

SMOKE SIGNALS



DON'T MISS
**CHRISTMAS PARTY/ANNUAL
MEETING**

TONIGHT
6:30 PM
Gene & Evelyn Stutz' Residence
Directions on page 4



Commander Robert M England, P

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

I am glad that Thanksgiving is over. The turkey wasn't the only thing that was stuffed last Thursday! Good food and good friends and family always make this day great. Now we must prepare for the onslaught of Christmas marketing that will bombard us from all forms of media till December 25th. I have never understood why folks get the crazies this time of year. We all saw the results of Black Friday idiots this past week. Normally mild mannered people acted like animals at stores to get "the Deal" before anyone else. Common sense and manners were not to be found in these frenzied moments. People were run over, pushed, punched, and pepper sprayed just so others could get a bargain. It is sad that a society such as ours has been brain washed into accepting this kind of behavior.

This is the time of year that we all should be thinking of others. Yes we have to worry about what presents we want to give family and friends but we also need to think of others that need help in these troubled times. Many people, even a good friend, may be too proud to ask for help. So if you notice a friend or a family that may be in need, you can help them without hurting there pride. Sometimes just asking them over for a good home cooked meal can make a big difference in a person's outlook. A gift card left anonymously can also lift the spirits of a family that is going through rough times. These things will make you appreciate the season better. We all need to be aware of the little things that we can do to make someone's life a little better and brighter!

If you missed the November meeting at Pier 51 you missed a great meal and a great auction. Bidding was intense and there were bargains galore. Our auctioneers did a great job and a fun time was had by all. Thanks to everyone who helped raise money for the Children's Outing!

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on December 2nd at the home of Gene and Evelyn Stutz. This is also the time when the new bridge will be voted on. Thank you Gene and Evelyn for inviting us into your home! If I do not see you on Friday night, I hope you all have a safe and happy holiday season. Safe and warm boating to all!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December

- 6 Bryan Anderson
7 Worth Parker
29 Bob Sarn



If we missed your birthday please send us a note at jsteve@comporium.net.

USPS PLEDGE

"I do solemnly pledge to:

Abide by the bylaws of the United States Power Squadrons;

Promote high standards of navigation and seamanship;

Maintain my boat and operate it legally;

Render assistance whenever possible;

And conduct myself in a manner that will add prestige, honor, and respect to the United States Power Squadrons.

COMING UP

- 2 Dec Annual Meeting/Christmas Party
Stutz Residence
River Hills, SC
6:30 pm
- 7 Dec EXCOM
Diane Woods' Office
6:30 pm
- 7 Jan District 27 Winter Council
Raleigh, NC
- 27 Jan CATAWBA Change of Watch
River hills Country Club
- 25-29 Jan USPS National Meeting
Jacksonville, FL
- 23-25 Mar D/27 COW
New Bern, NC
- 4-5 May D/27 rendezvous
Little River, SC

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

Lt/C Tony Carroll

The Catawba Sail and Power Squadron's website has been nominated for the Distinctive Communicator Award this year. Well done, Carol Daly, Well done!

The 'White Elephant' sale was a smashing success! We raised in excess of \$500.00 for the Children's Outing.

<p>TEGA CAY MARINA Tega Cay, SC</p> <p><i>and</i></p> <p>LAKE CLUB MARINA Rock Hill, SC</p>	<p>Marina Supply Store Gas Dock Boat Rentals In Water Boat Slip Rentals</p> <p>DURRAN COLEY Owner</p> <p>704-543-1899 Fax: 704-543-5254 durran@tegacaymarina.com</p>
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803-242-5701 or casey@lakewyliedocks.com



Casey Nicholls
Member—Catawba Power Squadron

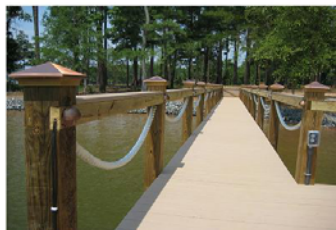


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ANNUAL MEETING/CHRISTMAS PARTY
FRIDAY DECEMBER 2 6:30 PM
GENE & EVELYN STUTZ' RESIDENCE
RIVER HILLS

Please join us for the Catawba Squadron's Annual Meeting/Christmas Party. There will be great food, good fellowship and the election of the 2012 Bridge and EXCOM.

