

Volume 48 #1

48th year "America's Boating Club"©

April 2010

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 9-10 2010**

D/27 Bridge planning  
Sunset Beach

**June 11-13 2010**

D/27 Rendezvous  
Oriental, NC

**September 1-5 2010**

USPS Fall GB  
Bellevue, WA

**September 24-25 2010**

D/27 Fall C/C  
New Bern , NC

**January 15, 2011**

Squadron Training  
University Club  
Raleigh, NC

**March 25-27 2011**

D/27 Annual Meeting

## D/C Message James R. McCurry, AP

What a beautiful time of the year. Spring brings a renewal of our love of safe boating. A new bridge is in place in District 27. We accept your trust in us to build on the previous forty-six bridges that preceded us with the knowledge that we need too and will uphold the tradition of District 27 as a leader in education, civic responsibility, and fellowship with our members.

Accepting the helm I stated that the Power Squadron is "Family". I requested that you the member keep us on the right track. Getting back to basics, you joined your squadron for a reason.

That reason may have been educational opportunities, Co-Op charting, or fellowship with friends. Whatever the reason - get back to that fun; get reconnected; get involved. With over eighteen hundred District members we can accomplish anything.

USPS as an organization is changing. USPS University has broadened our educational offering so even a full certificate member can find additional courses or seminars to keep connected. USPS is allowing our educational courses to be offered to non-members. This will help our organization with increased revenue from these offerings with the opportunity for our squadrons to charge more for non-members. Attention on membership is still a concern as our membership declines. Discussions at the national level are focused on "a member is a member" rather than different classes of membership such as "family", "additional family", etc. This will be a challenge for the Squadrons as well as Districts to maintain a budget while holding down the cost for the members. Leadership is also a major focus at the National level. The Squadron Administrative Officers and District Administrative officers were invited to the Annual Meeting for a one day Leadership Training Course. This was very successful and leadership offerings will continue at the National level to incorporate all levels of our bridge.

Last weekend I met with the District Bridge to plan for the upcoming year. We reviewed the District Calendar, we updated ourselves on policy and procedures, and each department reviewed the projects in process. In addition we discussed the items from the Town Hall Meeting such as working with the Community College System, offering membership with the boating class, sharing Squadron "best practices" with other Squadrons just to mention a few. The bridge is working. *Cont page #2*



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We will report on our progress. Communication is our objective. I requested that the Squadron Commanders add each District Bridge member to their Squadron Publication distribution. I have encouraged the District Bridge to visit with you through out the year when you have outings or meetings. I hope that this will allow us to see and understand what you are accomplishing and what you enjoy.

The District 27 Rendezvous is scheduled for 11-12 June at Pecan Grove Marina in Oriental. Raleigh Sail & Power Squadron is our host and has plans for a fun event. Please see the registration form in this issue and come join in the fun. If you don't go to any other district event, this is the one you need to attend. Come meet your "family" members for some fun and education.

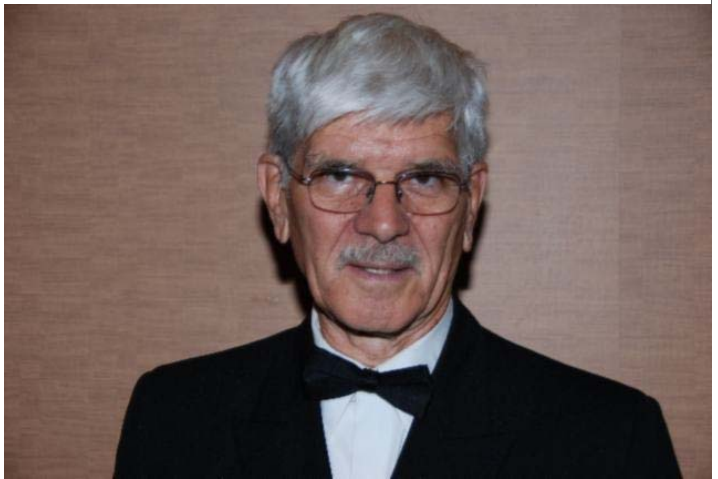
You have given me a bridge, a budget, and we have set the course. Now we need YOU. Get involved. See you in Oriental.

