



D/2 NEWS



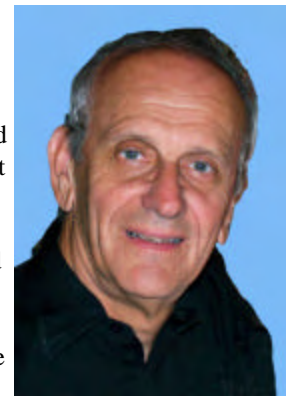
Volume 59

Number 3

January 2008

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

D/C Martin E. Feldberg, AP



It has been nearly nine months since I became Commander of the greatest District in the United States Power Squadron. I have been quite busy carrying out Power Squadron business but most of the time it has been fun and a truly great experience.

Since my last message, I have attended a number of fun and interesting USPS activities and events.

The most significant event was the Fall Conference held in Danbury on 12 and 13 October. The Conference was hosted by the *Norwalk Sail & Power Squadron*, *Penfield Power Squadron*, *Rowayton Sail & Power Squadron* and the *Saugatuck River Sail and Power Squadron* in conjunction with the celebration of *Saugatuck River Sail and Power Squadron's 50th Anniversary*. We were very fortunate to have Chief Commander Ernest G. Marshburn, SN and his wife Dianne in attendance for this milestone celebration. He conducted a very well received town meeting, answering question that were of great importance to our attending members. He also made himself available at a number of different events to discuss the concerns of those attending the Conference. A number of D/2 members approached me to tell me how refreshing it was to have Ernie at the meeting. We tried a few new things at the meeting. R/C Anthony Aquilato along with P/D/C Suzanne Nentwich provided an entertaining and educational cooking seminar during the meeting. We also tried something new by having the District Education Department conduct the "Boat Handling Under Power" seminar. Unfortunately, we did not provide enough time for the complete seminar. This problem will be corrected at the Winter Council.

The "Onboard Weather" seminar will be held in the afternoon and Joe and George will get all the time they need. The Seminar will be free unless you want the certificate. PLEASE LET JOE OR GEORGE KNOW IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING THE SEMINAR SO THAT HE WILL HAVE ENOUGH INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE.

On 6 September, Alexandra and I traveled to Norfolk, VA to attend the Governing Board Meeting. Due to a mix-up by the Operating Committee, D/2's resolution to modify the USPS Mission Statement, fathered by P/D/C Fred E. Mangelsdorf, SN, was postponed until the Annual Meeting. After a number of meetings between C/C Marshburn, SN, Fred and myself, I believe the problems have been solved and the concept should be approved at the Annual Meeting in Dallas. Unfortunately, our National dues will again be increased by \$1.80 effective in the spring of 2008 for the 2009 dues year. The good news is that District dues will not change. A major restructuring of the Bylaws was approved that will greatly affect the way USPS will be governed. This change will take effect in convening the 2008 Annual Meeting. Everyone was pleased to hear that the USPS operating revenues exceeded expenses. Let's hope this will continue.

On 15 September we ventured to the beautiful Sagamore Hotel on Lake George, to attend the Lake George Power Squadron's 60th Anniversary Gala. The weather was great and we had a wonderful time.

On 29 September Alexandra and I journeyed to Jennings Beach in Fairfield, CT to attend a terrific Clambake sponsored by the Penfield Sail and Power Squadron.

(Continued on P. 2.)

(Commander's Message continued from P. 1.)

On 25 October Alexandra and I traveled to Ottawa, Canada to attend the Annual Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons' General Meeting. D/2 was also represented by P/D/C Fred E. Mangelsdorf, SN, and his spouse Linda and D/Lt/C Jim Silver Sr., P, and his spouse Jan, P. Most of the USPS National Bridge also attended the meeting. Thanks must go to P/C/C Serge St. Martin and his wife Jocelyne for their hospitality.

We have attended the Saugatuck River Sail and Power Squadron, Storm King Power Squadron and the Lake Candlewood Power Squadron's holiday parties having a great time visiting with old and new friends. We anticipate attending the Mid Hudson Power Squadron, Cross County and Westchester Sail and Power Squadron holiday parties in the near future. There are a number of "after holiday parties" in January that we will attempt to attend.

