



# AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB

New Bern

Cape Lookout Sail and Power Squadron  
February 2024 Volume 65, Issue 2  
CLSPS Website: <http://www.clsp.org>

## Upcoming Events:

February 3-12  
**America's Boating Club Annual Spring Meeting**  
Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando

Saturday, February 24, 1130 - 1400  
**CLSPS Change of Watch**  
The Chelsea Restaurant

Saturday, March 2, 1000-1200  
**Operations Training**  
Fairfield Harbor (See Admin Off Rpt)

Monday, March 4, 1900  
**CLSPS ExCom Mtg**  
Via Zoom

March 15-16, 2024  
**District 27 Annual Meeting and COW**  
Wrightsville Beach, NC

Monday, 18 March  
**March Dinner Meeting**  
The Chelsea

## Looks A Little Chilly!



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## CAPE LOOKOUT SAIL and POWER SQUADRON BRIDGE

*Commander (December -  
February)*

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Commander

Lydia Ash, S



So, as mariners in Eastern North Carolina, you probably don't think a lot about boating out west. Coastal boating, sure... east coast, west coast...but where else? It's safe to say there may be many of you who have never ventured to the desert southwest ever!

I thankfully have and recently paid a visit to Tucson and points further south that I had spent a lot of time in in a previous life. On a hike in one section of Saguaro National Monument, a spectacular and scenic park on Tucson's east side, I was reminded of how vast the water resources actually are in that arid state and also how quickly conditions change.

While the water was low in the pools we hiked around that day, there was certainly evidence of it in the smooth rock formations that bore the brunt of erosion over time. There was plenty of water to see the next day after heavy rain storms drenched the area. Waterfalls spilled forth and were visible from quite a distance. Folks taking the USPS Weather Course recently *and now* can attest to the cyclical nature of moisture in the environment. The desert is no exception! As I write this, snow is falling in that same desert while *we* have 75 degrees outside!

Arizona has more boats per capita than any state in the United States...and plenty of lakes and rivers to use them on! Lake Powell, Lake Havasu, Lake Mead,... The Gila River. Nearly 30 years ago I took a rafting trip through the Grand Canyon. I can't recommend it enough! Hop on [visitarizona.com](http://visitarizona.com) or search other sites and learn about areas you might never have thought about going boating. Get out and see your great nation, state by state! Check in with USPS to see what they offer in those areas you might want to visit! Resources everywhere!

On the local front, we're of course celebrating our Change of Watch in two weeks on February 24th at The Chelsea! We sure hope you're planning to attend! Check the menu options here in the Outlook and get your choice(s) in to Elaine! Hope to see you there.

We'll have an Operations Training shortly thereafter for all the Bridge Officers. We'll have more information for all about the coming year's activities after that important and informative meeting. An announcement about that follows in my Administrative Officer's report.

**The Outlook and other great information are available at the CLSPS website:**

<http://www.clsp.org>



## Administrative Officer

**Cdr Lydia Ash**



As I wind down my responsibilities as Administrative Officer, I'm happy to say that January's Annual Meeting was a great reminder that we did a lot last year! We often don't know where the time went... but our members could sure tell you a lot about what all we accomplished as a Squadron this past year! Thank you to everyone for all the hard work and the responsibility you undertook.

Administratively speaking, we chug along thanks to the Assistant Administrative Officers who guide us through the year with smooth operations of meetings and events. Elaine Lechner Fretwill and Linda Whitley deserve all the credit for keeping us going! I thank them in advance for their service this past year and appreciate that they will both continue in their roles this coming year!

February isn't just chocolate! Love was front and center as we lovers of the environment showed up big-time downtown to then disperse around the city last Saturday. There was a great turnout for the Clean Sweep event including many high-school-age folks! What a relief to see some civic-minded youth! Several of our members assisted

with a massive 5-bag pick-up along Lowe's Road. Thanks to John Kwak, Jane and Lloyd Moore and Anne Brittle who I joined in this gratifying endeavor. We even had a community service person who appreciated that we all "do this for fun," as John told him!

