fresh diesel. He figures that would get him a couple of days travel as he planned to stop at a marina that sold diesel on one of his nights.

Now with provisions provided, and crew loaded, the majestic “Ester” appears ready to cruise according to her skipper. As they toss in their lines and pulled away from the slip, Ester’s engine roared to life as the skipper gently placed her in reverse while the prop kicked up mud and silt from the bottom of the creek. This is always the case for a slightly deep draft boat pulling out or in to a slip on this side of the creek. Skippers just hope that the kitchen sink was never aborted overboard in the direction of the propellers while docking because there is little room between the top of the water and the bottom in any tide. As Felix turns South in the ICW, he decides to activate his older GPS to establish distance, location, and boat speed while he determines his next port of call in the Wrightsville Beach area.

As Felix continues to cruise his partially restored boat southbound, Mandy goes below to work some magic in the galley. After an hour or so she comes back up with a libation from a recipe Denny gave her for a mid-morning break. It somehow had all of the food groups of breakfast in a glass and it had a high level of heat in the form of tomato juice. As Felix made the many turns around Swansboro and enters the Camp Lejeune part of the trip, for somehow he may have missed the warning beacon about some live fire exercises going on that day with Marine Corps amphibious landing exercises. Felix just noticed that he had bought a new high capacity bilge pump as it was still in the package. He forgot to replace the 20 year old Rule pump in the bilge before leaving, but Felix felt that was no issue because there was no water coming in and it still worked as far as he knew.

Off in the distance up ahead, Felix sees yellow and blue strobe lights in the middle of the waterway. He looked down at his VHF and saw he forgot to turn it on. He must have been confident that the weather was good to go because that is pretty much what he used it for, other than to operate it like his CB in his monster pick up. So Felix switches on the power and calls out on channel 16: “Hey Coast Guard, You got your ears on?” This is the “Ester” “goin down southbound” “Hey Coast Guard, What’s your handle?”

Stay Tuned for the final chapter in: “A Bridge Too Low” How Felix Discovers High Tide!

Please all take note that there has been a change in the United States Power Squadron public site URL from usps.org to beyondboating.org. This is an exciting new site with great graphics, videos, and easy to access information.

WSSPS Upcoming Activity Schedule

Wed, Oct 18	Monthly Meeting - North Point Grill 1800 hours
Mon, Nov 6	Bridge Meeting - TBD—1800 hours
Wed, Nov 15	Monthly Meeting - TBD 1800 hours
Wed, Dec 13	Squadron Christmas Party
Mon, Jan 8	Bridge Meeting - TBD 1800 hours
Sat, Jan 20	Change of Watch, Maple Chase Country Club

2018

Feb 23-25 Greensboro Boat Show
Feb 18-25 National Meeting - Orlando

A few pictures from the “Clean Sweep” at Belews Lake.



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