## CHANGE OF WATCH 2010



## District Educational Officer D/Lt/C George Malindzak, SN

The North Carolina mandatory boater safety training law goes into effect May 1, 2010. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) is offering boater safety education classes in almost every county at least once per month. The USCG Aux is also very aggressive in offering 1-2 day classes frequently, often within the Community College system facilities. There are also several competitive online providers, including the ABC-3 online instructional courses. Please remember and remind prospective 'clients', that the USPS ABC-3 course is the most complete and comprehensive course available, and one that offers more than just basic education.



After completion of the USPS course, educational opportunities are available to individuals to engage in educational and hands-on boating opportunities offered only at professional mariner school programs. We may now not be the first word in basic boater education and safety, but we are and continue to be the last word in progressive and advanced boater education. We have the best program and courses available anywhere.

### D27 Rendezvous – Oriental, NC (June 11-13, 2010)

The time and place for the 2010 D27 Rendezvous has been set and confirmed. Educational opportunities will be offered to those who elect to participate. Permission and supervision has been obtained for fire extinguisher and flare demonstrations at the Pecan Grove Marina. You are requested to bring your own fire extinguisher and outdated flares. Although, we have been promised new flares from Orion, I would like to have more than necessary for the crowd we expect. These exercises will satisfy the requirements necessary to have your BOC passport 'stamped'.

On-the-Water (OTW) skills demonstration will also be taking place. However while we have a number of people signed up for this part of the program, we **do not** have any boats volunteered. We need at least two boats, O/B, center console, wheel driven 16'-20' in length. This program will have USPS insurance coverage. In addition, I/we could use some help from individuals to set up the course in/around Oriental. I have not boated extensively in that area, so I could use some help. If anybody is willing to help, please contact me at 919-818-2511 or, at [polaris6@nc.rr.com](mailto:polaris6@nc.rr.com).

### OTW Approval for Sail

OTW has been approved for the Sail course based on program plans submitted to the OTW National Committee from the Durham and Raleigh Squadrons. Each of the instructors from these Squadrons have included an OTW component to their course schedule, which is now approved and covered by the USPS insurance program. This OTW component is now available to any Squadron who would like to use it. Please contact me if you would like a copy of the approved program. If you choose to use this component, it needs to be implemented as closely as possible to the one that has been approved, and announce/publish it as part of the course description before the course commences. *Continued on Page #4*

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### **USPS and the NC Community Colleges**

A group of us (I, Tom Kemp, and Wilbur Chapman) met with the Dean of the Public Safety Division of Wake Tech Community College who has agreed to consider listing our USPS courses in their Fall 2010 catalog, and offering us space to teach our classes. Specifically, we are considering ABC-3/Seamanship for one semester, Piloting for one semester, and Advanced Piloting for one semester. We have also submitted our proposal to offer courses in their Continuing Educational Program, courses like our Seminars, etc. Further negotiations will continue to discuss implementation of the various grades of the BOC program. I will keep the 'faithful' informed as these issues develop.

### **Boating Class Reporting**

My recent informal survey and assessment has indicated that there exists, in D27, about 20-25% underreporting of class completions, mainly the ABC-3 classes. This has come about as the result of Instructors not being comfortable with the BCA reporting system. I have been working with Pat Greer and the Boating Class Workbook (BCW) as a substitute for the BCA, which I find to be more intuitive and easier to use. I am also working with her to produce a "learning guide" on how to use this BCW, which, when I am finished, I will distribute to the SEO's. Hang in there, I should have it shortly. I am learning to use it myself first.

### **ABC-3 Coastal Explorer Viewer**

National is now shipping, with the new ABC-3 material, the Coastal Explorer Viewer and ABC-C course-ware CDs. I would encourage each SEO to install the new material in their own computers to get a feel and understanding of this new material. If you are having difficulties, please contact me. I now have some cool software that will allow me to view and control your computer (PC) from my PC here in Raleigh. With this software ( and, of course, your permission) I could walk you through some of the difficult and cumbersome issues you might be encountering.

