



United States Power Squadrons® Pamlico Sail & Power Squadron

2019 Commander's Annual Report

I am pleased to report that 2019 was a busy, but enjoyable year for the Squadron. We successfully continued with our mission of promoting safe boating through education, staying active in civic service activities and having fun in a variety of social and boating events. As in the past the strength of our squadron lies in our talented and hard-working membership. A dedicated leadership team coupled with a wide-spread willingness from all members to stay involved keeps us moving ahead smoothly.

We are very excited about our recently added Facebook Group. Social Media and social networking plays a major role in most people's lives these days. USPS does have a Facebook group and, in conjunction with our 2018 Member Survey, our Bridge Officers recognize there is an opportunity for our Squadron to offer this form of communication for both our members and the boating public. This platform allows our members a central location to share interactive chats, ask questions, provide advice, to plan informal cruises, find skippers in need of crew or crew in search of boats, spontaneous raft ups and much more. We are looking forward to a greater impact in 2020.

Lead by Linda Erickson, our outstanding Education Team was awarded 2nd place in our District's Educational Achievement. They have also implemented America's Boating Club's nationally organized Jump Start program. It provides a framework for teaching a one-on-one, customized training session with a student on their own boat beginning with a VSC by a certified inspector.

Familiar teamwork phrases like "many hands make light work" apply in spades to our squadron and its many members who give selflessly of their time and expertise to further our mission.

Commander Kay Graham, S

National Awards Received in 2019

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| | Website Distinctive Communication Award PSPS Web Site |
| | Newsletter Distinctive Communication Award Sound of the Pamlico |



Boating Education

Our Education Officer and her team planned courses and seminars for members, surrounding yacht clubs and the public offerings to local boaters.

- 11 PSPS members attended District 27 Training Seminars in Raleigh in January 2019.
- Delegates from PSPS attended all national and district meetings.
- America's Boating Course was offered in July graduating 14 students; 5 of those students becoming full members.
- 44 students attended 3 courses, Jr. Navigation, Piloting and Marine Electronic Systems.



Civic and Community Involvement

The Squadron continues its efforts to strengthen our mission throughout Beaufort County in our community involvement.

- 122 Vessel Safety Inspections were performed on local boats by our certified VSC Inspectors.
- The Squadron participated in Marine Market sponsored by the Washington Harbor District Alliance. The event netted \$1,042 supporting our efforts for boating safety education.
- Maintained membership in the Washington-Beaufort County Chamber of Commerce.
- Promoted National Safe Boating Week with newspaper articles, a mayoral proclamation, & VSC Inspections at the waterfront.
- Participated in West Marine's Boat Safety Day assisting customers in safety practices.
- Participated in McCotters Open House, providing boating education/safety materials and conducting VSC, approx. 150 attending.
- Provided 3 Port Captain services.
- Participated in the Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" program including collection boxes at 2 local yacht clubs.
- Supported the Salvation Army's fund raising efforts by Bell Ringing an entire day.
- Published our award-winning newsletter, "Sound of the Pamlico".
- Raised \$800 advertising revenue for the Sound of the Pamlico newsletter.
- Published regular monthly boating safety and information articles in the local newspaper.
- Awarded the Website Distinctive Communication Award for our Website. The PSPS site brings resources to the community through links to USPS, weather, marinas, yacht clubs, mobile apps and much more.
- Supported the USPS National Poster Contest promoting boating safety with local elementary school students. One poster was selected at D27 to go to National.

Boating Education Cont'd

- 62 students attended 4 seminars: Rules of the Road, Anchoring, Hurricane & Boats and a custom CPR Seminar in conjunction with the local EMS. Note 2 seminars scheduled, but cancelled due to enrollment.
- A minimum of 8 members are on a skill building track that will follow through all America's Boating Club Advanced Courses.
- Purchased a more powerful and effective presentation laptop for classroom education.
- Implemented the Jump Start Program this year, a one-on-one boat handling training session.
- Communicated with local newspapers, radio & TV for boating skill building opportunities.
- Was awarded 2nd place in District 27 Educational Achievement Award.



Social and Fellowship Activities

In addition to our commitment to safe boating through education, we know how to have fun on and off the water.

- The Bridge and Executive Committee met 9 times to monitor and conduct the affairs of the squadron.
- Merit Marks were awarded to 43 Members representing many, many hours of volunteer support to PSPS.
- Four general membership dinner meetings were held with exceptionally interesting speakers.
- Members enjoyed our annual holiday party with dinner and musical entertainment.
- 6 "just for fun" social lunches/dinners were held at local restaurants and all well attended.
- Members enjoyed our Change of Watch evening with dinner, elections and awards.
- Two Cruises to multiple destinations, both near and far were enjoyed by my members.
- We had 21 new, 2 transfer and 2 reinstated members in 2019.
- Conducting an annual software program, the Squadron saved our members substantial dollars; \$463 on market costs of \$3,953.