



United States Power Squadrons®



AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®

OF THE CATAWBA

Catawba Sail and Power Squadron

For Boaters, by Boaters™

Monthly Newsletter March/April 2023



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Calendar of Events

May 17	May General Meeting On the Grill River Hills Marina 6:30 pm
May 20	Children's Outing 8:30 am Red Fez Club
June 3	Predicted Log Merit Mark Point
June 3	Diabetes Run River Hills Country Club



IN THIS ISSUE

Page 2	From the Helm
Page 3	Executive Officer Report Treasurer's Report Member Birthdays
Page 4	Education Officer Report NCIS Presentation—March Meeting
Page 5	Administrative Officer Report
Page 6	Giving Service
Page 7	D27 Change of Watch
Page 8	Catawba River Keepers River Fest 23
Page 9	Safety Article
Page 10	March Chili Cook off photos
Page 11	More Photos In Memoriam
Page 12	Facebook Info
Page 13	Our Sponsors
Page 14	The Bridge & Contact Info

From the Helm

Commander's Report

Bill and I were out on the water last week. What a great day for boating - warm but not too hot, sunny with a few clouds, gentle breeze, and few other boats. Going up and down the lake you realize how far into the spring season we actually are. Everything is green and there are very few azaleas and other flowering trees to still be seen in bloom.

I want to first say "Congratulations, Catawba" for the outstanding squadron recognition we received at the District 27 Spring Change of Watch. Joe and Peggy Fazzari, Kevin Toevs, and Ron and Donna Fletcher were in attendance along with new District Commander Bill Beers and myself to accept the beautiful award on behalf of all of our members. We work hard and we have great fun doing it. Welcome to our newest members Christal and Rodney Newkirk and Don Bacco who all joined after our recent ABC courses.



Speaking of great fun, what a wonderful time we had at our first annual chili cookoff hosted by Bart Kinzel at his beautiful lake home as well as our April dinner at Luigi's with our own retired NCIS agent, Kevin Toevs, to present the program and tell us about the real NCIS. We are all looking forward to the wonderful slate of summer activities planned by our Admin Officer, Mary Williams, and her committee including a picnic at River Hills Pavilion, raft-up on the lake, and cruise to a restaurant in Belmont.

This is also a special time of the year when Catawba and Charlotte squadron host the first Children's Outing of the year. This is a must-do event not only because of all the joy we bring to children in need but also because of all the joy it brings to us to see their smiling faces as they enjoy a day on the lake. Our spring civic service activities also extends to providing an information booth and safety boats at the first annual Paddle for the Cure for Alzheimers and providing safety boats for the Sunday morning standup paddleboard races on Lake Wylie hosted by our squadron members Rob and Megan Cynowa who own the GoatBoaters Paddleboard School. It's also that time again to get your Vessel Safety Check so please contact one of our vessel examiners to schedule your boat for inspection.

Regretfully, we had to cancel our planned My 10-11 Co-Op Charting trip planned with the Cape Fear Squadron. The weather is very iffy and given the expense involved, we decided to cancel in time to receive a full refund on our pontoon rental fee. We will try to reschedule next year. Our second inter-squadron event of the summer is the annual predicted log competition with the Charlotte squadron on June 3rd. So far Van, Joe, and Bill have signed up but we are hoping for a few more participants. If you are new to predicted log competition, we have members willing to give you instruction. Timers are also needed. Please let Bill Beers know if you are planning to participate.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the spring/summer activities.

**Be safe! Get your Vessel Safety
Check now.**

Call one of our inspectors today.

P/C Joe Fazzari, JN, IN (704) 651-6352

R/C Bill Beers, JN (803) 327-4991

Lt/C Mary Williams, S, (562) 477-0932

Lt/C Ray Williams, S, (562) 743-9801

Executive Officer Report

Lt/C Ray Williams, S

We are in full swing for the May 20th Children's Outing. Fundraising has gone incredibly well again, thanks to the efforts of the Fundraising Committee. Although absent much of early 2023 (on an extended vacation), I'd like to recognize the efforts in 2022 of Michelle Gurevitch and Jim Samland, who laid the groundwork with grants and with many of our return volunteers. Because of the efforts of all these volunteers we will be able, once again to offer many more things at the Children's Outing in May as well as fund our September outing at Camp Thunderbird.