The upcoming Operations Training will take place March 2nd in Fairfield Harbor from 10:00 to 12:00 at the building across the parking lot from the Club Wyndham Offices off Cassowary Lane—Room 2 FFH Activity Building. All new Bridge Officers will attend. More fun and games will be unveiled after that meeting!

The District 27 Annual Meeting and Change of 'watch is coming up in March 15-16. It's held in Wrightsville Beach. We've made our reservations for the District 27 Meeting at Shell Resort in Wrightsville Beach for March 15th & 16th, and we hope to see many of you there!"

See you at the Change of Watch!



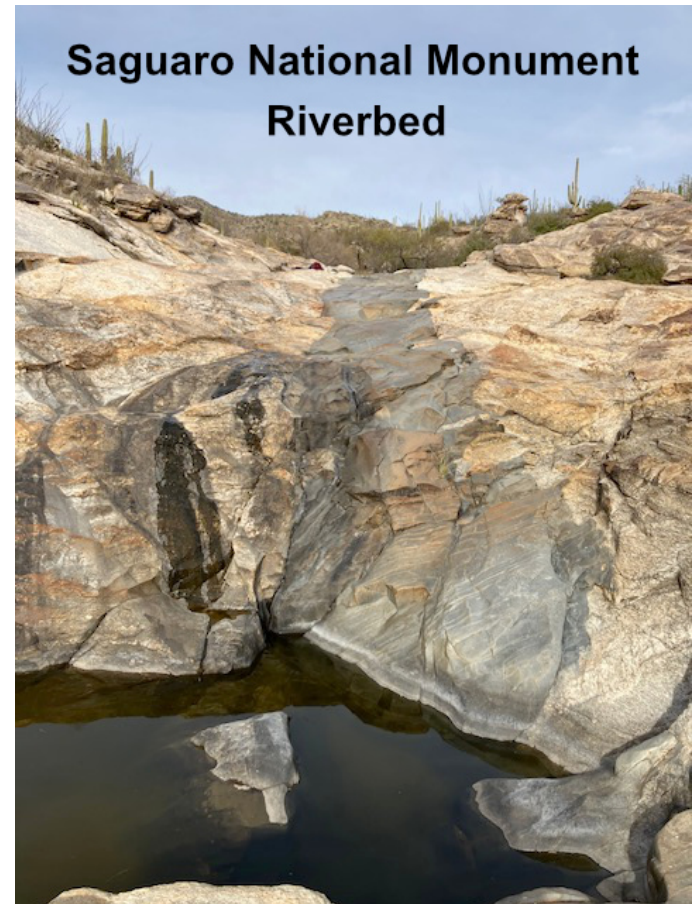
Happy Birthday  
to the  
Following Members



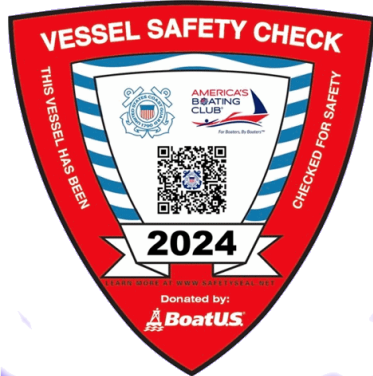
## February

**Morton, Donald "Scott" – 6  
February  
Leahy, Pamela – 14 February**

## Saguaro National Monument Riverbed



**Chairman, Vessel  
Safety Program**  
P/C Owen Smith, AP



### From the USPS Pledge:

“..... Promote high standards of navigation and seamanship;  
Maintain my boat and operate it legally:...”

We have 23 squadron members who have boats according to the Cape Lookout Sail and Power Squadron roster. Last year 2 members had their vessels checked by one of our VSE examiners. To me, there is something wrong with this picture. We are supposed to do what our pledge indicates, yet there seems to be little interest in promoting the VSE program within our own squadron. This is not to say that some have chosen to have a VSE

by the USCG Auxiliary which would accomplish the goal of assuring the vessel did meet safety requirement.

