



D/2 NEWS



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

Volume 67

Number 2 September 2015

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

D/C Gino C. Bottino, M.D.,AP

In August we had a very successful Summer Council. My report of the round table discussion we had will be included in the minutes of the meeting and available with those minutes.

I am going to concentrate on the Governing Board Meeting that was held in San Diego, 23-30 Aug. 2015. I will start with the GB meeting itself held on the 30th of August.

I will report in a format devoid of commentary, editorializing, and personal comments about what a fun time we had doing things like having the D/2 Dinner on the water at the Harbor House.

Guests:

USCG Boating Safety Officer- Jeff Hoedt

He presented at the D/2 2015 Spring Conference

Notes the downsizing of the power boat fleet by over a million boats

While the paddle fleet is estimated to be growing at 5 million/year

His main source of funding is from the motor boat fuel fund, which they manage

\$500,000 was granted to USPS this year

NOAA-

CPS/ECP - represented by C/C Joseph Gatfield with most of the Canadian Bridge.

USCG Auxiliary Past National Commodore Everette L. Tucker, Jr.

Discussed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the importance of our organizations moving closer together

Approaching common missions together as a TEAM (Together Everyone Accomplishes More).

Boy Scouts of America - National Sea Scout Director – Keith Christopher

Adding a paddle sport program to the sea scouts

Gowrie Insurance Group- Steve Prime

Continues to cover and support us on the water

Sail Angle- Randy White

Updated the program greatly to increase use and asked us to re-try it

Waterways Director of California

Read Governor Brown's Proclamation to the benefit of USPS at 100 years

Determination of Quorum

R/C R. Keller SN Rules Com: Done

Voting Procedures done by R/C R Keller SN

Minutes of National Meeting-approved

Executive Director Mary Catherine Berube - report

Spanish ABC book updated

ABC now on-line and in Spanish

(Continued on P. 2.)



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

Virtual trainers - updated new functions, added Spanish, and 5 more units up to 18 now

Developing a media Library of Videos and CD presentations On Facebook and PICS are requested to send into National "Brand Assessment Study" phase 1 of 3 completed.

Completed 5 "Internal" research studies to members

Nominations Committee report

See Call to the Meeting or the National web page – Voted on and accepted

Pledge given to elected members

Rules Committee report

Article 5 bylaws change passed: allowing the Bridge to change dates of meetings

Article 9 bylaws change passed: allowing Bridge to change if wanted to one GB meeting

One new chartered Squadron: Mississippi Gulf Coast Squadron 26 Squadrons and 4 Districts changed their bylaws

Recommended that all Squadrons and Districts review and update their bylaws every 5 years

Law Committee Report

Reviewed MOU's, grants, seminar web page intellectual properties, insurance issues.

Planning Committee report – R/C Kay Simpkins

Trying to solve the communications problems we have with much miss-information passed from National to Squadrons

Changes to Nomination Com guidelines

Finance Committee- R/C Ben Coons SN

Thanked D/2 and others for hosting him

Change of Century Fund rules - see on line. 823,000 which stayed flat this year

USPS Fund report - about 1 million and stayed flat with recent market downturn!

General finance report

Deficit now \$47,000 mostly due to decreased membership

Revenues up good over 1.6 million more than last year

Losing 2200 members a year as average over last 15 years

Unsustainable finances and need to change

He recommended a \$2/3 increase to the single/family dues beginning 1 December 2015.

This increase is part of the next year budget which was approved by the Board.

Motion was made on floor to raise dues to \$4/person and \$6/family.

Discussed. This passed beginning 1 December 2015.

(Continued on P. 3.)

The Editor reserves the right to edit articles as needed. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of District 2, The United States Power Squadrons or its editor.