Lastly, for the Squadrons that elect to offer courses to the public, you should consider assuring that your course descriptions on your website and newsletter indicate the sequence in which our courses should be taken. For example, Seamanship required before Piloting,; Piloting required before Advanced Piloting, AP required before JN; JN before N. Also, be sure to list course costs for members and non-members.

## **Have you seen a Flag Raising Ceremony?**

District 27 will have a Flag Raising Ceremony during the District Rendezvous at Pecan Grove Marina on 12 June 2010 in Oriental, North Carolina at 0900. This is an impressive event that provides an introduction to Squadron Commanders, Bridge Officers, National Officers, Past District Officers, and Past National Officers attending the District Rendezvous.

The dress code for this event will be District white knit shirt or any squadron white shirt, khaki slacks, boat shoes and white District cap. District caps will be available for \$10 each. If you want to reserve a District Cap please e-mail the District Commander - [jmccurry@atmc.net](mailto:jmccurry@atmc.net). Supplies will be limited and will be offered first come first serve.

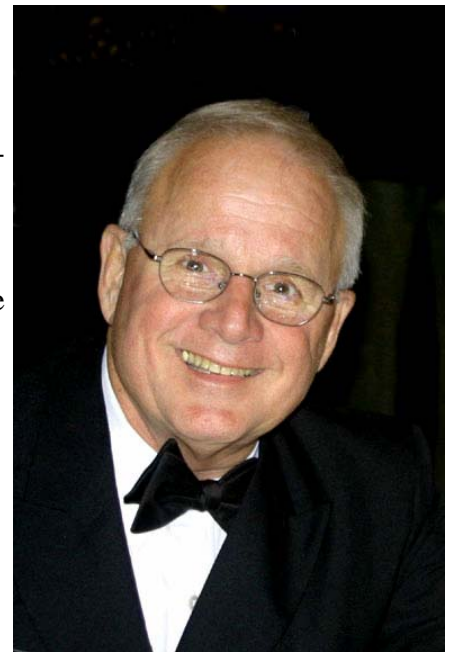
## District Executive Officer

## D/Lt/C Mike McCulley, JN

### BOATING SAFELY

This year's National Safe Boating Campaign is being kicked-off during the week of May 22-28, 2010. The goal of this important week is to educate boaters throughout the United States about boating safety. One emphasis continues to be creating an awareness of the importance of wearing life jackets at all times when underway in a vessel. All squadrons in District 27 are encouraged to organize a local safety related event during that kick-off week. With warmer weather now here, boaters will be anxious to get on the water, especially over Memorial Day weekend. Preparation for National Safe Boating Week should also include each squadron getting into high gear on its Vessel Safety Check program, if it hasn't already done so, and scheduling public boating courses. Every squadron should strive to earn Safety Honor Roll status and submit a report to the District Executive Officer on its safety activities by October 1.

After a winter hiatus in boating, even the most educated and experienced boater needs to be reminded about safe boating practices. Following are paraphrased Safe Boating Tips from the National Safe Boating Council web site:



#### **Boat Responsibly and Wear It!**

Be alert. An accident can happen very quickly and unexpectedly. According to the most recent U.S. Coast Guard statistics, over two-thirds of fatal accident victims drowned. Out of those who drowned, approximately 90% were not wearing a life jacket. There are so many different types of inflatable life jackets today that are smaller and more comfortable; it's much easier to "Wear It!" at all times.

#### **Know the Navigation Rules**

Knowing what to do when meeting, crossing or overtaking another vessel can prevent costly damage to your boat, personal injury or even loss of life. Whenever you believe there is a threat of collision you should slow down, stop or steer away from the situation in question. Maintaining a proper lookout and safe speed are an important part of boat operation.

#### **Stay Sober While Boating**

Operating a boat under the influence of alcohol or drugs is dangerous, is illegal in all states and is a violation of Federal law. An operator with a blood alcohol content about .08 (equivalent to consuming five beers in one hour for the average 180-lb. male) – is ten times more likely to die in a boating accident than an operator who is sober.

