

March 2025

Volume 64 Number 2

View from the Bridge:

Why Did You Join America's Boating Club-Charlotte?

We have many long-time members in our organization who have been around since the national organization was known only as the United States Power Squadrons[®] and our local organization as Charlotte Power Squadron. Those members have seen many organizational changes over the years, including our national organization's rebranding to America's Boating Club[®].

We have added members over the past few years who know our local organization as America's Boating Club-Charlotte, but legally we are still Charlotte Power Squadron. Whether you joined long ago under USPS®/CPS or recently under ABC/ABC-Charlotte, when you joined, you joined for a reason.

Perhaps your reason for joining included one of the following:

- To further your and/or your family's boating education
- To get involved with civic service activities, such as cooperative charting, vessel safety checks, river sweep, or our annual Children's Outing
- To develop new friendships with people who have a similar interest boating and promoting boating safety
- To use Merit Mark Point, our squadron's lake front property on Lake Wylie

• To get a discount on your boat insurance (Seriously, if you have taken our ABC class, your insurance

company may offer you a discount.)

• To travel with the organization, such as for meetings, squadron coastal rendezvous or district rendezvous

• To receive boating communications, such as National's *Ensign* and *America's Boating Compass* publications, *Member News* and *Weekly Blog Roundup* emails, and <u>USPS®</u>, <u>ABC</u>, and <u>Member</u> <u>Portal</u> websites, plus our local organization's *Side Lights* newsletter and <u>ABC-Charlotte</u> website

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• To receive member benefits such as discounts on many products and services, including finance, insurance, travel, health benefits, office supplies and marine supplies, to name a few



P/Lt/C Mary D. Chaney JN, Treasurer

America's Boating Club® is a registered trademark of the United States Power Squadrons®.

I am sure there are many more reasons why you may have joined our organization, or perhaps I do not even show your reason here. Whatever your reason for joining USPS[®], ABC and Charlotte Power Squadron (ABC-Charlotte), look at the above list and see whether you might be missing something with your membership.

Our organization has a lot to offer you, but it is up to you to take advantage of the opportunities afforded you. Your membership is what YOU make of it. Reach out to a longer-term member if you would like more information about some of the above opportunities. We are always willing to help.

P/Lt/C Mary D. Chaney JN is the long-time treasurer of ABC-Charlotte.

2025 Commander's Message: A change in meeting day

By Charles "Bo" Ibach III SN-ACN

At the first America's Boating Club-Charlotte Executive Committee meeting of 2025, we decided to remove the insurance policy coverage for structures at Merit Mark Point and go forward with just liability coverage. This will save our Squadron almost \$2,000 per year.

This coverage will also provide liability protection at any Charlotte Squadron sanctioned activity, such as the upcoming Children's Outing at Red Fez Club. We have also agreed to purchase a yacht policy that will provide liability coverage to members and their guests again during sanctioned Squadron activities. This policy is being covered with donated monies.

Another change that I'm instituting is that our monthly squadron meetings will be social times to indulge in conversations and catching up with one another. There will be announcements provided to all in attendance in lieu of having various officer reports.



Charles "Bo" Ibach III SN-ACN

I'm also planning on having luncheons alternating with dinner times. Our first of these is scheduled for March 4 (yes this is a Tuesday, not Monday) at AmberJack Seafood and Steaks, 4253 South New Hope Road in Gastonia. This location is actually between Belmont and Gastonia. Start time will be 1300 (that's 1 pm for you landlubbers). Hope you can plan to attend.

Our annual Chicken-Q is scheduled for April 5 at MMP. Since this is two days before a scheduled monthly meeting would be held, we're going to have an impromptu monthly meeting at MMP. That meeting will replace the April General Membership meeting.

And since we're going to be hold social meetings, I just ask that you enjoy each other's company and enjoy the chicken.

In preparation for the Chicken-Q, we're already getting the birds fed and ready to jump on the grill. We'll start gathering about 3:30 p.m. or so and plan to eat about 5 to 5:30 p.m. More details about the Chicken-Q will come in an email blast. Do remember, this Chicken-Q as well as our fall pork barbecue are major fundraisers in support of Merit Mark Point.

Make sure to stay tuned to the calendar in our great website to be informed of other coming boating activities. After all, we are a boating club, aren't we?

Thank you again for allowing me to lead our Squadron for another year. Like Jack Moore, this is my fourth time at the helm. Let's make 2025 one of the best years in the history of Charlotte Power Squadron, America's Boating Club-Charlotte.