**USPS
District 2**



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National Treasurer report- V/C R. Miller SN

Without changes predicts losses of up to \$100,000 by end of year
Without changes there would be a \$250,000 deficit for 2016-2017 budget

More dues is not enough

National Secretary- V/C Peter Mitchelson SN

Operations manual has been redone
Pro-Log redone
Ship's store has made the same funds
Heritage and Protocol: updated Burgees
Communications Committee: R/C Guy Anastasio
IT Committee: changes to web page
Sail Angle: Changes to programming upgrade discussed

National Administrative Officer- V/C Gary Cheney

MIRA Award - Membership Involvement and Retention Award
Discussed a Mentoring program needed in Squadrons
Membership Committee: only increase is in Cyber-members
Membership benefits Committee: increasing all the time-follow page
Leadership Training Committee: more classes coming

In Raleigh, NC there will be a special "Leadership Academy" in November look for news of this

Squadron Development Committee: 2 new in last year
Squadron Activities Committee: Increased relationship with Amateur Radio Clubs, talk to Lt/C Gary Wells

National Education Officer- V/C Bob Brandenstein, SN

Resolution District 20. They agreed and made the changes and still are. After talking with R/C R Keller rules, he made a motion that the resolution be postponed indefinitely - this passed.
He had little else to say; said courses would be changing

National Executive Officer – V/C Louie Ojeda, SN

Environmental Committee is working with NAMEMPA
Marketing Committee: Branding is a priority and an outreach study is being done
Online Education is being expanded
Webinars are being produced
Social media is starting to be used by National
Government Relations and Partners Committee: see NASBLA presentations online
D/22 lost Squadrons, D/19 lost Winooski Valley; D/8 lost Biscayne Bay and the 5 Squadrons have been Dissolved - so voted
District 31 has been dissolved - so voted
District 5 Resolution: adding 3 at large seats to Governing Board. Discussed and modified multiple times. Main argument against was to "KISS". Vote failed.
Awards: PRO awarded to Greg Scotten. Chapman Electronic media to Peace River D/22. Robert Green Communication Award to D/22.

Old Business: none

Board of Directors Report: P/C/C John Alter, SN

Commented on the future of USPS and that the new changes are needed

Chief's report and ending Comments - C/C R Baldrige, SN

Discussed the importance of an online presence

(Continued on P. 4.)

(Cdr's Message continued from P.3.)



Talked about our Merit Mark system of reward and its value

Understood only by members

Discussed our contribution and presence on the National Safety Board

Discussed the role of grants for funding of needed missions

New Business - none

Benediction

Adjournment

I spent the entire day on Thursday in the District Commanders' and DXO's meeting:

Chief's Talk

We are a Mission Oriented - Purpose Driven membership

It is our mission that makes us unique

About 1 or 2 meetings a year;

Volunteers do the work and need to come together

Group voted unanimously to keep 2 year meeting for now

We will not get rid of Districts as they are needed but re-Districting is being considered

He has balanced the new Budget with more cuts and the dues increase proposed

Importance of the Chief's Rep visits, but no money

Answer is a move to electronic presentations

Expanding on this he plans to have "Town Hall Meeting" by Webinar by the National Bridge monthly

Branding issues revolve around consistency in the message

NXO talk

Resolution presented in meeting were discussed in detail

The main issue with D/20 resolution was more certification and training for instructors which everyone felt was needed.

Cost of being a Board Member was 15K a year

R/C Bob Keller was brought in to discuss resolutions and bylaw changes

R/C Mary Ann Jensen was brought in to discuss Gov't partner Relations: They have to respond to regulation changes and partner with Government. They do MOU's with States, Corporations. Also involved with Homeland Security issues.

Fighting the increase of Ethanol to 15%

USCGAUX MOU - mission oriented short term goals. They would like to see America Waterways Watch done jointly

They feel at Boat Shows we should have joint booths side by side tables and plan scheduling of ABC

Guest lecturing at each other's classes

Share data base of members

"Operation on Board Workshop" for maritime awareness

They want a pro-active approach to Government state relations with an appointed state representative, also for NASBLA too.

Maritime Security Committee reps

R/C Anita Walker came in to discuss Leadership Development

(Continued on P.5.)

"Come for the Boating Education.....Stay for the Friends"SM

(Cdr's Message continued from P. 4.)



