

The Lighthouse

Official Newsletter of the Northern Neck Sail and Power Squadron
A D/5 SQUADRON AND UNIT OF USPS®

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July - August 2009

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Squadron Calendar

July

- 18 Taylor's Creek rendezvous
- ExCom Meeting
- 27 **Instructor Development**

August

- No planned squadron events



September Deadline

Please submit all articles for the September 2009 *Lighthouse* to Dick Horn by 18 August, rhornva@yahoo.com. Photos of squadron activities are especially welcome.



A good time was had by all



Angie Crown ready to fire an aerial flare. Lou Wilcoxen looks on.

Thirty squadron members enjoyed the hospitality of Ray Winkel and Anna Roelofsen at their *Late Spring Picnic on the Great Wicomico River*. The weather cooperated on 13 June allowing the arrival of several boats joining land yachters. Members actively participated in a flare demonstration organized by Twy Williams, with timely support from Ron and Bonnie Murphy in gaining Coast Guard approval for the exercise. A big thank you goes out to those who contributed so many aerial and hand-held flares, and then helped to provide ample opportunity for all to have a good "hands-on" experience.

Numerous folks commented on the fine food served. Willaby's did a very nice job on their entrees, but a special thanks goes to Ray for his delicious broccoli salad and to Anna for her tasty homemade desserts. Arthur Olsen, right, once again demonstrated his grilling expertise, serving up bratwurst to perfection, and gaining the honor of wearing a chef's hat for the evening.



Nancy Williams won the 50/50 raffle and kindly donated her winnings to NNSPS. Cdr Helen Kelley won a 12-inch International Signal Flag Set generously donated by Ray and Anna for the raffle. Without a doubt, a "good time was had by all."

More on page 5.

Lt/C Norm Tadlock, S

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From the Helm **Happy Dance**

There is a tradition among genealogists that when we experience a great find as a result of our ancestral research, we share our achievement with the group and do the 'Happy Dance' to help celebrate our fellow genealogist's success.

I must say the members of our Great Squadron have kept their Commander busy during the month of June and have also given her the opportunity to be doing the 'Happy Dance.' The enthusiasm, energy, and commitment of NNSPS members has resulted in "getting our message out" to anyone and everyone - *450 people of all ages*. They have: (1) submitted a full-page article to the Northumberland County Chamber of Commerce directory; (2) manned a safety booth at a local farmer's market distributing free raffle tickets for a fanny pack life jacket donated by West Marine thanks to Ron Murphy and won by Mr. Larry Worth; (3) signed up boaters for VSCs at the farmer's market; (4) received an invitation to put up a safety booth at the Knights of Columbus fall festival; (5) received numerous inquires about boating safety courses; (6) provided a demonstration of the Boating Safety Kids Program to the Kiwanis Club of Kilmarnock that resulted in a most generous donation; (7) taught America's Boating Course to the camp counselors at the Bayport Boy Scout Reservation in Jamaica – Virginia that is; (8) partnered with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, the Kiwanis Club, and Yankee Point Marina to teach 12 high school students boating safety and the basics of sailing; (9) brought in a new member, Pat Loving; (10) and, oh yes, we did take time out to have fun on 13 June on the Great Wicomico River learning how to operate the various types of signal flare devices and enjoyed a great picnic supper.

I celebrate your successes and invite you to join me in the 'Squadron's Happy Dance.' Thank you for your dedication and support of NNSPS, the Northern Neck community, and living the United States Power Squadrons' mission in safe boating through education, civic service, and having fun on the water.