Cdr. Charles "Bo" Ibach III SN-ACN is also the incoming D/27 Executive Officer.

America's Boating Club-Charlotte

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



2025 BRIDGE OFFICERS

Commander Educational Officer Executive Officer Administrative Officer Secretary Treasurer Immediate Past Commander D/Lt/C Charles "Bo" Ibach III SN-ACN Lt/C Brevard S. Myers Jr. SN-ACN Open Lt/C Warren Francois Lt/C Rose Samonds P/Lt/C Mary D. Chaney JN P/C Jack Moore AP-IN

2025 MEMBERS AT-LARGE

P/C Dan Bartell SN-ACN P/C Doug Drum Sr. AP P/C Marvin Chaney Jr. SN P/C William G. Granger P-IN Lt Shaun Haycock Lt Pat Mencel S P/C David Stewart AP P/D/C Paula Stewart AP P/C Jack Moore JN-IN

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"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 <u>publications@charlotteboating.org</u> or <u>photographer@charlotteboating.org</u> 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.

Calendar of Events March & April 2025

March 2025

Day	Event	Time	Location/Details
4	ABC-CLT General Membership Meeting	1 p.m.	AmberJack Seafood and Steaks
4	Rock-On Rowing (women's rowing)	10 a.m2 p.m.	Pat Hakanson's home
11	Rock-On Rowing (women's rowing)	10 a.m2 p.m.	Pat Hakanson's home
17	ABC-CLT ExCom Meeting	6 p.m. dinner; 7 p.m. meeting	Jocks & Jills
21	View from the Bridge article due	Administrative Officer	Submitted to editor
21-22	D/27 Conference and Change of Watch	Various	Cary
25	Wylie Gator Rowing	10 a.m2 p.m.	Pat Hakanson's home
29	Chicken-Q clean up	10 a.m2 p.m.	Merit Mark Point
April 2025			
1	Rock-On Rowing (women's rowing)	10 a.m2 p.m.	Pat Hakanson's home
5	Chicken-Q/General Membership Meeting	g 4 p.m7 p.m.	Merit Mark Point
8	Rock-On Rowing (women's rowing)	10 a.m2 p.m.	Pat Hakanson's home
12	America's Boating Class	8:45 a.m5:30 p.m.	MarineMax Lake Wylie Marina
15	Wylie Gator Rowing	10 a.m2 p.m.	Pat Hakanson's home
18	View from the Bridge article due	Educational Officer	Submitted to editor
21	ABC-CLT ExCom Meeting	6 p.m. dinner; 7 p.m. meeting	Jocks & Jills

AmberJack Seafood and Steaks – 4253 South New Hope Road, Gastonia Jocks & Jills – 4109 South Stream Boulevard, Charlotte MarineMax Lake Wylie Marina – 310 Blucher Circle, Lake Wylie, S.C. Merit Mark Point (MMP) – 4892 Power Squadron Lane, York, S.C. Pat Hakanson's home – 6812 Old Ridge Road, Waxhaw



Happy birthdays!

March

Roseanne Bateman, Donna Ibach, Debra Osmond, Kristen Osmond, Tom Wirth

Boat show means long hours, interesting stores for P/C Moore

By P/C Ken Elkins JN

When you think about America's Boating Club-Charlotte's booth at the annual Mid-Atlantic Boat Show, what individual comes to mind? For me it's P/C Jack Moore AP-IN.

Every year, he negotiates for our space, coordinates volunteers, sets up the booth and tries to convince passersby to try the digital trainer.

Talk to him about the show and he's loaded with stories. This year Moore showed Piper Haycock how to use the boating trainer and there was no looking back.

Piper is the 14-year-old daughter of Shaun Haycock, America's Boating Club-Charlotte's new Executive Committee member. Moore says that he and Piper worked in tandem.



Here's Jack Moore at the 2020 Mid-Atlantic Boat Show.

"Piper taught the young people and I talked to the parents," Moore explained.



Piper Haycock: Boat show star.

We all know that the boat show is a key to recruiting new boaters to our classes and the classes are a good source of new members. A good boat show for the squadron often translates into new members for the Squadron.

Moore has noticed an interesting trend about the participants in the boat show that can't be good for ABC-Charlotte. COVID brought families into boating. Mom and Dad were looking for ways to get the kids out of the house where they could enjoy the outdoors at a safe distance from others.

Now there are fewer families at the boat show and more individuals and pals looking at the latest equipment or thinking about buying a boat, Moore says. Those groups at the boat show may be good targets for ABC-Charlotte but families are right in our crosshairs for recruitment for classes and memberships, Moore says.

Moore will work it out, though. He's always at the booth during the show talking to potential members and solving problems.

Ken Elkins is editor of Side Lights.

Row, Row, Row your Boat: A Saga about Boat Building

By P/D/C Pat Hakanson SN

It has always been my dream to build a boat. But what kind?

A kit sounded feasible, so in August of 2015 I attended a boat building class at the WoodenBoat School in Brooklin, Maine, to learn the stitch-and-glue process from the owner of Chesapeake Light Craft. In September I bought two 26' rowboat kits from this company with no clear plan as to how it would work to build these boats in my garage.

I knew that I had the skills but how would I maneuver these boats without help? Fortunately, my friends and fellow boat lovers stepped up. First in line was David Osmolski who received my shipment at his company loading dock which saved me a bunch of money. The kits were then loaded into Ken Elkins's pick-up truck and away we went to unload them at my house piece by piece.



Pat Hakanson's first kit boat was Ida Sarafina. Hazel Marietta followed. Both were named for her grandmothers.

After building four sawhorses and moving machinery in my two-car garage, I was able to fit the first boat in my garage and start work. More friends from the Charlotte Power Squadron showed up to wire, glue, sand and paint the first boat. We had "flipping parties" when it was time to turn her over for the next phase of work. I especially want to thank the late David Osmolski, Ken Elkins, Marvin Chaney, Will Granger, Kathryn Granger, Bo Ibach, Brevard Myers, the late Bill Mencel, Pat Mencel and Dan Bartel for helping out.

The first boat, *Ida Sarafina* was christened by P/D/C Paula Stewart at our River Hills barbecue in the spring of 2022. By August of 2023 the second boat, *Hazel Marietta* was completed.

During all this time I was not sure how a Squadron rowing program would work, but I knew that I did want it to somehow help our Squadron, bring in new members and serve as a focus for fun and fellowship. I initially thought that we would row on Lake Wylie but it turned out that it is much easier to do so at Cane Creek Park in Union County. This lake is much calmer, and the boat ramp is easy to get in and out of with a lot less traffic.

For three years our crew has learned how to rig the boat, get it into the water, memorize rowing commands, get the boat out of the water and unrig her. After each row we have had a debriefing session to discover how things could be done better. So here I would like to thank Ken Elkins, Marvin Chaney, Will Granger, the late Bill Mencel, Dan Bartel, Brevard Myers, Mary Myers, Dave Johnson and Warren Francois for being our crew members during these years. Their suggestions have been essential to making a better program. We have also received excellent input from members of the Belmont Rowing Center: Tom Bryant and Cindy White.

Beginning this year we have now moved into a new phase where we are inviting new rowers to join our Squadron. I have been able to recruit 4 or 5 ladies to join a group that they are calling the "Rock-on Rowers." They are a sub-group to what we are calling the "Wylie Gator Rowing Club." As you know "Wylie Gator" is our Charlotte Power Squadron mascot designed by the late Carl Foesch.

I have explained to these ladies that they need to be part of our Squadron because our Squadron members have built and will maintain these boats and that we will help train them in boating safety. Personally I have an umbrella liability policy but it is also wise for our rowing events to be covered by our Squadron liability policy as well. In return, our Squadron will receive the membership income from these rowers. As we look forward to the future we hope to attract more rowers/members to our program by expanding our advertising and spreading the word. If you are a current member and would like to try rowing (male or female) please give me a call or send me a text.

Happy rowing.

Pat Hakanson is a past commander of America's Boating Club-Charlotte and D/27.

Two new leaders get training in Squadron procedures

By P/C Marvin Chaney SN

The Operations Training (OTn3) Virtual Seminar is presented in two, 1.5-hour sessions.

The seminar was created by D/Lt Elizabeth J. Dysart JN of the Diablo Sail and Power Squadron to provide a new streamlined way to learn about USPS. The seminar is given by squadrons and districts for incoming or potential officers of the bridge, executive committees and committee chairs, but is a great introduction to the "business and organization" of the squadron for anyone.

Congratulations to Lt Shaun Haycock and Lt/C Warren Francois for completing the OTn3 virtual seminar. As our new Administrative Officer and new At-Large Executive Committee member, respectively,





Lt/C Warren Francois

Lt Shaun Haycock

they have a good start as members of the management team for the squadron.

Thanks to D/Lt/C Paula F. Stewart AP and Lt Marvin Chaney Jr. SN for presenting the sessions. If you are interested in attending our next session (all virtual and you can attend from anywhere), please contact Lt Marvin Chaney via email at webmaster@charlotteboating.org.

Squadron members save 10% on Four Season purchases

Some new America's Boating Club-Charlotte members bring more to the table than others.

New member Lindy Sikes, who recently purchased Four Season Marine Supply, is offering a 10 percent savings for squadron members who shop at his Denver, N.C. business. We learned of Sikes's generous offer at the Mid-Atlantic Boat Show last month.

The deal is wonderful since West Marine has closed its Lake Wylie-area store, leaving the area without a marine retailer.

Four Season is located at 1584 N.C. Highway 16 in Denver, on the western side of Lake Norman and not too far from Merit Mark Point.

Sikes is also working with Squadron Educational Officer Brevard Myers in establishing an offering of America's Boating Class for the Lake Norman area. Look for those classes to start this spring, allowing the Squadron to tap the Lake Norman area for class participants and perhaps new members.

New Awards highlight Charlotte Change of Watch

The highlights of the 2025 America's Boating Club-Charlotte Change of Watch may have been two new awards presented during the January meeting at the Shore Club at Tega Cay, S.C.

The Squadron presented 2024 Commander Jack Moore AP-IN with a special award with a golden hammer for his work for the Squadron, including maintaining and repairing Merit Mark Point.

Moore presented dessert chef P/C Marvin Chaney Jr. SN with the Baker Extraordinaire Award for all the sweets and confections that he makes for Squadron events.

During the meeting, D/Lt/C Charles "Bo" Ibach III SN-ACN was installed as commander, Lt/C Brevard S Myers Jr. SN-ACN as educational officer, Warren Francois as administrative officer, Lt/C Rose Samonds as secretary and P/Lt/C Mary Chaney JN as treasurer. The executive officer post is vacant.

The 2025 Executive Committee is made up of P/C Marvin Chaney, P/C David Stewart AP, P/D/C Paula Stewart AP, Lt Pat Mencel S, P/C William G. Granger P-IN, P/C Dan Bartell SN-ACN, P/C Doug Drum Sr. AP, Shaun Haycock and immediate past commander Moore.

Mary and Ray Williams, officers of America's Boating Club of the Catawba, also attended the 2025 Change of Watch. Mary Williams is an associate member of ABC-Charlotte. Firsttimers and new members Lindy and Sharon Sikes also attended.



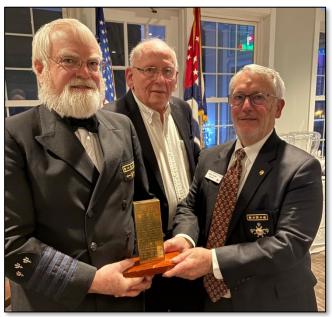
J.J. Rodgers, left, receives the Co-Op Charting Award from Brevard Myers.



Brevard Myers, left, presents golden hammer award to Jack Moore.



Marvin Chaney, right, receives the Baker Extraordinaire Award from Jack Moore.



Brevard Myers, left, shares the Gold Brick Award for assistance to the commander with Marvin Chaney presented by Commander Jack Moore.





Bo Ibach, left, got the 2024 Top Gun Award from Jack Moore.



Marvin Chaney, left, receives the Royster H. Johnson Memorial Award for the 2025 outstanding Educational Department contributor from Brevard Myers.

2024 Commander's Report: Jack Moore

Although this year we had some interruptions caused by the weather, our rendezvous had to be canceled, which was a disappointment, but we did have some very positive activities, which many of us took part in and enjoyed.

Starting off the year we had a great Change of Watch 2024 and an awards ceremony. This is a favorite ceremony of the year as it demonstrates the continuing dedication and commitment of our members to our Squadron. During our 2025 Change of Watch we again awarded our members with our achievement awards for their extra efforts and hard work.

We did have one unscripted award, the "Baker Extraordinaire," presented to P/C Marvin Chaney. I hope Marvin can keep this up since everyone seems to enjoy the sweets. I do want to thank the Change of Watch committee for both the 2024 and 2025 activities and all their hard work to make it an enjoyable event for all members that attended.

In addition to our successful COW, we had a very successful 2024 Mid-Atlantic Boat Show. The show helps us fill our America's Boating Class sessions and bring in new members. After our boat show, we did have a very enjoyable and successful Commander's Picnic with several of the Catawba Squadron joining us.



P/C Jack Moore AP-IN

Even though the Predicted Log event was temporarily placed on hold, a couple of the Catawba and Charlotte members made trial runs at the picnic and were surprised on how difficult it was after they received their scores from Mary Chaney. I do want to thank everyone that participated in this event, and to those that brought food and/or games for everyone to take part in. I would like to list everyone but so many contributed I am afraid I would miss someone, so a Big THANK YOU TO ALL!

Another major accomplishment was the completion of our dock deck replacement and water proofing. There were many members that contributed a great deal of time and work to make this endeavor successful. All those members deserve a special thank you for all your efforts.

Another rather-involved maintenance activity was the replacement of the hot water heater in the restrooms. This took a lot of both electrical and plumbing work but it's working well. Our new plumbing will make winterization of that part of our facility much easier and quicker.

We cannot forget our two major activities at Merit Mark Point and one at the Red Fez Club. All were very successful and took a lot of work, again a thank you to all our members who helped make these activities the outstanding events that we have come to expect from ourselves. We all should be very proud of our efforts.

We did have some minor difficulties at Merit Mark Point. We had a minor vandalism event; we will communicate our solution when it is in place. Also, at one of our events we seemed to have some gremlins running around our electrical systems. We made it through the event but had to do some extensive testing and replace a number of switches. I want to thank P/R/C John Rodgers SN for his expertise and help in getting the lines clear and functioning again.

In closing, I want to thank every member for all your support this past year so we could all make our squadron great and enjoyable. It has truly been an honor to serve you, and I look forward to many more years in the Charlotte Power Squadron.

Sincerely,

PIC Jack Moore M-M

2024 Commander ABC-Charlotte

Educational Officer's Annual Report: Brevard Myers

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Squadron Educational Officer (SEO) of America's Boating Club-Charlotte for this past year.

This year the Education Department:

- Scheduled and conducted three America's Boating Course sessions. One class was conducted at Victory Lanes Karting in north Charlotte to access students in northern Mecklenburg County previously served by Lake Norman Sail and Power Squadron. The other two classes were conducted at MarineMax Hall Marine Lake Wylie.
- A total of 48 students successfully completed our ABC courses. That is a 50% increase over 2023. Students that successfully completed the course by South Carolina protocol have their names entered into the SC Department of Natural Resources database and receive a SC DNR issued Boating Education Card.

As SEO I performed the following duties:

- Attended and gave reports at most Squadron General Membership meetings and monthly Executive Committee meetings
- Processed orders for educational materials for the planned ABC classes
- Performed clerical duties and taught at our ABC classes

Lt/C Brevard S. Myers Jr. SN-ACN

• Authored two bridge messages for Side Lights

In addition to performing my duties as SEO, I attended/participated in or will attend/participate in by the end of the organization year, the following events:

- America's Boating Club-Charlotte 2024 Annual Meeting and Change of Watch
- America's Boating Club-District 27 Annual Meeting in Wrightsville Beach
- Presented a program on the modern electronic navigational charts (ENC) at our squadron monthly meeting. (All previously produced raster "paper" charts are no longer supported by NOAA as of January 2025 or sooner. Old obsolete editions are archived for viewing.)
- · Summer, lunch and get-togethers at Merit Mark Point
- BBQs at Merit Mark Point
- Helped with clean-up and repairs at Merit Mark Point
- Helped organize and plan the Cooperative Charting event at Southport, N.C. (Boating events such as this one provide a fun boating activity, which also provide on-the water educational opportunities.) This event was canceled due lack of access to the Southport area due to record flooding and road damage.
- Attended America's Boating Club-Charlotte 2025 Change of Watch

I would like to thank the following individuals for serving in various capacities for the Education Department:

- P/C Charles R. "Bo" Ibach III SN-ACN Chief instructor and Co-Chairman of ABC Course.
- P/C Marvin Chaney Jr. SN Technical preparations and planning and supplies and food for the ABC class.
- P/C Jack Moore Jr. AP-IN For ABC class support both at boat shows and in class sessions and for contacting interested students.
- Others not mentioned specifically who have invested their time and efforts towards the Squadron's educational objectives.