It is not too early to let your District Bridge know when your Change of Watch is going to occur. If you would like a particular Bridge member to attend, please let that Bridge member or me know. As a reminder, the ED-80 (Nominations for Educational Officer and Assistant Educational Officer) must be filed with the District Education Officer before your Change of Watch.

I am proud to announce your District and all twenty Squadrons have made their Merit Mark submissions although some did not make the November 15, 2007 deadline. All those deserving members should have or will soon receive their Merit Mark.

Not all experiences have been good. Regrettably, I met with the Bridge of the Tappan Zee Sail and Power Squadron on Tuesday, 2 December 2007 for their last official meeting. The meeting was to officially disband the Squadron and distribute their assets. At a previous meeting, the members voted to donate most of their assets to a Sea Scout troop in their area. Approximately fifteen members out of about forty five members have transferred their membership to Storm King. A few members are moving south or already have a home in the south and have transferred their membership to where they will be living. I am not sure if this is the first D/2 Squadron to disband but I know it has not happened in over fifty years and I hope it will not happen again. These times are becoming very different from what us "old timers are used to". It is becoming increasingly more difficult to find people to serve on a Squadron Bridge. It is not because members are not dedicated but mostly because of the ever increasing load being placed upon them at work and at home. People just don't seem to have time to "stop and smell the roses". If we provide interesting activities that are of a short duration and are also family oriented, I truly believe we can get those busy members back. It will take a lot of work by members of the existing Bridges, but I am confident they will step up to the plate and do what is necessary. Your District Bridge and all of the active P/D/Cs are more than willing to help and are just an email or phone call away.

Commanders, if you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting being held in Dallas on 19 February to 24 February 2008, I would appreciate it if I was given your proxy along with voting directions. For those attending the Annual Meeting and would like to sit with the District 2 contingent at the dinner dance, please send a payment of \$54 for each attendee by 23 January 2008 to me, and I will make the group reservation.

For those who do not know, Mohawk Hudson Power Squadron's Commander Tom Day has been under the weather. He recently returned home from the hospital and is recuperating.

Lastly, I know I am repeating myself but I would like to address the Squadrons that find their membership dwindling and also finding it difficult to find dedicated Bridge members. I know there has been some talk about combining the members of two or more Squadrons. If the Squadrons are contemplating such a change, please be advised that your District Bridge and many knowledgeable P/D/Cs are willing to help. Just give me or one of your District Bridge officers a call.

USPS
District 2



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Executive Officer: D/Lt/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig, AP

In view of the enthusiasm expressed towards the University Courses at the Fall Conference and the possibility of their use to help secure new membership, I contacted our National Educational Officer, V/C Richard E. Kyle, SN, to see what literature might be available to distribute throughout the boating community. I thought if we could place quality informative packets, containing promotional literature with local contact numbers, in such places as yacht clubs, marinas and retail outlets, we might attract existing boaters to the University Courses and as a possible bonus, add to our membership in USPS. These packets would have to be current and restocked at regular intervals.

Richard informed me that two people, Bob Sweet and Pat Governale, were working on a promotional piece that we will be able to download and print locally. He suggested that if the District sponsored a print run of 5,000, we should be able to secure a reasonable production cost. I would think we should know more in the near future.

After the Norwalk Boat Show, Michael A. Brown, SN, Norwalk Sail & Power Squadron, our new Boat Show Chairman, and the rest of us who manned the booth, agreed we were quite disappointed with our booth location and of course the lack of traffic. I spoke to Chief Cdr Ernest G. Marshburn, SN, at the Fall Conference about this concern and the possibility of National contacting the various Boat Show organizers, with the idea of having the Districts make contributions towards better locations. Chief Cdr Marshburn informed me that efforts were already underway to try to help secure better positioning for our booths.

A Happy New Year to All!

Administrative Officer: D/Lt/C Robert Shivokevich, SN

Greetings everyone! I hope that during these busy times, you take a moment and enjoy the simple things in life. Relax put your feet up and dream of the upcoming summer of boating that will take place.