Bottom line: our VSE Examiners are standing by to do a vessel safety check of your vessel. If you no longer have a boat, but some family member, friend, neighbor, etc. has a boat let them know that we can help them assure that their boat meets the necessary safety requirements for this boating season. Sail, power, paddle craft, or PWC all qualify for a VSE sticker. The contact information for our VSE examiners is listed elsewhere in “The Outlook”



**Owen Smith**

## Booster Club

Only a small portion (about \$17) of our dues to USPS is returned to the Cape Lookout Squadron. Money collected from our members helps defray the cost of our Dinner Meeting speakers and other incidentals (cards & flowers). We need help keeping our books in the Black.

Please contribute to the Booster Club. Any amount is helpful, but \$10 per person is a suggested amount

### 2024 Booster Club

**Bob Burget  
Elaine Lechner &  
Wayne Fretwell  
Bill, Annalee & Lydia Ash  
Marty & Tiki Warner  
Duane & Clair Mixon  
Ray & Linda Whitley**



P/C William J. Ash,  
SN, H



**DONE DOING**  
**P/C WILLIAM J. ASH SN,**  
**Emeritus**

“Bloody ‘ell, P/C, It looks as though we are in for another weather event. Reports from the ‘Whether Channel’ indicate a swift decrease in atmospheric pressure along the entire eastern seaboard with rain coming by the bucket. Presently, with clear blue skies accompanying a slight breeze from the west, I would not go so far as to predict a banger coming up the coast and that’s why I refer to it as the ‘Whether Channel.’ I don’t know whether to believe ‘em.. Also, have you ever thought of the weather reports coming generated fifty years from now? You’ll need a Doctor’s Degree in Artful Intelligence and Compulsive Science.”

“Hold it, Horatio! I think you mean artificial Intelligence and computer science, although you might be correct as you stated. Captain, as the years have gone by I have noticed I cannot, for the life of me, grasp information and place it in the correct neurons as I used to. I

suspect I’m jealous of older folks who can cross the whatever’s and dot the whichever’s without difficulty. I wonder.

“You remember our days with Peconic Bay, my two terms as Commander, my Secretary passing away resulting in my running the position with the Squadron checkbook in my top pocket? I could not fill the position. Nobody would take it. I couldn’t do that today. Now, how did we get to talking about all this? Oh yes, fifty years from now. Fifty years? Fifty years from now I’ll be an old fashion guy in the after-life, hopefully heaven. Hey, let’s change the subject!”

“Let’s do just that, P/C. What I have to say should be taken in a positive sense. The future of USPS will be determined by members quite a bit younger than we. The old guard currently at the top will give way to younger, more energetic younger guards who will lead as we have. It’s been that way since Diomencinitis (Greek) did before USPS was conceived. We need to lead by encouragement, to make suggestions, to help make wise decisions and act positively to see things made fast to the yarnbuckle.”

“Horatio, I’m having no trouble with your main thrust here, but I’ve never learned what a *yarnbuckle* is

and I have absolutely no idea who *Domencokites* (Greek) is. I’m not sure I pronounced his or her name correctly. Never mind, Skip! I understand where you are headed. Rather important decisions will need to be made rather quickly, but only after serious discussions are held to map out the future of the Squadron.”

“Let me dig in a bit here. P/C, look at the listings of advanced grades. Where are all the AP’s? And those who used to be called the JN’s? Members should take courses to move up in grade. Improving their wealth of knowledge should be a major priority of serious members. The main function of the organization is not tea with crumpets, rather it is one of increasing the knowledge of what makes a vessel go from point A to point B.

“I remember AP (whatever it’s called now) as being an interesting practical course that presented meaningful information by the seabed each week. At the end of the course we had the credentials to take a vessel out the inlet to cruise the coast within sight of land. Sure, there are folks who do this routinely who never took AP, but an insurance policy is nice to have. USPS needs more members with insurance policies. And members with the

grade of AP will be in a position to teach those coming behind. I'll not explain the same things for JN and N."

