

CROSSED ANCHORS

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WINSTON-SALEM



A UNIT OF THE UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS

You Are Cordially Invited to Attend The Annual

Change of Watch

04 February 2012

Pine Brook Country Club
5475 Germanton Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Class A Uniform with bow tie or appropriate evening attire

Social and Cash Bar Begins at 1830
Dinner Buffet Followed by Program
Then On To The Dance Floor!

Dinner Buffet Includes Full Salad Bar with Condiments and Dressings, Mango Chicken (Grilled chicken breast with mango sauce), Baby Shrimp Scampi on Rice, Burgundy Beef with Mushrooms, Pearled Onions, Buttery Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable Medley du jour, Rolls, Dessert, Coffee and Tea

\$15.00 Per person (Prepaid)

RSVP with check made out to WSSPS by January 28 to:

Lt/C Kathi Vestal, S
182 Parkview Circle
Pinnacle, NC 27043
(336-368-5046 Home)
(336-480-1010 Cell)

Upcoming Events

4 Feb	Change of Watch at Pine Brook Country Club, \$15/person, RSVP by Jan. 28 Social begins 6:30pm
6 Feb.	Executive Committee Meeting at Jim & Genny Frazier, 154 Broadmoor Dr, Advance, NC 27006 Social begins 6pm
15 Feb.	Membership Meeting at Buena Vista Grill, Stratford Rd. Social 6-7pm, Meeting Follows
5 March	Executive Committee Meeting at Don and Sheila Breault home Social begins 6pm

Squadron Contacts

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From the Helm

Cdr. Debbie Mayfield, S

I am looking forward to another year serving as the Commander for WSSPS. We have a great squadron with many dedicated members. 2012 started for our Squadron with the D27 training on January 7, 2012. We had 6 members in attendance, 5 who are serving as officers for 2012. Each member attended workshops and came out with new information to help our squadron for this year.

Our next major event is the 2012 Change of Watch on February 4, 2012 at the Pinebrook Country Club. The cost this year will be only \$15.00 per person so we are hoping to have everyone in attendance for this annual event. Our new officers will be sworn in. They include myself as Commander, Wayne Creekmore as Executive Officer, Bill Davis as Administrative Officer, Kathy Vestal as Treasurer/Secretary, Dawn Gaskill as Education Officer, and K B Jennings, Jr., as Assistant Education Officer.

Bill Davis is busy working on the year's meetings and events and Don Breault has held the first cruise planning meeting for 2012. Please review the calendar in this newsletter to see what is scheduled so far for 2012. If you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer to help, please let Bill Davis and Don Breault know you are interested. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

Lastly, we will be having a Public Boating Course in March. Please help us promote our upcoming class.

2012 is going to be another great year for the Winston-Salem Sail and Power Squadron.

If there is anything I can do for you, please don't hesitate to contact me. My contact information is in this newsletter.

Education Officer

P/C Dawn Gaskill, AP



EDUCATION: INVITE SOMEONE TO TAKE A COURSE

WSSPS is having a public Boating Course starting March 12, 2012 at 6:30 pm. Location: Oldtown Recreation Center, 4550 Shattalon Dr, Winston-Salem, NC. The cost is \$55.00.

We have preregistration available on the USPS website at http://www.usps.org/cgi-bin-nat/eddept/800/csc_show.cgi.

Ask your friends, family, or co-workers to think about taking a course. This is a great idea not just for boaters, but anyone who may go out with a friend on the water at any time. If you want to post an announcement about the class, let anyone on the bridge know you want a class poster and we will get one to you.

Once we return from Nationals for USPS in Florida, I will be posting classes on our website for both Instructor Development /Instructor Certification and Weather.

Here is looking forward to seeing you at the WSSPS Change of Watch.



Administrative Officer—Elect

Bill Davis, SN

As your Administrative Officer elect, I pen my first article to you. And be warned I tend to drift off into unrelated issues besides boating. One of the things I learned from observing squadron people over the past eight or nine years is that a percentage of them have an inherit boat gene in their DNA. I haven't diagnosed if it is genetic or environmentally acquired. Possibly some of both. No known cure that I have seen other than poverty. I myself have a multi-gene. I believe it comes from the convoluted life I have suffered thru for 64 years. Generally speaking I am an engineer by trade, a farmer at heart, and a boater by former marriage. But the multi-gene doesn't stop there. We have acquired a taste for birding, plants (many), church and civic projects, and of course support of children and grand children. More about my maladies another time.

