



SCUTTLEBUTT

AUGUST 2026



Volume XXVI, Issue 8
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National: www.americasboatingclub.org
District 26: www.ABClub26.org
NSSPS: www.abcnorthstrand.org
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FROM THE COMMANDER'S HELM



Cdr John Cattuna

Hello Fellow North Strand Sail and Power Squadron Members,

We have a couple of great opportunities to get out on the water coming up. On August 1st we have a lunch cruise to Wacca Wache marina leaving from Osprey Marina. Or you can go by car and meet the boaters there. Please contact Kathy Johnson at (843) 240-1281 to RSVP.

The second on the water activity that we would like to get scheduled is Co-Op charting. This is a civic boating activity where we travel the waters that we use each time we are out on the Waterway. We visually check the position and condition of the channel markers along the waterway and Inlet. Any issues we discover we report to the USCG and NOAA. We'll need some members to volunteer their boats for this activity.

We are planning to hold our 2nd 2026 ABC Class on Sept. 12th at the Sun Colony Club House. Details for this class are being worked on now.

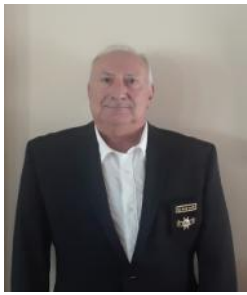
Members interested in any of our great classes or seminars should contact our Education department so we can get the class scheduled.

Our August Meeting is being held at the Honey Barrel Restaurant in North Myrtle Beach on August 10th. See you there.

Please continue to promote the benefits of participating in our organization with activities like our Vessel Safety Check program, and our boating education opportunities.

Hope to see you all soon out on the water.





EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Once again, GREETINGS TO ALL! Here we are again.

The situation I wrote about in last month's Newsletter regarding

XO Rich Norris

The US Coast Guard Website for requesting a Vessel Safety Check, with the help from National, has been rectified.

Now, how would you all like to be almost guaranteed not to be boarded by the SCDNR or Coast Guard while trying to enjoy a day on the water? I say "almost" because I feel obligated to present it that way, but in reality, it's all but guaranteed. The way you get there is by proudly displaying your 2026 VSC Sticker.

Just give John Cattuna or me a call and request one of us performs a Vessel Safety Check on your boat. It's free, we don't fine you for violations, we're friendly, knowledgeable and all we want to do is help be certain you'll be safe while out on the water. I can only do boats that are in the water, not sitting on a trailer, due to poor mobility, but I don't believe John faces those restraints. Send me a text at 610-703-6650 and we'll make a date!

Have a fun and safe summer on the water!

That's all I have for now!

Continued

Most notably, our scheduled June cruise to Wacca Wache was postponed and, again, in July. I'm sure you would agree that cruising in this heat would not be enjoyable. But, hang in there. We will get it rescheduled when moderate weather returns.

Well, it's that time of year, again. Your Nominating Committee is hard at work looking for squadron members interested in serving on the bridge or as committee chairpersons. As you know, we are all volunteers. Volunteerism is the lifeblood of the squadron. If you are contacted by a member of our Nominating Committee for a position, please seriously consider saying, "Yes! I'll serve!." Your squadron needs you! Also, you don't need to wait to be asked. If you'd like to serve on the bridge or on a committee, or just to talk about where you can help, contact Doug Thomas at snazzyrags@gmail.com or 843-685-3234.

Just a reminder to regularly check our online calendar for the latest additions, changes or deletions to our events. Sometimes, changes are made at the last minute that may not be reflected in the latest published issue of the Scuttlebutt. And check regularly for additions, especially.

Wishing you all fair winds and calm seas.



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Whew! I don't know about y'all, but I feel like I'm melting away in this heat and humidity these past few weeks.

AO Doug Thomas

Does that mean I'm losing weight? No such luck. Unfortunately, the heat and humidity has impacted some of our activities this summer.

REMINDER



The August Membership Meeting will be held at the Honey Barrel Restaurant, 228 Hwy 17, North Myrtle Beach



HERITAGE SHORES NATURE PRESERVE
Heritage Shores Cleanup Schedule

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!



John Cattuna Jr.	8th
Mary C Horton	16th
Carla Booth	21st
Barry Lippincott	27th

VESSEL SAFETY EXAMINERS



P/D/C Rich Norris,
Chair

P/D/C Rich Norris, SN-CN

Twila Nahama, SN

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

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



AUGUST IS NATIONAL SUN SAFETY MONTH

Protect yourself and your crew from the sun while keeping your boating trip safe and enjoyable.

1. Plan for Peak Sun Exposure

UV rays are strongest from **10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** (9 a.m.–3 p.m. standard time) and reflect off water, making boating in this window especially risky [Mercury Marine](#). If possible, schedule trips for **early morning (4–7 a.m.)** or **late afternoon (after 4 p.m.)** when the sun is less intense [Discover Boating](#).

