



United States Power Squadrons[®]

District 2

Summer Council

East End Yacht Club, Bridgeport, CT

Minutes of the District 2 Meeting – 31 July 2010

The Summer Council meeting was called to order by D/C Frank DeBaggis, AP at 0900. He introduced the Council members by titles. The Invocation was given by P/D/C Jeff Gerwig, AP followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by D/1st Lt Carl Filios, AP. Introduction of P/D/C was by P/D/C Robert Shivokevich, SN. Present were P/D/C's Frank Thompson, SN, Harrison Valante, SN, Susan Darcy, JN, John Supple, AP, Suzanne Nentwich, AP, Martin Feldberg, AP, and Jeff Gerwig, AP. The Chair reserved the right to change the order of business. Introduction of the Bridge and Chairman of Rules Committee was made by D/Lt/C Lacey Williams. The voting procedure was explained and the Roll Call of the Council was held. A quorum was reached with 27 of the 47 members of the Council being present.

The minutes of the Winter Council were distributed and P/D/C Bob Shivokevich moved to accept the minutes as rendered. It was seconded and passed by voice vote. Frank Kemp requested that minutes be sent ahead of time for review in the future. This was agreed upon by the Commander. No reports of committees were presented at this time.

Reports of the Bridge Officers

Treasurer- Mel Goldstein read the financial report and the balance of the checking account.. The Auditors' report of 18 March 2010 states the books are in order.

Secretary- Ginny Schmidt-Gedney reported that she is trying to set up an archival system and would allow all individuals presenting reports at any meeting to send in an electronic copy for storage on CD. The reports should be sent to the Secretary and we hope we can have them saved on the web server and/or CD for future review.

Administrative - Susan Ryan talked about contacting the Admin Officers of the Squadrons and has offered to assist in providing better meeting speakers and more interesting meetings. To date, eight squadrons have responded. She also wants to remind District members about the Leadership Training for the Administrative Officers on October 2, 2010 in Poughkeepsie. She also brought up doing mini seminars at the Norwalk Boat Show in September as a marketing tool.

Education - George Hallenbeck has discussed with the CT DEP an on-line safe boating course and a ruling is expected shortly. The ABC3 course has a new release with a new CD, with the change to Coastal Explorer by Rosepoint software from the current Maptch software. Minor corrections were made to the text to reflect this change and make corrections as were needed. The names of the students who have taken the course on-line are then sent to the local Squadrons to arrange for testing. Both CT and NY require class room instruction and proctored exams even if they take the on-line course.

George reminded everyone that July, November, and March were the best months to list your courses on line so prospective students have an idea of the courses you are planning. July would be for Fall classes as an example. Sail Angle training Webinars are being held. George is meeting with SEOs to get the Squadron needs and objectives and for problem solving.

Boat Operator Certification - Certification Level 1 is completed and George has been certified to test at this level. Level 2 is not released yet. We can also provide on-the water training for students but we must submit a request to George for approval. Joe Lynch reminded attendees that all squadrons had to have at least one boating course a year. Currently six Squadrons had not met the requirement. The squadron member course information was not available yet. Reminder to send the ED-27 reports for courses.

The Cyber Squadron -The name of the person signing up for the Cyber Squadron online membership, is sent to the public contact of the four closest squadrons. 22 individuals have been included in actual squadrons. They pay the first year's membership including the squadron dues. Once a person has accepted you she will show up on DB2000. The information is in reverse so that George only knows who has not been assigned to a squadron. Chapman Award information is due by September 1, 2010. Last year we had a winner. If you have any issues for the Bellevue Meeting please send them to George.

The new text can be identified by the front page symbol and in the back the Rosepoint software is mentioned. Notice is given that NY and CT require eight hours of class and proctored exams and this should pop up at the sign- on for the on-line course when you put your state in. However USPS does allow them to take the course on line anyway. Carl Filios can provide NY and MA Boaters Guides and he has some at the meeting. George has CT Boaters Guides.

Discussion of advertizing problems was brought up and it was mentioned that advertizing of Boating Courses on Craig's List has been successful for Storm King Squadron.

