



# D/2 NEWS



<http://www.usps.org/localusps/d2/>

Volume 60

Number 3

January 2009

## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

D/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig, AP



Thank you to the Peekskill Sail & Power Squadron for the fine District 2 Conference they hosted and the enjoyment we all had helping them celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The morning breakout sessions were timely and/or gave us food for thought. The presenters, D/Lt/C Joseph A. Lynch, AP and D/1st/Lt George R. Hallenbeck, AP, D/Lt/C Robert Shivokevich, SN and D/Lt/C Lacey M. Williams, Jr., AP, Stf/C Susan L. Darcy, JN and D/Lt/C Frank J. DeBaggis, AP, all did great jobs.

District 2 was invited to participate in a 5 District Conference, Districts 2, 12, 14, 18 and 19 November 14 – 16<sup>th</sup>. This was, of course, after our Fall Conference but we told the other 4 Districts we would send a delegation to participate and we did. P/C George J. Danko, AP, P/Lt/C M. Richard Winchell, SN, Susan Darcy, Norma and I attended. I can fully understand the reason for the combined Conference given the size of all the Districts involved and potential participation from each District (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts). Meeting and talking with members from each of the Districts, one finds similar problems, but the same enthusiasm we have here in District 2. Probably the most unusual meeting was the Paddlesafe Demonstration, held at the pool, inside, and located three flights up from ground level, on a day filled with rain and so foggy you couldn't see the ocean across the street. The demonstration of different righting and rescue techniques was quite effective since we were able to watch at poolside. It was a wonderful experience.

We have two excellent educational opportunities coming up, the Winter Council on Saturday 31 January, will include the BOC (Boat Operators Certification) mandatory seminar and the Spring Conference, 28 March 2009 will include an OTW (on-the-water) program. Adapting our courses from a classroom only format to a classroom and on the water education (see the Educational Department's Article for more information).

For those of you not aware of the challenges faced by Lake Champlain, as they prepare to celebrate the installation of their first District Commander, last month the Comfort Inn, where they were going to host the Spring Conference, in Plattsburgh, caught on fire. Without missing a beat the committee searched and secured the Holiday Inn, also in Plattsburgh, for the same dates at basically the same prices.

Now, to make sure we have good representation at the Spring Conference, Change of Watch and Lake Champlain's celebration of 60 years of Boating Education, our District Administrative Officer Frank DeBaggis has undertaken the challenge of transporting everyone to Plattsburgh NY. You will be hearing more about this fun filled adventure in the very near future. Let's make this Change of Watch really special.

On a sad note, we lost a good friend to District 2, P/R/C Anthony J. Aquilato, AP. Over the years, both he and his wife Vincene, S, attended many District 2 functions. A highlight of the 2007 Fall Conference was a cooking presentation given by Chef Aquilato and his assistant P/D/C Suzanne P. Nentwich, AP. A Power Squadron Service was held and attended by members of Districts 2, 3, and 4.

**WANTED:** Names and numbers of those who will be attending the Reception & Change of Watch Banquet on Saturday, 21 February at the Annual Meeting in Anaheim. I am putting together tables of District 2 membership for the event. I must have a complete count by the time the Winter Council is over on 31 January and checks, \$57.00 for each person attending. Checks are to be made out to me, Jeffrey C. Gerwig (If you are not attending the Winter Council, send your reservations and checks to my home address, 38 Burchard Lane, Rowayton, CT 06853)



### Educational Fund Thanks

The Educational Fund would like to thank the former members of the Tappan Zee Sail & Power Squadron for their generosity in donating their treasury to the Fund at the time they disbanded. Their previous record of 22 years contribution of at least \$1 per member places them well up in the ranks of USPS Squadrons.

USPS  
District 2



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## Executive Officer: D/Lt/C Robert Shivokevich, SN

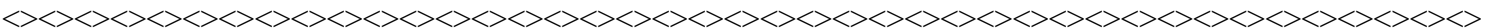
The Executive Department would like to ask ARE YOU INVOLVED? In this day of declining membership in organizations all over, the question is what can we do to stop the decline and increase our membership. It all starts with ourselves. Sometimes we have to get out of the status quo mode and do something to spark renewed interest in ourselves and others. Ask yourself, what ideas have I had but were afraid to voice them, because of not thinking that they were good enough? Do you see something in your Squadron or in District that needs attention? Please speak up. Sometimes the officers are blinded and do not always see outside the 'Box'! Open our eyes we are looking for fresh ideas! Are you aware of the USPS Boaters Operators Program?