Come one, come all and enjoy a great evening on Lake Wylie.

If you get lost, call Gene at 803-831-8252.



Directions to the Stutz residence: River Hills is the first left past the Buster Boyd Bridge on Highway 49 (South Tryon) coming from Charlotte. At the front gate tell the guard that you are going to the Catawba Sail and Power Squadron meeting at the Stutz residence at 11 Courageous.

Past the gate take the first left onto Commodore Point Road. Take the fifth right onto Courageous and go to the end of the street.

Park along Courageous or Commodore Point Road. We will have parking attendants.

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Lt/C David Kaylor

The November General Membership Meeting is our annual White Elephant Sale.

Approximately 40 members were present at the Pier 51 Restaurant on November 9 for our meeting and auction. The auction went very well thanks in part to the enthusiasm shown by our auctioneers Linda Stevenson and Diane Woods. We raised over \$500.00 from the auction. We had a lot of positive membership interaction and I feel we all had fun.

PREDICTED LOG

P/C Worth Parker, AP

We went. We saw. We were conquered. Outdone! Again! The Catawba group were a little like a defeated athletic team walking off the field feeling like this was one we could have and maybe should have won.

However, we were outdone in several ways. We were outdone in people - they had eight participants, we had six. We were outdone in boats - they had five or six boats, we had two. We were outdone in preparation - we experienced difficulties in plotting our courses and/or running the course as laid out on paper, they exhibited improved skills this year. Our speed checks were dubious. We were outdone in boat performance. Theirs were flawless - once again we had an in course tachometer malfunction, wiping out any chance of a great score for that entrant.

The lesson learned is that Catawba must step it up a notch if we are to recover the Pride of Lake Wylie and display it proudly. For now, it's just "Wait til Next Year".

CHARLOTTE		CATAWBA	
Brevard Myers	1.47%	Matt England	4.87%
Doug Drum	5.66%	Bit Jordan	9.10%
Bo Ibach	6.31%	Worth Parker	10.11%
David Stewart	15.61%	Gene Stutz	11.31%
George Davis	16.16%	Jim Van Blarcom	11.37%
Ken Elkins	16.38%	Will Jordan	13.62%
Don Joyce	31.61%		
Ronnie Campbell	38.08%		
TOTAL % ERROR (TOP 3)	13.44%		24.08%
AVERAGE % ERROR	4.48%		8.03%

SHIP'S INFIRMIARY

Erie Ruppert, a former member of our squadron, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 29th. He suffered from Supranuclear Palsy. It is a disease that results from the deterioration of areas in the brain that control movement. It can lead to life-threatening complications, such as falling, swallowing problems and pneumonia which happened to Ernie. Ernie would have been 83 years old November 3rd. He is survived by his wife Dorcas and son Ron.

Tom Anderson a patient at CMC in room 7811 and his phone number is 980-218-7811. On Thursday, December 1, the doctors decided to replace Tom's IVs with pills. The doctors will be monitoring Tom as he starts this transition to pills to make sure there are no side effects. This will take place over the span of several days. Once the doctors are satisfied that there are no side effects, Tom will be released from the hospital and will be able to continue his radiation treatments as an outpatient.

Betty says his physical therapist reports he is doing great with longer walks down the hallway. She also said he would be thrilled to have visitors and phone calls.

THE NEW BOAT: PART III

P/C Jim Van Blarcom, AP

Last time we looked, the boat was in the hands of the second boat yard just tuning up the little problems that we had uncovered on our maiden voyage. We are on the boat in June of 2011 and it turns out the depth finder needed a new sensor, the engine hour meter needed replacing, the AM/FM/CD player was wired incorrectly, the GPS/Map display had a non-working antenna, the masthead steaming light had to be replaced and the best job was the sensor for the holding tank was blocked/frozen. Not me on that one! Anyway, replacing the depth finder sensor required a short haul and since we were leaving the boat later in the month, we put off the short haul.

