

# United States Power Squadrons®

*Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends<sup>SM</sup>*



**CROSSED** ANCHORS

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## Commander

*Lt/C Bill Davis, SN*

There is going to be a crescendo going on the next few months. Refer to the WSSPS calendar if you don't believe me. On top of that Greensboro Power Squadron has their own list of activities. For those I have not reached already GPS is going to Charleston the weekend of October 13 to party and tour the Hunley. There is still a few rooms left so hurry and let us know if interested. I hope to corral KB and Cindy while there.

Next I have a new patented invention that I hope to franchise to all you entrepreneurs. See below.



This is for all the poor souls that have to sit in the back of the boat in the broiling sun while I sit under the bimini. In addition to a 12 volt fan in the cabin for those using the "relief station" I now have a portable 12 volt fan with clip to provide that sea breeze you need while on deck. To further enhance your pleasure on board we have soft padding in the cabin with pillows for napping, a gas grill for cooking, ice chest for beer and other thirst quenching beverages, cup holders, and if you hold your hands over the gunwale I will pour running water over them with soap for washing. (It's my version of running water) All this with a portable boat on a trailer to take you anywhere you want to go. Boy am I spoiling my friends.

# Administrative Officer

*LtC David Jackson, S*



We had our membership meeting on Wednesday July 18, 15 members attended. Our riverkeeper had a conflict, so Bill was gracious enough to share his Costa Rica pictures with the group.

We rescheduled our membership meeting for August to Saturday the 18th at Jim and Ginny's lake house at Lake Norman. It was nice to see a few faces that we have not seen in a while. Great food and conversation was shared by all. Weather was perfect until the end of the day when a local storm drove us indoors. A big THANK YOU, JIM AND GINNY for hosting us for a very nice day.



Left—Don and David discussing boats....of course.

Right- - Becky, Mary Lou, Leon, and Jeff having leisurely conversation on the deck.



Our September Executive meeting will be on Monday Sept. 10th at George Ellis's house in Advance.

We also have a joint boating activity with the Greensboro Power Squadron on Sept 15th at Belews Lake. We will be doing the annual clean sweep. This is always fun to see what we can pick up.

Our Membership meeting will be on Sept 19th at Bleu's Restaurant. Scheduled program is Emergency Management.

This is a look at the next two months, I am still working on the possible upcoming programs. Your input and ideas for future programs are greatly appreciated. Again, please refer to the calendar that Sheila has been sending out for the dates and locations of our upcoming meetings.

Thanks for your support.

LtC David Jackson, S

Admin Officer WSSP Americas Boating Club.



# Educational Officer

*Lt. Kin Cartrette*

The Winston-Salem Sail and Power Squadron will be offering the Americas Boating Course-3 on Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and November 1<sup>st</sup> at Polo Park Recreation Center from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Cost for the course is \$26 for cost of the book, and families can share a book! Polo Park Recreation Center is located at 1850 Polo Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27106. Please talk it up among family members and friends! Fun boating begins with safe boating!

Two area Sea Scout Ships will be doing day-long ABC-3 classes on Saturday September 29<sup>th</sup> and October 6<sup>th</sup>. If you know of groups or are a member of a group, youth or adult, that would like to take the ABC-3 class locally, please let me know.

We've also scheduled a day-long ABC-3 class for Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Salem Lake in Winston-Salem. The address is 1314 Salem Lake Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27107. This is a change of pace from our usual five class format. The class will begin at 8:00 AM and finish at around 5:00 PM. The cost is \$26.

To better serve the educational needs of the WSSPS membership I would like your input into which courses and seminars that you would like to see us offer. Please click on the link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/86PKC9H> and complete this eight-question survey on Survey Monkey. Results of the survey will be used to plan courses and seminars for the summer and fall. To date I haven't heard from anyone and would love to hear from the membership!

Fair Winds!  
Kin



# Fish House Chronicles

## **Felix Goes Boat Shopping**

Now that the honey moon is over for Felix & Mandy, they continue to have those early morning pillow talks about how they will spend their eternity together and obviously one of those subjects is related to the boat and what kind of boat they both can be happy with. Felix is a simple person with simple needs. A good boat is a platform he can occasionally fish from, have a comfortable spot to drink beer and a large enough cooler to keep the beer in.