Did you know that the United States Coast Guard (USCG) has asked the Congress to authorize the Transportation Secretary to establish requirements for standards of proficiency for recreational boaters? We intend to have USPS certification accepted as the above proof and be accepted as the national certificate for the USA. NOW how exciting is that! USPS taking the lead to help the public with on the water training! Are you excited yet? Are you ready to get involved? You should be or you'll be left behind. National is developing on the water training that will allow you to take your students to the next level, something the USCG Aux is already doing! There will be an important seminar concerning all of this at the next Winter Council on 31 January 2009, in Poughkeepsie NY. Check out the D/2 home page for details. If you are serious about the future of USPS as I am then I will see you there!.

**Bowsprit Award** - Is a program, which addresses the needs of USPS as they relate to increasing total membership and education completions and to recognize those Districts based on goal attainment, as outlined with the program rules. It's a "Goals" based program and each District only competes with itself, measuring performance from one program year to the next. Six areas are tracked and measured.

- Total Active Membership
- Total Boating and BoatSmart® Registrations
- Educational Program Graduates Exceeding Prior Year
- Total Active membership Retention
- Total Vessel Safety Checks (VSC)
- Total Cooperative Charting credits.
- 

How are we doing? We have achieved 91% of our total membership goal. In Boating registrations we have only 26 of our goal of 430. In Advance Grades Course Graduation our goal is 87 and to date we have 12 and in Elective Courses Graduation our goal is 77 and to date we have 4. We have 235 vessel examinations completed which is 29% of our goal. Now the year does not end until 31 March so we still have time to reach our goals. Are you helping out? Are you involved? I hope so. Together we all can make a difference and make District 2 the best in USPS!



< RIGHT AND WRONG >

## Educational Officer: D/Lt/C Joseph A. Lynch, JN

Hello everyone,

I hope everybody had a safe and enjoyable summer on the water or elsewhere. Judy and I have tried to get out and sail on our "Dreamer" as much as possible.

I was reviewing a report that I had prepared for last year's Fall Conference. All I can say is 'What a difference a year makes!' Last year I wrote the following in my report:

*USPS University Seminar series continues to be a big draw in a number of Squadrons. I would suggest to all SEO's who may be having trouble filling a class, that they consider holding one of the Seminar series. Currently there are six Seminars available.*

- 1: How to read a chart*
- 2: Using GPS*
- 3: Using VHF and VHF/DSC radio*
- 4: On Board weather forecasting*
- 5: Boat Handling under Power*
- 6: Sail Trim*

*Marine Radar, Paddle Smart and Anchoring are due to be released shortly.*

A year later, there are now eleven Seminars available with four more scheduled for release shortly. The new Seminars available beside the original six are

- 7: Paddle Smart
- 8: Marine Radar
- 9: Anchoring
- 10: Hurricane and Boats
- 11: Knots, Bends and Hitches

Knots for Mariners, Onboard Emergencies, Using Digital Charts and Heavy Weather Sailing are due to be released shortly.

Along with the new Seminars, new and long awaited "On the Water" teaching program has just been released. On the Water training and the new Boat Operators Certification Program are now available due to the release of the new insurance program just signed by National and the Insurance carrier.

Along with the continual release of newly revised advanced courses it is an exciting time for USPS Education.

Now that is the good news. The bad news is and has continued to be the failure of Squadrons to submit ED27's after the completion of a Public Boating course. D/2 unfortunately had nine Squadrons who failed to issue even one ED27 during the 2008 education year. This prompted calls and many emails to SEO's and other members to clean up. In order to be a viable Squadron and keep your charter, each Squadron must teach at least one Public Boating course each year. Failure to report this accomplishment regardless of the number of courses a Squadron may provide, places the Squadron in jeopardy of losing their charter.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Winter Council; it promises to be a good one. George and I are working hard to provide an interesting Education breakout session. We will be bringing to the session a presentation on the "On the Water" program, the new insurance program and how it affects instructors; along with the latest news on the Boater Certification program. Of special note, one of our "Southern" Squadrons will be presenting a new and innovative program developed amongst the Squadrons in D/2's southern area. This consortium is pooling their resources to teach courses, attract and keep members. It all adds up to a very full day, good presentations and lively discussions.

So until then, "Be safe out there" and I'll see you all "In class".



