



Side Lights



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
For Boaters, By Boaters®
CHARLOTTE

November 2024

Volume 63 Number 9

View from the Bridge:

Lost boating card leads to membership in the Charlotte Power Squadron

By P/C David J. Samonds P

Hello from the Bridge. As a youngster my dad would always take us places like the marina on the Waccamaw River near Myrtle Beach, S.C., called Wacca Wache Marina.

Normally he would buy a current chart for the area which I loved looking at, trying to figure out what it all meant, where we were and identify places we had been to.

Being that he was in the Navy, you would think with all this we did a lot of boating activities. Well, not so much outside of taking boating tours around that area and Charleston, mostly of plantations and we went to the boat museums like the aircraft carrier in Charleston and the battleship in Wilmington.

Those trips instilled in me a desire to own a boat. So, after many years I was finally able to purchase one.

As many of you know, to get a break on boating insurance, you need to take a boating course that is recognized by insurance companies. I had taken a course given by the Coast Guard a number of years ago. The card is still stuck in the book we used, I thought, and the book is ... well somewhere.

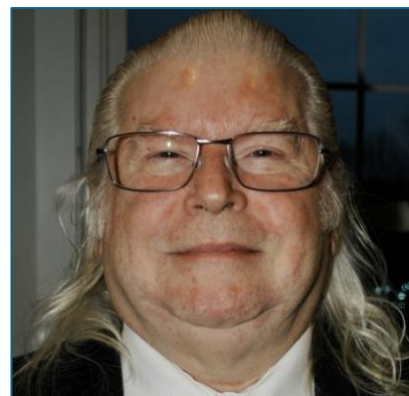
This led me to look for what was available in the area. It came down to either United States Power Squadrons or Coast Guard Auxiliary. At the time USPS had the course with a free six-month membership.

The course for the Charlotte Power Squadron worked best for me because, well it was in Charlotte and I didn't have to mess with going to Lake Norman.

So, I came to the class and stayed for the benefits, friendships and comradery.

I hope for all the newcomers, you will find the same as we spend time together through our various activities. Our next activity will be the Christmas Party on December 7.

P/C David J. Samonds P is Administrative Officer of the America's Boating Club-Charlotte.



P/C David J. Samonds P

Table of Contents	Page
View from the Bridge	1
Electric Shock Drowning	2
Bridge Officers and Members at Large	3
ABC-Charlotte Fundraising News	3
November & December Calendar	4
November Birthdays	4
Christmas Party Invitation	5
Christmas Card Order Form	6
Sponsors	7

America's Boating Channel™ Warns of Electric Shock Drowning



Electric Shock Drowning (ESD) is a little-known and often unidentified killer, severely injuring and killing people every year. It occurs when faulty wiring sends electric current into water, which passes through the body and causes muscle paralysis that can result in drowning.

Faulty wiring or the use of damaged electrical cords and other devices on docks and boats can cause the surrounding water to become "energized," with no visible warning. Avoid getting in the water within 150

feet of where AC power is in use and learn how to test if dangerous electrical currents are in the water around your boat.

To help boaters understand the danger of ESD, Season Four of America's Boating Channel offers the video "[Electric Shock Drowning \(ESD\)](#)." The video shows how ESD causes deaths and injuries at marinas nationwide, including many undetected incidents. Viewers also will learn about ESD prevention and how to install ground protection on docks and boats. Also featured are differences between ESD dangers in saltwater and freshwater.



Follow the above link or visit

<https://www.youtube.com/@AmericasBoatingChannel> to find these and other safe boating videos, which are an excellent

tool to help recruit participants to our educational program and to membership. Invite your friends and neighbors to watch, like and subscribe to America's Boating Channel to introduce them to what our organization has to offer.



In addition to YouTube, these professionally produced high-definition safe boating and boater education videos are available via the America's Boating Channel free, on-demand app on Apple TV, Roku or FireTV. [America's Boating Channel™](#) is produced by the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.

America's Boating Club-Charlotte

A unit of the United States Power Squadrons
District 27
Chartered April 10, 1961



2024 BRIDGE OFFICERS

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Executive Officer
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P/C David M. Stewart AP

P/C Douglas Drum Sr. AP
Warren Francois
D/Lt/C Charles "Bo" Ibach III SN-ACN
P/D/C Paula F. Stewart AP

SIDE LIGHTS STAFF

Editor
Photographers and writers

P/C Ken Elkins JN

publications@charlotteboating.org
All squadron members

"SIDE LIGHTS" is published monthly* for the members of the America's Boating Club-Charlotte. The deadline for articles is the Friday before the third Monday of each month. Articles and photographs may be sent to P/C Ken Elkins at publications@charlotteboating.org or photographer@charlotteboating.org before the deadline. (* July and August are combined as a summer issue, January and February are combined as a winter issue.)

The opinions expressed in the articles of this publication are those of the writers and are not necessarily those of the America's Boating Club-Charlotte or the United States Power Squadrons.