2. Wear Sun-Protective Gear

- **Broad-spectrum sunscreen SPF 30+** on all exposed skin, including ears, neck, and backs of hands [Mercury Marine](#).
- **Reapply every 2 hours**, after swimming, or if sweating [Mercury Marine](#).
- Use **wide-brimmed hats** and **UV-protective sunglasses** to shield skin and eyes [www.boatingsafety.com](#).
- For pets, provide shade, cool water, and non-slip footing [www.boatingsafety.co](#).

3. Stay Hydrated

High heat and humidity can cause dehydration quickly.

- Carry **plenty of water and electrolyte drinks**; avoid sugary, caffeinated, and alcoholic beverages [www.boatingsafety.com](#).
- Assign a crew member to monitor hydration [www.boatingsafety.com](#).
- Keep coolers with ice packs and cold drinks on board [Discover Boating](#).

4. Create Shade on the Boat

- Use a **bimini top, canopy, or large umbrella** to block direct sun [www.boatingsafety.com](#).
- Take breaks in shaded areas to prevent heat exhaustion [Discover Boating](#).

5. Keep Life Jackets Ready

Even in hot weather, **never skip your PFD**. Fatigue and dizziness from heat can lead to falls overboard [www.boatingsafety.com](#). Ensure all passengers, including children and pets, wear a properly fitted, secure life jacket [Better Boat](#).

6. Check and Pack for Emergencies

Before departure, inspect:

- **Batteries, electronics, flares, and radios** [www.boatingsafety.com](#).
- Carry a **waterproof first-aid kit**, VHF radio, extra water, food, and emergency shade [www.boatingsafety.com](#).
- Keep layers and blankets in case of sudden weather changes [www.boatingsafety.com](#).

7. Avoid Alcohol While Boating

Alcohol impairs balance, judgment, and reaction time, especially in hot, motion-prone conditions [Better Boat](#). Always designate a **sober skipper**.

8. Use Cooling Tools

- Portable fans, misting systems, or cooling towels can help regulate body temperature [Discover Boating](#).
- Splash water on the deck or use a wind funnel to cool the cabin [Discover Boating](#).

Bottom line: Combine sun protection with boating safety measures—shade, hydration, PFDs, and emergency preparedness—so you can enjoy the water without risking sunburn, heat illness, or accidents.

JULY HAPPY HOUR



A MESSAGE FROM TWILA

Hi All!

I'm now a permanent resident of Florida, but I do plan to stay with North Strand through this year, for sure.

Living in Melbourne is like being back home. I walk to the beach every day to see the sun come up and at night to watch turtles laying their eggs. I am back in a familiar dance studio and swim laps in a salt water pool. Life is good.

I do miss you all!

Twila

Note from the editor —Twila has been in USPS for 40 years and since 2007 has done 690 Vessel Safety Checks! We wish her well in her new home and location. She was a valuable member of North Strand and will be greatly missed.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE PICNIC AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The June Picnic and Membership Meeting was held June 6 at the North Myrtle Beach Sports Complex at 3 P.M.

There was a quorum.

Commander John welcomed new member Joyce Schroeder. He reminded those present that, as in the past, there will be no July meeting.

He thanked Yvonne Hoch, Kathy Johnson and Barry and Donna Lippincott for planning the squadron picnic,

Those in attendance were: Anke and John Cattuna, Donna and Barry Lippincott, Bea and Rich Norris, Doug Thomas, David and Yvonne Hoch, Joyce Schroeder, and Kathy Johnson.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Bea Norris, Secretary



America's Boating Club
2026 Fall Governing Board Meeting
Sept 20-27, 2026

Hotel, Meals, Attractions and Event Reservations are now **OPEN...**

CLICK HERE

America's Boating Club
Proudly Celebrates
America's
250th Anniversary

Join Us on Saturday September 26 in
Raleigh to celebrate!

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS
1776 · 250th 2026
Celebrates America's Anniversary

AMERICA'S BOATING CLUB
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS
Fall Governing Board
September 20-27, 2026
Raleigh, North Carolina



America's Boating Club-District 26

2026 Fall Cruise & Rendezvous
Oct 16 - Oct 18, 2026

St Simon
Best Western Plus
301 Main Street
St Simon
912-638-7805

Group Code - America's Boating Club Golden Isles Event

Images, if available, may contain additional links.

Hosted by:

America's Boating Club - Golden Isles



North Strand August 2026 Calendar of Events

2026

CALENDAR YEAR

AUGUST

CALENDAR MONTH

MONDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
27	28	29	30	31	01 1200: Lunch cruise to Outriggers Restaurant at Wacca Wachee marina, 1950 Wachasaw Rd., Murrell's Inlet,	02
03	04	05	06 1900: ExCom meeting via Free Conference Call	07	08	09
10 1700: General Membership Meeting, Honey Barrel Restaurant, 228 Hwy 17 N, North Myrtle Beach, SC	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	01	02	03	04	05	06