Cdr Helen Kelley, P



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Executive Officer

An active spring

COMMUNITY SAFETY BOOTHS - Our Safety Booth made it's first appearance at the Irvington Farmers' Market on 6 June. Thanks to Angie Crown, Judy and Dave Cook, Ron Murphy, Dick Whittaker, and Cdr Helen Kelley for staffing the booth. Angie, Ron, and I spent much of our time walking the market and passing out raffle tickets for a chance at winning a belly pack inflatable PFD - taking the time to speak about the importance of boating safety. The folks then turned the tickets in at the booth where our "booth babes" took the time to discuss boating safety again. Thanks, Ray Reuter, for the great PR suggestions. The best way to get folks to join - whether it's our class, our Vessel Safety Checks, or our squadron - is to be a mirror and reflect the fun we have together. The crew certainly did that. Thank you for your support.

VESSEL SAFETY EXAMS - Mike Warren has a new supply of forms and stickers. He will also be inputting the completed forms. If you didn't get them to me at Saturday's outing, please get them to Mike as soon as you can. This will help District keep the supplies flowing. (I also have secret sources so not to worry).

SPRING CONFERENCE HOSPITALITY SUITE - A BIG THANK YOU to Arthur Olsen, Daphne Montgomery, and Barnaby and Betsy Roberts for volunteering to plan our hospitality suite for the D/5 Spring Council. I can hardly wait to see what fun with education this group can create.

SEAVESTER STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP - At this writing, Seavester has slipped into second place in the National Safe Boating Council "Floato" contest in support of boating safety. He needs your help. VOTE EARLY AND OFTEN FOR SEAVESTER at <http://floatyourselfcontest.com/gallery/floato.php?guid=octeeekueicyyaaaaseo>.

BOATING AND E-85 DON'T MIX - Most all of you have seen the pictures, read the articles and heard the horror stories of the damage 10% etha-

nol is doing to marine engines. Well our government, in its infinite wisdom, has decided to issue us marine gas that is at least 15% ethanol.

A suggested letter that expresses our concerns over the adverse impact this E-85 ruling will have in the marine industry was passed out at the June rendezvous. A copy of the letter is also attached to this newsletter for your use. Feel free to ask friends and neighbors to sign the letter. You might want to mention it to your boating buddies and even offer the letter to captains after you have inspected their boats.

I will be collecting signed letters at the July rendezvous at the Cook's. Our letters will then be added to those collected in the Hampton Roads area and sent en masse to Washington. (A big box of letters makes more of an impact than one or two trickling over a desk at a time - trust me). As members of USPS, we are allowed to lobby. However, we cannot spend money on lobbying efforts. Vining Marine has agreed to pay for shipping. Thank you for your consideration.

Lt/C Bonnie Brown-Murphy, AP



Cdr Kelley and Ray Winkel accept a donation from the Kiwanis Club.

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Educational Officer Spring Fling

This spring we conducted four basic boating courses. Two **ABC** courses in March/April graduated seven students - a disappointing number but resulting in two new members - Jack and Faye Bottomley. Have you welcomed them to our squadron? Eleven people registered for the free **Boat Virginia** course in May, but only four showed and they all graduated.



Gene Wolski completes a VSC

The Bayport Scout Camp called in late May requesting VSCs and a basic course for five of its counselors. Dyan Warren arranged for the VSCs and the **ABC** course was taught on 8 and 10 June at the camp near Jamaica, VA. So that will make five more **ABC** graduates and a total of 16 basic boating course graduates for the spring sessions. Thanks to Dave and Judy Cook, Helen Kelley, Nancy Williams, and Jim Harris who served as instructors for these courses. Their time, effort and dedication are much appreciated. Thanks too to Ray Reuter and all of you who helped advertise our courses.

There are lots of opportunities to teach and take courses. Sign up and join in the fun. Courses coming up:

Instructor Development: 27 July-31 August; **Register by 10 July**

ABC: 19/26 September, Kilmarnock

ABC: 17/25 October, Heathsville

Seamanship: 3 November – 8 December

Weather: 11 January – 22 February

Cruise Planning: 25 January – 8 March

Advanced Piloting: TBD



Twy Williams with Bayport counselors

Congratulations to Dave Cook who is the squadron's nominee to District 5 for the USPS Education Department Charles F. Chapman Award for Excellence in Teaching. Dave has been a stalwart among our instructors and is recognized for his outstanding teaching and support of public and member courses. Add your own "pat on the back" to Dave. He surely deserves it.

