



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
SAIL AND POWER BOATING



District 2 Bridge

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Minutes of the District 2 Spring Conference 6 April 2019

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 0925 by D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN.

Invocation: P/D/Lt/C Melvin Goldstein, AP, led the invocation.

Pledge: The Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem were led by P/D/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig, AP

Memorial Service: P/D/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig, AP, led the memorial service. It is with regret that these members have taken their final voyage: Tom Malone, AP – Champlain; Thomas H. Thornton, S – Darien; Anthony J. Rozek, P – Lake George; Richard Rutland, SN – Mohawk Hudson; Kelson Weber, N – Norwalk; from Penfield Sail: Lois Ware, SN; Philip Broadhurs, N; Mary Ellen Thomson; Walter Flynn, AP; From Saugatuck River: Neil Croarkin; Edward Garlick; Ed Hyde, JN; and Neil C. Past; From Stamford Sail: John Finn, Henry Marx, William F. Linke, SN; and from Westchester Sail: Ron Gabel, SN and Miriam Stevens, N.

Introduction of guests: P/D/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig, AP, introduced guests in attendance. These included V/C Craig D. Fraser, SN (District 7/Akron Sail & Power Squadron); D/Lt/C Liana Mihala, SN (District 7/Akron Sail & Power Squadron); R/C Chris Windeler, SN (District 4/Lackawanna Sail & Power Squadron); and Cdr Alexandra Digilio Feldberg, P (District 22/Crystal River Power Squadron).

P/D/C Gerwig introduced the Past District Commanders present. Besides Susan Darcy, JN (Berkshire), in attendance were Susan Nentwich, AP (Westchester); Martin E. Feldberg, AP (Storm King); Susan Ryan, JN (Greenwich); Denise Filios, AP (Norwalk); Vincent Evans, P (Storm King); and himself, Jeffrey Gerwig, AP (Darien). The Past District Educational Officers present were Edward Weber, SN (Mid-Hudson); Anne Peskin, SN (Stamford); Joseph Lynch, JN (Lake Candlewood); George Hallenbeck, AP (Stamford); and Carl Filios, SN (Berkshire).

Governing Board Emeritus members included Jack Cohen, P; Clarkson Farnsworth; Don Gladstone; William F. Gratz; Hubert Sebastian; Harry Twitchell; Robert Ward; and Edward Weber. From the Governing Board: P/D/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig, AP; D/Lt/C Karl M. Wagner, JN; and D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN.

Past District Commanders recognized included Robert Zimmerman; Stu Stiegel; Harrison Valente; Susan Darcy; Jeffrey Gerwig; Howard Sklar; Gino Bottino; John Supple; Fred

Mangelsdorf; Susan Nentwich; Martin Feldberg; Susan Ryan; Denise Filios; and Craig Fraser. Past District Education Officers recognized included Hubert Sebastian; Edward V. Weber; Anne Peskin; Robert Kelly; Joseph A. Lynch; George Hallenbeck; and Carl Filios.

Chief Commander's Address: V/C Craig D. Fraser, SN, appeared as the Chief Commander's representative. Highlights of the address include: Gary Chainey sends his greetings and best wishes. Craig shared a video about the "Jump Start Program," which featured boating "follies." Craig talked about the National branding effort (America's Boating Club), of which Phase 1 is complete. A new brochure is available about this, as well as a 1-hour mini informational seminar. Craig also spoke about the philosophy of "learn, engage, and connect." – an effort to entice people to join America's Boating Club and maintain their membership. Phase 2 is yet to come. It will include specific promotions and a call to action; product bundling (courses); measuring of ad effectiveness; web site updates to get people to it "in three clicks." tell folks about our "world class education," and make sure they have fun along the way. Craig also talked about America's Boating Channel.

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 Fall 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 Denise Filios. Motion passed.

Educational Department: D/Lt/C Karl M. Wagner, JN noted that course materials can be downloaded and printed locally as needed. Don't forget about the discount available to the Power Squadron from Office Max/Office Depot with a copying card. The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators can be a valuable resource. The ABC class can be a great source of membership growth.

General Presentation: D/1st/Lt Andrew M. Cumming, JN provided information about the new regulations for PFD's, which are now called "life jackets" or "buoyancy aids." Numbers on the jackets represent the amount of flotation. One area of measure involves whether or not the wearer's head will be held up about the water. Downloadable slides are available for the ABC course and D/C Susan Darcy also offered to put them on the D2 web site today.