“Leadership is a Learned Art” not a talent
Mentoring needed to transfer “tribal knowledge”
Step back, listen.
Learn to say YES

R/C Mike Wiedel for Safety
VSC

We operate by MOU with the USCGAUX that administers the program for the USCG
There is a lot of wasted and discarded stickers that cost money, close to half of all the ones
given to USPS

The money for the stickers comes from the Office of Boating Safety thru the Fuel Tax.

National Secretary V/C Peter Mitchelson

New server to be on line in next month. Expect problems with change over for a few weeks.

Trouble navigating site is being addressed

District 20 developed a lap-top based simulator! Coming soon to all.

R/C Kristi Anderson for Member Benefits Committee doing new web site

GoTo Webinar Session - by the Chief in his room, and Louie with help at computer to show how it would work.

R/C Craig Fraser to coordinate this. It is a National license.

Only panelist would have open microphones

Anyone can submit questions by the Chat function

USPS spent \$2K to get a full use access pass

Can be used as a Squadron joining only, not personal

District 22 and 28 use it a lot so far to have meetings. D/C Ken Smith using it.

National will send a representative to a District Change of Watch but will use local people as much as possible.

If you (a District) want to subsidize the cost you can ask for a National officer for a meeting.

NEO again

Public relations discussed the idea of making USPS and the Squadrons the
“Go To” people for the news and everything on matters of boating safety

They will publish a booklet of Awards

They want to have a PR contest

Updating of the Pro-Log

Keeping up news and periodicals to members is important

10 steps for success:

Safety Demo Days

Incorporate on the water training in all classes

Develop relations with local dealers of boats-all types

Publicize at Community Events

Contests for the town/public like for kid's drawing for boating safety

Use social media

Place our events in community calendars like in the Rotary etc.

Give list of courses to the harbor police and harbor masters

Fly and wear your colors

Teach in local schools.

“Come for the Boating Education.....Stay for the Friends”SM

(Cdr's Message continued from P.5.)



Stf/C Shirley Heald – Brunswick will allow us into their boat show space and they will get us into the show guide

Brunswick relationship discussed again

“Discover Boating Grant” see online from NMMA. They will transport the Virtual Trainer to their shows!

Tall ships MOU and events discussed

Online Captains license reviewed

V/C Bob Miller, SN, National Treasurer

At the present time, cyber members pay \$105 dues per year.

Discussed dues increase needed

Doom and Gloom - we will not survive under current system

“Round table” discussion lead by Louie

We discussed all the things you would expect

About meetings, the main cost overrun is for reimbursement to the National staff and District staff that come.

Discussed ending or cutting more.

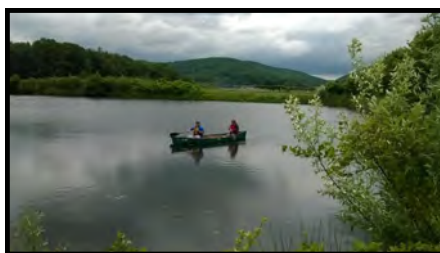
Also discussed was that there are close to 200 Rear Commanders and a few Stf/Cs also being reimbursed.

Because of this large amount of reimbursement, they want to reduce the number of Committees.

My Comment: Because of the economic stress of declining membership, National is now ready to move forward on many changes that have been discussed for years!

Submitted by D/Lt/C Virginia Schmidt-Gedney, AP

On 6 June 2015, Lake Candlewood Power Squadron and the CT DEEP got together at the Danbury Fair Mall Pond, to encourage safe boating, and to introduce various types of manually powered craft to the public. Although the turnout was not great, we had fun and got to pass on some of our knowledge to those who stopped by.



