

**NANSEMOND RIVER POWER SQUADRON**  
**A UNIT OF DISTRICT 5 OF UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®**



# NANSEMOND LIGHT

## APRIL 2009

### Commander's Message

Well, another Change-of-Watch is in the history books. I want to take this opportunity to thank P/D/C William Selden, V, AP, for making the long drive to Suffolk and presiding over our evening. Also, a big thank you to Drex & Joyce Bradshaw for making the Cedar Point Club available to us.

P/C Donnie Weaver, AP, did an excellent job last year and really has left the squadron in great shape. It is this new Bridge's commitment to maintain and continue this legacy. We are ready for the job!

#### 2009 Bridge

---

Lin Hanbury, P  
Commander  
rivercharters@charter.net

---

Bob Eure, AP  
Executive Officer  
rgeure@aol.com

---

Lilly Stone, JN  
Squadron Educational Officer  
lilly.stone@gte.net

---

Mary Fisher, P  
Administrative Officer  
nmfisher@charter.net

---

Brenda Wallace, JN  
Secretary  
bbwall@verizon.net

---

Gail Aikin, S  
Treasurer  
agaikin@cox.net

No grass growing around here! We already have held two public boating classes, planned all the cruises and daytrippers and have done five VSC's. Those Bridge members who were able to attend the D/5 Spring Conference have returned all charged up and have created their own full plate. The Webmaster is 100% in control and has taken us into the new year fully armed for whatever automated challenge should occur. Man, we are already talking Christmas party and Flares for Life. It's like a runaway train!

This year we want to work hard and play hard. We do have responsibilities and commitments that have to be met. We need everyone to join us in accomplishing these goals. Also, we want to play (my favorite) and come together as the fraternal boat club that we are known to be.

The daytrippers have been designed to take us places that are new and exciting. We are creating a field trip arrangement so we can spend some shore-side time together but also visit someplace that is a little different.

*(Continued on Page 2)*



*(Commander's Message Continued)*

The planned cruises this year are fewer than other years but with so much more. Your Bridge members are taking on the OD responsibilities this year. Since two heads are better than one, they will be assisted by one of our Members-at-Large. Our objective is to get all of you out there and par-tay!!

Our first cruise will be at Constant's Wharf with Cheryl and me as the ODs. As in the past, we will celebrate Cinco de Mayo on Friday evening and do horse racing on Saturday. We are just now putting it all together, but I can assure you that when you mix horse racing and tequila there is no telling what the outcome will be.

In closing, it is official—the GAID award has been retired. Now you realize that Boo Boo's cannot be overlooked, especially in this squadron, so there will be an appropriate replacement. And people are already lining up for the opportunity to receive this new award. Two weeks into the new administration and we already have a candidate. We will be watching you!

See you-all at 1830 on Tuesday, 14 April, at Plaza Azteca.

Cdr Lin Hanbury, P

### **Nansemond River Power Squadron Web Site**

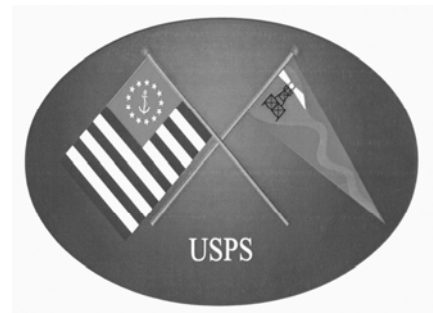
*www.nrpowersquadron.com*

Contact Lt Frank Brown, S, Webmaster  
at [nrpswebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:nrpswebmaster@gmail.com)

### **Nansemond River Power Squadron Newsletter**

*Nansemond Light*

Submit articles for May newsletter by 29 April  
Contact Lt Donna Eure, S, Editor, at [dceure@aol.com](mailto:dceure@aol.com) or  
4729 Goshawk Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23321



## Executive Officer's Report

I'm looking forward to another great year for NRPS. As Executive Officer, I hope to broaden the scope of our squadron's face to the public through our external activities. The word from the **D/5 Spring Conference** was to focus on seeking experienced boaters to join, to combine forces with other local squadrons to first seek members to join USPS, and then find the best squadron home for prospective members. Already faced with declining numbers, the economy is taking its toll on USPS. While many squadrons have lost more members than they have gained, Nansemond River stands as a leader in overcoming this trend. Nansemond River has the attention of the District and other squadrons wanting to know our "magic" to being such an active squadron. I know that our "magic" is you and I ask for your continued participation and support of our functions to keep the NRPS "magic" going. **Congratulations to NRPS** for second place membership achievement for a medium size squadron. Note that we have crossed over the bar from small to medium size squadron and still took second place.