I was becoming exhausted and not making much progress; that's what I thought. Exhausted? Yes, without a doubt. Progress? Not sure!

Incidentally, the members giving the Basic Course along with the Weather Course must be commended for their efforts. They have accomplished Gold Star results. I sincerely wish I could have joined them to advance education in the Squadron. I'm afraid I'm done doing. Perhaps I'll do it in some other way.

Well, anyway, the night was dark and stormy; Great Horned Owls could be heard talking over long distances, blood curdling calls of wolves and coyotes kept me from falling asleep. My covers gave me an essence of calmness.....I would survive the night.



Lydia & Bill plus his two sons



Jane Moore



Clair & Duane Mixon



Annalee & Lydia Ash



Elaine Lechner



Bill & Lydia Ash

Photos scattered throughout the Outlook are from the January Annual Meeting, 15 January,



Bob Burget





**Cape Lookout Sail and Power Squadron**

**Change of Watch @ The Chelsea**

**Saturday, February 24, 2024, 1130-1400**

**Dress Code: Class A Uniform or appropriate attire**

**District 27 Educational Officer, D/Lt/C Tom Graham, will be on hand to represent D/27 Commander Bill Beers.**

**Tom's wife, Kay, is also an active member of USPS, and will be on hand.**

**Menu:**

**Mixed Green Salad with House Vinaigrette, Dinner Rolls with Butter, Iced Tea, Coffee and Water**

**Entrees:**

**Shrimp and Grits**

**Lemon Chicken with rice pilaf and green beans**

**Beef Tenderloin shoulder with cabernet demi-glace served with garlic smashed potatoes and green beans**

**Dessert: Lemon layer cake**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner Choice: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner Choice: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25.00 each = Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner is \$25.00 per person. Please advise Elaine Lechner of your entree selection by Friday, February 16, 2024. A check can be sent to her at: 2220 Caracara Drive, New Bern, NC 28560, or call: 678-464-7665, or if you prefer, you can pay at the luncheon on February 24th.**

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## Ships Store Inventory

**Knit Polo Shirts:** Ladies short sleeve knit shirts - \$15. navy.

Navy sizes: Ladies: 1xS, 2xM, 1xL

**Ladies Long Sleeve Denim Shirts:**  
\$12.50, Available size: L

**Squadron Burgee (1 left)** sells for \$25.00.



**Pennant magnets** are priced at \$5. They can be placed on your vehicle or refrigerator. (7 left)

**Brushed Velcro Hat - white CLSPS logo, \$10.00 (1 left)**

**Cotton Visor - White (2 left) and Navy (4 left) CLSPS logo USPS D27 \$10.**

**Reflector Safety Vest — ABC Geodetic Marker Recover Team, Size L, \$30.00**

The inventory on hand has Cape Lookout Sail & Power Squadron logo and United States Power Squadron logo, with CLSPS and our burgee. We have a catalog from a Bender Apparel, please contact P/C Moore for details.

The USPS National Ship's Store has new items with America's Boating Club® logo available. Check out their website: <http://store.shopusps.org/>

Contact P/C Jane Moore at [pc@clsps.org](mailto:pc@clsps.org) or 252-637-5547

Boat US offers a 50% discount to USPS members. Our Boat US group number is GA80679P and must be used to claim your \$12.50 discount.

Please patronize our advertisers, and be sure to tell them you are from CLSPS and that you saw their ad in The Outlook.

### NEW ADDRESS:

Please notify Lloyd Moore  
(252-571-2391)

[Lloyd.moore@suddenlink.net](mailto:Lloyd.moore@suddenlink.net) if you have any changes to the information we have on file such as boat information, e-mail or mailing address, birthdays, telephone number etc.

Please provide information to the Editor by the 20th of the month by e-mail for the next newsletter. Late items will appear in the next issue of the Outlook. Marty Warner—  
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Photos in this issue are by the editor unless noted otherwise

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**AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB®**  
New Bern



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