It is early January 2012 and contrary to my previous experience with the Greensboro Power Squadron I didn't have the entire year planned by November. In fact I am lucky to know some of your names. I told some of my GPS friends I was quietly sitting in a WSSPS meeting last fall, minding my own business, when suddenly there was this giant sucking sound and whala, I was Admin. Officer. That will teach me to pay more attention.

So planning is in progress despite your greatest fears. I plan to invite some of my rowdy friends (as Hank Williams Jr. would say) from Greensboro to give a few programs. I also plan to plagiarize some of their programs with Carol Kelly's help and they may do the same. However I welcome any suggestions any of you would offer as I am still trying to sense the pulse rate for this squadron.

In the meantime I am not officially here until February 4th. Do wear your name-tags so I can figure out who you are. Otherwise I will just call you Bubba.



Fish House Chronicles

By P/C Don Breault, AP

These are moments frozen in time while cruising or pretending to be cruising. “The Fish House Chronicles” is a unique collection of short story’s and essays of the experiences of the infamous coastal cruisers of the Winston-Salem Sail & Power Squadron. At least we try and sometimes pretend that we are all having a good time cruising with our boats. Even when they break-down or go hard aground once in a while. We even have the best slip cruising stories ever told on land.

“The Dinghy Wars Of Peltier Creek”

Many times a big boat owner will tend to use his floating castle as a mere form of a floating condo due to the sometimes hassle of disconnecting everything for a short trip down the ICW or out to the Cape for a day. Still yearning to get on the water some way, these boat owners will resort to launching a light weight inflatable type tender to float around inside the creek or in parts of Bogue Sound.

With this situation becoming a popular alternative to taking the big boat for a spin, there has been a slight competition between various boat owners, on who has the best inflatable on the creek! Henceforth, we have the formation of the “Dinghy Wars”. Listed below are questions every potential “Dinghy” owner needs to answer before getting a dinghy.

Who has the best dinghy
Who has the longest dinghy
Who has the quickest dinghy
Who has the cleanest dinghy
How long can a dinghy go
How many people can a dinghy do
When does a dinghy run out of gas
Where do we keep the dinghy
How heavy is the dinghy, one handed or two handed
Is it a hard dinghy
Is it a soft dinghy
Who has a dinghy cover
Is it a safe dinghy
How many pounds of thrust does a dinghy need
Is there a difference in a French Dinghy or an English dinghy
What about Asian dinghy’s
How much is this little dinghy
Will my wife like my little dinghy
Can my wife handle the dinghy
Will my wife need help handling the dinghy
What color should my dinghy be
Is a used dinghy still ok to use as a dinghy
How do I keep my little dinghy firm
What if my dinghy has a leak
Will I like my dinghy
Will I be proud of my dinghy
Will others admire my dinghy

Now some Captains are quite proud of their dinghy. They like to name them. Dons little dinghy is named Belle. Does this mean he rings a bell every time he uses his dinghy? Now Reid's dinghy is named Cristo. Is this a name from the Count of Monte Cristo, the infamous French sailor who used his dinghy often? Or what about a Captain with a dinghy with no name. He may be a candidate for stealth night time action that will come and go with out being seen. Beware of Denny's little dinghy !

Then we have those Captains without a dinghy. These are dinghy wanna be's. They dream of getting a dinghy, but for some reasons, they can not get one. Perhaps their spouses feel they have enough to worry about with out having to support a dinghy. Because once a man discovers how much fun his dinghy is, he may become easily distracted and pay too much attention to his dinghy. You know what they say about those sailors who always think about their dinghy. Or perhaps a sailor with out a dinghy may have no place to keep a dinghy. Or they are not sure if they need a hard or soft dinghy. Or perhaps they are not sure if they can handle a dinghy. I do know that they dream about dinghy's often and they do admire other dinghy's. Ask Tom, he can tell you.

