



the Ocean Breeze

An official publication of the Hilton Head Sail & Power Squadron

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Editorial Deadline

Thursday after Monthly
ExComm Meeting

the Bridge

**Commander
Cdr. Dick Erler, AP**

**Executive Officer
Lt/C John Koenig, AP**

**Administrative Officer
Lt/C Robert McKenzie**

**Education Officer
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**Treasurer
Lt/C Mary Ann Compher, P**

www.hhsp.org

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Roster Boosters

please see page 5

Save the Date

D26 Spring Conference in Beaufort, SC
Fri-Sun March 9,10,11

XMAS Dinner Party Photos

<http://www.in-the-wind.org/hhsp/hhsp.html>

Care to Share or Donate your Small Boat?

The squadron needs a small outboard motor boat to support the on-the-water portions of several courses and seminars.

Please see page 9 for details.

GET A 2012

VESSEL SAFETY CHECK

Contact us to make an appointment for a free Vessel Safety Check.

For more information -

<http://www.hhsp.org/safetyCheck.asp>

or see page 7 inside



View from the Bridge

Commander Dick Erler, AP



Since this is my first Ocean Breeze article for 2012, I will begin by wishing you all a very Happy New Year and offer my commitment to make our Power Squadron year successful and enjoyable.

In my last report to you, I outlined how I got to be Commander and highlighted some of your successes and accomplishments of 2011. So now it is time to focus on our plans for this year. Since we have developed and implemented a long range plan, and past efforts have been so successful, we will continue to build on current programs and work toward getting more participation in our social and boating activities. Getting our new members involved is our primary goal.

Our 2012 plan is built around a solid educational program, exciting social and on the water boating activities, supported by a solid marketing and advertising campaign. The plans are in place and we are already in the implementation stage.

Starting with education, Leslie Gilroy has scheduled two Safe Boating Classes. The first is to begin March 3rd on Hilton Head followed by the second class at the University of South Carolina in April. Following these classes, Seamanship, Sail and Piloting will be offered. This will get us off to a great start for the remainder of the educational class schedule. Finally, Al Pepe has offered to teach Junior Navigation later on this year. All you AP's, now is the time to move up to the next level.

K C Moore has assembled his Vessel Safety Check team and has begun doing 2012 inspections. His goal is to double the number of boats inspected last year. Call to get your boat on their list to be inspected.

Mike Gilroy has his Magellan Society in full swing. He started this wonderful program and will continue at the helm again this year. Look forward to joining him again this year.

This is just a touch of what is planned for this year. Now it is John Koenig's job to promote our activities to the boating public of Hilton Head. He and Dan Merkel are implementing a Public Relations / Marketing plan to insure that the boating community of Hilton Head knows what we are doing, when we are doing it, and most of all how important our Squadron is for safe boating on the waters around our island.

Remember the **Value Proposition** introduced by Cdr. John Kern:

Our MISSION is to provide safe boating education, operation and fellowship to recreational boaters on the waters of Hilton Head and beyond.

As long as we focus on this mission statement and work our marketing plan we will have a successful and fun year.

Dick Erler

Executive Officer's Report

Lt/C John Koenig, AP



Wishing everyone a Happy New Year and looking forward to a fun, productive and successful 2012 for the squadron in our continuing efforts to support the boating community.

This month was the kickoff for our department; while slow it has been productive in terms of organizing and familiarizing ourselves with our new responsibilities.

The Cooperative charting team has the challenge of using difficult national software to report on their activities updating local navigation charts. Barry Moore and Smitty Haller have been working with the software and planning their 2012 activities.

As you'll see in KC's article he has aggressively started to develop the 2012 VSC program. The PR team plans to promote his informative November article, written with a personal touch, with some of the local newspaper editors.

Do you have an idea about a boating related article we can write and promote with local media?

On the PR front we've posted our first ads for the upcoming spring USCB classes. You'll find us in the Where to Go in Hilton Head magazine and as part of the USCB Island Packet ads. Additional free ads are planned in a number of local news outlets, so keep and eye out for them.

Do you get a club or group newsletter that may welcome our ads or articles?

Dan Merkel continues to work on building our database of contacts at community clubs, marinas and boating related retailers. The goal is to market our public courses and events with e-mail, flyer and brochure campaigns. If you belong to a club or marina, *participate* in the squadron's activities by sending Dan contact information; *it just takes an e-mail or phone call!*

Does your club or group have a bulletin board where we can post our flyers about public courses and events? Can we e-mail your fellow members?

