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the Bridge

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Lt/C Peter Dion, SN

Administrative Officer
Lt/C Mark Larson, AP

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Lt/C Debra Dion

www.hhsps.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE

- 03 Merit Mark Picnic, HH Yacht Club, 6:30-9:00 pm
Registration Deadline June 1; contact Mick Holroyde
- 08 Wexford Canal Cruise w/lunch at Wexford Marina
Contact Barb Sommers by June 1 to register
- 10 Paddle Smart, 9 am, HHI Senior Center
- 14 Bull Island w/lunch Daufuskie Crab
- 17 Make-up Cruise w/lunch Eagle's Nest
- 24 Mastering Rules of the Road, 9 am, HHI Sr Center
- 28 Cruise to Savannah Yacht Club for lunch (boat or by car)

JULY

- 13 Page & Pine Islands w/lunch at Marshside Mama's
- 20 Red Neck Riviera Sand Bar Picnic

AUGUST

- 12 Fripp Island cruise w/Beaufort S&PS w/lunch on Fripp Island
- 26 Daufuskie Island w/lunch at Eagle's Nest

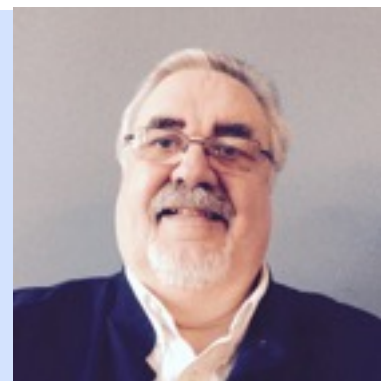


If you haven't had your boat inspected yet this season, be sure to get in contact with PC Larry Tremiere to schedule your VSC inspection. Only members with a current VSC will be the only ones able to participate in Squadron On-the-Water Activities. This is a free service to our members and all members need to have the Power Squadron inspect their boats. Get on board and have it done!



Commander's Corner

Commander Mick Holroyde, AP



April and May have been really productive months for the Squadron thanks to the efforts of many of you volunteering your time and energy. The following are some of our key accomplishments:

- Port Royal and Hilton Head Island Boat Shows
- Virtual Boat Training
- Magellan Cruises
- Vehicle Safety Checks
- Building a new Website
- Social Events
- Boating Education Courses and Seminars
- Cdr John Kern Memorial Scholarship Award

Increasing awareness of HHSPS in the local community is critical for our long-term success. Consequently, building a presence at boat shows is an important component of our long-term Public Relations strategy. This year we added our presence at a new boat show, the Port Royal Boat and Fishing Show. Additionally, at the Hilton Head Island Boat Show, our HHSPS booth included the Boating Skills Virtual Trainer (BSVT), the industry's premier interactive simulation-based safety program and powerful instructor tool. Thank you to Glenn Crews for leading the BSVT effort.

The Magellan Cruises led by Mike Gilroy have begun with cruises to Marsh and Buck Island together with Pinckney already completed. Future cruises around Bull Island, Page and Pine Islands, Daufuskie Island and Hilton Head Island are scheduled. These cruises are an excellent way to learn the local waters around Hilton Head and beyond.

The Vehicle Safety Check Team led by Larry Tremetiere has HHSPS leading the pack in District 26 with close to 100 safety checks completed to date. Congratulations to everyone who participated.

Under the leadership of Paul Hoyte, a new HHSPS website is under construction and looking great. Please provide Paul and his team with all the information he needs to develop a highly interactive and user friendly website.

We have begun to include members of our local squadrons, Beaufort and Tybee-Light, in some of our events to have members get to know each other. In April, over 50 members from HHSPS, Beaufort and Tybee Light, including Commanders Kathryn Stevens and David Sapp, joined us for a great Seafood Buffet at Hudson's Seafood on the Docks. Additionally, we joined members of the Beaufort Squadron for a raft up at the Beaufort Airshow.