Now Mandy has different ideas. She has no interest in fishing, must have a very nice marine head and not a port o potty, and a nice cabin to get away from the scorching sun in the heat of the summer. She also wants a reasonable size bed to sleep in if they plan to overnight on occasion. Mandy is not one to rough it out by sleeping on the deck using an old smelly sleeping bag. And last but not least, Mandy must have air conditioning and heat for the occasional cold night in December. She also told Felix she has to have hot water and a modest but well equipped shower. And Mandy is not too keen on helping to set sails and handling lines and sheets, so a sail boat is out of the question.

Felix being a reasonable man of able understanding learns quickly that when a man and a wife make decisions, it is usually the wife who makes them and the man just goes along with whatever she wants. So Felix commences to write down all of those things Mandy must have on a boat and Felix quickly concludes that “Ester” his inherited sailboat no longer fits the newly married couple’s needs. With bitter sweet thoughts of having to give up his dream of blue water sailing and living the life of Jimmy Buffet, Felix contemplates the inevitable day he has to part with his “Ester”. Felix is now experiencing one of life’s most valuable lessons, how to compromise.

So enough said, Felix calls his local friendly professional boat broker, Ronald. Ronald comes aboard “Ester” dressed in a pair of cotton white slacks, a new pair of Dockers tan boat shoes, a navy blue golf shirt with his company logo embroidered on the left breast area. Ronald sports a nice Rolex watch and a couple more ounces of gold rings on more than one finger. He also has a solid gold chain around his neck displaying a rather nice marine style pendant made of Sapphire and Rubies. Ronald also has his hair styled and colored so there is no gray on his head except for his bushy eyebrows that sort of reflect a bit of salt & pepper. Ronald puts out his hand to shake with Felix and Felix does notice that Ronald has a manicure.

Felix comments to Ronald, “nice tan”. I got it cruising the BVI boasts Ronald. He commented that he was helping a customer move a new trawler from New Bern to St. Croix. Took them 2 weeks on the water to get to the Virgin Islands. What a trip said Ronald. Felix thinks to himself, yes that can be me one day. Maybe even rafted up with Jimmy Buffett and Kenny Chesney. But for now, Felix has to explain to Ronald his tall order of selling the sailing vessel “Ester” and purchasing a more suitable boat that Mandy will be happy with. So the many questions and the obvious get to the chase and ask “How Much”. Felix knows that he cannot afford to have 2 boats at the same time. At least not 2 big boats. So he has some apprehensions regarding this transaction and how long it will take to complete.

So with more discussions and questions, Ronald tells Felix that what he really needs is a low profile down east type of cruiser. One that can sneak under most bridges without having the bridge tender open it on the hour. A down east type of cruiser is easy to maintain (oxymoron here: no boat is easy to maintain) A down east cruiser usually has one engine to take care of. So Felix becomes intrigued with this concept. Better on fuel, easier to maintain, and only one engine to service. (this brings back memories of when Felix helped Reid change over his 2 engines and gears one day) So what will this mean cost wise asked Felix?.. Felix is thinking that he can swap “Ester” even for this down east lobster type of boat. Wrong bleats Ronald.

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Ronald explains to Felix that there is no market for older antique type of wooden sailboats like “Ester”. And that these down east cruisers are few and far between with a large demand. So with little inventory and a large demand, these boats are going for a premium these days. Ronald tells Felix that his sail boat is hardly worth \$10,000 and the down east cruiser will cost upward of \$60,000. Felix’s knees begin to wobble and shake. He has hot flashes across his face, and he begins to sweat at the brow thinking where on earth does he come up with \$50 or \$60k to get a boat that Mandy will like. Felix stutters and mumbles and can quite get the words out as he tries to look Ronald in the eye. Ronald being the people person he is tells Felix that everything will be alright. Let me get to work on this for you and “Trust Me”, I will get you the best deal. One way or the other, you will be a happier person when I get through with you. Ronald leaves “Ester” and hops into his new Corvette and speeds away with a signed contract from Felix.