Harrison Valante gave a Safety Officers Report. The Mel Cohen Safety Award form is on the D2 Website and can be filled out on line but still must be printed and sent to Harrison. He also reported on the accident from 4th of July in Westport involving a person falling off and being killed. He reminded all to instruct passengers about safety procedures and PFD use. USPS has joined the Alliance for Safe Navigation – Allianceforsafenavigation.org website can be used to get up-to-date information on charts. There were 6,400 recreational accidents but still over 700 deaths. There were 2500 accidents striking objects and 1400 groundings so up-dating your charts is a must.

Executive Officer-Lacey Williams- Communication is the giving or exchanging of information. Lacey discussed his request to the Squadrons for ideas and information which would help with joint advertising programs. Please respond. The Spring Conference in Mohawk Hudson will have a raffle of a Deacon's bench which he will deliver.

The Fall Conference will be hosted by Sacandaga and all were asked for suggestions for workshops. Suggestions were made for workshops on websites and newsletters, advertising and operational training. It was requested that we publish the list of workshops in advance and provide this information prior to the meeting with the Call to the Meeting so Squadrons can send interested members. There was discussion on whether workshops should be 90 minutes 2 - 45 minutes. Frank decided that we should have four 90 minute workshops. Website and Newsletter, Operation Training and Advertising, and Education were suggested along with additional topics of various natures. George Hallenbeck said he needed a meeting to disseminate the Education information.

P/D/C Susan Darcy distributed CDs with the D2 directory and other Misc. files. Each Squadron had a copy and additional copies were available for others. Also she handed out the Council and Conference evaluation sheets. A big thank you to Susan for her help.

Southern Squadron Presentation

Cross County- D/Lt/C Mel Goldstein– said the boating class was held but no new memberships resulted even with free Piloting or Seamanship. Raft up the following weekend at Oyster Bay with Westchester. Annual Safety Meeting speaker was the executive director of Science barge.

Darien- Cdr Alan Santos-Buch, S said that Darien had 59 new members with a total of about 300 members which was a credit to instructors. They provided two Safe Boating courses with over 80 students, three Advanced Grade courses Seamanship, Piloting and Advance Piloting and three seminars. They are planning seven Courses for next year. They participated at the yacht club presentations of The Intercostals Waterway, cruising the world by another couple, the Coast Guard American Waterways Watch and Norwalk boat show and the 14th Annual boat camp for 112 kids with 25 power boats

Storm King – SEO Nat Sobelman, P– Storm King offered Piloting, Weather, 3 ABC courses and got 2 new members; June Picnic is the end of monthly meetings. Thank you to CYC for use of their 85th Birthday to Many Santomento, 135 people. The July rendezvous was 10 boats and 37 people. They participated in Newberg Boat Show. P/D/C Fred Mangelsdorf spoke at a meeting about a trip. They provided on water training with wives for CYC and then ABC3 course.

Greenwich – P/C George Dey, JN - Gave Marine electronics and Engine Maintenance had a Flare Up with Stamford Squadron, raft up, lobster party on the beach education ABC3, AP, Engine Maintenance, and Sail. They participated in Young Mariners summer kids program.

Westchester- Cdr Walter Baggett, AP – Gave 2 ABC3 classes and got two new members, safe boating week both sails float for parade, raft up and picnic at blessing of the fleet, charter in the Caribbean. They participated with the disabled Sail program and Wounded Warrior program at Point Rockaway. They had a booth during Safe Boating week in a Marine store.

Mid Hudson- Cdr George Danko, AP- Membership was down and non-renewals are a problem so they have partnered with Poughkeepsie Yacht club and local canoe clubs. Sail course went over well with the Yacht club. They offered two Kids safety course at libraries for kids and family. Seamanship, P and AP even a request to give JN mostly for non members. They are looking at advertising outside the boating community is creating a "mouthpiece job" to connect to PR but to go out and spread the word.

