



# United States Power Squadrons®

*Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends<sup>SM</sup>*

**CROSSED** ANCHORS

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## Commander

*Lt/C Bill Davis, SN*



Wow, if I had three legs maybe I could run faster. The HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) business at my work is working in overload. I must have 15 to 20 projects going on at various stages. Then there is all our church property to look after as the Trustee Chairman plus Treasurer of the Methodist Men. A farm to manage with Solar Farms going in. Five grandchildren, 3 plus 1 children, and Cathy to look after. Then there is America's Boating Club, also known as the United States Power Squadron. Can I get a little sympathy here? Actually, it's not that bad. As I have rationalized if I was retired I would be spending more money and getting into mischief.

David is doing a great job of organizing events for the squadron. Even I have to figure out what I can get to and still deal with my other obligations. The life of keeping up with David. Sigh!

I have plans for our next Geodetic Survey outing this month and my biggest concern is for us to do the hunt for markers safely. I have vests for everyone so we will all look like Big Bird.

Then there is always the perplexing job of making our squadron stable for the future in addition to seeing how USPS is addressing the issue. We are not the only volunteer group in the country facing this dilemma. I see pretty much all volunteer groups with this situation. It is a changing society and we will need to adjust as well.

My pulse has quicken some as I think about the boating season close to starting if it will ever warm up. I have already bought a new battery for the boat and Cathy is sewing on a new bimini and back cover for shade on the back half of the boat. I really want to test the boat on the coast this year with hopefully no water in the fuel tank. Don't need to go into that again.

I know this goes without saying but think about inviting a friend who may enjoy boating to any of our events, even if that friend doesn't have a boat. Not a problem. As you may have noticed most of our activities really aren't on a boat!

# Administrative Officer

## *LtC David Jackson, S*



### **Fellow Members, Thank You for allowing me to serve as your Administrative Officer this year.**

It has been a busy year so far and I know everyone has a lot going on. I know I have a lot to learn and I am following in the footsteps of past Admin officers that have done a fantastic job in the past. I am continuing to work on the schedule of events. So far, this year, April, May and June are going to be busy months. Some of our goals for this year include having more programs and pursuing some different activities. I have included some dates for coastal activities on our schedule that I hope we all can attend. Please see the calendar that Sheila is sending out.

The membership meeting is April 18 at Bleu's. Kevin Ebbnk will be presenting a program on Medicare- Fact and Fiction. I have seen his program and found it useful. Plan to attend.

Our next activity is Saturday April 21 our Geodetic Marker Recovery. This is always a fun game of hide and seek. We will meet at Southern Restaurant on Yadkinville Rd at 9AM and look for markers until lunch around 1PM. We will be having lunch at Mama Zoe's Restaurant on Reynolda Rd.

The Executive Meeting will be on Monday May 7 at my home. The address is 1560 Shore Rd, Rural Hall. Direction are Hwy 52 north to exit 118 Bethania Rural Hall Rd, turn left at the top of the ramp drive across the bridge and take the first right (Shore Rd) drive ½ mile. You will pass Chandler Point on the right and I am the second house on the right past it. The house sits up on top of a hill. We will have parking at the back of the house, side of the house and on the street. The menu will be a cook out from the grill with hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken.

The next activity is the Yadkin Valley Wine Festival in Elkin. It is on Saturday May19 from 11 to 4PM. We can car pool or rent a van depending on the number of people that want to attend. The tickets are \$22 in advance on line or \$30 at the gate. Admission to the Festival for anyone NOT tasting, buying or consuming wine is free. The link is <http://www.yvwf.com>. This will take the place of our May Membership Meeting.

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In June Bill will be hosting the Executive meeting on June 4 at his house with Little Richard Bar B Que.

On June 8, and 9 the D/27 Rendezvous is in New Bern. See their site for information.

On Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup>, we have scheduled a cruise at Lake Norman on the Catawba Queen. This is the one clock cruise. The cost is \$17.99 for seniors and lunch is \$9.99. Please go ahead and sign up on their site if you want to attend. The link is <http://queenslanding.com/cruise-schedule>. This event will take the place of our June Membership meeting. The Frazer's will be hosting the group after the cruise.

This is a look at the next two months, like I said busy! Some of the possible upcoming programs include a meeting at Pro Shots with some range time included. Your input and ideas for future programs are greatly appreciated. Again, please refer to the calendar that Sheila has been sending out for the dates and locations of our upcoming meetings. We are still in need of volunteers to host our Executive meetings. I am looking forward to working with each one of you to have a productive year. Thanks for your support.

LtC David Jackson, S



## Educational Officer

*Lt. Kin Cartrette*

At the publication of this article, P/C Don Breault, AP, will have taught a one-day Americas Boating Course - 3 class at the Nautical Club in the Atlantic Beach area on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, as a joint squadron activity with the Ft. Macon Sail and Power Squadron. Don reported that there were more than 30 students signed up to take the class. Fantastic job Don and the Ft. Macon Sail and Power Squadron! We are looking forward to hearing great things about this class!