By the end of the day, Ronald had made photographs of all areas of Easter and posted it on Yacht World. Then he sent Felix several listings of down east cruisers. This was the point that Felix fainted and nearly hit his head on the deck of Ester. The bitter sweet moments have disappeared into bitter feelings that someone is listing boats too high and his beloved sailboat is being given away. This period of pain for Felix seems to have no end in sight.

He feels the need to seek psychiatric counseling in order to console his inner feelings of boating and which boat to have and to hold until death do us part. So off to the shrink he goes with Mandy along his side. Felix seeks the advice of the great and all powerful mighty OZ of Pelletier Creek, otherwise known to mortal man as “Frank”. You see Frank has the answers, solutions, and advice as to what to do. He also has details of who shot who 50 years ago, and who was sleeping with who in the boats slipped at the Pelletier Creek Yacht basin. Felix knows that Frank will make him feel better. No one else can do what Frank can do. So Frank and Felix have a great discussion that includes advice on what to do when you don’t know what to do. Frank consoles Felix and walks him toward the Gazebo on the dock, you know the one with the rusted out refrigerator filled with frozen bait and cold beers. The gazebo that was decorated 50 years ago with various pieces of nautical equipment left over from a boat repair that went just OK with many pieces left over.

Mandy asks Frank, Oh great white father, what should we do? And Frank responds that the answer is blowing in the wind. If the wind is blowing in from the North, you will pay too much for your boat so avoid north winds. If the wind blows from the east, you will be always be repairing and fixing that new boat so avoid east winds. If the wind is blowing from the west, your new boat will go hard aground many times in the first year you own it. So be cautious of the west wind as it will give you the Dewda award often, and Denny or Reid will be very envious. But if the wind blows from the south, which is a good sign as everything great, comes from the south.

At this point Mandy appears quite confused and pretends to understand but she does not. Frank senses this and explains that a sewage treatment plant never faces south. We build them so that they always face the north because WDC is north. Felix understands this very well. So Felix begins to feel a little better as the words of wisdom pour from Frank on why it is the right time to get a new boat. Mandy is all the more convinced that Felix is indeed doing the right thing by selling Ester and getting a down east cruiser. She is wanting a real porcelain toilet to sit on instead of that nasty old toilet seat covering a 5 gallon pail with a plastic Walmart bag in it. Mandy also wants to have a private place to take a shower instead of the on deck cold shower she was forced to use on Ester where everyone could see her showering.

Mandy is aware of how much dedicated time Felix spends repairing, servicing, and fixing Ester. She is also aware of the amount of money Felix spends but has no record of that money because Felix is not one for details. He thinks that if it’s broke, you fix it with the occasional connotation of no matter how much it is because it is my boat. Frank continues to tell Felix that a slightly smaller cruiser will limit the number of people wanting to come aboard for a free beer and free stateroom because you don’t have the extra room so that could discourage the free beers as well. Frank also explains to Mandy that this smaller boat will be a more intimate experience for the two of them. And with that, Frank offers them a new slip just right for that smaller cruiser. It also includes a fish cleaning station right behind the boat in case you catch some fish while cruising.

Cont’d next page.

Felix looks up at Frank and comments that he is the best friend any one could have. Mandy lightly kisses Frank on the cheek and thanks him for all of his advice.

Then the two newlyweds look up at the clouds and they note that the wind is blowing in from the south. This must be a sign comments Felix. Mandy agrees and offers her hand as the two of them walk back to Ester for the evening contemplating a new boat. Or maybe something else!

Frank walks back to the Fish house thinking to himself: Isn't it great to be young!

See you on the water soon

PC Don Breault

Still boat shopping





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**Nominating Committee:** Lt/C Eddie Shinlever, P, P/C Debbie Mayfield S, P/C Reid London N

Feel free to contact any of the above if you have questions. Our meetings are always open to the public.

Please visit with us anytime.



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