



# SCUTTLEBUTT

JUNE 2026



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## FROM THE COMMANDER'S



Hello Fellow North Strand Sail and Power Squadron Members.

Cdr John Cattuna

On May 1st NSSPS held a lunch cruise to Barefoot Landing with 3 members coming by boat and about 15-20 members coming by car. Additionally, we had 2 Shalotte Sail and Power Squadron members join us.

On May 11th our monthly meeting was held at the Salt and Lime Restaurant in Myrtle Beach

May 16-22 was National Safe Boating Week with emphasis on boating education, weather awareness and proper boating equipment. In spite of that, there were 3 boating accidents in Horry County resulting in at least one fatality and multiple injuries in the month of May. All of these accidents were preventable with proper boat operation, keeping a watchful eye on other boats and fixed objects around us, and knowing the limits of our boats maneuverability.

Coming up on June 6, the North Strand Sail and Power Squadron will have a picnic at the North Myrtle Beach Sports Complex. So far we have 13 people signed up. Hope to see many of you there. Coming up later in the year, the Fall District 26 Cruise and Rendezvous is being hosted by Golden Isle Sail and Power Squadron which is in the St. Simon and Jekyll Island area. That part of Georgia is beautiful; there are a number of on the water fun activities planned for the event. I hope many of you can attend.

The North Myrtle Beach Rescue Squad has asked that we present a seminar to their members in June. Two seminars will be presented in June to ensure that we include all their members. While I do not have the exact dates at the moment, I will be looking for proctors/co-presenters to help with these presentations. Additionally, I will see if there is any room for some of our members to attend should anyone be interested. I will keep anyone willing and interested apprised of the dates once they have let me know.



**EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



**XO Rich Norris**

GREETINGS TO ALL. To begin, I want to update you regarding last month's report on VSC exams. Things have quieted down considerably. Not because we're not trying, simply because weather hasn't been quite accommodating. Nonetheless, we'll ramp up efforts later this month.

What I do want to talk about is relative to another of my Committees, that is Safety. Safe Boating Week has come and gone, nonetheless, safety on-the-water should be constantly on our minds while out there boating. May was the unofficial kickoff our boating season and we can't forget we're sharing our waters with hundreds of what I refer to as "Credit Card Captains."

Credit-Card-Captains are that group of first time or fairly new boaters with NO formal (or otherwise) Safe Boating Education. They go rent a boat without any requirement dictated about training, and simply think "if I can drive a car, surely I can drive a boat." We all know that is the farthest from the truth. So, watch out for these lunatics! Always, always have a dedicated lookout while underway. Watch for radically stupid maneuvers that will be your indicator, AND STAY CLEAR.

**Vessel Safety Examiners**



- Twila Nahama
- John Cattuna
- Rich Norris
- Andy Hyman

After lunch at the Flying Fish Restaurant, Vessel Safety Examiners Twila Nahama and Rich Norris performed Vessel Safety Checks on two member boats, those of Kathy Johnson and Bob Verona. Both passed with flying colors!



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



AO Doug Thomas

EDUCATIONAL OFFICER



SEO Jamie Cross

Our annual summer picnic is just around the corner. June 6th, to be exact. Our hard working volunteers hope you will take advantage of this fun event. In case you missed the Constant Contact email, the event is held at Low Tide Shelter at North Myrtle Beach Park and Sports Complex with access off Robert Edge Pkwy north of Hwy 31 starting at 1:00 PM. Call or text Donna Lippincott at 484-358-8646 to RSVP. There will be a \$5 charge pp to cover meats, buns and condiments. Bring your own drinks and a side dish to share. Games and camaraderie provided free of charge! And please feel free to bring any of your favorite yard or table games, as well. We're always interested in learning new games.

We are pleased to report three new members so far in 2026 to our NSSPS family. Let's give a warm welcome to Joyce Shaw, Jeff Defalco and Renee Defalco. Jeff and Renee joined us at our May general meeting at Salt & Lime and appear to be real go-getters. Joyce is a Rear Commander at National. I'm sure NSSPS will benefit greatly from these new members. They all come to us from Fox Swamp Power Squadron. Unfortunately, Swamp Fox recently dissolved. But we are very happy these members decided to stay with USPS and transferred to us.

The NSSPS website is up and running at full speed. We urge you to visit the site, <https://www.abcnorthstrand.org>, and see what all we have to offer our members and the boating public. You can also follow us now on Instagram and Facebook. Tell your boating friends and neighbors about these resources and perhaps you'll have the pleasure of someday recruiting them for NSSPS membership. We need to get the word out about our organization as much as possible.

So I say to all - Safe Boating and Fair Winds!

Greetings from the Great White North. I hope that everyone is enjoying the warm SC summer weather, because it is unusually cold up here in Prince Edward Island...we have a frost warning tonight!

So far we have had two of the three Marine Electrical Systems students pass the test, with excellent grades. The third student has not yet attempted the test.

We are still planning a ABC Boating Course in July, but finding classroom space at low cost is turning out to be a challenge. John, David Hoch, and I continue to investigate options. If anyone has any ideas, please let us know - we're all ears.

Speaking of challenges we have seen that the Boat U.S. Foundation now has had its state-approved boating safety course approved in 37 states, including South Carolina. Their free, on-line course is designed to be completed in 4 to 8 hours, and uses a series of instructional videos.