The March ABC-3 at the Old Town Recreation Acres did not materialize. Two folks inquired, but, one took the class online and the other did not sign up. However, there has been a change in location for the ABC-3 classes locally. The Director at Old Town Recreation Acres has transferred to Polo Park Recreation Center and wants us to teach the class there. We have set up an ABC-3 class at Polo Park Recreation Center for Thursday nights, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, and June 7<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 until 9:00 PM. The address is 1850 Polo Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27106. Cost for the course is \$26. Polo Park is a busy recreation center with a pool and gym and hopefully will reach a larger audience.

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To better serve the educational needs of the WSSPS membership we would like your input into which courses and seminars that you would like to see us offer. Please click on the link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/86PKC9H> and complete this eight-question survey on Survey Monkey. Results of the survey will be used to plan courses and seminars for the summer and fall.

Some folks have asked about taking the initial Instructor Development class. Please contact me so that we can look at schedules and set up an initial certification class. You can contact me at (336) 413-6490 or email [education@wssps.org](mailto:education@wssps.org).



## Fish House Chronicles

### Taking The Plunge Again

If we remember the best of times and the worst of times we had owning a boat, then why do we mariners keep buying more boats? Is the best two days of owning a boat related to the day you buy one and the day you sell it? Then why don't we stop after we sell it? Is it because after being boatless for a while, we feel that there is something missing in our life? Kind of like a love hate relationship. So why do we keep repeating the same process? It is that love part that has resurfaced in your life? The missing link in your life's journey as you breach the retirement program may be that thing we call a hole in the water we keep throwing cash into. So here I go taking the plunge again. Boat shopping has once again raised its head and snuck into my heart. The answers to these questions of why we do it and how we do it is defined by the lack of making more experiences on the water. So owning a condo on the water should get you that fix. But it is not the same as having a boat on the water.

If we can ever display our experiences and cross-reference them into an encyclopedia of moments we have never forgotten, or if we could somehow explain the why we do what we do in recreation, work, family, or just playing to have fun. We would try and define those experiences we have had and have yet to have. But what would we define them against? How can you explain to someone that may not understand your lifestyle that is so near and dear to your heart? That something you did last week on the water with your boat or on the beach with friends and family, or back on the dock that created so much humor or embarrassment to yourself.

You define these experiences to someone by those journey's you take each weekend with your friends and family in someone's boat. A boat that can journey off to a near but far away place and take you away from those every day chores of working and or taking care of your mainland property. You can also gain unique experiences that are accustomed to those journeys. One of them is that ride to the beach of four plus hours discussing the must haves and needs in that next boat. The other is the journey you may take to do some local volunteer work on a weekend that you are planning to stay ashore in Winston-Salem. Another journey you take is one that takes you into the experiences of someone else who may be discovering for the first time that major big boat purchase. Or a journey with someone who has never been on a boat so far from land that they cannot see the land. To some that is a scary feeling.

So if we can define the salt life by those journey's we take, then some of those journeys are on a boat of some sort. Is it a big boat or a little boat? Is it a cabin boat or an open center console boat? Or maybe it is an express cruiser or a trawler. Is it a sail boat or is it a power boat? My brothers and sisters of the sea, it is not the size or type of boat. It just has to be a boat. A boat you can trailer, or a boat you keep in a wet slip, or a boat you keep in a dry stack facility. It's a boat and boating is what we do. It does not matter the reason for getting a boat, but to get a boat and just go boating. Fishing, cruising, water sports, and just plain "Gunk Holeing".

Just go boating because life is too short to worry about what the best boat is, and how much or little they cost. They all cost a lot so don't believe anyone that tries to tell you one type is cheaper than another.

They all cost more than you thought, and that includes the initial purchase, the maintenance, and any repairs that you have to do when you break it or go aground. If you don't believe me that this is true, just look at our DEWDA awards, or just ask Tom, Don or Reid. We are the boating people of the earth. We do it because we love it. We do it because we are hooked on defining our life by those journeys we take on the water. We do it because we find that the fellowship with family and friends is what creates the concept of "Living the Dream".

Do you want to teach your grandchildren how to fish? Do want to experience the look on a small child's face as they see Sea Turtles and Dolphins in the wild for the first time? Do you want to experience the best time a family can have on a deserted beach on one of our barrier islands? You can't do these things sitting at home watching someone else doing it on the TV. So get out and just do it. Get that boat and make more memories that will go down into a multigenerational history book of experiences you and several others will experience together. The water is not that cold, and it is never too deep in North Carolina.

See You on the Water,  
P/C Don Breault  
"Boat Shopping"





## 2018 Bridge Officers

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**Members at Large:** Lt. Jim Frazier S, Faye London, Tisha London, P/C Dawn Gaskill, AP

**Nominating Committee:** Lt/C Eddie Shinlever, P, P/C Debbie Mayfield S, P/C Reid London N

Feel free to contact any of the above if you have questions. Our meetings are always open to the public.

Please visit with us anytime.