Mary Williams has been working feverishly with many agencies and has added several new ones for the May outing. We expect our numbers to reach 400 (or more) for another great day on Lake Wylie. If you haven't volunteered, see page for information.

We participated in the Paddle for the Cure (see pictures on page 6) at Camp Thunderbird and this was a great opportunity to get our club name in front many people. Not only did we provide safety boats (thanks to Lee Clementi and Bart Kinzel), we also promoted the club civic service works (especially the Children's Outing).

On that note, several of our members will be volunteering/sponsoring the Diabetes Run held on June 3 in conjunction with the Lake Wylie Lion's Club. This is another opportunity for our club to promote our boating and civic service works as well as giving back to the community. For more information on this (or to donate) please go to:

RunSignup.com/Race/SC/Clover/DiabetesRunForLife

Finally, many plans are underway for the September Children's Outing and we will go into full gear on this one after the May Outing. Of course, we will need many of you to volunteer for this as well.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Lt/C Lee Clementi

The current Squadron Operating Account balance is \$ 4,843; The Children's Outing Account is \$14,500

March Birthdays

4 Dennis L'Hommedieu
10 Matt England
10 Will Jordan
11 Jacob Fletcher

April Birthdays

17 Les Woods

May Birthdays

29 Ingrid L'Hommedieu



(If we have missed your birthday, please let the editor know)

Education Officer Report

RC Arthur "Bill" Beers, JN-IN

Our May ABC Course had 5 students who all did well. We have another member who joined after the February course: Welcome Don Bacco! Since we do not have any students as of yet, we are cancelling the June course but look forward to good attendance for our August Course.

While we are still offering the Seamanship rank to all members, we only have 1 member (Kevin Toevis) who would like to take the course at the present time, so Bill will be instructing him personally. If any members want to obtain the Seamanship rank, please let Bill know.

Bill will look to the membership going forward for other seminars that people are interested in and will schedule them accordingly. Remember: to be eligible for the Ambassador's Award, you need to take at least one educational course each year.

Editors note: Since Bill has also assumed the role of D27 Commander, this double duty will also take up much of his time as he visits all the D27 Squadrons this year.



Our April Meeting was a great time not only because we met for great food at Luigi's Restaurant, but we were pleased to hear from one of our very own members, Kevin Toevis.

Kevin is a 28 year veteran of NCIS, the Naval Criminal Investigation Service and he regaled us with stories of his varied cases and career. There were several "closet" NCIS fans who thoroughly enjoyed the presentation and discussion (including your editor). Kevin was such a hit that he is going to reprise his presentation at the D27 Fall Conference. GREAT JOB Kevin! And thank you for your service.

**WHO NEEDS
GIBBS? WE'VE
GOT KEVIN**



Administrative Officer Report

Lt/C Mary Williams, S

RECENT EVENTS:

March General Meeting

We had a great time at our first annual Chili Cookoff held at Bart Kinzel's beautiful home (See pictures on page 10). There was a great turnout and we enjoyed a wonderful spread of food. We were joined by D27 Commander Sarah McCurry and her husband who judged the chili contest. And no, it wasn't "fixed" just because Mary and Ray Williams took first place! Bart Kinzel and Amory Clementi also brought delicious chili and the vote was close!

April General Meeting

We met at Luigi's Restaurant in Rock Hill and the food was SPECTACULAR. Even more marvelous, was our presentation by our own Kevin Toeves, as 28 year veteran of NCIS (the Naval Criminal Investigation Service). See pictures on page 4. His presentation was excellent and we could have gone on for hours! We were also pleased to be joined by our newest member, Don Bacco.

Paddleboard Race for the Cure

We had several members volunteer to man our table at this event and Lee Clementi and Bart Kinzel provided safety boats. Members attending: Amory and Lee Clementi, Kevin Toeves, Donna Fletcher, Mary Williams, Bart Kinzel and new member Don Bacco. It was great to get our name in front of a large crowd and promote the Children's Outing.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May General Meeting

Wednesday, May 17 6:30 pm River Hills Marina

This meeting is just before the Children's Outing and we will be finalizing assignments and volunteers. Come join us for burgers and dog. Mary Williams will be sending an email shortly with details and asking for side dishes and desserts. Please RSVP per her email.

BRING A FRIEND!!!

