



# SCUTTLEBUTT

NOVEMBER 2025



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National: [www.americasboatingclub.org](http://www.americasboatingclub.org)  
District 26: [www.ABClubD26.org](http://www.ABClubD26.org)  
NSSPS: [www.abcnorthstrand.org](http://www.abcnorthstrand.org)  
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## FROM THE COMMANDER'S HELM



Cdr Ed McNiff

November means Fall and cool weather boating. For those of us that continue to take the boats out all year we need to pay special attention to checking the weather forecasts and making sure the proper equipment is on board. Wearing the right clothing ensures a safe and comfortable day on the water. Even though we consider South Carolina a mild-weather area, it may be time to winterize some of the systems on the boat (e.g. fresh water, head holding tank, etc.) and making sure the thru-hull fittings are lubed and shut off as needed.

We haven't ruled out another Co-Op Charting/ATON inspection cruise, so contact Ed Bullwinkel if you are still interested. There might still be another lunch cruise if the weather is right.

For those that attended the October meeting, we were treated to a great presentation by our guest speaker – Captain Bill Jacobson of the Big M Casino fleet. Captain Bill shared many interesting experiences of piloting one of the large cruise ships through the Intracoastal Waterway and off-shore.

The Squadron's Nominating Committee is actively recruiting from the membership in order to fill the Bridge position and key committee chairs for next year. If you want to make sure that the North Strand Sail & Power Squadron continues to exist and grows into a great boating organization, please consider taking on a leadership role. Contact Rich Norris, Twila Nahama or Doug Thomas if you haven't heard from them already.

Thankfully, it looks like the Myrtle Beach area managed to get through the 2025 hurricane season untouched. However, the named storms that did form this year managed to wreak havoc and cause significant damage in the places where they made landfall. If you're able, please consider donating to those organizations that are helping those who lost much due to the storms.



## Educational Officer's Briefing



D/1st/Lt John Cattuna, SN -CN

The USPS Operations Training (OT) contains detailed guidelines and information for all members of the United States Power Squadrons. It is important that members, especially officers, be familiar with the procedures, programs, duties, methods of operation, and time tables so that the organization functions more efficiently. OT starts with the history of how the USPS was formed, describes the functions of the various Bridge Officers, meetings and ceremonies, flag etiquette, the various awards and information members will find useful to know about our organization. We will be scheduling this seminar either in person or via zoom in the coming months.

As always, anyone interested in any of the great boating education opportunities or seminars that the USPS offers please let us know, we are here to provide the education that our members desire.



## Cold water survival

Almost everyone knows how deadly hypothermia can be, but it's only one of the four stages of cold water immersion that can put your survival at risk. Let's look at each stage and learn the most important factor in cold water survival.

### 1. Cold shock

After falling into cold water, an involuntary gasp reflex causes the victim to take a deep breath. If the victim's face is in the water during cold shock, the chances of survival diminish. Within minutes, the victim would progress to the second stage.

### 2. Cold incapacitation or short-term swim failure

In this stage, a victim's manual dexterity, grip strength and movement speed drop by 60 to 80 percent. The arms and legs begin to feel like clubs.

### 3. Hypothermia

Hypothermia usually sets in after 30 to 60 minutes of immersion. When the body's core temperature drops below 86 degrees, the victim loses consciousness.

### 4. Post-rescue collapse

When rescuers arrive, the victim may experience mental relaxation and decreased stress hormone output, which could cause a drop in blood pressure and lead to fainting and drowning.

Preventing drowning by cold shock and swim failure is the main challenge after immersion in water colder than 60 degrees. These two stages affect everyone, including strong swimmers and the physically fit.

Victims who wear personal flotation devices remain upright, and their heads are positioned to prevent them from inhaling water during cold shock. If they experience swim failure, their life jackets will keep them upright until they can be rescued. Life jackets' ability to prevent drowning by shock and swim failure make them key to surviving a cold water immersion. So don't forget to put yours on before you shove off. —Gary Walkington

November 2, 2025

Dear Lt/C Bea Norris:

As per the bylaws of the North Strand Sail and Power Squadron, The Nominations Committee is sending you, the squadron secretary, the nominations report for Watch Year 2026. Members of the committee are Rich Norris, Twila Nahama and Doug Thomas.

Respectfully submitted,

***R.C.Norris***

P/D/C Richard C. Norris

Commander	John Cattuna
Exec. Officer	Richard Norris
SEO	James Cross
Admin Officer	– OPEN POSITION
Treasurer	Melissa Selph
Secretary	Bea Norris
Asst. SEO	Don Flynn

Members at Large: Donna Lippincott, Mary Jane Thomas, Doug Thomas, Kathy Johnson

**Rules Committee**

Chairman	Mary Lickfeld
	Jamie Cross
	Carolyn Cross

**Audit Committee**

Jamie Cross – 1 yr.  
Bob Lickfeld – 2 yrs.  
John Cattuna – 3 yrs.