NRPS has unique advantages that we should exploit. For example, did you know that Sea Vester's home squadron is NRPS where he is a dues-paying member in good standing? Sea Vester is a major USPS public relations tool and he belongs to OUR SQUADRON! The D/5 South trailer is home ported in Suffolk thanks to P/D/C Drex Bradshaw, AP. Every weekend it sits unused is a missed opportunity. We have a potential franchise in the "Flares for Life" event thanks to Ron Murphy, AP. To exploit our advantages, we have created a new committee. The **Event Management Committee** will be chaired by Lt Kim Schultz, P. It will develop best practices, procedures, checklists and logistical requirements and will support external events. P/C Donnie Weaver, AP and Jennifer Presson have already agreed to participate. I need a couple more folks to support this committee. Also, I want to set up a **NRPS Trailer Team** to be trained in the movement, setup, and packing of the trailer and the operation of Sea Vester. I will set up a training session for the squadron's trailer team. I need volunteers and BIG trucks (>1.4 ton). A new more open location is already being scouted for the next "Flares for Life" event.

**Boat Shows:** **Tidewater Boat Show** is coming up 3-5 April in Hampton Convention Center. Be sure to stop by the HRPS booth and say hello. **Virginia State Hydroplane Race** will be held 18-19 April on the western branch of the Elizabeth River. Waterway access will be regulated from 0900 to 1700 each day to within 1000 feet of the race course. Contact the Coast Guard Patrol Commander on Channel 16 to enter. **Virginia In-Water Boat Expo & Sailfest** will be held at Waterside on 12-14 September. Virginia Beach S&PS has asked us to participate with them. Approved by the Executive Committee, Jennifer Presson will coordinate scheduling.

*(Continued on Page 4)*



*(Executive Officer's Report Continued)*

**Cooperative Charting:** The annual NOAA Workshop is 1-2 May. The Workshop will be held at National Ocean Service, Atlantic Marine Center, 439 West York Street, Norfolk, VA. The Friday night cocktail party and Saturday dinner buffet will be at the Governor Dinwiddie Hotel. See the latest Mark 5 or the District 5 web site for the registration form.

**Legislative:** The Fall Council/Conference minutes and Spring Conference Department reports have been posted on NRPS web site thanks to Webmaster Frank Brown. In case any of you have LORAN gear on your boats, President Obama removed LORAN (LONG Range Aid to Navigation) from the 2010 budget in March. The Coast Guard maintained LORAN-C is backup to GPS. GPS satellites are at risk of dying before their replacements are up and online.

The **Public Relations/Marketing/Liaison Committee** is led by P/C Donnie Weaver, AP. The document called PRO LOG on the USPS web site is the USPS PR guide. National has determined that "Popeye" as a USPS mascot is too dated to relate to targeted prospective members. I thought he was the hit of the Peanut Fest parade last year. What do I know?

**Radio Technical:** I'm planning to provide a general meeting program or 2-hour seminar later in the year. After I learn it, I'll schedule to present it.

**Safety:** Lt Art Aikin, JN, is our squadron's Safety Officer. Art will be writing monthly safety articles that contribute to the preservation of your life and property and also our Journalism award. If you have a topic to request or want to submit safety content to Art to publish, please let him know. National Safe Boating Week is 16-22 May. Get On Board! Wear It!

**Vessel Safety Check:** Lt Larry Rountree, AP is the VSC committee Chair. We are planning a VSC Day and Cookout at Brady's Marina on 16 May to kick off National Safe Boating Week.

**New Commander's Reception:** Donna and I look forward to seeing you on 18 April at our house from 1400 -1630. Take I-664 to Dock Landing Road (West), left on Jolliff Road, then right on Goshawk Drive, and come to 4729.

Happy Boating starts with Safety!

Lt/C Bob Eure, AP



## Squadron Educational Officer's Report

CONGRATULATION to Lt/C Brenda W. Wallace, JN — she got an Educational Proficiency Award at the D/5 Spring Conference in Ocean City—One of five in the District. An Educational Proficiency Award is awarded after passing Seamanship, Piloting, Advanced Piloting and any three of six elective courses. The USPS will then issue a Certificate and the member is then authorized to wear a special uniform insignia. Call me at 399-0051 if you want to know how to get yours.

### 2009 CLASS SCHEDULE:

|                                    |             |  |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| <b>BOAT VA Safe Boating</b>        | 25 APR      | Franklin Fire Station/Training Building<br>Call for Details: 335-2558  |
| <b>Navigation</b>                  | TBD 2009    | Instructor: Tom Chapman<br>Prudential Towne Realty<br>3328 Western Branch Blvd, Chesapeake<br>Est. Cost: \$200 |
| <b>Weather</b>                     | TBD 2009    | Looking for Instructor   |
| <b>Marine Electronics</b>          | Spring 2009 | Instructor: Ron Murphy<br>(Waiting for new books)  |
| <b>Safe Boating Class</b>          | 8 AUG       | Marina   |
| <b>Seamanship</b>                  | Late Summer | TBD  |
| <b>Piloting</b>                    | Fall        | Instructor: Fletcher Beadles   |
| <b>Instructor Re-Certification</b> | TBD         | Instructor: Lilly Stone<br>NO COST (about 2 hours)   |

**INSTRUCTORS:** Let me know if your USPS certification runs out this year. Also, plan on going to DGIF's one evening certification/re-certification 16 April, 1830 (6:30 PM) to 2045 (8:45 PM) at Hoffman Beverage Company, 5464 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach. If the York County Tabb Library location on 28 April is better for you, call me for details. No cost and no tests for these "classes".