Welcome to Darla Floyd who has volunteered to assist the PR team; she brings a wealth of marketing experience to the team!

John

Education Officer's Report -

Lt/C Leslie Gibroy, AP



CONGRATULATIONS to the following for passing Seamanship: Doris Broere, Darla Floyd, John Floyd, James Ford, Gary Goodear, Greg Hollinger, Allen Miller, Barry Moore, Patricia O'Conner-Ford, Eric Schibler, Larry Tremitiere, and Peter White. Thanks to Tom Hefty, Lt Dan Merkel, and P/C John Kern for teaching the class.

WOW!! Look how much Boating Education our Members taught and took in 2011

**3 ABC Classes, 1 at USCB
Seamanship
Piloting
Advanced Piloting
3 Instructor Development Classes
Marine Electrical Systems
Engine Maintenance
VHF Seminar
SAIL (completed in January 2012)**

AND HERE'S OUR PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE FOR 2012 - with room for more based on your interests:

- January 9, 12, 16 & 19: Seamanship
- February (date TBD): Instructor Development
- March 3 & 10: ABC – HHI
- March 31 & April 7: ABC – USCB
- April (dates TBD): SAIL - HHI
- April (date TBD): Seamanship – HHI
- May 5 & 12: Seamanship- USCB
- May (date TBD): Weather
- May (date TBD): Boat Handling Under Power, Seminar
- June (date & topics TBD): Seminars
- June (dates TBD): Piloting
- July (dates & Topics TBD): Seminars
- August (dates TBD): Instructor Development
- September (dates TBD): ABC – HHI
- September (dates TBD): ABC – USCB
- October (dates TBD): Advanced Piloting
- November (dates TBD): SAIL

As you can see we have an aggressive agenda for 2012. Please let me know if you are interested in BOC (Boat Operator Certification) so we can get you started in the right classes. The website has the list of required classes and seminars.

Leslie

Administrative Officer's Report

Lt/C Robert McKenzie, P



I am pleased to be serving as you Administrative Officer for 2012.

I would like to thank all of you who have participated in our 2011 events and to especially thank all of the members who have given their time and efforts to make these events and committees successful.

A big part of 2012 will be devoted to learning what the membership likes and dislikes about the Hilton Head Sail and Power Squadron and our events and activities. In the next few months, we will be contacting each member to give you the opportunity to voice you opinion. We want your Input!

We have a number of activities planned for the members this year including Magellan Society cruises, boating cruises, monthly dinners, interesting guest speakers, the lunch cruise to Port Royal and the Merit Mark Picnic. Please join us at these events to interact with fellow members, perhaps learn a thing or two, and have a great time. I look forward to seeing all of you at these events.

Robert

Roster Boosters

Each year the squadron publishes a roster on about 1 February listing the entire membership of the squadron and a host of pertinent information. A page headed "ROSTER BOOSTERS" is included, referencing those who wish to contribute a small sum (\$5.00 to \$10.00 or so) to defray the costs of printing and distribution of the roster. Those who become "Boosters" will usually appear on that page. Although that page will be blank at print time of this year's Roster, we still need the boosters. This year the list of boosters will be a feature in a later issue of the Ocean Breeze, together with the thanks of the squadron, its commander and all who have worked to provide the information the roster contains.

the Bridge

Membership Officer's Report

Lt Walter Kirk, AP



Our squadron has grown richer during 2011 with the addition of the following **34** new members:

Gary & Suellen Goodear	Jim & Patty Ford
Peter White	John & Darla Floyd
Mary Socci	Eric & Kelly Schibler
Greg & Pamela Hollinger	Arthur Krause
Dean Carroll	Charles & Peggy Walczak
Jim & Jeanie Malcolm	Missy Bell Westmaas
Ed & Anita Loeser	Allen Miller
Carol Rivers	Doris Broere
William & Mary Speenburgh	Ann Merkel
Jeff & Mary Sanders	Richard & Mary Baggot
Larry Tremitiere	Joe Etter
Richard Anderson	

And we have added **9** more members thus far in 2012!

Mike & Elizabeth (Beth) Drake	Lisa Woodward
Gail & Michael Jover	Bob & Kathe Golden
Sally Nielsen	Mark Larson

Walter

Vessel Safety Check - A Real On-the-Water Experience

Lt K. C. Moore, Jr.