“Come for the Boating Education.....Stay for the Friends”SM

Executive Officer: D/Lt/C Vincent J. Evans, P



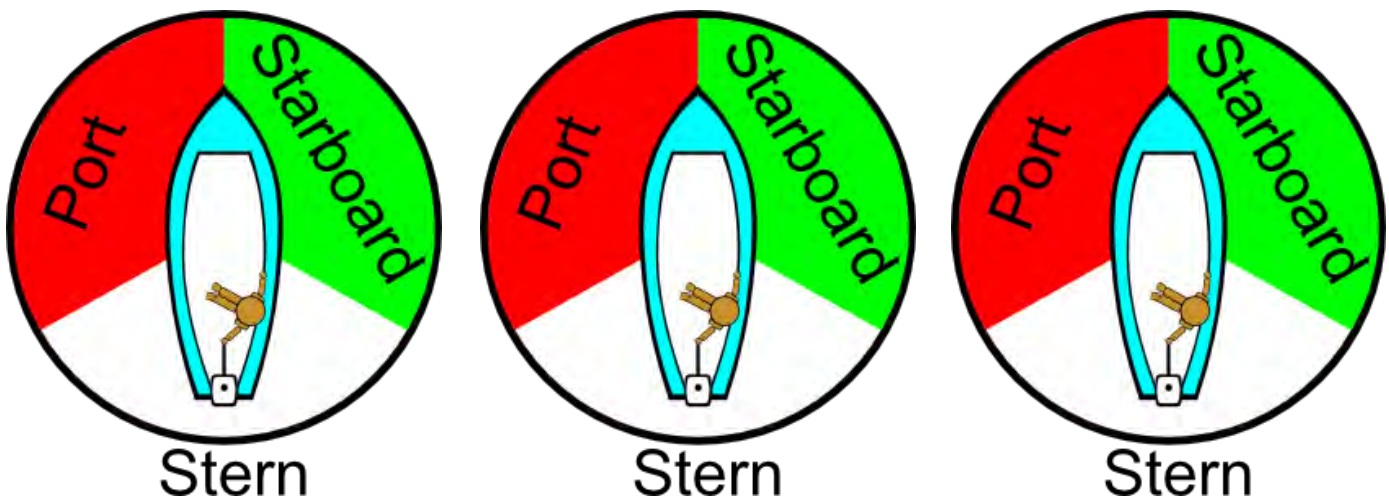
It has been a busy summer. I attended my sister-in-law's wedding in Aruba in mid July. One day we had taken a snorkeling trip aboard a 70' catamaran under full sail. I asked the captain if I could watch him, because I had not been on a Cat before. He invited me into the cockpit and said that I could take the wheel. He allowed me to steer to our destination, before he took over again and tied up at the mooring ball. It was a blast.

My wife and I went to the USPS Governing Board in San Diego at the end of August. Wednesday was a free day so we went to the Zoo. I have heard many good things about their zoo, but it was better to be there in person.

On Thursday I attended my first XO\Commander meeting which was scheduled from 9:00am till 4:00pm with a break for lunch. The meeting was chaired by V/C Louie Ojeda, SN. This meeting covered what is needed for Districts and Squadrons to continue serving and educating the boating public. I also attended meetings regarding the development of the new website for National. It is being done in phases, as most of the work is programmed by about six people. I also attended a meeting about DB2000 database and its capabilities.

This past weekend, I had the distinct pleasure of attending the Norwalk Boat Show on Saturday and Sunday. It was my first time at this show. We had a two booth space that was assigned to the Norwalk Squadron and District 2. It was well designed and caught the attention of passersbys. We were able to speak with the public, and readily engage them in discussion. Many people knew who we are, and what we are about. The people that didn't, we briefly told them about our organization and invited them to contact their local Squadron to take a course.

I commend the members from Norwalk for their organizational skill and expertise. I want to thank all of the members from our District Squadrons who volunteered, and showed up for their assigned time slots during the four days. We had a hundred percent attendance, and everyone that I spoke with enjoyed the time that they had spent at the booth. The big attraction was the USPS simulator. It was used for the entire time that it was up and running. There were some initial problems with a few of the connectors, but R/C George R. Hallenbeck, AP, with some assistance was able to get it corrected. George spent a lot of time guiding the people through the different functions of the simulator. I wasn't sure who enjoyed it more. I learned a lot about the functionality of the boat show, and most of all I made new relationships that can last a long time.



“Come for the Boating Education.....Stay for the Friends”SM

Educational Officer: Stf/C Carl E. Filios, JN

San Diego Governing Board



I looked forward to the Governing Board because I'd never been to San Diego before. I was not disappointed. The first thing I found interesting is that the airport is downtown. The hotel was only a couple of miles from the airport, and was right near the water. San Diego is the home of the Pacific Fleet, and there were a couple of aircraft carriers in port – almost directly across from the hotel. Additionally, the carrier Midway is now a floating museum right near the hotel. Unfortunately, I didn't have time to visit it.