#### **Be Aware of Carbon Monoxide**

All boat engines produce Carbon Monoxide (CO)—an odorless, colorless, poisonous gas. Boaters die every year because of improper cabin ventilation, poorly maintained equipment, and careless behavior. You do not have to be inside the boat. Boaters in any area of the boat where CO exhaust may accumulate or be emitted are at risk. Be aware of the early symptoms such as irritated eyes, headache, nausea, weakness, and dizziness. Use CO detectors on your boat and stay off the swim platform if the engine or generators are running.

#### **Get Your Boat Checked**

Contact your squadron's Vessel Safety Check chairman.

## **District Administrative Officer**

### **D/LT/C Harold W. O'Briant, AP**

The upcoming year promises to be as exciting and challenging as any for USPS and District 27. There continues to be concern about new members, membership retention and leadership development and the opportunities these present.

D/C Jamie McCurry, AP, told those in attendance at the District 27 Change of Watch at Wrightsville Beach, NC in March that the members of District 27 are "family". As "family" we work together and we help each other as family members do. We use challenges as opportunities to develop creative ways to increase our member base, retain our existing members and develop leaders to assume their positions.

To these ends District 27 has assembled an incredible "A Team" charged with the responsibility of taking these opportunities and developing new programs. For the first time we have an Assistant Administrative Officer, D/1st/Lt Robert Howd, JN, a member and a past commander of Fort Macon Sail & Power Squadron. We have an awesome membership team consisting of P/C Juanita Neumeister, AP, of Cape Fear Sail & Power Squadron; P/C Paula B. Schubert, AP, and P/C Sandra D. Williams, AP, both of Durham Sail & Power Squadron.

Additionally, we have P/R/C June D. Reasons, P, of Cape Lookout Sail & Power Squadron in charge of Operations Training; P/R/C Sarah W. McCurry, S, of Shallotte River Sail & Power Squadron continuing to do an incredible job as District Meetings Chairperson; and P/C Ralph A. Daniels, AP, of Raleigh Sail & Power Squadron serving as District Boating Activities Chairperson.

The "A Team" is available to everyone in District 27 to help in whatever way possible with membership and leadership development and is literally only a telephone call or e-mail away.

A new and exciting training program was unveiled at the USPS Annual meeting in Orlando, FL. this past February by the National Leadership Development Committee. Conducted by D/Lt Anita F. Walker, JN, the day-long seminar is the latest training and development tool for District and Squadron Administrative officers. This course is initially offered in 10 cities throughout the United States. Two of these cities include Atlanta, Ga. and Baltimore, MD. Other cities will be offering this valuable course and may include Raleigh, in the future. All District and Squadron Administrative officers are encouraged to attend. A new course in this series is slated to be offered beginning with the annual meeting next year in Orlando, FL for District and Squadron Executive officers. The following year the last module in this structured training program is scheduled to be unveiled for Commanding Officers.

Finally, there has been a change in the Boarman Youth Poster Contest judging schedule beginning this year. The National judging of the posters will be done at the National annual meeting in February, 2011 in Orlando, Fl. The District 27 judging will take place at the January 15, 2011 training session in Raleigh. Squadron judging schedules should reflect these changes so the squadron winners can be delivered to the training session for judging.



**District Secretary****D/Lt/C David Osmolski, AP**

We have received an early taste of summer in recent past weeks. I know I have had my boat out on the water twice in the past three weeks. Even in these two outings, I have had uncomfortable encounters with other boaters. One boat stood on course as he approached from my port bow. Another boater approached, and despite my best efforts to indicate a port-to-port pass, continued to correct his track to a collision course with me.

I can't recall now if the captains of these vessels looked to be 26 years old or under, but I am thinking they weren't. While the implementation of the new state boating law for mandatory boater education of folks 26 years old and under is nearly here, I believe we as USPS members need to do more with other age demographics as well.

I don't know if it is from embarrassment or if it is simply arrogance, but many folks who are well into their lives and careers are not going to admit they haven't a clue about the rules of the road. This is probably our toughest job. The job is to let new boat owners and operators know that it is all right to not know the rules, but it is NOT all right to continue to go out boating without getting some education. Taking a "class" is just not something a lot of folks want to do these days. I believe that to help sell our education, we need to "sweeten" the experience with those other things USPS is all about. In my Squadron (Charlotte) we have a private park called Merit Mark Point on Lake Wylie. We hold social, boating events there at least three times a year. Merit Mark Point is open to members all year around.

Other Squadrons have social and boating events for members throughout the year. In addition our District holds events that are fun for all the members too. The D/27 Summer Rendezvous in Oriental is just such an event. We will have a lot of socializing. Many folks will come to Oriental by sea. There will be fun and games and eating and socializing. We might also see a little education there, but if this isn't a selling point, just surprise 'em when they get there. We will probably see some hands-on experience with flares and fire extinguishers (not necessarily first following the second, I hasten to add) and boat handling. All these things adding to a members boating experience. Just don't mention that it just might be called education.

In a serious note, keep in mind that while folks might be defensive when it is implied they just might not know as much about boating as they ought to, we don't have to pitch USPS membership as a mostly educational experience. It is also very much a social and friendship-building experience. We need to work at selling it as such.



## District Treasurer

**D/Lt/C David E. Parsons, AP**

As I enter a new phase of my journey with USPS, I am grateful to the membership in their trust in me and electing me to serve the District as Treasurer. I look forward to working with each Squadron Treasurer and with the Assistant D27 Treasurer, Burt Pearson.

Today, April 16<sup>th</sup>, all financial records have been successfully transferred to me by Lloyd Moore, P/D/Lt/C, Treasurer. I am totally amazed at what is involved in this position and I certainly want to acknowledge the great job Lloyd has done for the District the past years he has served. Please join me in expressing to him your appreciation as you see him in upcoming District events.

The 2009-10 records have been audited and I am pleased to report that our District is in great financial shape. The District Bridge has approved the 2010-11 Budget. As you know, it is very difficult to find any financial instruments that pay a decent rate of return. But our CD and Money Market account has provided additional interest, albeit, minimal, but yet positive. Our primary checking account is satisfactorily funded to meet upcoming expenses for the District, but your participation in the events will determine how strong we continue to be during the year.

I encourage all Squadron Treasurers to voice any concerns you may have and ask for whatever help you might need. I may not be able to give you an immediate answer, but I assure you I can find a source to assist you and meet your needs.

I look forward to a great year serving with my fellow Bridge members and having an opportunity to meet and develop new friendships throughout the District.





## **2010 D27 Rendezvous**

The 2010 D27 Rendezvous is set for June 11-13, with activities centered at Pecan Grove Marina in Oriental.

The rendezvous encourages us to do what we are all about, boating!

We will have activities on site, and the quaint village of Oriental is a nice walk across the bridge. There are 5 creeks that will provide excellent canoeing or kayaking excursions, and the Neuse River for fishing and sailing

and completing your on-the-water requirements for Inland BOC. Of course we will have the old standards such as bean bag baseball and potato canon shooting and conch blowing.

### **Registration for the Rendezvous:**

The Registration Form has 4 sections: (1)-Registration to let us know that you will be there and provides space to select meals; (2)-Slip reservations for your boat; (3)-Sign up for Boat Operator Certification On-the-Water-Training; and (4)-Sign up for kayaking tour. All registration forms need to be received no later than May 26 and should be mailed to the address shown on the form.

Registration at Pecan Grove Marina will be in the building that houses the restrooms and showers. Follow the signs from the dock or the road.

### **Meals and Social Hours:**

Meals for the District Rendezvous include a Friday night pig picking prepared by DEO George Malindzak and his wife Marianne, complete with all the things that go with a pig picking. If you have not been privileged to indulge on George's barbeque, you have missed something.

Saturday lunch will be on your own. There are several restaurants in Oriental within walking distance, about ¾ miles, and several others within another couple of miles. Lunch on your boat may be a real option.

Dinner Saturday night will be prepared and served by the Oriental Rotary Club and will be a Shrimp Boil, with side dishes shown on the agenda. Barbequed chicken will be available for those persons that can not eat or do not like shrimp. Please select your choice on the registration form.

To keep things simple, we will not have a cash bar at the Rendezvous. Since all boats will be on the same dock, we encourage everyone to wander up and down the dock, converse with each other, and share something simple

with each other. Remember, you will be eating a meal shortly thereafter. Also, this is a time to show off your boat or yacht.

### **On the water housing:**

**Note: All slip reservations will be handled with the Registration Form. Please do not call the Marina.**

We will have 44 brand new slips at Pecan Grove Marina available at a low rate of \$1.00 per foot per night including electricity and water. The restroom and shower facilities are first class and should permit use with little to no waiting. The rendezvous will make a good cruise for your squadron and sharing extra sleeping quarters with members without boats adds to the fun of cruising and the rendezvous.

All slip reservation requests and payment should be included with your registration form.

The marina can accommodate boats up to 50feet in length, but can not accommodate catamarans. CONT PG11

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Power is available at 30 amps and 50 amps. Please select your choice of power requirements. The marina will be

available for docking on Thursday, June 10, but there are no District Activities planned for Thursday.

The Pecan Grove Marina channel entrance is on your port side as you approach the bridge. The outer RED marker is at 35° 01.303'N, 076° 42.025'W. This is a long straight channel with a sharp turn to starboard near the shore followed by a sharp turn to port. Continue ahead keeping the slips abutting the land on your port until you

reach the new docks. There will be balloons on the pilings marking the new dock and slips. Call on Channel 16, and switch to Channel 72 for assistance and guidance to your slip.

**Boat Operator Certification:**

There will be several activities relating to the Boat Operators Certification (BOC) program, some of which are good for general knowledge and experience. We plan to have an area where you can actually fire an aerial flare gun and ignite a handheld flare. If you have outdated flares, this is a good way to use them instead of throwing them away sometime. We plan to have fire extinguisher training to provide hands on experience in putting out a fire.

The On the Water portion of the BOC requires that you register ahead of time so that we can schedule a time for everyone.

**Kayaking:**

The area around Oriental has 5 creeks that will provide an excellent opportunity to kayak in protected waters and provide beautiful scenery. Kayaks are available for rent at Oriental at Paddle Pamlico @ (252) 249-1850.

Please remember that it is your responsibility to transport a rental kayak to the launching point. E-mails will provide coordination and maps to the launching point will be provided at Registration location

**Off the water housing:**

Non-boat housing is available but limited. Listed below is some information for lodging. If you are not arriving by boat, it will pay to *plan ahead* and make your reservation while rooms are available. Please mention D27

USPS when reserving a room or suite at the Oriental Marina Motel.

The Oriental Marina Motel is holding 2-2br suites, two different sleeping arrangements, 11-1br Suites with King size beds and 3-1br with 2 queen size beds, until March 1. Rates will not be available until after the first of

the year, but you can see current rates on the website at. [www.orientalmarina.com](http://www.orientalmarina.com).

There are several B & B's close by, The Cartwright House @ [thecartwrighthouse.com](http://thecartwrighthouse.com); the Captains Quarters, @ [thecaptainsquarters.us](http://thecaptainsquarters.us); the Inn at Oriental @ [innatoriental.com](http://innatoriental.com); plus the River Neuse Suites @ [riverneuserentals.com](http://riverneuserentals.com), plus the Lazy River Cottages, 252-249-2261, are adjacent to Pecan Grove.

Mark your calendars and start planning for the 2010 D27 Rendezvous in Oriental now!

**D27 Rendezvous  
June 11-13, 2010  
Pecan Grove Marina  
Oriental, NC**

**Registration Form**

Rank, Name, Grade, Squadron _____	Friday Night Barbeque \$16.00 each	Saturday Night Shrimp Boil \$18.00 each	Saturday Night Barbequed Chicken \$18.00 each	Total
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<b>Totals</b>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Slip Reservation Form**

Boat Name \_\_\_\_\_ Owners Name \_\_\_\_\_

Boat Length \_\_\_\_\_ Boat Width \_\_\_\_\_ Power Requirements 30A,, 50A Circle Choice

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Slip Fee \_\_\_\_\_ (Boat Length) X \$1.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ (# Nights)= \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Due

Cell Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

All Slip Reservations must be made via the Registration Form. Do not call the Marina!

**Boat Operators Certification  
On the Water Training**

Name, Certificate Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name, Certificate Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Kayak Tour**

Name(s)/Number of Kayaks \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address for coordination purposes: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make out checks to RSPS, and add in Memo section, D27 Rendezvous, and mail to Lt/C Kevin Lyon AP, 204 Melksham Road, Wake Forest, NC 27587 no later than May 26, 2010.

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- \* COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF AIDS TO NAVIGATION
- \* BUFFET MEAL AT CAPTAIN BILL'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT
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**D/27 SQUADRON COMMANDERS  
2010-2011**

**COW Dates 2011**

**Albemarle**

Cdr Allen Miles  
189 Roanoke Dr.  
Hertford, NC 27944  
252-426-3268  
[allenmiles@earthlink.net](mailto:allenmiles@earthlink.net)  
1/30/2011

**Cape Fear**

Cdr Joan Payne, S  
1059 Evangeline Dr.  
Leland, NC 28451-7992  
910-512-1397  
[joanp@ec.rr.com](mailto:joanp@ec.rr.com)  
1/29/2011

**Cape Lookout**

Cdr Richard J. Tobacco, JN  
903 Coral Ct.  
New Bern, NC 28562  
252-633-1254  
[rtobacco@suddenlink.net](mailto:rtobacco@suddenlink.net)  
2/26/2011

**Catawba**

Cdr Robert "Matt" England, S  
1979 High Pines Dr.  
Rock Hill, SC 29732  
803-329-3789

[Menland74@comporium.net](mailto:Menland74@comporium.net)

**Charlotte\***

Cdr Louis G. Rogers, III, S  
13300 Pine Harbor Rd.  
Charlotte, NC 28278-7345  
704-588-2730  
Fax: 704-332-5318\*

**Durham**

Cdr Joe J. Donaghy, JN  
103 Heritage Ct.  
Cary, NC 27513  
919-460-0941  
[idonaghy@nc.rr.com](mailto:idonaghy@nc.rr.com)

**Fayetteville**

Cdr John Ellsworth, SN  
1801 Winterlochen Rd.  
Fayetteville, NC 28305  
910-485-1251  
[jellsworth@nc.rr.com](mailto:jellsworth@nc.rr.com)

**Fort Macon**

Cdr Bruce R. Brill  
1500 Dill Creek Ln.  
Morehead City, NC 28557  
252-726-3119  
[bbrill@ec.rr.com](mailto:bbrill@ec.rr.com)  
2/11/2011

**Goldsboro**

Cdr Harrell Overman, AP  
1132 Overman Rd  
Goldsboro, NC 27530  
909-689-2964  
[overmandh@bellsouth.net](mailto:overmandh@bellsouth.net)  
2/26/2011

**Greensboro**

Cdr Woods McGinn, AP  
3910 Kalloramo Dr.  
Greensboro, NC 27407  
336-299-3804  
[woods.mcginn@fedx.com](mailto:woods.mcginn@fedx.com)  
1/29/2011

**Kinston**

Cdr Margaret Butler, AP  
2108 Hunt Hill Pl.  
Kinston, NC 28504  
[butler@embarcomail.com](mailto:butler@embarcomail.com)  
252-527-5946

**Lake Norman**

Cdr Richard VanDyke, S  
13807 Hagers Ferry Rd.  
Huntersville, NC 28078-7443  
704-948-0519  
[edocsupport@aol.com](mailto:edocsupport@aol.com)

**New River**

Cdr Chris Wilk, P  
104 Marina Ct.  
Jacksonville, NC 28540  
910-348-9957  
[chrisw@coastalnet.com](mailto:chrisw@coastalnet.com)  
2/12/2011

**Pamlico**

Cdr Thomas G. Miller, S  
133 Fairway Dr.  
Washington, NC 27889  
252-975-6479  
[ectgmiller@suddenlink.net](mailto:ectgmiller@suddenlink.net)  
1/22/2011