Lt/C Twy Williams, SN

A SUB in your backyard

Sixty percent of the boats on the waterways are less than 16 feet in length. Most of those are what the Coast Guard considers to be Sport Utility Boats or SUBs. A SUB can be a canoe, kayak, dinghy, or simply a wide board propelled by a towheaded kid with a two-by-four (our son Eric many years ago). "Survey says" most of you own a SUB or two. Paula and I own 4 and they are inspected annually, just ask Gene Wolski. All the gear needed to pass a Vessel Safety Check for a non powered SUB is a lifejacket and a whistle, period.

So, go out back and rollover that kayak

that's been sitting on those old sawhorses; chase that possum family that has taken up residence in it back into the woods; put on a life jacket with a whistle and call me. I'll be right over.

*Lt Ray Reuter,
Vessel Safety Examiner*

Is Examiner Gene Wolski padding his VSC tally by awarding a sticker to fellow Examiner Ray Reuters' model boat?



Secretary
ExCom meeting news

The ExCom meeting was held on 13 June, attended by Helen and John Kelley, Bonnie Brown-Murphy, Twy Williams, Norm Tadlock, Paula Reuter, Barnaby Roberts, Judy and Dave Cook, Dick Horn and me. Agenda items not covered in detail elsewhere in this issue include:

- Mike Steele volunteered to initiate and manage a Web site for the squadron. Dick Horn will send Mike the burgee graphic and other files that may be used for the Web site.
- Twy has received no response from members about signing up for *Instructor Development* on 27 July. Interested members should contact Twy as soon as possible.
- The Montessori School has requested the squadron to give a kids' boating safety course for 3-7 year olds.

The next ExCom meeting will be on Saturday, 18 July, 1530, prior to the Taylor's Creek rendezvous.

Lt/C Angie Crown, P

Great Wicomico rendezvous



Ron Murphy stands dockside in front of Ray Winkel's Have Knot which sports a 52 foot mast.

Story on page 1

Norm Tadlock served as a chef at the Great Wicomico cookout.



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Nail and Sail

The Kiwanis and St Andrews Presbyterian church sponsor an annual week long work-camp for high school aged young adults. The focus is on community service and the campers work in the mornings repairing, painting and improving houses for deserving low income people in our community. The afternoons are devoted to sailing and paddling. The campers also are entertained in the evenings by various families. They reside in tents on the church grounds. Sound like fun?



Nailers and Sailors



Getting underway

For the past two years our squadron has provided instructors and chase boats for the afternoon boating. This year Joe and Kathy Moeller led a structured training program for sailing the four sun-fish and paddling craft provided by Yankee Point Marina. Arthur Olsen and Dave and Judy Cook manned their boats each day to provide on water support to the instructors. Shore crews for rigging, retrieving and monitoring near shore activities were Helen and John Kelley, Daphne Montgomery, Nancy and Twy Williams. Ray Winkel loaned his hauler to help save Kathy's voice and make it easier for the chase boats.



Left, Arthur Olsen and Joe Moeller prepare Arthur's chase boat. Above, two campers set out in a canoe.

We all had a great time and our efforts are clearly appreciated by St. Andrews and Yankee Pt Marina.

Lt/C Twy Williams, SN

Richmond Sail and Power Squadron Fourth of July Extravaganza

Come join the Richmond Sail and Power Squadron for its annual Rendezvous Extravaganza in the old water town of Callao, Virginia, 2-5 July. It will be an action-packed weekend with activities for kids of all ages!

Call Olverson's Marina DIRECTLY at (800) 529-5071 to make your slip reservation. IMPORTANT: Be sure to let them know that you are with RSPS.

Call RSPS Cdr Dave Teets (804) 370-7061 for details.