The only full day I had to play tourist was Tuesday. Kristi and Spencer Anderson arranged for P/D/C Denise Terry, AP, and myself to accompany them to the Safari Park, associated with the San Diego Zoo. In addition to walking around in the park, we went on the "Deluxe Caravan Tour", which consisted of riding around in the park for about four hours in an open truck – right in with the animals – well, not with the lions and tigers. Note the picture, below, of "Junior" seemingly involved with negotiations with a giraffe about food. We were each given a handful of leaves, and fed the giraffe that stuck its head over the back rail of the truck. We also had the opportunity to feed a rhinoceros, but I passed on that – rhinos have a large mouth, and I wasn't interested in sticking my hand near it.

The trip wasn't all fun. I spent most of Wednesday in a meeting with the team developing the new web site. Wednesday night, Denise and I were invited to dinner with the Marketing Committee. Thursday was busy, with the Information Technology Committee meeting from 8-10, followed by the District Educational Officer (DEO) meeting for the rest of the day. Thursday night was the dinner cruise. The food was good, and we got to see the harbor at night. The speaker at the Keynote Breakfast on Friday was very interesting. Breakfast was followed by a seminar on Instructor Development, followed immediately by the Instructor Development Committee meeting. After lunch, we held our web site seminar, which actually had a double slot because of a cancellation. Friday night is the traditional hospitality suite night. After visiting a few suites, it was time to go to dinner, hosted by D/C Gino C. Bottino, MD, AP. The Governing Board meeting itself runs most of the day Saturday. I'm sure others will cover that, so I won't deal with it here. The week ended with the dinner dance on Saturday evening.



P/D/C Denise A. Terry, AP (On the right.)

Administrative Officer: D/Lt/C Joseph A. Lynch, AP



Hello everyone, I thought I start out this report by first asking the question everyone was asked on their first day back to school. "What did you do during your summer vacation?" For me it was anything but recreational boating. That is not to say I didn't spend any time on the water. In fact I spent about the equivalent of 45 days on the water. However it was all business. Between running the pump out boat on Lake Candlewood, teaching on the water boating (privately) and captaining jobs on Long Island Sound I was quite busy. Unfortunately that left little to no time to go out in our own boat or attend District 2 functions.

While I didn't get out much, I did have an opportunity to review a membership presentation that P/D/Lt/C John W. Steger, JN, of Westchester developed and presented at a Fall Conference. I did not see John's original presentation but I have to say this is a well thought out, professionally done presentation. I hope to bring it to the Winter Council. My thanks to P/D/C Susan P. Ryan, JN, for bringing this to my attention.

One thing I know about membership activities is that it is not a once a year job, it is an every month all year activity that requires more than just a small committee and a lot of wishful thinking to get and retain members.

There is nice saying being used in USPS "Come for the education stay for the friendship"; to me it is a cute saying but how many actually do stay for the friendship? When I first came into the P.S. I met a lot of people at first, it wasn't until I started taking classes did I make some friends. We were all sailors and the friendship grew from that common bond. But my USPS friends became more than that, they became fast friends, best friends if you will. Even when the boats have been sold and membership attendance has dwindled we are still friends and go to lunch frequently. This is in contrast to a gathering I witnessed recently. I was pumping a few boats out that were anchored out and rafted up. I realized that a majority of the boaters were actually former P.S. members. I asked why they had left the Squadron. The response was really not surprising, after all they are all boaters, doing their boating in the same area, and most belong to the same marina. So why not P.S? The answer was...P.S. did not bring anything to the party! They were boaters before becoming P.S. members and they still boat after stopping their membership and saving their dues money.

That is why member retention is so hard and with the kind of lives we now seem to have with so many Opportunities, it is not surprising that USPS is losing members. I hope John's presentation will give you some ideas on membership.

I will say goodbye now, hope to see you at the Fall Conference.