Stamford- Cdr Gino Bottino, AP –He started with a short story of his report and the printing of it. He spoke on attending the National Meeting in Orlando and his ability to speak directly to the National Bridge. Stamford has been meeting with Yacht Club meetings. The nine Squadron Education Consortium provides education and activities as well as with other organizations. They provide two boats with children in PFDs for the Memorial Parade they handed out candy which gets them noticed. They have been holding Sunset Sails. They had a Fire and Flare day event on beach. Share meeting with other squadrons. Kevin Odette, Coast Guard Safety and Accident prevention spoke for them. Sail course on water approved has been approved by National. The participate in the Stamford- Denmark Friendship race and Power Squadron and Stamford Yacht club 280 children taught mainly by Anne Peskin. They took 350 kids sailing.

Lake Candlewood – D/Lt/C Ginny Schmidt-Gedney- LCPS had four boating course 70 students, Seamanship, ID continuing with Cruise Planning and JN. They participated in the Danbury Memorial Parade and have summer activities on lake. LCPS worked with sea scouts for trip preparations. We have our Rendezvous on the Hudson and Holiday party coming up this year and are preparing Fall 2011 conference in Danbury.

Old Business:

We were to discuss the use of D2 money by squadrons for advertising to add new members. The Council is to put forward the information to decide if it goes to Conference or committee. We have listened and Frank Kemp reminded the Council (section 5.9 of the bylaws) Any member of the Conference may submit a recommendation resolution. Leah Beckman of Darien pointed out that the second page of Darien's resolutions cover the questions. At a Council the resolutions have to come from a Squadron. The District is composed of all the Squadron members not a group into itself to help disseminate information. District can assist the Squadrons by providing a bridge to national.

Resolutions have been submitted by Berkshire and Darien; A motion can be made to send to Committee or to the Conference. No discussion was had at this time. It would be brought up later in the meeting.

Budget - Mel discussed the budget. We were under existing budget and were not following the bylaws because we were showing an expense for travel for Exec and Asst Education officers. To be in compliance with the budget the money was moved out of the accounts to the Commanders discretionary fund to keep the moneys in order. For the new budget the key to the budget is how many members an estimate of 1300, at this time over 900 and some nominal interest over \$5,000.00 income. Change assessment from \$6 to \$4 and leaving a difference of about \$25.00.

A hard copy of budget will be sent by e-mail and together with the requested cash flow or financial report for the past three years. It will also be sent with the Call to the Meeting of the conference get it by snail mail. It will also be in seat packet. All members of the Conference will receive the Budget and reports.

We expect receipts to be \$12 more than expenses. Proposed budget was reviewed. A motion was made to have Budget to be put on Fall Conference made and seconded, and passed. It is necessary move money for the SEO and Exec travel account to Commanders dictionary fund. This is not part of the current budget line items. Motion to move was made and passed.

New Business:

Should the Resolutions and Recommendations from squadrons to be sent to committee or Conference? John Supple recommended they go to committee. Leah Beckman of Darien recommended that they should go to Conference but the Rules Committee should review it. The Rules Committee can bring them to the Conference and explain the resolutions. Howard Sklar said to should be brought to rules for verbiage and there would be no discussion at this time, Leah asked if a study could be started to avoid wasting time.

Susan Ryan requested a ten-minute discussion and was ruled out of order. Howard wanted to be able to respond to the submittals and a discussion may cloud the meaning. Read all proposals and Howard recommends they go to Rules. Leah Beckman moved and seconded. Bob Shivokevich suggested that all resolutions be sent to the rules committee and would invite the public to come to meeting – meeting on line and e-mails will be on line. When comes up for vote it can be discussed. At the next meeting we will have a discussion of specific items. A vote was called for to send all to rules for further study. Passed.

Announcements:

PRO to Submitted get it in by September, provide NPR102, copies of invoice and checks and sample of print etc. electronic transmitted to Denise Samu.

Gene Boone had information on Lunch and then afternoon for contests-Cocktails at Land yachts 5, but could start earlier. Dinner at 7 p.m.

The Invocation was given by Virginia Moore.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Schmidt-Gedney, AP
District Secretary