VSC News

We have just received our new 2012 Vessel Safety Check decals, and are starting our outreach to the community to inspect boats and hold safety discussions with skippers.



We have identified a new area of concentration this year...getting decals on all boats belonging to Hilton Head Sail and Power Squadron members. The VSC program is a major activity for the Squadron, and we need to set an example for the community by having all of our boats with decals. Also, having a decal on a member's boat makes it easier for that member to be an "ambassador" for the program, and to help extend coverage to dockmates and friends. The Squadron Executive Committee has considered this initiative and has given it their support.

Our plan is to contact all members whom we believe are boat owners, and make appointments for VSC visits. If you do not want to wait until you are contacted, just send an e-mail to kcmoorej3@roadrunner.com and request a VSC appointment. It is to your advantage to get your decal as soon as possible, particularly as our recent good weather is encouraging many of us to get out on the water. Don't leave the dock without your decal!

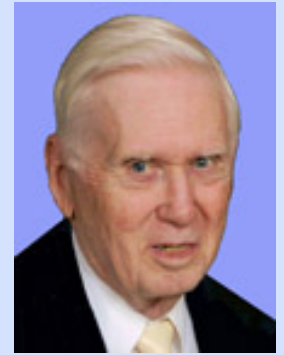
K. C.

P/R/C Lew Ward, SN

A Year End message – and a New Year's Alert

Potpourri at the end of the Year – and into the Next

It has been a hectic year for us all and as the year ends I want to add – in addition to a wish for all to have a HAPPY NEW YEAR – a hodge-podge of things to think about. So –



We have a new Bridge and things look as if our recent past performance will be continuing. Cdr Erler has appointed several outstanding members, some new to USPS as well as others with years of experience to positions in almost all the needed areas. Some positions need to be filled, but there is still time. If you are asked, please consider the task; if you wish to volunteer, by all means do so.

I mentioned last month, the Operations Training program. I am still finalizing the 2012 version to include all the many changes that have taken place since the previous version (there have been a lot of them, fortunately most have already been assimilated here in HHSPS, but they need explanation and discussion. This program is not just for officers; all members are welcome and will find it helpful. Brand new members still finding their way with the organization can find guidance from it. (If you wish, you can access the three segments of the program via the Internet – www.usps.org, navigate to “site index” and click on Leadership Training – and go from there.)

Operations Training has been delayed for a short time. This results from the significant revisions in the program that need some work (on my part.) I will be reaching those who have either expressed interest or whose squadron jobs need the information available in the program. I expect to get further information at the National Meeting I am about to go to this weekend (27-28 Jan.)

I am close to publishing the 2012 roster, but lack information in the one category (other than changes in email addresses) that always seems to be missing. That is boat ownership -- Most important is either a sale or a purchase. We always have a flock of boat sales reported After the roster is printed. ***Please help.***

Lew

Secretary's Report Lt/C Norm Shotz, AP

Call for Volunteers



Our squadron runs on the energy of its volunteers. Each of the functions that comprise the organization contributes something significant and essential, and - "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts." We currently need volunteers for the following functions:

Ocean Breeze Editor/Co-Editor

The squadron is seeking a volunteer with desktop publishing skills to assume or share the responsibility for the OB. A working knowledge of any one of several publishing software packages such as Microsoft Publisher, Adobe InDesign, Apple's Pages, etc., would be useful, and basic Photoshop skills a boon.

Webmaster for the Squadron Website

For more info please contact

Norm Shotz, Secretary HHSPS

<mailto:secretary@hhsp.org>

Our Squadron Needs a Power Boat

HHSPS is required to increase its conduct of on-the-water training as part of our education classes - ABC, Seamanship and several seminars. Three other D/26 Squadrons each have a boat with which to conduct this training. Currently, we rely on a member supplying his own boat for a class or asking a member to donate a boat for training or for familiarization with our waters. This is becoming more difficult to manage.



If you are not fully using your boat, consider donating it to HHSPS or forming a boating partnership with the Squadron, wherein we share in the use of your boat and in the related expenses. USPS provides insurance coverage for us. Also, an available boat can generate additional social activities for the squadron.

Please contact Cdr Erler if you are interested.

Coastal



Y A C H T

Management

Capt. Gary Morehouse 843.298.4537



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