Dinghy's can be a lot of fun or they can be a pain in the butt. Keeping them firm is not the challenge for most of us who have a dinghy. You hope they don't leak but I have been watching Cristo get pretty soft from being used over several seasons. Now a dingy can be abused. If you do not care for them, they will break down and eventually stop working and they tend to go soft or even flat. Stroking them with a warm soft cloth with restoration chemicals may not be enough. This is especially true for a very old dinghy that is way past its prime. You may have to take the "old" dinghy to a dinghy doctor who will rejuvenate the dinghy with some sticky fluid shot inside of the dinghy to keep it from loosing its firmness. I have always been afraid to ask what that stuff they use comes from. But there again we are told "don't ask, don't tell".

Now we have to cover the area of dinghy performance. Denny's dinghy is the fastest dinghy. But his dinghy is always slow to get up to speed due to some malfunction in the engine area. I think he put in an additive in the fuel cell that has improved its performance in getting up to speed. Reid's dinghy is always a good performer when he manages to get it out. He has the longest dinghy so his dinghy can do a lot of people at once. Don's dinghy is the cleanest dinghy and it has the most width or beam. This makes it a slow performer but it lasts and lasts on a single charge. Besides, who said this was a race. It is the ride that counts. Now Dana has a new dinghy because he wore his old dinghy out, in Florida and the Caribbean over the last couple of years. He didn't have much to say about the change over process, so I guess everything is still working ok. We can not forget to mention those who had a dinghy but lost it or sold it. Ray had the shortest dinghy. And it only lasted a couple of seasons and no one ever saw it again. I think "B" sold it on e-bay.

Now with all this said about our dinghy's, it may appear that there will be an open challenge of the best in show and dinghy race to be held in Peltier Creek this next boating season. My guess is it will take place in front of Frank Styers Marina with Frank officiating. All contenders and challengers must register with P/C Don Breault so you can get your dinghy ready for the ultimate dinghy race. No dinghy too small or large will be turned away. So bring your new and old dinghy's with both oars and engines to thrust them forward into the ends of Peltier Creek. Hard dinghy's and soft dinghy's, we will accept all dinghy's for the first ever annual dinghy regatta in the summer of 2012. Come one and come all and please join us to support this event. If you do not have a dinghy, then you have plenty of time to get one or just come and root for the one you want to see win. Remember, it's all about the "Dinghy".

See you on the water,

P/C Don Breault. AP
"Liberty"

Ship's Store

New WSSPS logo polo shirts (white)

Mens: Medium-X/Large

Ladies: Small-Large

\$25



WSSPS coffee cups & can "huggies"

\$3 each or 2 for \$5

WSSPS 50th Anniversary burgees \$25



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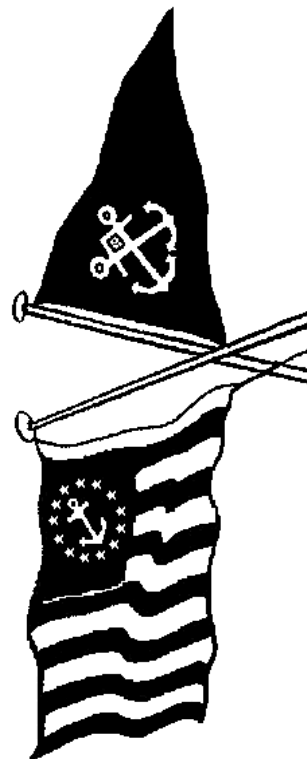


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DISTRICT 27

A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons



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

Important events

- 4 Feb. WSSPS Change of Watch at Pine Brook Country Club, Winston Salem
- 6 Feb. ExCom Meeting at Jim & Genny Frazier Social 6pm, Meeting 7pm
- 15 Feb. Membership Meeting at Buena Vista Grill Social 6pm, Meeting 7pm



BRIDGE

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Executive Officer
Administrative Officer
Educational Officer
Secretary
Treasurer

Cdr Debbie Mayfield, S
P/C Wayne Creekmore, JN
Lt/C Marilyn Shuping, S
P/C Dawn Gaskill, AP
Lt/C Margie Lamb, P
Lt/C Kathi Vestal, S

Editor/Publisher

Cathy Loveless, S

Please deliver to:

