Our first fall membership meeting was held on 26 September at the Shrine Club on College Road with approximately 100 members and guests present to sample 15 varieties of chili, delicious cornbread and desserts. Guests in attendance included D/Lt/ C Harold Obriant, JN and his wife, Bobbi Hill, AP; Captain Anthony Popiel, Commander of USCG Sector NC; P/C Bill Halkovich, AP and his wife, Marlene; and Josh and Lisa Roberts.

Cdr Roger Simmons, SN promptly opened the meeting with a comment that one of the most gratifying things a commander can do is installing a new member into our membership. He then proceeded to recognize 11 new members and install them as members in the Cape Fear Sail and Power Squadron. The new members installed were: Ned and Arleen Rhodes, Doug and Eileen Kleim, Pat Grooms, Joyce Godwin, Myra Fogleman, Web Kreimer, Ron Toussaint, Judy Meade and James Van Fosen.

Lt John Kelly, JN recognized nine members that recently completed the “Partners In Command “training under his leadership. The nine members receiving their training and also their certificates were: Jill Kelly, S; 1/Lt Sue Van Note, S; Julie Jenkins, P; Sue LoBalbo; Diana Chamblee; Emily White; Pat Grooms; Joyce Godwin and Doris Smith.

The membership meeting concluded at this point and Assistant Administrative officer 1/Lt Jonnie’ Char donn, P, addressed the membership about the ground rules for the main event and the Chili-cook-off promptly commenced.

The membership and guests all enjoyed the festivities. For details of the Chili Cook Off and the winners of the event please refer to page three.
Commander's Report
Cdr. Roger Simmons, SN

Hi folks,

It certainly was nice seeing many of you at our annual chili cook-off. What an event that was, and what a great way to begin the second half of our year. We had about 100 members and guests in attendance, many of whom I haven’t seen in quite a while. Let’s strive to maintain that attendance rate for the duration of the year.

Recently I was searching for some boating information on-line, and stumbled across an article titled “Top Ten Reasons to Get Into Boating”. The article addressed the usual benefits, i.e. exercise, stress reduction, fun, family, etc., but the article didn’t include the social aspects of making friends and acquaintances. I am reminded of a recent cruise to North Myrtle Beach Yacht Club onboard our boat “Happy Ours”. Mary Ellen and I left our dock a day early to spend an evening at South Harbor Village Marina on the ICW near Oak Island. For those of you familiar with the Marina, you know it’s a convenient stop for fuel, pump outs and restaurants. Anyway, we were sitting in the cockpit of our boat enjoying the view from the T dock (Which we had to ourselves) when a rather large yacht docked behind us. The vessel was a 68 foot Berger, vintage 1963, that had been totally restored and sparkled like a shiny penny. After docking, the Captain of the vessel “Zoola” walked over to our boat, introduced himself and we spent the next half hour or more talking about the boat’s owner. As it turns out, “Zoola” is owned by John Luhrs, controlling shareholder of the Luhrs Corporation, a prominent boat manufacturer that builds Luhrs, Mainship, Hunter, Silverton and other makes of boats. The captain indicated that he and his two member crew were moving the vessel from Cape Cod to St. Augustine. This particular vessel was one of Mr. Luhrs’ favorite boats and one of several large yachts he owned. He went on to say that Mr. Luhrs often traveled with him on the boat, and that if he were on board, nothing would please him more than enjoying a cocktail and conversing with us aboard “Happy Ours”.

Boating is a great way to make new acquaintances. I am always bewildered by the stories I hear from boaters who have cruised the Great Loop or other extended voyages. Most would readily agree that the single largest benefit derived from such cruises would be the lasting friendships and acquaintances formulated during their time on the water. I recently attended a USPS Governing Board meeting in Greensboro and a District 27 conference in Winston-Salem. It’s always fun attending those events, seeing new faces, making new acquaintances, and hearing all about what the other squadrons are doing.

So indeed, boating is a great way to expand your base of friends, whether it be in engaging in boating activities on the water, or actively participating in local, district or national squadron functions. As a squadron member, it’s a benefit we often take for granted, but nonetheless, one that’s very real.

In closing, please don’t forget our upcoming squadron activities---our masquerade and Las Vegas Night gala at Blue Water American Grill in Wrightsville Beach on the evening of 24 October, and also our upcoming fall luncheon to be held at The George on the River Walk downtown. This luncheon will be part of a cruise to downtown Wilmington City Docks and will include a guest speaker delivering a message honoring our veterans and the occasion will also include a celebration of our Squadron’s 60th anniversary. So, mark your calendar and bring a friend. See you there.

Executive Officer’s Report
Lt/C Ronald I. Tilmon, JN

Folks, I (and other members of the Bridge) have been hearing a lot of comments regarding the communications problems we have with some of our members/families. As you know, we depend very heavily on email to communicate with our membership. The email addresses we use are contained in the USPS master database (db2000). Several of our members have noted that they never get to see any of the emails or the resultant Foghorn. The issues are mainly blamed on the other spouse (usually the husband) saying that they don’t share the emails with them or print out the Foghorn for the other spouse to get a chance to read it. Most of the problems come about whenever the husband/wife share the same email address. That way, when the account receives each email only once. Using a business email address significantly enhances the problem. However, if the husband and wife each have their own email address, then each will receive a copy.
Most of today’s Internet Service Providers (ISP) allow multiple (5-10) separate email addresses for each account. Therefore, it is very easy for the husband & wife—and even the children to have their own unique email address. Once on the Internet, there are several sites (Google, Yahoo, EarthLink, etc.) that allow FREE email accounts—once again several separate email accounts under the same master account. Personally, I have set up an account under Google (GMAIL) so that I don’t have to change my email address every time I change my ISP (Internet Service Provider).

We take pride in and try very hard to communicate very well with our membership. It would certainly make it easier for all concerned if each member had their own personal email address and had it properly listed in our database (db2000).

How about trying to do all of us a favor and take a look at your email addresses reflected in our membership rosters (available on our website at http://www.capefearpowersquadron.org). If you’ve never visited our “members only” section of our website where the rosters and other personal information is, you have to enter a username and password to get into that section and download/print information such as the membership roster. If you need that username or password, you can contact me (ron.tilmon@gmail.com), or any Bridge member to get it.

Once you review your email addresses in the roster (which come out of our db2000 database), if it is incorrect or if you’ve added another private email address/account for your poor suffering spouse, please notify our db2000 Administrator Lt/C Ted Poucher, JN at epoucher@charter.net so he can get our database corrected. Even if only one member of the family (husband/wife) is a member, as long as both have a separate email address, the address of the person who swears on their life that they will appropriately share the information can be listed as the members email address. The same holds true for any change in your personal information—address, phone number, etc.

We are genuinely committed to alleviate communications problems within the squadron; however, we need your help. If I can be of any assistance to you in trying to resolve any of these issues, please drop me an email at ron.tilmon@gmail.com or 910-313-1907. #
Veterans Day Cruise and Luncheon
Lt Mark Stacy, AP and Lt Mary Ellen Simmons, P

CFSPS will celebrate Veterans Day with a cruise to Wilmington City Docks on 11-13 November. Our Commander has reserved dock space for either overnight stays or just on 12 November for our luncheon.

Veterans Day is an annual United States holiday honoring military veterans observed on 11 November, the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I. Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 with the German signing of the Armistice. Congress amended this act on 1 June 1954, replacing “Armistice” with “Veterans,” and it has been known as Veterans Day ever since. Currently, there are four vessels signed-up. Please let Lt Mark Stacy, AP* know if you will be going on the cruise stacym1@bellsouth.net.

Our November meeting will be our luncheon at 1130, on 12 November at the George Restaurant (128 S. Water Street) on the Riverwalk. You will have a choice of The George Burger with Malt Vinegar Fries ($14), Chicken Panini with Pasta Salad ($14), Spinach Salad with Chicken ($19), Shrimp and Grits with Sautéed Vegetables ($19), Penne A La Vodka with Chicken ($14). The price of the entree includes your choice of tea, soft drink and or coffee, tax, gratuity and dessert.

To sign up, please mail your check by 9 November to Lt Mary Ellen Simmons, P, 3103 Joy Place, Wilmington, NC 28409. Checks should be made out to the Cape Fear Sail and Power Squadron. The luncheon will be on the covered deck so you may want to bring a sweatshirt if the weather is cool. Members are always welcome to come to the meeting even if they decide not to have lunch. #
We are using the TOP FLOOR, meaning all 3 rooms. The bar area will hold a small tent that will host the Futuristic Fortune Teller-Juree’, who will tell you of the good news that your future will hold.

The second room, the one we usually hold our meetings in, will transform into a Casino for that evening. The third room connects to the 2nd room, which will have its double doors open, and that will be the lounge area, with a wonderful musician, Mark Daffer-Guitarist/Vocalist. His selections of music are songs that we all know and love. There will be a dance floor, cocktail tables and candle light. At 9:00 PM there will be a parade of costumes (Keep in mind that Mardi Gras is the theme for costumes.). Costumes are not necessary but be brave and wear a mask. The members can vote on the contestants for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Immediately following the announcement of the costume winners will be the live auction for you to be able to use the chips that you have left or won. These chips have no monetary value other than it being a chip. You are given chips in a cup when you check in so use them wisely because when they run out, that’s all there is. (No pooling, borrowing or loaning chips!)

Please join us, I bet you anything you’ll have a blast. #

Pot Luck Clubs at the Beach
1/Lt Sue Van Note, S

After two tries in three months, one Pot Luck Club finally made it to the North End for a weenie roast. Everyone pitched in to set up and get the fire pit going, then it was time for catching up and appetizers brought by Jean and Mark Stacy.

As hosts, Robin and Larry King provided a delicious dinner of potato salad, coleslaw, along with sausages and dogs to roast on authentic twigs brought by Mary Jo and Steve Worcester. The evening was capped by marshmallows to roast and a yummy cake brought by Tina and Bill Miller.

Everyone kept an eye on the approaching storm which Steve predicted would arrive in 45 minutes. Clean up was fast and easy thanks to many hands. Good thing, because that storm arrived five minutes earlier than Steve predicted! It was an exciting end to a perfect evening. The group missed Mary Ellen and Roger Simmons who were attending the D-27 meeting in Winston-Salem and Doris Smith who was out of the country. #
Sunshine Report
Lt. Jan Hilbert

Get well cards were sent to Bill Holub who had a “procedure” done and to Ted Sammis who had cataract surgery. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

Sympathy cards were sent to Sara and Robert Raleigh in the loss of Sara’s sister’s husband, Marc A. Olson, and to Phyllis and Ted Sammis in the loss of Phyllis’s brother, Peter. Our thought and prayers are with all and their families at this difficult time.

If you know of anyone in need of a card, please E-mail me at hijanh@charter.net or phone me at 910-350-0902.

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Educational Officer’s Report
Lt/C Peter Dahl, JN, SEO

As the education year winds down and we look forward to 2012 it is a good time to remember the commitment of our course coordinators and course instructors. A special thanks goes to Past Commander Alan Smith, AP for spearheading the ABC Public Boating program for the second year. The time and effort spent on this program is well over 100 volunteer hours in 2011. We also would like to thank Lt. John Kelly for his leadership in leading both the Seamanship Class and the Partners in Command Seminar. Both of these courses are geared to the beginning boater and John has been willing to share his many years in boating experience.

For several years now Tom Barber N has provided the leadership for the Piloting course for those members wanting to go to the intermediate level in their boating education. Lt. Commander Ron Tilmon JN stepped up and pioneered the first session of the new Electrical Systems course. There will be opportunities to take the 2nd and 3rd classes in the program in 2012.

The education committee has met twice this year and scheduled the classes for the first half of 2012. In addition to the ABC, Seamanship, and Piloting course we have scheduled the newly revised Engine Maintenance course for early in the year. Plan to register for one of these courses. No matter whether you are young or old, a new boater or an experienced one you can always benefit from additional education. Never stop educating yourself for safe boating. Plan to register for one of these.

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POT LUCK DINNER GROUPS
1/Lt Sue Van Note, S

The Pot Luck Club dinner groups have been having a wonderful time meeting together about once a month and getting to know each other. In addition, I can honestly say we have also enjoyed some excellent potluck meals.

While it will be hard for us to give up fellowship with our new and old friends, it will soon be time to think about regrouping for the New Year. We will begin with our new groups in January 2012 and meet through June.

If you would like to be included in the next groupings I will need to have your name and email by Thanksgiving. This will give us time to regroup everyone and get the lists typed and emailed to all participants.

Please let me know if you are interested in getting involved in all the fun! Please email me at scvan-note@gmail.com or call at 313-1907.

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Sign Up For A Squadron Course
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