By the way, all this is going on while the mate is suffering from a back spasm.

We are docked in Deltaville, VA at Norview Marina in a covered slip on "B" dock. This is our first experience "under cover" and all it takes is a couple of hot June days up in the 90's to appreciate the advantages of keeping the sun off the boat. We also experienced our first Friday on the dock, when all the regulars start showing up around 4:00 pm and the party begins. It lasts until Sunday at about 4:00 pm when the regulars have to go back to their homes. Really nice people, who party more than boat. Could be the price of gas, but I think it has more to do with having fun.

One of the jobs that was not accomplished over the winter was the freeing up of the sliding windows. One of the yard people indicated that because they were aluminum combined with the salt water of the Bay, they might have to be replaced. Well, yours truly broke out the ship's supply of WD-40 and went to work, spraying, cajoling, pounding, shaking, cleaning and finally freeing up all 5 of the frozen windows. That stuff is simply amazing at what it can do. Please note that I used the term "windows" which is very un-nautical. I suppose that they should be called portholes as they open, but they sure look like windows that slide open. The language of the sea missed this one!

After two weeks on the boat, we have to head back to South Carolina to meet other commitments. As we stop to pick up crab dip at the local fish store, we realize that we really like the boat and are starting to miss it already. Crab Dip will do that to you.

SHIP'S STORE

MARILYN HAKIM

Time for Christmas Shopping .We have these great gifts. For men in you in your life, we have white large size shirts or a great red hat, with our logo. For the ladies we have large white shirts and white visors. A red apron would be the best gift ever. Get you burgee to fly on your tree then put on your boat after Christmas. Don't find anything of interest send me your wishes. Merry Christmas to all.

(4) Squadron Caps, Red	\$5.00
(3) Squadron Visors, White	\$5.00
(1) Men's Shirt, Blue (L)	\$15.00
(6) Men's Shirt, White (L)	\$15.00
(2) Women's Shirt, White (M/L)	\$15.00
(6) Catawba Burgee Flags	\$25.00
(2) Beautiful Red Aprons	\$20.00

If you want any of the above items, please contact me at 803-981-5303 or momrockhill@aol.com.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

It is with great pride that we present the Nominations for the CATAWBA Sail and Power Squadron Bridge and EXCOM for 2012.

Bridge:

Commander:	Lt/C Thurston D. Carroll, S
Executive Officer:	Lt/C David D. Kaylor
Education Officer:	P/C Eugene L. Stutz, SN
Administrative Officer:	Lt Tony J. Esposito, S
Secretary:	Lt Marvin Bennett
Treasurer:	Lt Marilyn K. Hakim
Asst. Treasurer:	Lt Jan Hope
Assistant Education Officer:	P/C James R. VanBlarcom, AP

Executive Committee:

Cdr Robert M. England, P
Lt. Wendy Hope
Lt. Stephen Wilkerson
Lt. Joseph Fazzari

Submitted By: P/C Diane Woods, S, P/C Gary McWhirter, S, P/C Jim Van Blarcom, AP



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MATT ENGLAND

2011 Bridge

Commander	Cdr Robert M. England, P	803-329-3789
Executive Officer	Lt/C Jeremy K. Kempf, S	704-989-4996
Education Officer	P/C Eugene L. Stutz, SN	803-831-8252
Asst. Education Officer	P/C James R, Van Blarcom, AP	803-548-5362
Administrative Officer	Lt/C David O. Kaylor	704-989-4996
Treasurer	P/Lt/C Michael T. Daly, AP	803-327-5247
Secretary	Lt/C Thurston D. Carroll	803-831-1829

EXCOM

Lt Jon P. Antonucci, P	704-287-3107	Lt. Tony J. Esposito, S	704-576-0821
Lt. Marilyn K. Hakim	803-981-5303	P/C Diane K. Woods, S	803-548-3434

Smoke Signals is the official publication of the Catawba Sail and Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of USPS, District 27 or the Catawba Sail & Power Squadron. Please

The next issue of the Smoke Signals will be mailed about January 4, 2012

Visit our website at www.catawbasailandpowersquadron.org

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