Over the past few months several education courses and seminars were completed, including in Americas Boating Course (ABC), a Seamanship course, and seminars Emergencies on Board and Boat Handling Under Power. It is fitting that we note the strong contributions made in our HHSPS education programs, as we award the Cdr. John Kern, USCG (Ret.) Memorial Scholarship to Cadet Lieutenant Commander Caroline Lane.

Our Squadron continues to recognize a graduating senior enrolled in the Jr. NROTC program at Hilton Head High School who demonstrates a strong commitment to education and leadership. Cdr. John Kern was a Past Commander of HHSPS who guided the organization and gave tireless hours educating local boaters in safe boating practices for many years. He also held the rank of Rear Commander for the National United States Power Squadrons.



In conclusion, let me thank all the volunteers that helped make April and May such great months for the Squadron.

Respectfully submitted,

Cdr. Mick Holroyde

HHSPS joined by Tybee Light & Beaufort Squadrons at Hudson's Seafood on the Docks on April 22, 2017

"Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends"



Administrative Officer's Report

Lt/C Mark Larson, AP

Hope you are all having a great beginning to the summer!



Our boating activities are well underway, of course. You will find an update from Mike Gilroy elsewhere in the Ocean Breeze. Other boating activities under the direction of Barb Sommers are coming together as well. Recently, a great time was had by eighteen folks on four boats at the Beaufort Air show on April 29th. Four boats from Hilton Head joined a raft-up with three boats from Beaufort. It was a beautiful day on the water



with planes, including the Blue Angels, flying right overhead and was fun to watch.

Upcoming boating activities can be found on HHSPS website www.hhsps.org. They include:

- ★ Wexford Canal Cruise, June 8th. We will go through the locks, tour the canal and have lunch at the Wexford Marina.
- ★ Savannah Yacht Club Cruise (boat and land), June 28th. You can either boat to SYC or drive where we will enjoy a nice lunch.
- ★ Redneck Rivera Sand Bar, July 20th. We will boat to the sand bar where we will raft up and have a picnic lunch.
- ★ Fripp Island cruise, August 12th. We will cruise via blue water to the Fripp Island Marina for lunch. This will be a joint cruise with Beaufort squadron.
- ★ Boys & Girls Club Day on the Water, August, date to be determined. Once again, this year, we will host graduates from the Boys & Girls Club Explorer program for a fun day on the water.

We have participated in two boat shows this Spring. On April 1st and 2nd was the Port Royal Foundation event, followed on May 6th and 7th by the Hilton Head Boat Show at Windmill Harbour. Both events had good participation and gave the Squadron solid exposure. The Hilton Head Boat Show was the first time we have used the USPS Virtual Trainer, and it was a huge attraction, particularly with the youngsters. A great opportunity to personalize safety and helmsmanship practice. Thanks to all those members who participated, with special thanks to Glenn Crews who arranged the Trainer's shipping to and from USPS National, as well as training those members who staffed the booth on how to operate the equipment.



On the social front, we had a nice lunch on April 22nd at Hudson's. In addition to our own Squadron, we had boats arriving from both the Beaufort and Tybee Island Squadrons. On May 15th we had a wonderful night at Indigo Run with plenty of heavy hors d'oeuvres and music by the Bill Peterson and Betsy Jamison duo.

Members attending the Hudson's and Indigo Run music events provided very favorable feedback. However, attendance at these events was disappointing. We welcome feedback from our members to help design future events and increase attendance. Additionally, at the end of the year we will survey our members again from to better design social events for 2018. If you have any thoughts before then, please email me at markinsc@gmail.com.

Have a great Summer!

Mark Larson, AP
Administrative Officer



"Virtual Trainer" Showcased at Boat Show!

The Hilton Head Sail and Power Squadron showcased our "Virtual Trainer" at the Hilton Head Boat Show held at Windmill Harbour. With over 25 people participating in all forms of boat training, everyone increased their boating skills without leaving the dock!

Want to practice docking in various wind and current conditions...Crossing and overtaking... Navigation aids...Turns... Working with spring lines.... all while sitting in the comfort of a chair and table? Want to have real live simulation of handling a boat with realistic throttle and gear input, challenging navigation, waves and weather?

Now you can with the Squadron's Virtual Trainer!



Developed by USPS and in conjunction with a grant from the U.S. Coast Guard, the Virtual Trainer allows you to maneuver a "Boston Whaler" on a lake of 3.5 miles x 4 miles in a virtual mode. The helm seat sits next to a regular conference table. Training exercises are built in to allow an instructor to direct maneuvers from basic to advance by adjusting wind and current direction and strength. It has become the industry's premier interactive simulation-based boating safety program and a powerful training tool.

The Squadron's booth was set up on Friday at Windmill Harbour and Virtual Trainer sessions were available to boat show participants throughout two days on Saturday and Sunday, May 6 and 7. It took 10 Squadron members volunteering their time to make the event happen. It was also a great way to demonstrate the value of membership in the squadron by promoting boating safety and training.

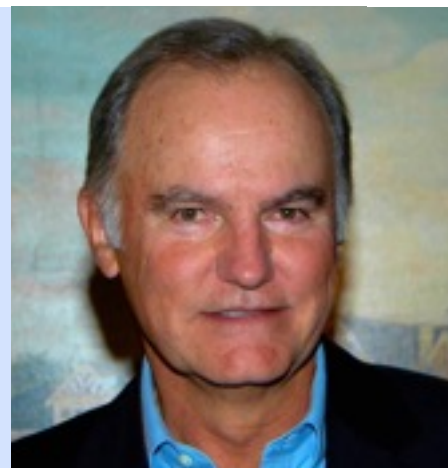
*Glenn Cruise,
Member at Large*



Join us at our next external or internal event and practice your skills on the Virtual trainer!



Education Officer's Report - Lt/C Peter Dion, SN



Our spring courses and seminars did not lack for participation. We had 26 people taking a course and 15 people taking a seminar.

Seamanship was taken by: Tiffany Rahn, Sherry Miller, Susan Zitello, Phillip Zitello, Basil Matthews, John Vogt, David Mauk, and Thomas Ryley. Instructors were: Klaus Loehr, Robert McKenzie, and Peter Dion.

We also tried something new by offering **America's Boating Course** at Wexford in a one-day session. It worked out well enrolling 13 people. Taking the course were: Peter Carlson, Larry Ricciardelli, Jeanne Ricciardelli, Rick Tranquilli, Lonnie Ruzic, Pamela Spaulding, Trish Grieve, George Grieve, Robert Donaldson, Mary Ellen Donaldson, Deborah Davis, John Davis, and Louise Tranquilli. Instructors: Mark Dryden, Rick Anderson, Steve Rahn, and Peter Dion.

Congratulations to the following members who successfully passed the **Marine Electrical Systems (ME101)** course: Sharon Church, Leighs Church, Larry Tremitiere, Bob Newbert, and Jerry Sumpter. Instructors were: Cecil Viverette, Robert McKenzie, and Larry Tremitiere. Thank you and great job!

The following people took **Emergencies On Board**: Jim Walters, Tom Ryley, Cathy Sumpter, Jerry Sumpter, Don Lesuer, Hal Wilson, Belinda Eichel, John Henderson, David Mauk, Jeff Westfall, Leighs Church, Peter Dion, with instructor Steven Rahn.

Our spring **Weather** course (newly revised) had to be cancelled, but we will reschedule it later in the Fall.

Boat Handling Under Power was taught by **Link Powell**. Four people attended this seminar: Robin and Bill Jordan, Don Lesuer, and Ann Wolfe. Thanks to Link who did a very good job presenting the material.

Hurricane Preparation for Boaters has been rescheduled for September 9 at the Senior Center. Mark Dryden will teach the seminar.