Appreciation for membership fundraising

By P/D/C Paula F. Stewart AP

Thanks to everyone who has participated in our "50/50" Fundraisers at our membership meetings.

Meanwhile, we still have plenty of Auto Bell gift cards for sale. The cost is \$20 per card and our squadron gets \$10 for each card sold.

Everyone loves a clean car! Please see me at our next meeting to purchase yours. Also, if you prefer that I mail them to you, I can do that too. Just let me know. Thank you for your support.

P/D/C Paula F. Stewart AP is America's Boating Club-Charlotte Fundraising Chair.

Calendar of Events November & December 2024

November 2024

Day	Event	Time	Location/Details
4	ABC-CLT General Membership Meeting	6 p.m. dinner; 7 p.m. meeting	Jocks & Jills
18	ABC-CLT ExCom Meeting	6 p.m. dinner; 7 p.m. meeting	Jocks & Jills
19	Wylie Gator Rowing Club	10 a.m. – 3 p.m.	Pat Hakanson's home
22	<i>Side Lights</i> December article due	View from the Bridge	Educational Officer

December 2024

Day	Event	Time	Location/Details
---- No General Membership or ExCom meeting in December ----			
7	ABC-CLT Christmas Party	4 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Reflection Pointe Clubhouse

Reflection Pointe Clubhouse – 1305 Reflection Pointe Boulevard, Belmont

Jocks & Jills – 4109 South Stream Boulevard, Charlotte

MarineMax Lake Wylie Marina – 310 Blucher Circle, Lake Wylie, S.C.

Pat Hakanson's home -- 6812 Old Ridge Road, Waxhaw



Happy November birthdays!

Marshall Bain, Aidan Cahill, Mary Chaney, George Davis, Tom Forshaw, John Johnson, Geoffery Leek, Todd Osmolski, John Rodgers



Christmas Party

America's Boating Club-Charlotte

Saturday, December 7, 2024
4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Reflection Pointe Clubhouse
1305 Reflection Pointe Boulevard
Belmont, North Carolina 28012

BYOB

Also, please bring a dish to share
according to the first initial of your last name:

A-F Dessert
G-R Side
S-Z Appetizer

ham and turkey will be provided



RSVP to Paula Stewart
pfstewart@carolina.rr.com
(704) 214-1244
by Monday, December 2, 2024, please

Reflection Pointe is a gated community requiring a code
for entry. Code will be provided when you RSVP.

Order your \$10 Squadron holiday greeting card today

How to order:

It's that time of year to purchase a Christmas greeting that will be included in our December 2024 Side Lights. Simply clip and complete the order form then enclose it with your \$10 check (made payable to Charlotte Power Squadron) in an envelope and send to the address noted for my receipt before November 22, 2024.

Your purchase of a greeting helps offset the costs of our annual Roster and the 10 issues of our newsletter, Side Lights plus saves YOU the cost of purchasing and mailing individual greeting cards to fellow members.

CHRISTMAS GREETING ORDER FORM

Complete this form and return to :

P/Lt/C Mary D. Chaney JN
2014 Links View Drive
Fort Mill, SC 29707

before November 22, 2024

Or you can bring to the November 4, 2024, meeting

Note: Substitution of your selected greeting design is possible.

Your Name: _____

Your wanted design (select A-F from below): _____

Form of signature on card: _____

Amount enclosed (\$10 each card): \$ _____

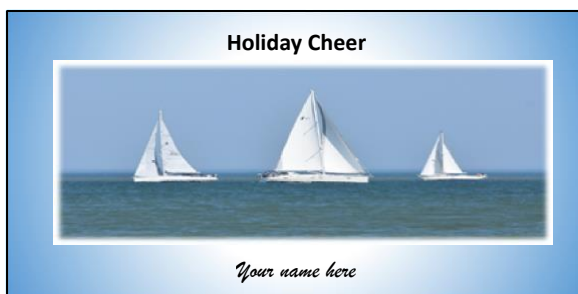
A



B



C



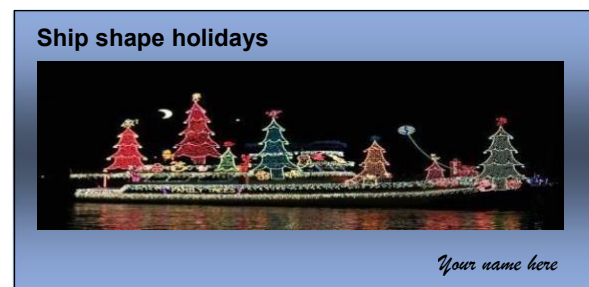
D



E



F



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Friends of the Squadron

**America's Boating Club-Charlotte
 is fortunate to have the following
 sustaining sponsors:**

- Marvin and Mary Chaney
- Ken Elkins and Joann Infante
- John and Connie King
- Paula and David Stewart
- Anonymous sponsors



John and Connie King on the water Drawing by the late Carl Foesch