**Raleigh**

Cdr Wilbur Chapman, SN  
6405 Lakeway Dr.  
Raleigh, NC 27612-6530  
919-848-9182  
[chapmanw@bellsouth.net](mailto:chapmanw@bellsouth.net)  
3/04/2011

**Rocky Mount**

Cdr Robert H. Bruner, AP  
104 Beth Eden Ct.  
Rocky Mount, NC 27803  
252-443-2414  
[r.h.bruner@gmail.com](mailto:r.h.bruner@gmail.com)  
2/26/2011

**Shallotte River**

Cdr Lee Edwards  
153 Rip Tide Cir.  
N. Myrtle Beach, SC 29582  
843-249-1008  
[cyberliver@sc.rr.com](mailto:cyberliver@sc.rr.com)  
1/28/2011

**Southport**

Cdr Bob Salemm, AP  
119 SE 4<sup>th</sup> St.  
Oak Island, NC 28465  
910-201-1712  
[mmsalemm@hotmail.com](mailto:mmsalemm@hotmail.com)

**Tar River**

Cdr Jeffrey A. Moore, P  
2211 Old Courthouse Dr  
Greenville, NC 27858  
252-355-1099  
[jeff@jmooreea.com](mailto:jeff@jmooreea.com)

**Winston-Salem**

Cdr Joel I. Williams, AP  
1411 West Mountain St.  
Kernersville, NC 27284  
336-996-8770  
[wjimbvills@yahoo.com](mailto:wjimbvills@yahoo.com)

\*NOTE The Commander of the Charlotte Power Squadron will only respond to fax or snail mail. He does NOT do e-mail.

March 24, 2010

### Meet our new Treasurer: David E. Parsons from Goldsboro squadron.

After 33 years I recently retired as a Human Resource Manager. I am married to Linda, and we have two sons. Keith is married and lives in Virginia. They have three children. Our second son, Eric is also married and resides in South Carolina with their two children. I joined the United States Power Squadrons about seven years ago and have served on the bridge of the Goldsboro Power Squadron. I was their administrative officer, executive officer and finally commander for two years. I am a certified teaching Instructor and have taught the ABC course and Seamanship. I participate in the vessel safety program and am active as their public relations officer. I also have been on the board of United Way of Wayne County for nineteen years.

We are members of The First Baptist Church, Goldsboro.

## DISTRICT 27 BITTS

**Editor: P/D/C GEORGE ELLIS, AP**  
**381 Hollybrook Drive**  
**Advance, NC 27006-8405**

(cell) 336.970.0288 (H)336.998.4561

E-mail: gelnps@aol.com

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**D/27 RENDEZVOUS 2010**  
**ORIENTAL, NC JUNE 11-13**

### DISTRICT BRIDGE 2007-2008

Commander: Jamie McCurry, AP  
 (H) 910.579.9927  
 JMccurry@atmc.net

DEO: George Malindzak, SN  
 (H) 919.870.1834 (W)919.818.2511  
 Polaris6@nc.rr.com

Executive Officer:  
 Administrative: Mike McCulley, JN  
 (H) 252.444.2349  
 Dalliance4me@ec.rr.com

Administrative Officer:  
 Harold W. O'Briant, AP  
 (H) 252.241.4328  
 Hobriant@juno.com

Treasurer: David E. Parsons, AP  
 (H) 919.751.5553 (O)919.731.2364x222  
 DPARSON@nc.rr.com

Secretary: David Osmolski, AP  
 (H) 704.321.3441 (B) 704.552.2100  
 DOSMOLSKI@carolina.rr.com

ADEO: Tom Penders, JN  
 (H)252.946.2100 (W)252.945.8745  
 Nittanymt@aol.com

Asst. Treasurer: Burt H. Pearson, III, SN  
 (H) 919.496.2865 © 919.495.2858  
 TWPEED@yahoo.com

Asst. Secretary: Mary Jo Worchester, S  
 (H) 910.790.9380 © 910.612.3356  
 WORCESTERSMI@charter.net

Asst. Admin. Robert F. Howd, JN  
 (H) 252.728.5669 © 252.571.9317  
 RHOWDI@ec.rr.com