Two seminars coming up very soon are **Paddle Smart** June 10 (Instructor Steve Rahn) and **Mastering the Rules of the Road** June 24 (Instructor Mark Larson).

Even though the Education Calendar is set for the year, you can always make suggestions for a course or seminar that is not listed.

Enjoy the summer boating season!

Peter J. Dion, SN



The Education Department has been very busy this season. We are starting to slow down as we enter the boating season. We have had some really great turn outs for the ABC courses with a bonus of adding some new members to the Squadron. We did have to cancel a class and seminar due to low registration. These were in the last month and is typical since people head out of town and vacations starting. These classes and seminars will be rescheduled for the fall. The Education Department is trying to introduce a new program that is called "Jump Start" that has been put together and endorsed by USPS National. This program is for those who are new to boating or have a new boat and would like some advice on our local waters or tips on operating their boat safely. We are working on having a list of Captains that would be willing to help those that are looking for some training or tips. There is no cost to the Squadron, since it would be the person's boat and fuel. Some members in our Squadron are still unsure about how it will work and what the liability is. It really is no different from boarding for a Magellan Cruise or taking ABC students on a boat. One of the requirements to Jump Start is the boat has to have a Vessel Safety Check done prior to having a Captain assigned. Liability concerns have been dealt with at the National level. This is a great opportunity to introduce new boaters to our Squadron and what we do. We hope that everyone has a safe and fun summer out on the water. Please look for upcoming classes to expand your knowledge of our waters and boating safely.

Steve Rahn, P

Asst. Education Officer

Magellan Society
Lt/C Mike Gilroy



Magellan Society Keeps on Truckin', er, 'Boatin'

With April's circumnavigation of Buck & Marsh Islands (and lunch at Up The Creek) and May's circumnavigation of Pinckney Island (and BYO picnic lunch & raft up), the "Ferdies" have had a great beginning to the 10th year of Magellan Society cruises. Participants learned the safest way to enter Broad Creek and to avoid cutting too close to the north and south end of Pinckney Island.

Coming up on June 14 is, perhaps, the most interesting of them all (at least of the first 3!): Bull Island.

Bull Creek passes between the May River (leading from Calibogue Sound to Palmetto Bluff and Bluffton itself) and the Cooper River (leading from Calibogue Sound to Daufuskie and the Savannah River). Novice boaters go from one to the other via Calibogue Sound, but "Old Salts" speed right through Bull Creek. But it's "local knowledge" that tells them when and how to make that transition and at what stage of the local tide.

There are at least three, and maybe five, "shoaling points" along Bull Creek that locals understand and Magellan 3 will teach you. Plus, you'll learn the history of the island and its inhabitants.

And that is what "Magellan 3: Bull Island" is all about. Plus, at the end, we'll have a Dutch Treat lunch at the Daufuskie Crab Company. **So save June 14 for Bull Island.**

In addition, Saturday, June 17, is the opportunity for members who work or have school age children to experience all three of the completed Magellan Society Cruises (Buck & Marsh, Pinckney and Bull Islands) in a single day, followed by lunch at The Eagle's Nest on Daufuskie Island's Bloody Point Resort.

June is a FABULOUS month for the Magellan Society, with Bull Island and the Summer Makeup Cruise, you'd be CRAZY to miss it!

Wednesday, June 14 - Bull Island w/ lunch at the Daufuskie Crab Company

Saturday, June 17 - Summer MakeUp Cruise w/ lunch at the Eagle's Nest

Thursday, July 13 - Page & Pine Islands w/ lunch at Marshside Mama's

Saturday, August 26 - Daufuskie Island w/ lunch at the Eagle's Nest

Monday, September 11 - Hilton Head Island w/ lunch at the Salty Dog

Saturday, September 23 - Fall MakeUp Cruise w/ lunch the Eagle's Nest

I look forward to meeting all our new "Ferdies" on one, several, or all of our Magellan Society cruises.

Mike Gilroy, JN

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