While you are thinking about next summer please consider this. There is a Bill before Congress that might affect you in the future. Boat US reports that the Recreational Boating Act of 2007 HR 2550, needs to be passed. Without this Federal legislation you will need to apply and pay for a discharge permit after September 30 2008. There is already in place, restrictions on discharges of oil, fuel, and sewage, which will not be affected by this bill. The new bill will cover items such as grey water from sinks and showers, deck runoff, engine coolant and other items already covered by existing laws. You will now have to apply by state, for each state that you operate in. The fees have not been set yet or where the money will go. The fees could be as much as a few hundred dollars and be good for 1-5 years, per boat that you operate. If HR 2550 passes then recreational boating will continue to remain at status quo.

For more information go to www.boatus.com/gov/fed_alert.asp. So contact your Senators and Congressmen, and Congresswomen and tell them that you would like them to support this Bill. Pass the word to your members.

As your District Administrative Officer I would like to remind you to check out the USPS website and take advantage of all of our member benefits; they are there for you! Squadron Administrative Officers please keep me updated on your Squadron's activities so I can keep the District Bridge informed, and attend your activities.

With your help we can make D/2 The Best That It Can Be!!

Treasurer - D/Lt/C Frank J. DeBaggis, AP

As of this issue of the D/2 News there are thirteen Squadrons in the District which have chosen Voluntary Headquarters Annual Billing (VHQAB), which is, in the words immediately under the picture of V/C Joe R. Mesenburg, SN, National Treasurer on the USPS Treasurer's home page, **DESIGNED TO MAKE MEMBERSHIP DUES PAYING AS EASY AS POSSIBLE AND ELIMINATE A GREAT AMOUNT OF PAPERWORK AND DATA ENTRY AT ALL LEVELS OF THE ORGANIZATION.** (I can't actually put quotation marks on this statement because the website is not clear whether these words are being spoken by Mr. Mesenburg.)

My feeling is that the statement was crafted in committee and Joe's picture was placed above the statement because he either agrees with the statement, or because he's on the National Bridge and is taking responsibility for the statement. I have always suspected that people in high places, probably didn't get to the high place by not taking responsibility. And once they're there, at the high place, taking responsibility has probably become a habit. Although I suppose they could have risen to the high place faster than their responsibility came along with them, if that's even possible. I think the responsibility you take has to pretty much come right along with you on your way up and once you get there it's there with you, which is why all people in high places are responsible. And that is why I've put the statement in capital letters and not in quotation marks, because I don't want to misquote anybody. While at the same time I would like to point out that probably almost everyone on the National Bridge is responsible, and certainly Mr. Mesenburg would fall into that category.)

The thirteen Squadrons which have signed up for VHQAB are, in alphabetical order, Berkshire, Captain Harbor, Cross County, Lake Candlewood, Mid-Hudson, Mohawk-Hudson, Peekskill, Penfield, Rowayton, Saugatuck River, Stamford, Storm King, and Westchester. I suspect that these Squadrons would be happy, with all the free time on their hands, to share their success stories with the Squadrons not on VHQAB.

There are six Squadrons in the District who have not chosen VHQAB. You'll have to do the math to find out which six squadrons are not on VHQAB. I'm not going to stir up controversy. The best way to do the math, for those wanting to stir things up, could be to take a list of all the squadrons in D/2 and then subtract out the thirteen who are on VHQAB. A much easier and entertaining route would be to attend the Winter Council. The members of the thirteen Squadrons on VHQAB will be relaxed and having a great time; they'll be rested, have good color and muscle and skin tone, and look like they've flown in from Hawaii to attend the Academy Awards..

If the six Squadrons are holding on to the opposite of VHQAB, that would be: **AS DIFFICULT AS POSSIBLE DUES PAYING WITH THE GREATEST AMOUNT OF PAPERWORK AND DATA ENTRY AT ALL LEVELS OF THE ORGANIZATION.** (These words are all mine.) For consistency I've capitalized them. If you'd like quotation marks then hire a writer to put some in but **CALL ME** and let me know you've done this in case people start quoting me and I say, "I didn't say that, show me the quotation marks." I'll be giving up plausible deniability with quotation marks. That's why you have to get a union guy or gal to put in quotation marks. Nonunion amateurs can pick up quotation marks provided they hold onto them and never put them down anywhere. I'd let a nonunion guy or gal take quotation marks out of a story provided they had some classes and a lot of supervision, but then they would have to hand them over to a union guy or gal and even they would have to be watched very carefully to be sure they put them down in the right place.