**Nominating Committee**

Chairman	Doug Thomas
	Richard Norris
	OPEN POSITION

## South Carolina Boating News 2025

In 2025, boating news in South Carolina includes new legislation concerning boat liability insurance and abandoned vessels, enforcement actions during peak boating seasons like the Fourth of July, and tragic accidents that highlight the importance of safe boating practices.

### Legislation

**Boating liability insurance:** A new bill (S. 26) was proposed to require liability insurance for watercraft with more than 70 horsepower.


**Abandoned boats:** New legislation clarifies definitions for abandoned and derelict boats, makes it a misdemeanor to abandon or intentionally sink them, and gives the DNR more power to remove them.

### Accidents and Safety

**Enforcement:** The SCDNR conducted courtesy boat inspections during the Fourth of July weekend to ensure safety equipment and registration compliance, while also partnering with state troopers for increased patrols to crack down on impaired and reckless driving and boating.

- **Lake Greenwood crash:** A fatal boat collision on Lake Greenwood during the Fourth of July weekend resulted in two deaths and charges of felony boating under the influence against the operator of one of the boats.
- **Other incidents:** There were other fatal boating accidents in 2025, including one on Skull Creek and another in Horry County, prompting continued emphasis on safety.
- **Safety reminders:** Following several tragic accidents, there is a strong public message urging boaters to always designate a sober skipper and be cautious on the water.





**The membership meeting of North Strand Sail and Power Squadron will be held at 5 PM, November 10th at**

**Logan's Steakhouse  
4511 N Kings Hwy  
NMB, SC**

**North Strand Sail and Power Squadron Ladies**

Our annual Christmas Luncheon and (elementary school age) coat drive will be held on Wednesday, December 3 at 11:30 AM, at Clarks Seafood and Chop House . An optional ornament exchange is also planned. A Constant Contact message will be sent out prior to the event. We look forward to seeing you there!





**North Strand Sail and Power Squadron  
Holiday Party**

The squadron Holiday Party will be held at Chestnut Hill Restaurant on our regular December meeting day, Monday, December 8 at 5 PM.

More information will be forthcoming via Constant Contact.



## DISTRICT 26 NEWS

### 026 SPRING CONFERENCE

MARCH 27-29, 2026

HOSTED BY:

LAKE MURRAY SAIL & POWER SQUADRON

#### Friday

**Afternoon** -Working on a tour of a local boat manufacturer (tbd)

**Evening**-Jimmy Buffet Party at Lake Murray's Flotilla Island (2390 Johnson Marina Rd, Chapin, SC)

Dinner

Speaker - WWII B-25C Bomber recovery and restoration

#### Saturday

**Morning** – several activities to choose from

On-the-water activities (weather permitting)

Tour of B-25C bomber restoration

(Other activity tbd)

#### Afternoon

Business Meeting

#### Evening

Banquet Dinner and Change of Watch

#### Sunday

Out-of-town attendees return to home port



Flotilla Island

## NATIONAL NEWS

### FEB 2026 CARIBBEAN CRUISE

**6 days: 16-22 Feb 2026**

Roundtrip from Port Canaveral on  
the beautiful *SKY PRINCESS*

Itinerary: Nassau, Freeport, Grand Turk

**GROUP PRICING FROM \$789pp**

**Inside from \$789pp**

**Balcony from \$1139pp**

**Mini suites from \$1409pp**

Travel protection & transfers are additional.

**OR-take advantage of current promotional pricing at time of booking.**

***A hotel block is already arranged for Sunday night in Cape Canaveral including parking during the cruise***

Email [dawn@dawnstraveldeals.com](mailto:dawn@dawnstraveldeals.com) or call (727) 403-0406 to join our group on this beautiful ship!

 **PRINCESS<sup>®</sup>**



## NSSPS 2025/2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### Vessel Safety



P/C Robert Mattison S, Chair

I want to thank all the Vessel Examiners for a job well done. We beat last year's total by 7, for a total of 152.

Twila Nahama, SN

D/1st/Lt John Cattuna , SN-CN

P/D//C Andy Hyman III, SN-CAN

P/Lt/C Craig Huber, JN



David J. Canty 21

Nicole Taylor 30

	Heritage Shores Clean-Up Nov 19, 3:30	
	Ladies Luncheon December 3 Clarke's Seafood & Chop House North Myrtle Beach	
	December Meeting & Christ- mas Party Monday, Dec 8 Chestnut Hill Restaurant	
	Heritage Shores Clean-Up December 17, 3:30 pm	
	NSSPS Change of Watch January 12 Sun Colony Clubhouse	
	USPS 2026 Annual Meeting February 8-15, 2026 Embassy Suites Kingston, Myr- tle Beach SC	