“Come for the Boating Education.....Stay for the Friends”SM



D2 Fall Conference October 17, 2015

Hosted by District 2
Hyatt House 100 Westage Business Center Drive
Fishkill, NY 12524-2272
1-845-897-5757



Day	Time	Event
Friday	1500 – 1700	Early Registration
Oct. 16	1730 – 1900	Lobby – Cash Bar – Meet and Greet the Chief's Rep and other Conference Attendees
	1900 – 2200	Dinner (Uniform Blazer) – I84 Diner – 803 Route 52, Fishkill Order from the Menu, Separate Checks.
Saturday	0800 – 0900	Registration and Continental Breakfast
Oct. 17	0900 – 1200	General Meeting and Workshops
	1230 – 1400	Lunch
	1400 – 1630	General Meeting, Awards

This is a one day event and because we were unable to reserve a block of rooms at the Hyatt House (Fall Foliage). You *MAY* be able to reserve a room directly at the hotel. In case you cannot make a reservation, a list of nearby hotels is enclosed. Please make your own reservations.

Members arriving on Friday or in the area, are invited to attend dinner at the I84 Diner 803 Route 52 Fishkill, NY – one exit further west on I84. An informal Meet and Greet the Chief's Rep will be held in the Lobby – Cash Bar. Following the Meet and Greet, there will be an informal dinner at the I84 Diner (Order from the menu with separate checks). Anyone staying Saturday evening is invited to get together after the meeting.

General Directions:

- From: South.** Take the NY State Thruway (Interstate 87) North to Exit 17 (Route 17K) – follow the directions from the West below. or Take the Taconic State Parkway to Interstate 84 W – follow the directions from the East below.
- From: North.** Take the New York Thruway (Interstate 87) South. Take the Route 17K exit, Exit 17 toward Newburgh/Stewart Airport. Merge onto Interstate 84 East. Follow the directions from the West below.
- From: East.** Take Interstate 84 West. Take Exit 13N toward Poughkeepsie. At end of ramp, turn right onto US-9 N. Turn left onto Merritt Boulevard. At the next light, turn left onto Westage Business Center. HYATT House Fishkill/Poughkeepsie is on your right.
- From: West.** Take Interstate 84 East. Take Exit 13 toward Poughkeepsie-Fishkill. At end of ramp, turn left onto US-9 N. Continue on US-9 N and at the fourth light turn left onto Merritt Boulevard. At first light turn left onto Westage Business Center Drive. HYATT House Fishkill/Poughkeepsie is on your right.

REGISTRATION FORM

1st Registrant Name _____ Grade _____ Rank/Position _____
 2nd Registrant Name _____ Grade _____ Rank/Position _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Squadron: _____
 Email: _____ Confirmation of reservations will be sent via Email.

Make Checks Payable to: **USPS District 2.**

Cost for the day (including continental breakfast, lunch, breaks) is \$45 per person

Total Enclosed _____

First Time Attending a District 2 Meeting? Check Yes or No

Will you join us on Friday for the Meet and Greet with the Chief's Rep & Dinner? Check Yes or No

Mail with payment by October 4 to:
Late Registration Fee \$5

P/D/C Susan Darcy, JN
7 Hutchinson Lane
Lenox, MA 01240-2217

Questions? 413-637-2275 or susan@darcy-systems.com

This registration form with the program and ALL directions information may be downloaded and printed from the D2 website.

Goto: <http://www.usps.org/d2/d2event.html#District>

Rev. Form: Date 12 June 2015

D/2 NEWS

**c/o Lt Melvin Goldstein, AP
64 Cherrywood Road
Yonkers, NY 10710-1102**

Address Correction Requested



Sail and Power Boating



D/2 Planning CALENDAR

2015

- 23 September, First Day of Autumn.
- 25 September, Native American Day.
- 12 October, Columbus Day.
- 31 October, Halloween.
- 1 November, Daylight Savings Time ends.
- 3 November, election Day.
- 11 November, Veterans Day
- 26 November, Thanksgiving Day.
- 7 December, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.
- 7-14 November, Chanukkah.*
- 25 December, Christmas.
- 31 December, New Year's Eve.

***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.)