## Just a little picture of our modern Navy

The littoral combat ship (LCS-1) USS Freedom was commissioned last week in Milwaukee and is the Navy's first of a new wave of ships designed to patrol "close to shore" (which is the meaning of the Latin root of littoral). Built by Marinette Marine in northeastern Wisconsin, Freedom will be used within 200 miles of shorelines to neutralize pirates, mines, terrorists, subs, druggies and launch special ops teams. Steering is controlled by joysticks not a wheel and the ship is propelled by twin diesels and twin jet turbines driving through four water jets.



***The 377' USS Freedom is designed for inshore interdictions and special ops. She is said to have a WOT of 40 knot. Can we believe what they say?***

Littoral combat ships require only a 40-member crew, including just three people to operate the ship from the bridge. Two crews will alternate four-month tours of sea duty, rotating between Freedom and what is said to be her eventual base in San Diego.

There's no steering wheel - joysticks handle that function. And instead of propellers, Freedom uses four water jets - two inboard, two outboard - to move through the water like a jet ski, Chief Petty Officer Joe Radford said. The water jets are so powerful they could fill an Olympic-size swimming pool in 10 seconds, it is reported.

Where is Buck Rogers when you really need him?

***LCS-2, the USS Independence, is being built by General Dynamics's Bath Ironworks in Mobile, Alabama. Hold on to your hats...and wallets.***



From Offshore Motoryacht Nov 12, 2008

Submitted by D/Lt/C Lacey M. Williams, AP

D/2 Treasurer



# UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

## DISTRICT 2 SECRETARY



**D/LT/C JAMES M. SILVER, SR., P**  
P. O. BOX 293, DOVER PLAINS, NY 12522  
Home: 845-877-4777 email: jimsilver@optonline.net

Date: 28 December, 2008  
To: District Bridge, Chairperson Rules Committee, P/D/Cs, P/D/E/Os,  
Squadron Commanders, Squadron Educational Officers  
From: D/Lt/C James M. Silver, P - District 2 Secretary  
Subject: "Call to the Meeting" – Notice of 2009 District 2 Winter Council.

The 2009 District 2 Winter Council will be held on 31 January, 2009 at the Best Western Inn & Conference Center, 2170 South Road Poughkeepsie, NY. The Council Meeting is open to all members. Uniform of the Day: Blazer-Comfortable Attire.

0800 - Registration  
0900 - Council Meeting Convenes  
1230 (est.) Council Meeting Concludes

The registration form for the council is attached as are the travel instructions. Reservations must be received by 17 January 2009- Late Registration Fee: \$5.00. Mail reservations to: D/Lt Alexandra Digilio, 25 Thomas Avenue, Fishkill, NY 12524.

If you have a resolution or motion to be put on the agenda, it must be filed in writing with the D/2 Secretary before the Council Meeting is called to order. Under the provisions of the D/2 Bylaws, Section 5.7.3: if the Squadron Commander is unable to attend the Council in person he/she may be represented by the Squadron Executive or Administrative Officer.

The Council Meeting will be brief so that the **Boat Operator's Certification Program** can be given by R/C John W. Fletcher, SN. Additional information about this program is available in the current issue of the D2 News.

Please pass this information on to your Bridge, Committees and Members.

D/Lt/C James M. Silver, Sr. P  
District 2 Secretary

**Note: All trophies received at the Spring Conference 2008, are to be returned at this meeting so they may be prepared for presentation at the 2009 Spring Conference (Framed Certificates remain the property of the appropriate individual or squadron).**



# UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®



## DISTRICT 2 Winter Council

**Saturday January 31, 2009**

Best Western Inn

2170 South Road, Poughkeepsie, New York

**The cost for this meeting is \$32.00 – includes Continental Breakfast and complete Buffet Lunch.**

**Directions:**

**From: South** Take the NY State Thruway **I 87** North. Take Exit 17 (Stewart Airport, Route 300, Route 17K, **I 84** Newburgh). Take Route 300 North to **I 84** East. Take **I 84** East to Exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie) 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, **I 87** South to Exit 18, (New Paltz, Route 299 Poughkeepsie). At the end of the exit ramp, turn right on to Route 299 East. Follow this route to the end and turn right on to Route 9w South. Follow 9W South about 2 miles; follow Route 44/55 East to the Mid-Hudson Bridge (toll). Once over the bridge take the first exit on the right, Route 9 South. The Best Western Inn & Conference Center is approximately 4 miles on the left.

