CROSSED ANCHORS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WINSTON-SALEM SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON March 2009 Volume XVIII No. 3

50 years

of

Service & Fellowship

March

Calendar of Events

18 March	Membership Meeting at Yacht House
24 March - 21 April	Public Boating Course
27-29 March	D27 Annual Mtg, Durham
6 April	Communications Briefing at Cranford House

See the Full Calendar on page 11

All squadron members are always welcomed and encouraged to come to the monthly Communication Briefing every month. Call 766-6643 for directions and time. Come out and join us. We would like to have your input.

Squadron Contacts

f you have any questions concerning any of the upcoming events, classes, or any other items, please feel free to contact any of the people listed below.

Cdr Joel Williams, AP	996-6770
Lt/C Mike Vestal, JN	368-5046
P/C Don Breault, AP	712-0661
P/C Kris Cranford, JN	924-2698
Lt/C Margie Lamb, P	766-7744
Lt/C Kathi Vestal, S	368-5046

Meeting Notes

"Cruising the Loop"

By

George Malinzdak

March 18
Yacht House
Restaurant

Order off menu
Social starts 6:30

Guests always welcome

From the Helm

”

Cdr Joel Williams, AP

Thanks to everyone who attended our February meeting. We had a great turnout. I personally counted 64 people. We had many guests and the Sea Scouts.

Austin Caviness, meteorologist and WSSPS member, gave an interesting talk on the weather patterns in our area. Don Breault, our Administrative Officer, has done a great job lining up speakers for our monthly meetings. He lists those in this month’s administrative letter.

Due to our weather, the Communications Briefing was changed from a Monday to Thursday at the Loveless home. Leon and Mary Lou Corbett are heading up our 50th Anniversary Program. Look for events in future newsletters.

I want to thank everyone who has been working on updating our website. We should see some positive results soon.

I would like everyone’s help in our project for more member involvement. Please send me any suggestions you have. “Think outside the box”.

To Sea, To Sea

TO sea, to sea! The calm is o'er;
The wanton water leaps in sport,
And rattles down the pebbly shore;
The dolphin wheels, the sea-cow snorts,
And unseen mermaids' pearly song
Comes bubbling up, the weeds among.
Fling broad the sail, dip deep the oar:
To sea, to sea! The calm is o'er.

To sea, to sea! our wide-winged bark
Shall billowy cleave its sunny way,
And with its shadow, fleet and dark,
Break the caved Tritons' azure day,
Like mighty eagle soaring light
O'er antelopes on Alpine height.
The anchor heaves, the ship swings free,
The sails swell full. To sea, to sea!

Thomas Lovell Beddoes

Educational Officer

P/C Kris Cranford

Our schedule of classes for this year will be off to a good start with our ABC3 public boating class beginning on March 24. In response to the input of squadron members we have scheduled a very ambitious offering of courses, because our membership said they wanted a comprehensive schedule. So we have lots of public boating, lots of advanced courses and lots of electives.

This is what we should be doing, boating safety and education are our reason for existing, as Leon puts it, " that is the Mission."

You have asked for more education, and we have it scheduled, but the caveat is, more education means we need more membership support.

What can you do as an individual member to support education?

1. You can support our basic boating classes by disseminating information about them to friends and other contacts to make sure these classes are well-attended. If you have ideas for publicity, share those ideas. You can volunteer to proctor the exams at the last meeting, or fill out the forms, or serve refreshments.

2. You can support our electives and advanced grades by signing up for courses yourself. Think about taking one course this year that would further your knowledge. Our instructors spend a lot of time preparing for classes and teaching. It is gratifying to them to have a good showing of students, making them feel their time is well-spent.

3. You too can teach. There will be plenty of teaching to go around.. If you are interested in teaching the public boating classes, contact me about taking the instructor's course. (This is not necessary for teaching advanced grades and electives.). If you are already certified, let me know you are willing to teach. In the next few days I will be contacting those of you who need to take the refresher seminar before they teach public boating this year. Please come to the seminar, and get ready to teach. We will need all of you this year.