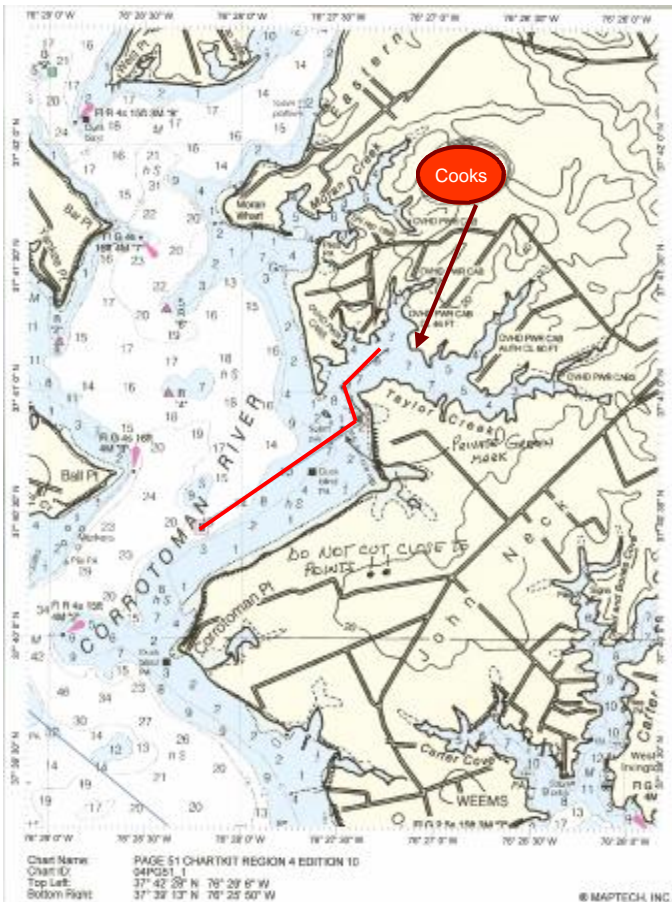
Taylor's Creek rendezvous

Plan to attend our next rendezvous on 18 July hosted by Judy and Dave Cook. Come by land or sea to Taylor's Creek and enjoy pulled pork Bar-B-Q, cole slaw, German potato salad, garden salad and Judy's own *world famous cheesecake*. ExCom meeting begins at 1530. 1630 to 1730 – Kayak, Paddle Boat, Canoe races, or for the more sedentary, Nautical Pursuit (just like Trivial Pursuit, only nautical questions), Fishing for Rubber Duckies (prizes for all of the above), or just visiting. Dinner at 1830 with soda, beer, and water provided. If you prefer something stronger, please BYOB. Bring some folding chairs to supplement those available. Dave and Judy hope for a great turnout, and Judy promises to whistle up a breeze about 1430 to keep us all cool and bug free. See below for directions.

If you will be joining us for dinner, please send in your RSVP by **11 July** to Paula Reuter, 804-453-3642, or reuters@northernneck.com, and mail your \$15 check to her at the following address: 44 Marina Point Road, Reedville, VA 22539.

Also mark your calendar for the 12 September joint rendezvous with USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 33 on Dyer Creek, hosted by Dave Herndon.

Lt/C Norm Tadlock, P, Administrative Officer



Taylor's Creek rendezvous directions

Land yacht directions: From Burgess, take VA 200 South towards Main Street South, Kilmarnock. At the light, turn left onto Main Street. At the next light, turn right onto VA 200/Irvington Rd. Drive approximately 2.3 miles and turn right onto VA 222. Drive ½ mile and then turn right onto Lubmerlost Rd. Drive 2/10 mile, and turn left on Taylor's Creek Road. Drive 2.2 miles to the end at 2319 Taylor's Creek Road

Cruising directions: As you can see from the chart on the left, entering Taylor's Creek from the Carrotoman can be a bit tricky. Please call Dave Cook (804-438-6029) for navigational information.

1st/Lt Dave Cook, SN

America's Boating ClubSM