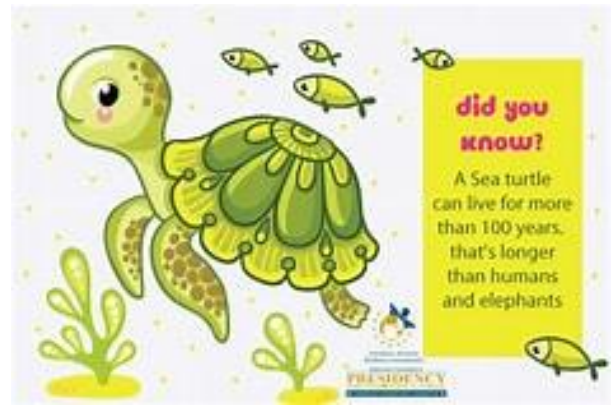
Even more concerning is the fact that Boat U.S. Foundation offers four other on-line courses for free:

- Night Time Boating Basics
- SCAN - Improving Boater Situational Awareness
- Clean Boating Course
- Aids to Navigation Basics

Our state's own DNR - a major source of registrants for our ABC Boating Course - also offers boat operator certificate training for free. Their sessions are in-person courses, offered at various SCDNR offices around the state. So SCDNR is both an ally and a competitor to us.

I believe that the availability of free courses that can be taken on-line to obtain a boat operator's certificate represents an existential threat to our organization nationally as ABC Boating Course graduates are often a primary gateway to USPS membership. Time will tell. How will we respond?

Be safe on the water!



## What: June Membership Meeting / Picnic

Where: Low Tide Shelter  
North Myrtle Beach Sports Park  
150 Citizen Circle  
Little River SC

When: Saturday 6/6/2026  
11:00 - 16:00

Please bring your favorite picnic side/snack/desert to share.  
We will be collecting \$5.00 PP towards the cost of

hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls and relishes

Looking for volunteers to help with the setup, cooking and cleanup

And - suggestions for games and activities!

We have corn hole!

Contact - Donna Lippincott  
484 358 8646

Mary Jane Thomas  
330 603 1535

Yvonne / David Hoch  
727 771 3460

## Sea Turtles

Sea turtles are among the largest reptiles in the world and inhabit almost every ocean. Fossil evidence indicates sea turtles shared the Earth with dinosaurs over 210 million years ago. Sea turtles are cold-blooded, air breathing, egg laying reptiles that deposit their eggs on dry, sandy beaches. Sea turtles differ from freshwater turtles because they have flippers instead of feet, cannot retract their heads and spend all of their life in salt water, except when females come ashore to lay eggs. There are seven species of sea turtles in the world. They are the loggerhead, Kemp's ridley, green, leatherback, Australian flatback, hawksbill and olive ridley. The loggerhead, Kemp's ridley, green and leatherback sea turtles can be found in South Carolina's near shore waters April through November or nesting on our beaches from May through October. Loggerheads are the most common sea turtle found in our state's coastal waters and nesting on our beaches. Sea turtle nests and strandings in South Carolina can be followed in real time on the Sea Turtle Program web site: <https://www.dnr.sc.gov/seaturtle/>.



HERITAGE SHORES NATURE PRESERVE

Heritage Shores Cleanup Schedule

6/3/2026 - 8:30 am

6/17/2026 - 8:30 am

7/15/2026 - 8:30 am

Note: 7/1/2026 cleanup is cancelled

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**



James G.	Cross	1
Anke	Cattuna	9
David G.	Mason	15
Donna	Lippincott	28



CRUISE DIRECTOR, KATHY JOHNSON

I'd like to thank everyone who participated in the May 1 boat cruise and lunch meet-up at Barefoot Landing. We had a great turnout and the food at Flying Fish Market and Grill was delicious. Thank you to Bob Verona for bringing his boat from Little River.

The next boat cruise is planned for Thursday, June 25. Plans are to meet for lunch at Outriggers Bar & Grill at Wacca Wache Marina on the ICW in Murrells Inlet.



# May 2026 Activities

## May Membership Meeting-Salt and Lime Restaurant



## Lunch Cruise to Flying Fish, Barefoot Landing



# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

## 2026 JUNE

CALENDAR YEAR

June

MONDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
01	02	03 08:00 - 10:00: Heritage Shores Park Clean-up, W. end of 53rd St. N, North Myrtle Beach, SC	04 1900: ExCom meeting via Free Conference Call	05	06 13:00: ABC North Strand Family Picnic, NMB Park & Sports Complex pavilion, 150 Citizens Circle, Little River, SC Meal: Potluck	07
08	09	10	11	12	13	14 Flag Day
15	16	17 08:00 - 10:00: Heritage Shores Park Clean-up, W. end of 53rd St. N, North Myrtle Beach, SC	18 Juneteenth	19	20	21 Father's Day
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	01	02	03	04	05

\* The next boat cruise is planned for Thursday, June 25. Plans are to meet for lunch at Outriggers Bar & Grill at Wacca Wache Marina on the ICW in Murrells Inlet. A Constant Comment Blast will be sent out later in the month.

\* Per the Constant Contact Blast, Heritage Park Clean-up will begin at 8:30 am.