Executive Officer

Lt/C Mike Vestal, JN

Believe it or not, spring is almost here and it will be time to get our vessels out of hibernation and prepare them for a new boating season. With the big snowstorm we just had, it's difficult to imagine that mild weather is just around the corner.

Many of our members who have their boats at the coast are already performing preventive maintenance . Some of us who have our boats inland may wait just a little longer, looking for warmer weather. One of the things that should be considered along with P.M. is getting a Vessel Safety Check performed on your boat. This inspection may be performed by members of our own Power Squadron who have been certified to do so. This inspection will assure that safety equipment required by the U.S. Coast Guard is in place on your vessel.

I will always remember my first Vessel Safety Check. Austin Caviness with WXII came to Belews Lake to do a spot for the WSSPS regarding boat safety. Ray Travis, Reid London, Leon Corbett and I were there to represent the squadron. Ray performed the safety check on my boat while Austin and his cameraman taped the proceedings. I thought I had everything in place. All my PFDs were on board; I even had some for my puppies. Fire extinguisher, horn and every other thing that I knew I needed were in place. The navigation lights, ventilation system and the backfire flame arrester were also in good working order. So, I am going to pass this inspection on TV with flying colors right? Wrong! I did not have any Visual Distress Signals or Aerial Flares on board. I went to Wal-Mart that day and purchased the required amount of flares. With proof of flare purchase, Ray signed me off and gave me my certificate and sticker.

Flares are often overlooked by inland boaters like me. Coastal boaters with larger cruisers are certainly aware of the need for them and have them on board. The question is how many do you need? The federal minimum requires 3 flares. The duration of burn is not very long for most common flares. If you are out there in trouble and have only 3 of them you have to ask yourself, what if I fire one of these at the wrong moment and it is not seen? Guess what, you have just lost 33 per cent of your chance of being detected. The bottom line is plan for the worst and don't be sorry later if an emergency does arise.

The Coast Guard states the shelf life for flares is about three years. They probably will work for a longer period of time but it would not be wise to assume that they will. Replace old outdated flares with new ones. Do not mix the old ones with the new ones. Old flares can be kept on board, but it would best to light one off to see if they are still any good. If they are you have extras just in case. If the flares are over six years old it would be best to dispose of them. Contact your local fire department and they can give you instructions on their safe disposal. Another idea is to see if any of the local Power Squadrons would like to have them for training use. These devices are dangerous and can cause serious harm to you or your boat if not handled properly. Training in the proper use of flares is just one of the good reasons to take the Safe Boating Course offered by your local US Power Squadron.

I hope this spring brings safe and enjoyable boating to you all.

Administrative Officer

P/C Don Breault,

We have another outstanding presentation for our March, 2009 membership meeting on Cruising The Great Loop by George Malinzdak. For those who are planning to live aboard a boat one day or take an extended cruise on a trawler or sailboat, you do not want to miss this program. For April, we will have a presentation on cruising the Florida Keys by our own John Richardson. The month of May will be presented by our Marine Law Enforcement group. The N.C. Wildlife Marine Patrol will be speaking to us on the importance of marine safety and education on the water. I am sure they will have many good sea stories to tell us from enforcing our boating laws.

Our Carolina Coastal Cruisers are at it again with a trip from Morehead City to Washington, NC in April. It is not too late to sign up for this event. Please e-mail me at: Saltyboats@aol.com. I hear that sights on the Pamlico River are spectacular this time of year. In the month of May, this group will be doing the WSSPS annual cruise to Ocracoke Island. This event will begin in Morehead City on May 18 and will finish up on May 24. The last part of the trip will include a hop over to Cape Lookout and will spend 2 nights on the hook.

We have a long range plan to charter some boats next year to either cruise the Keys or the Abacos. Anyone interested please contact myself or P/C Kris Cranford.