The Children's Outing

Saturday, May 20th 8:00 am—3:00 pm

All hands on deck for this wonderful service opportunity as we join with the Charlotte Squadron to once again serve the children of our community. We will need volunteers all day with plenty of jobs available, including breakfast sandwiches and juice and coffee to start the day. You won't want to miss this! If you haven't volunteered, please contact Mary Williams at maryswilliams58@yahoo.com.

Predicted Log

Saturday, June 3 9 am Merit Mark Point

Our Squadron will once again defend the Pride of Lake Wylie trophy at Merit Mark Point. We currently have 3 boats participating: Bill Beers, Jim Van Blarcom and Joe Fazzari. If you would like to race or attend as a timer or cheerleader, you are welcome to join us. Please let Bill or Barb Beers know.

GIVING SERVICE

Our Members continue to give service throughout the community and these are the most recent events in which we were able to participate. Community Service is one of the core values of our Squadron and we are so lucky to have many members who spend countless hours serving the community.

PADDLE FOR THE CURE

The Squadron manned a table at this event sponsored by the Lake Wylie Lions Club AND provided the Safety Boats for the paddlers. It was a great day to meet people, talk about our club and give service.

Safety Boats: Lee Clementi and Bart Kinzel. Land Volunteers: Amory Clementi, Kevin Toevs, Donna Fletcher, Don Bacco and Mary Williams.



Left: Donna Fletcher promoting The Children's Outing.

Below: Amory and Lee Clementi



Above: Don Bacco, Pat Hakanson (Charlotte Squadron) and Kevin Toevs.

PADDLEBOARD RACES ON LAKE WYLIE

Once again, we will be providing the safety boats for races during the summer on Lake Wylie. The first race had great attendance and we had safety boats in the water manned by Jim Samland and Michele Gurevitch and Lee and Amory Clementi.



D27 Change of Watch



Several Members of our Squadron attended the Spring D27 Change of Watch to see our P/C Bill Beers be installed as the new D27 Commander. Not only did we all have a great time and visit with old friends, but to our great pleasure, our Squadron was awarded the D27 Squadron of the Year. This is quite an honor and is a testament to all of the hard work our members put in each year. Well Done!



Top Left: The New D27 Bridge

Center Left: Ron Fletcher and Peggy Fazzari manned the auction table along with Donna. Joe was the 50/50 ticket seller and did a great job.

Center Right: The tradition of "roasting" the new Commander along with a special "hat" of office. Bill looks great, don't you think?

Left: Our Squadron attendees.

Kevin Toevs, Joe Fazzari, Bill and Barb Beers, Peggy Fazzari and Donna and Ron Fletcher

Photos: Kevin Toevs



Food trucks, live music, local beer, kayaking, kids' zone, vendors and more!

Celebrate summer and the Catawba River at [RiverFest 2023](#). Our annual family and dog friendly event is back at Kevin Loftin Riverfront Park on Saturday, May 13!

Walk through the exhibitor zone, take your kids to the Education Pavilion, listen to live music, enjoy food and beverages from local food trucks and craft breweries. You can also shop for Catawba Riverkeeper apparel, find unique handmade items at the Artisan Tent!

If you want to kayak, dress for water sports! We'll be offering \$5 single or tandem kayak rentals.

Remember, proceeds benefit [Catawba Riverkeeper's mission to protect clean water!](#)

Safety Article
Courtesy of Pam Morrell



Make your boat trailer-ready

Whether you're planning to take your boat to the lake or a distant destination, consider these tips to make your boat trailer-ready.

Before you go

- Check all tire surfaces for defects, and inflate tires to their maximum pressure.
 - Ensure that the bearings are free of water and properly greased.
 - Lubricate the hitch and ball with grease.
 - Test the trailer lights and connector thoroughly.
 - Put the boat tie-downs in place and check for proper holding.
 - Ensure all boat systems are operational.
 - Use safety chains strong enough to support the trailer's tongue weight. Instead of S-hooks, use hooks with safety latches to hook chains to the hitch.
 - Ensure the trailer's nuts, bolts, and supports, as well as the vehicle hitch and ball hitch are in place and tight. Locking nuts with nylon inserts deteriorate over time, and anything bolted or welded can fall off or fail.
- Make a short trial run to an empty parking lot to practice your handling and backing skills.**

On the road

- Position the tow vehicle's mirrors so you can see the trailer tires and other traffic.
- Actuate your trailer's brakes to remove accumulated rust in the brake drum, especially if you haven't used them in some time.
- Stop and check the wheel bearings for overheating after traveling a few miles. Also, check that the brakes are working by feeling the heat they create. (Careful! Brakes can be hot to the touch.)
- Check the tires, hitch and tie-downs when you stop. During a long trip, check them every time you stop.