Remember to sign up early for classes so we can order the books, etc.

Put education and fun on your calendar!

Lt/C Lilly T. Stone, JN



## Administrative Officer's Report

Well, a new boating season is upon us so don't forget to sign up for the cruises. Join us for lots of fun and camaraderie. The season's "kick off" cruise is 1-3 May at Constant's Wharf. If you haven't signed up yet, come see me at the April meeting. If you can't sign up at a meeting, don't worry—just go online at [www.nrpowersquadron.com](http://www.nrpowersquadron.com). Under the Events tab at the bottom of the page is a form you can fill out. When you hit "Send", I will get an e-mail and will sign you right up.

On the cruise schedules, I have noted who the OD is for each cruise. Since the OD task can be lots of work, pick a cruise that you really anticipate and offer your assistance to the OD. Lots of hands make little work for all.

If anyone has any ideas for a presentation at the upcoming meetings, give me a call. Remember that the next meeting is on 14 April at Plaza Azteca on Main Street, with the social starting at 1830 (6:30 PM) and the meeting starting at 1900 (7:00 PM). See you there!

Lt/C Mary Fisher, P

# NRPS Magic





## Spring Safety Thoughts

While the weather sometimes does not indicate it, Spring is here and soon we will be cruising on our boats. Over the winter, some things may or may not have changed on your boat and you should take a little time to check them in order to ensure that you and your friends start the boating season on a safe footing.

First, when was the last time you shook your fire extinguishers and knocked the powder loose from the bottom? While you are at it, check the gauges and make sure they are in the green zone. If necessary, have them checked and refilled. What about those flares? Are they still going to be in date this season? If not, why not replace them now while you are thinking about it.

During the winter months, the bilges sometimes collect odd bits of trash and debris. These can interfere with the float switches on the bilge pumps. Inspect and clean bilge areas. While you are doing this, also check the thru hull sea cocks and make sure they are in working order. If they are sticking or show signs of corrosion, repair or replace them as necessary. Rapid temperature changes can sometimes cause fittings and clamps to loosen, so check these as well while you are down below.

Lastly, when was the last time you checked and updated your paper charts? Yes, I know we all have great electronics, but when they fail, you want your backup to be a solution, not another problem.

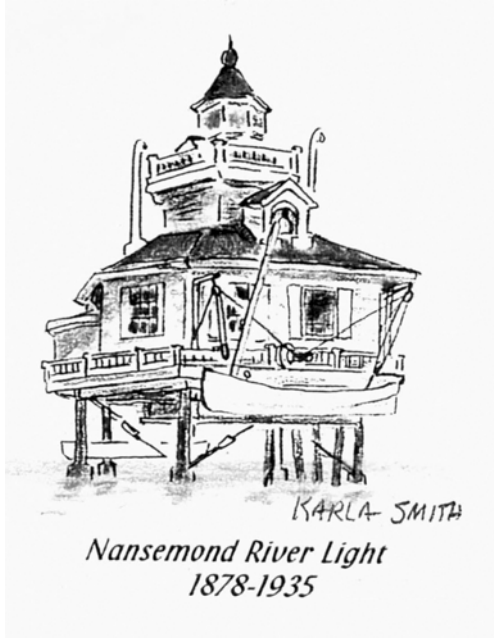
Let's all start this season off on a safe footing.

Lt Art Aikin, JN  
Safety Officer

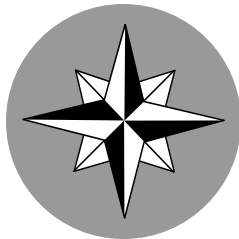


## NANSEMOND LIGHT

The Newsletter of Nansemond River Power Squadron  
4729 Goshawk Drive  
Chesapeake, VA 23321



WE SAVE LIVES  
ON THE WATER



## Schedule of Events

- 14 Apr General Meeting, Plaza Azteca Restaurant, Suffolk  
1830 (6:30 PM) Dinner & Meeting
- 18 Apr New Commander's Reception, Bob & Donna Eure's Residence  
1400 to 1630 (2 PM to 4:30 PM)
- 1-2 May D/5 NOAA Workshop, Norfolk
- 1-3 May Commander's Cruise, Constant's Wharf, Suffolk Hilton, Suffolk
- 12 May General Meeting, Plaza Azteca Restaurant, Suffolk  
1830 (6:30 PM) Dinner & Meeting
- 22-25 May Secretary's Cruise, Rivers Rest Marina, Charles Coity