**From: East** Take Interstate **I 84** West to Exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie) At end of exit ramp turn right on to Route 9 North. Follow underlined directions "**From: South**" to the Inn.

**From: West Take** Interstate **I 84** East. Take exit 13 (Fishkill, Poughkeepsie), Route 9 North. Follow underlined directions "**From: South**" to the Inn.

**Registration begins at 0800**

**Reservations must be received by 17 January 2009. Late Registration fee: \$5.00**

**Mail reservations for days activities**

**TO:** D/Lt Alexandra Digilio  
25 Thomas Avenue  
Fishkill, New York, 12524

Questions? Call (845) 896-6644

Hotel Reservations for Friday Night must be made separately with Best Western Inn. They are holding rooms at a discount only until **January 17**. Their phone No: 845-462-4600.

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Mail this section with Check Payable to USPS DISTRICT 2

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SQUADRON: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ RANK/GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE/GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ RANK/GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

**BREAKFAST/LUNCH \$32.00 PER PERSON**

**TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®**  
**2009 DISTRICT 2 SPRING CONFERENCE**



**March 27 & 28, 2009**  
 Holiday Inn  
 412 Route 3 Plattsburgh, NY 12901  
 518-561-5000



Hosted by  
**Champlain Sail & Power Squadron**  
*Celebrating 60 Years of Boating Education*  
*Celebrating Lake Champlain's 400th Anniversary*



Friday:	3:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Registration Table Open
	4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	P/D/C Meeting
	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Cocktail Party (cash bar)
	7:00 PM -	Dinner with C/C's Representative
Saturday:	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Registration Table Open
	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Lite Continental Breakfast
	9:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Business Meeting
	9:30 AM	Guest Program Departs
	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Social Hour (cash bar)
	12:30 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch
	2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Business Meeting Reconvenes
	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Social Hour (cash bar)
	7:00 PM - 11:00 PM	Dinner Dance (cash bar) <b>Semi-Formal Attire</b>

**Honoring Champlain's 60th Anniversary**

*(Above times subject to change)*

Directions: Travel North on I-87 to exit 37. At end of ramp turn right onto Route 3. Turn right just before the fourth light (including the one at the end of the exit ramp) just before Wal-Mart.

Cut Here-----

**REGISTRATION FORM**

First Registrant: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Rank/Position \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron: \_\_\_\_\_

**First Time Attending A District 2 Meeting? Circle Yes or No**

Second Registrant: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Rank/Position \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday Dinner:** Buffet \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$38 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Saturday:** Lite Continental Breakfast & Executive Buffet Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$21 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Saturday Dinner:** Prime Rib \_\_\_\_\_ Baked Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$48 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vegetarian by Request \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$40 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Meal SUBTOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Register meal choices before March 3 and save 5% off meal selections**  
 The savings would be \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **If by the March 3 cutoff date, enter value here = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
 Meal TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Hotel Rooms**      **Friday** \_\_\_\_    **Saturday** \_\_\_\_    **Total Nights** \_\_\_\_    @ \$79 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Circle: Double    or    King                      Circle: Smoking    or    Non-Smoking

**Note:** Cut-off Date for Hotel Room Reservations is March 3, 2009.  
*Reservations received after this date are subject to Space Availability & Rate Change.*  
**GRAND TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please make checks payable to Champlain Sail & Power Squadron and mail to Sonia Shivokevich,  
 7625 Route 22 West Chazy, NY 12992. E-Mail [shivokevich@hotmail.com](mailto:shivokevich@hotmail.com) Phone Number (518) 493-7251  
 Form 27 November 2008

# *D/2 Planning CALENDAR*

**2009**

19 January Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
**31 January D/2 Winter Council, Poughkeepsie, NY**  
16 February Presidents' Day  
**17-22 February Annual Meeting Anaheim, CA**  
25 February Ash Wednesday  
8 March Daylight Saving Time Begins  
10 March Purim\*  
17 March St. Patrick's Day  
**27-28 March D/2 Spring Conference, Plattsburgh, NY**  
5 April Palm Sunday  
9 -16 April Passover\*  
12 April Easter  
10 May Mother's Day  
**16-22 May National Safe Boating Week**  
25 May Memorial Day  
29-30 May Shavuot\*  
14 June Flag Day  
21 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**

## ***D/2 NEWS***

*c/o Cdr Virginia P. Moore, P  
3 Undercliff Street  
Yonkers, NY 10705-1354*

**Address Correction Requested**



*Sail and Power Boating*