I read somewhere where quotation marks are the number one cause of arguments in a marriage. If you think about it, it's a no brainer. Even in a perfect marriage sometimes my wife Tena says, "You said, blah blah blah," and I say, "I didn't say that. What I said was..." and she says I'm always twisting things and I say, "I never twist things," and she says, "Yah, Right!" and it's off to the races, and I spend the next three weeks carefully crafting statements to get out of trouble.)

At the Winter Council the six Squadrons not on VHQAB should look overworked and like they are attending a Wastewater Treatment Convention.

Interesting. I hope to see you at the Winter Council. I'll be watching for you, rested or otherwise.

Educational Officer - D/Lt/C Joseph A. Lynch, AP

Hello everyone, by time you have an opportunity to read this report the holiday season will be over. So a belated holiday greetings and Happy New Year to one and all. My New Year resolution is to sail more this year assuming my job does not get in the way.

First off I want to thank all public boating chairs and SEO's for sending in their notifications of public boating courses and then the subsequent results of a course. I have not heard any negative comments so I assume that everything is moving along as smoothly as possible.

I understand that at this year's Annual Meeting, there will be more information provided on the new certification program that started last year. From what I have heard so far, 2008 will be the year to initiate obtaining certifiers at regional, district level. As more information is made available, including answers to the liability insurance question, I will forward it out to all the SEO's in the District.

Another item is the newly revised "N" course. This course is going into beta testing soon with plans to release the course later in 2008. As well as new seminars coming on board, there appears to be a whole new course that Squadrons can begin to chart for their members and public benefit.

Speaking of seminars, George (ADEO D/1st/Lt George R. Hallenbeck, AP) and I plan to provide a seminar on "On Board Weather Forecasting" at the Winter Council. I must apologize since the Call to Meeting did not state the cost of attending this course. It is not possible to provide this seminar for free. Currently the seminar will cost \$20.00 per member. This covers the cost of the materials that will be purchased from National. D/2 is picking up the cost of this seminar. We (the District) are asking for a donation of \$10.00 from any member planning on attending, to help defray the cost. It is very important to know exactly how many members will be attending.

Lastly every other month I have been emailing the current status of course completions by Squadron to the SEO's in the District. I hope you find this information helpful in your planning.

See you all at the Winter Council.



Fish Tank



New Rochelle

**Photos from D/2 2007 Fall Conference
Danbury, CT**



Photos courtesy of
D/C Martin E. Feldberg, AP

**Photos from CPS ANNUAL MEETING
Toronto, Canada
27 October 2007**



Photos courtesy of
D/C Martin E. Feldberg, AP



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

D/2 Winter Council

Saturday 2 February 2008

Held at the **Best Western Inn**

2170 South Road, Poughkeepsie, New York



The cost for the day is \$ 28 - includes Continental Breakfast and complete Buffet Lunch.

General Directions

From: South. Take the NY State Thruway (Interstate 87) North. Take Exit 17 (Stewart Airport, Route 300, Route 17K, Interstate 84 Newburgh). Take Route 300 North to Interstate 84 East. Take Interstate 84 East to Exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie, Route 9, Peekskill). At the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Route 9 North. The Best Western Inn & Conference Center is approximately 9 miles on the right just past the Olive Garden.

From: North. Take the New York Thruway (Interstate 87) South, Exit 18 (New Paltz, Route 299, Poughkeepsie). At end of ramp, turn right onto Route 299 East, to end turn right onto Route 9W South. Take 9W South about 2 miles, follow Route 44/55 East to Mid Hudson Bridge (toll). After crossing the bridge, take first exit on right to Route 9 South. The Best Western Inn & Conference Center is approximately 4 miles on the left.

From: East. Take Interstate 84 West. Take Exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie, Route 9, Peekskill). At the end of the exit ramp, turn right onto Route 9 North. The Best Western Inn & Conference Center is approximately 9 miles on the right just past the Olive Garden.

From: West. Take Interstate 84 East. Take Exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie, Route 9, Peekskill). At the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Route 9 North. The Best Western Inn & Conference Center is approximately 9 miles on the right just past the Olive Garden.