Repeating the process before bringing the boat home at the end of the summer or for an extended stay

March General Meeting First Annual Chili Cook Off



Left: Mary Williams and Christal Newkirk enjoy libations.

Right: Our cookoff judges, D27 Commander Sarah McCurry and her husband, Jamie.



Left: Joe Fazzari, Jim Van Blarcom, Rodney Newkirk and John Benson

Right: Pam Morrell, our sweet Bit Jordan and Ron Fletcher



Below: Joe talks with Sarah while Peggy Fazzari entertains John Benson and Wendy has a snack!

Right: Our host, Bart Kinzel!





More great pictures from our March General Meeting at Bart Kinzel's house.

Photos courtesy of Donna Fletcher and Mary Williams.



Peggy L. Macauley-Jordan

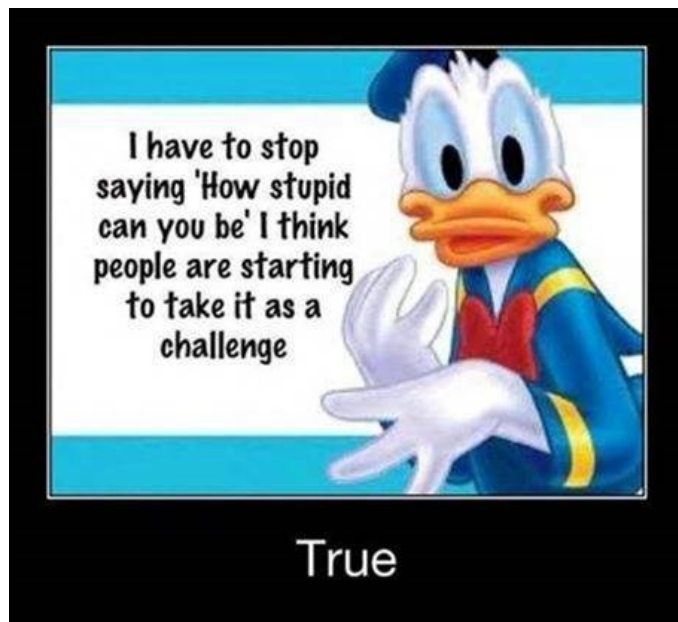
1948 - 2023



In Memoriam

It was with great sadness that we reported on the passing of long-time member and great friend, Bit Jordan. Not only did several of our members enjoy a friendship with Bit and Will for several decades, but she was a force in the Community as well. Her contributions were numerous and she will be missed by all.

14 Members of our Squadron attended her Celebration of Life at the Beaty Barn to honor Bit and support Will. She will always be a member of our hearts.



Just for Laughs

Get your relatives speaking to one another again by sending a heartfelt Christmas card with a picture of your family with an extra child nobody knows.

Join Us on Facebook:

Catawba Sail & Power Squadron Group



Please rejoin our Facebook Page. While many of you may have done so in the past, we have found out that Facebook deleted a lot of members (not just from our Group but many Facebook pages).

It is a private group, just request to join and Mary Williams will accept you. She is doing a great job updating the page with events, photos and interesting information.

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Executive Officer	Lt/C Ray Williams, S	562-743-9801
Educational Officer	D/C A.W. "Bill" Beers. JN-IN	803-327-4991
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Mary Williams, S	562-477-0932
Treasurer	Lt/C Lee Clementi	704-965-1754
Secretary	Lt/C Kevin Toevs	443-977-9696
Assistant Admin Officer	1/Lt Michelle Gurevitch	914-261-8483
Assistant Secretary	1/Lt Donna M. Fletcher, S	803-487-1930
Assistant Treasurer	1/Lt Greg Lewandowski, S	704-242-1216
Assistant Educational Officer	P/C Joseph A. Fazzari, JN-IN	704-651-6352

EXCOM

P/C Joseph A. Fazzari, JN-IN 704-651-6352 Lt Bart Kinzel, S 419-359-2759
P/C Ronald W. Fletcher, S 803-487-1930 Lt Jim Samland

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R/C Arthur "Bill" Beers, JN

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