I thank my fellow members for the opportunity and for the honor of serving as the Squadron Educational Officer for America's Boating Club-Charlotte.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt C Brevard S. Myers Jr. SN-ACN

America's Boating Club-Charlotte Squadron Educational Officer

Administrative Officer's Annual Report: David Samonds

Thank you all who have assisted me with obtaining guest speakers.

During this year I have attended four General Membership meetings, three Executive Committee meetings and the Annual meeting.

I participated in the following Charlotte Power Squadron events:

- Charlotte Power Squadron 2024 Change of Watch 1/27/2024
- CPS Chicken-Q 4/20/2024
- Fall Pork BBQ 10/26/2024
- America's Boating Club-Charlotte 2025 Change of Watch 1/25/2025

I would like to thank David and Paula Stewart for their work on Membership.

Respectfully submitted,

David Samonds

Administrative Officer **Charlotte Power Squadron**

Treasurer's Annual Report: Mary Chaney

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Treasurer of America's Boating Club-Charlotte for this past year. In my capacity as Treasurer, I have performed the following duties:

Attended all membership meetings except May 2024 and all Executive Committee meetings except May and September 2024

Processed all dues collections, for both new and recurring members

- Collected and deposited all monies received by the organization
- Paid all standard/recurring debts of the organization as well as other debts as presented and approved by the Executive Committee
- Maintained the financial records of the organization •
- Reconciled all monthly bank statements
- Submitted the Sales and Use Tax Reports to the N.C. Department of Revenue
- Presented financial reports at each meeting attended
- Prepared appropriate IRS forms as required

In addition to performing my duties as Treasurer, since last year's annual meeting I attended/participated in or will attend/participate in by the end of the organization year, the following events:

- America's Boating Club-Charlotte 2024 Change of Watch on January 27, 2024
- Mid-Atlantic Boat Show February 2024 Helped set up and worked the CPS booth
- District 27 Spring Council/Conference/COW in Wilmington, N.C., from March 15-17, 2024
- America's Boating Club-Charlotte Spring Chicken-Q on April 20, 2024
- District 27 Rendezvous Little Washington, N.C. August 2-4, 2024

America's Boating Club-Charlotte Lake Wylie Event at Merit Mark Point on August 17, 2024; scored Predicted Log runs for those who participated

- District 27 Virtual Fall Conference October 19, 2024
- America's Boating Club-Charlotte Fall BBQ on October 26, 2024
- America's Boating Club-Charlotte Holiday Party on December 7, 2024
- America's Boating Club-Charlotte 2025 Change of Watch on January 25, 2025

I would like to thank the following individuals for dutifully serving as Co-Supply Officers under the Treasurer's Department:

- P/D/C Paula F. Stewart AP
- P/C David M. Stewart AP

P/Lt/C Mary D. Chaney JN



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I thank my fellow members again for the opportunity, and for the honor, of serving as ABC-Charlotte Treasurer this year, and continuing for another year.

Respectfully submitted,

P|Lt|C Mary D. Chaney IN

ABC-Charlotte Treasurer

Secretary's Annual Report: Rose Samonds

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Squadron Secretary of America's Boating Club-Charlotte for this past year.

As Secretary, I performed the following duties:

• Attended and took notes at eight of the 11 ExCom meetings. Thank you, Pat Mencel, for covering the meetings that I was unable to attend.

• Digitally archived notes for the 11 ExCom Meetings.

• Attended all Membership Meetings, published and archived the notes for the April 1, 2024, meeting where we passed a motion.

In addition to performing my duties as Secretary, I attended/participated in the following events:

- Attended the Change of Watch on January 27, 2024.
- Participated in the Mid-Atlantic Boat Show on February 10, 2024.
- Attended the Chicken-Q on April 20, 2024.
- Wrote an article for the June Side Lights.
- Attended the Fall BBQ on October 26, 2024.
- Active participant in the Wylie Gator Book Club.

I would also like to thank the following individuals for serving in various capacities for the Secretarial Department:

• P/C Ken Elkins JN as editor of our *Side Lights* newsletter, I appreciate your dedication as well as the incredible amount of time that you put into these publications. I also wish to thank you for spearheading our social media efforts and regularly posting updates on our Facebook page.

• P/C Marvin Chaney Jr. SN, our Webmaster and Google Workspace Administrator. Thanks, Marvin, for the many hours you have spent updating and maintaining our website. There were many challenges with the implementation of the new IMIS computer system and I appreciate everything that you did and continue to do to work through them.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt|C Rose Samonds

America's Boating Club-Charlotte



Lt/C Rose Samonds





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

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