Registration will begin at 0900

Reservations must be received by 18 January 2008 - Late Registration fee: \$5.00

Mail reservations to:

D/Lt Alexandra Digilio
25 Thomas Ave
Fishkill, New York 12524
Questions? Call (845) 896-6644

CUT & MAIL

District 2 Winter Council

2 FEB. 2008

NAME _____	SQUADRON _____
ADDRESS _____	RANK/GRADE _____
_____	SPOUSE/GUEST _____
PHONE _____	SQUADRON _____
	RANK/GRADE _____

BREAKFAST/LUNCH \$28.00 PER PERSON

I will attend the "Onboard Weather" Seminar YES _____ NO _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: **USPS DISTRICT 2**

UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS
2008 DISTRICT 2 CHANGE OF WATCH



April 4 & 5, 2008

The Norwalk Inn & Conference Center

99 East Ave., Norwalk, CT 06851

Hosted by

Rowayton Sail & Power Squadron

<p>Guest Program</p> <p>The Maritime Aquarium and Imax plus A Tour of the Lockwood-Mathews Mansion, Museum & Victorian Tea</p>
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Friday:	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Registration Begins
	4:00 pm	P/D/C Meeting
	5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Cocktail Party (cash bar)
	7:00 pm	Buffet Dinner
Saturday:	8:00 am – 11:00 am	Registration
	8:00 am – 9:15 am	Continental Breakfast
	9:15 am – 12:00 pm	Business Meeting Call to Order
	12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	Meet & Greet (cash bar)
	12:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Luncheon Buffet
	2:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Business Meeting
	5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Hospitality (cash bar)
	7:00 pm - 12:00 am	Dinner Dance (cash bar) <i>Uniform A, formal or semi-formal attire</i>

(above times subject to change)

Cut Here -----

REGISTRATION FORM

First Registrant: Name _____ Grade _____ Rank/Position _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Squadron: _____

First Time at D2 Meeting

Second Registrant: Name _____ Grade _____ Rank/Position _____

Luxury Hotel Room (*Double Queen*) Friday _____ Saturday _____ Nights @ \$99 = _____

Note: Cutoff Date for Hotel Rooms is March 10, 2008.

Reservations received after this date are subject to Space & Rate availability.

Non Smoking, Smoking

Friday Dinner: **Buffet**, Sliced Sirloin, Chicken Scampi, Stuffed Filet of Sole @ \$35. = _____

Saturday: Continental Breakfast & Lunch

Buffet, Yankee Pot Roast, Oriental Stir Fried Chicken @ \$42. = _____

Saturday Dinner:

Prime Rib _____ Chicken Marsala _____ Poached Salmon @ \$50. = _____

Guest Program: _____ @ \$40. = _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Rowayton Sail & Power Squadron "COW 2008" and mail with this form to Norma Gerwig, 38 Burchard Lane, Rowayton, CT 06853 email: nagerwig@aol.com Phone: 203.866.3437 Fax: 203.853.2088

D/2 Planning CALENDAR

2008

01 January New Year's Day

21 January Martin Luther King Jr. Day

2 February D/2 Winter Council, Poughkeepsie, NY

18 February Presidents' Day

19-24 February USPS Annual Meeting, Dallas, TX

9 March Daylight Savings Time begins

16 March Palm Sunday

21 March Good Friday & Purim*

23 March Easter Sunday

4-5 April D/2 Spring Conference and Change of Watch , Norwalk, CT

20 April First day of Passover*

11 May Mother's Day

16-18 May, Northern Trek, Lake George, NY

17 May Armed Forces Day

17-23 May National Safe Boating Week

26 May Memorial Day

9-10 June Shavuot*

15 June Father's Day

*Note: All Jewish holidays begin the evening before the date given.

(NOTE: PLEASE ADVISE THE EDITOR IF YOU NO LONGER WISH TO RECEIVE A HARD COPY OF THE D/2 NEWS.)

D/2 NEWS

c/o Cdr Virginia P. Moore, P

3 Undercliff Street

Yonkers, NY 10705-1354

Address Correction Requested



Sail and Power Boating

