



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
SAIL AND POWER BOATING



District 2 Bridge

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Minutes of the District 2 Winter Council 2 March 2019

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 0925 by D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN, who reserved the right to change the Agenda as she sees fit.

Invocation: D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN gave the invocation.

Pledge: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by P/D/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig, AP

National Anthem: D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN, led the singing of the National Anthems.

Introduction of guests: D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN, introduced guests in attendance.

Roll call of Council Members and Determination of a Quorum: This was led by D/Lt/C David J. Wilkinson, S. It was determined that a quorum was present.

Approval of Summer Council Meeting Minutes: As presented in the Seat Packet and included with the Roll Call to the meeting. Motion to approve made by Virginia Schmidt-Gedney. Second by Jeffrey C. Gerwig. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: D/Lt/C John Pedersen, SN presented the Treasurer's Report, which was included in the Seat Packet, for review and discussion.

Vessel Safety Checks: D/Lt/C Robert J. Terry, P, presented his Vessel Safety Check report, which was included in the Seat Packet.

Memorials Committee Report: P/D/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig, AP, presented the Memorials Committee report. Sadly, this has been a busy year. Jeffrey will be verifying squadron contact information and will be contacting squadrons next week to verify who has passed between 1/1/2018 –12/31/18. D/C Susan Darcy noted that this should include Tom Malone, from the Champlain Power Squadron.

Bridge Reports:

- *Treasurer John Pedersen, SN* – no other report.
- *SEO Karl M. Wagner, JN* – Report distributed/included in Seat Packet. Noted that National will only accept electronic submission of reports such as the ED-80. Chapman Awards should also be submitted electronically. The OD-1, OD-2, ED-1, and ED-80 are all on-line.
- *D/Lt/C Andy Papademetriou, N* – No other report besides what's in the Seat Packet.
- *ADEO Andrew Cummings, JN* – No other report.
- *D/Lt/C Robert J. Terry, P* – No other report.

New Business: D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN, noted that P/D/C Gino Bottino has relocated to Arizona but proposes setting up electronic District meetings for potential attendees traveling more than, or equal to, 100 miles. Susan observed that folks are not coming to meetings now – how well would they participate in an electronic meeting? D/Lt/C Andy Papademetriou suggested it might be good to have electronic meetings as an option. One problem: We would need proper licensing and we would still be obligated to a hotel or other facility for in-person attendees. Susan suggested referring this to the Rules Committee.

D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN noted that the Spring Conference is scheduled for April 5-6. March 5th is the deadline to reserve hotel rooms at the special rate.

D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN also announced that the approved District minutes are available on the D2 Website.

“How do I . . .” As Educational Officers and Assistants and Committee Members:

ADEO Andrew Cummings, JN, spoke about the HQ800 as it relates to education. He noted that enrollment management is a very powerful tool. Discussion followed about wallet cards and certificates issued for Connecticut vs. New York State students. Another useful feature is the History tab. Also, it was noted that Instructors do not need to be BOC certified. Also, USPS seminars can be offered at boat shows. Speaking of boat shows, the simulator, a virtual trainer, is available, along with a promotional video. Speaking of boating safety, boaters should wear PFD's and take advantage of their boat's "kill switch" in case they fall out of their seat. A roundtable discussion about education followed. It was noted that student course books are updated every three years. The most current books are dated 2018, with the next edition being published in 2021. Errata sheets are issued in the interim period. 2015 books should be used up as soon as possible.

Squadron Benefits: Members were encouraged to take advantage of the many member benefits available. D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN brought our attention to great places to visit on the National website. <http://usps.org> or america'sboatingclub.org. This is also a great place to check for merit mark resources and web site standards. Another resource is **America's Boating Channel**, which is hosted by Martin Lafferty (who is the son of Lake George Squadron P/C James Lafferty. Videos available here can be customized and presented at events, such as boat shows and classes.

DB2000: D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN led a discussion about DB2000. She noted that the password for D2 officers is **MZMM5D** (all in caps). Squadrons have been issued their own passwords.

“Social Squadrons:” D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN reported that some squadrons want to be strictly “social squadrons.” Members of these squadrons should be surveyed to make sure they all agree about this. In any event, on an annual basis, all squadrons must: Complete the OD2 (usually prepared by the Secretary); must *offer* an approved boating course and report this on the HQ800; File IRS form 990 affirming their not-for-profit status; and submit merit mark nominations. D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN reminded attendees that Squadron Bridge Officers need 5 merit marks and must have completed the Operations Training course. This course can actually be completed in three hours under the “OT in 3” program.

Raffle: After lunch, the drawing for a raffle took place. The winning ticket was number **5928376** and the lucky winner was Virginia Schmidt-Gedney.

Unfinished Business: Alvin Hubert was sworn in as Squadron Commander for the Stamford Power Squadron.

Other Old Business: None to report.

New Business: Craig Burry presented the report from the Nominating Committee, which was included in the Seat Packet. A vote on the proposed slate of officers will be taken at the spring conference.

Spring Conference Announcements:

- Entertainment will be offered on Friday night.
- The deadline is **March 15th** to reserve a room at the special rate.
- On Saturday, beer; wine; and soda will be offered at no cost and a bartender will be available.
- Breakfast on Saturday will be complementary.
- A possible “roast” of the outgoing Commander is being discussed.
- Reservations are due by **March 10th**.
- D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN led a discussion about potential workshops to be offered.
- A motion was made by Susan Darcy, and seconded, to present the ABC Advertising proposal at the spring conference.

A motion to adjourn was made by D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN, which passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1410, and was followed with a benediction offered by P/D/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig, AP

Respectfully Submitted

D/Lt/C David J. Wilkinson

District Secretary
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