We are trying to get those trailer boaters back in the swing of things as warmer weather gets closer. Anyone interested in leading an inland lake cruise or anyone wanting to set up a day cruise on one of our many local area lakes, please contact John Richardson at: jhricharl@roadrunner.com

New information for all boaters that are "do- it-yourself" maintenance technicians…. We have opened an account with WW Grainger Inc. There are some discounts on HD maintenance items such as oil filters or hard to find items. I have saved over 100% in the cost of an oil filter. If anyone is interested in additional details, please contact me for information on our account number and order info. Payment details have been arranged with WW Grainger so that each member can use his or her own credit card for purchases. They also have an on line catalog.

A final word for everyone to ponder. Please talk it up about our programs and program plans. We have such a gifted group of members who are willing to spend much of their time teaching and putting together all of these events. Please try and recruit any new members who may have an interest in boating or boating education. We can do so much more if we have the power of membership. We will always welcome guests or friends at our monthly membership meetings. Encourage anyone who may be a little bit interested in our program. I am sure we can easily draw a few more members if they have an invitation to attend one of our meetings.

See you on the water
P/C Don Breault, AP
"Liberty"

50th Anniversary Burgee

Limited Supply

Mail $25 check to:
Kathi Vestal, 182 Parkview Cir., Pinnacle, NC 27043
or
Email: kbvestal@triad.rr.com to reserve one & pay at the next meeting

Purchase our custom items at the next meeting

6” x 12” 2-color ***License Plate*** only $5.00.

Red or Blue ***Can Hugger*** for $3.00 each or 2 for $5.00.

Coffee Mug with our logo printed on both sides. Comes with a no spill lid. Only $5.00.

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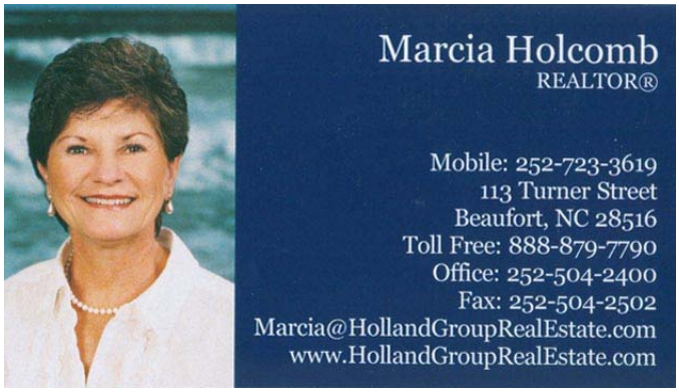

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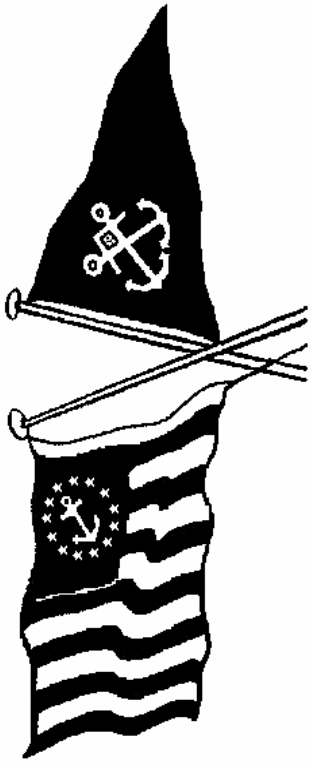

WINSTON-SALEM SAIL & POWER SQUADRON
204 Hadley Ct., Winston Salem, NC 27106

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

18 March	Membership meeting at Yacht House
24 March - 21 April	Public Boating Course Old Town Rec. Center
27-29 March	D/27 Meeting, Durham
6 April	Communications Mtg, Cranford's

BRIDGE

Commander	Cdr Joel Williams, AP
Executive Officer	Lt/C Mike Vestal, JN
Educational Officer	Lt/C Kris Cranford, AP
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Don Breault, AP
Secretary	Lt/C Margie Lamb, P
Treasurer	Lt/C Kathi Vestal, S

CROSSED ANCHORS STAFF

Editor/Publisher	Cathy Loveless, S
	P/C Michael L. Cranford, AP

Please Deliver To:

Winston-Salem Sail & Power Squadron

Calendar of Events for 2009

Date	Event	Date 2/18/2009
January 16-18, 2009	D27 Winter Council/Squadron Officer Training - Durham, NC - Hilton RDU Airport	
January 24, 2009	WSSPS Change of Watch - Forsyth Country Club	
February 2, 2009	Communication Briefing - Don & Shelia Breault "The Breault House"	
February 18, 2009	Yacht House Seafood Restaurant - "Austin Caviness WXII12 Weather"	
February 17-22, 2009	USPS Annual Meeting/COW - Anaheim, CA - Orange County - Hyatt Regency Hotel	
March 2, 2009	Communication Briefing - Tom & Cathy Loveless House	
March 24-31, 2009	Public Boating Course - Old Town Recreation Center	
March 18, 2009	Yacht House Seafood Restaurant - "Cruising the Great Loop" George Malinzdak	
March 27-29, 2009	D27 Annual Meeting/COW - Durham, NC - North Raleigh Hilton	
April 6, 2009	Communication Briefing - Mike & Kris Cranford House	
April 7-21, 2009	Public Boating Course - Old Town Recreation Center	
April 15, 2009	Yacht House Seafood Restaurant - "Cruising The Florida Keys" John Richardson	
April 23-26, 2009	Cruise - Washington, NC	
May 4, 2009	Communication Briefing - "LTL"	
May 5-26	Piloting Course - Old Town Recreation Center	
May 13, 2009	(2nd Wednesday) Yacht House - "Safe Boating" Sgt. Carey Bostic, NC Wildlife	
May 18-22, 2009	USPS National Safe Boating Week	
May 18-24, 2009	Cruise - Ocracoke Island/Cape Lookout	
June 1, 2009	Communication Briefing - Don & Shelia Breault "The Breault House"	
June 2-23	Piloting Course - Old Town Recreation Center	
June 24, 2009	(4th Wednesday) Ray and B Travis Home for our "Fabulous Fish Fry"	
July 3-5	4th July Cape Lookout Rendzvous	
July 7-28	Public Boating Course - Old Town Recreation Center	
July 11, 2009	Jim and Genny Frazier's Lake Norman Home - Rendezvous	
July 24-26, 2009	D27/D5 Rendezvous - Cape Charles VA	
August 3, 2009	Communication Briefing - Tom & Cathy Loveless House	
August 4-11	Public Boating Course - Old Town Recreation Center	
August 19, 2009	Yacht House Seafood Restaurant - "TBD"	
August 31, 2009	Communication Briefing - Michael & Kris Cranford House	

Many dates are tentative and subject to change as well as new events being added on a regular basis. Please make sure you check for those changes and additions in <u>each</u> month's issue.

Schedule of WSSPS Classes for 2009

(This will be updated every month.)

Public Boating Course. Old Town Recreation Center, March 23 thru 31 and April 7 thru 21, Tuesdays 6:30 PM, Reid London Chairman. 766-6643

Junior Navigation, Tuesdays in March, starting in two weeks. **Hurry**! At the Travis house, Ray Travis chairman. 930-3168

Piloting, Old Town Recreation Center, Tuesdays, beginning May 5 at 6:30 PM, Wayne Creekmore Chairman. 859-3773

Sail. Tuesdays, July 7 thru August 18. Time and location TBA. Fred Eldridge, Chairman. 765-5202

Advanced Piloting. September 15, Tuesdays, At the Travis house, Ray Travis chairman. 930-3168

Marine Electrical Systems. Old Town Recreation Center, Tuesdays, September 1 thru November 3. Wayne Creekmore, Chairman. 859-3773.

Cruise Planning . Oldtown Recreation Center, Tuesdays, November 10 thru December 8. Michael and Kris Cranford, Chairpersons. 924-2698

Fall Public Boating TBA

Seamanship TBA.

Classes generally take place at 6:30 PM unless otherwise noted. Call Class chairpersons for more information if you wish to learn or **wish to teach**. We will be needing a chairperson for Seamanship.