Bridge Officer Reports:

- D/Lt/C John P. Pedersen, SN: Thanks for your help throughout the year.
- D/Lt/C David J. Wilkinson, S – No report.
- D/Lt/C Robert J. Terry, P – No report.
- D/Lt/C Karl M. Wagner, JN – Thanks to everyone who has helped over the last 6 years.
- D/1st/Lt Andrew M. Cummings, JN – Karl, it has been a pleasure working with you.
- D/Lt/C Andy Papademetriou, N – Thanks to George Hallenbeck for help with boat shows and to all the others who helped.
- D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN – Thanks to the bridge.

General Committee Reports:

- Rules: P/D/Lt/C Robert P. Kelly, SN – My report is in the Seat Packet.
- P/D/Lt/C Edward V. Weber, SN – No report.

Appointed Committee Reports:

- Councils & Conferences – P/D/C Howard A. Sklar – No report.
- Public Relations – P/D/C Susan P. Ryan – The back of the new Connecticut Boater's Guide features an advertisement that all the Connecticut squadrons have contributed to.
- Membership – D/C Susan L. Darcy – Offered to help “put butts in the seats” by conducting a mini seminar at a marina or yacht club. Membership is down to about 853 people.

Unfinished Business:

- Financial Report – D/Lt/C John Pedersen, SN – discussed his report as included in the Seat Packet. P/D/Lt/C Martin Feldberg observed that \$21,000 is too much to have in the checking account and proposed moving \$10,000 into a CD. D/Lt/C Karl Wagoner made a motion that the Treasurer open up a new CD of an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for a term at the Treasurer's discretion. Second by Virginia Schmidt-Gedney. Discussion followed and motion was carried.
- Proposal for ABC Advertising – A proposal has been made to help squadrons advertise the ABC course by offering funds for advertisements not to exceed \$300 per squadron. D/Lt/C Andy Papademetriou is generally in agreement with the proposal; however, he has some concerns. He would prefer to see a proposal from a squadron before the funds are actually awarded. Squadrons need to be held accountable. Further discussion ensued. P/D/Lt/C Melvin Goldstein asked questions about the timeline for the proposal and it was suggested that a committee might need to be formed to “flesh this out” some more. P/D/Lt/C Anne Peskin suggested that perhaps a “sunset clause” needs to be included. Martin Feldberg observed that the proposal, as currently written, ends on December 31, 2020. We could revisit this idea after that time if needed. D/Lt/C John Pedersen made a motion that the program expire at the time of the 2020 spring conference. Second by Anne Peskin. Motion was carried. D/C Susan Darcy suggested we table this proposal until the Summer Council and vote on it at the Fall Conference. Virginia Schmidt Gedney made a motion to table the proposal. Second by Robert Terry. Votes were counted: 19 yay; 9 nay. The motion was tabled.

Awards:

- Life Membership - D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN stated P/D/Lt/C Fred Mangelsdorf, P/D/Lt/C Melvin Goldstein; and P/D/Lt/C Susan Nentwich are one Merit Mark away from their 25th Merit Mark for Life Membership. It would seem that they would be receiving their Life Membership at the Annual Meeting in February 2020.
- Outstanding Squadrons – D/C Susan Darcy reported the following results:
 - Stamford Sail and Power Squadron – Honorable Mention
 - Greenwich and Mid-Hudson – tied in the Fraternity category
 - Darien won for the civic service category
 - Penfield was chosen as Most Improved
 - There was a 3-way tie for overall outstanding achievement by Greenwich, Darien, and Westchester.

- Past District Commander Awards presented as follows:
 - 3rd place went to Penfield for Member Involvement
 - 2nd place was awarded to Berkshire Sail and Power Squadron
 - 1st place was awarded to Sacandaga.

For increasing member involvement:

- 3rd place was awarded to Saugatuck River.
 - 2nd place was awarded to Berkshire
 - 1st place was awarded to Penfield.
- Distinctive Communicator Awards:
 - For web sites: Awards were presented to Mid-Hudson, Lake Candlewood, Greenwich, District 2, Storm King, Norwalk, Berkshire Sail & Power Squadron, and Darien Sail & Power Squadron.
 - For publications: Awards were presented to Greenwich (Harbor Light), Sacandaga (Windjammer), Saugatuck River (Dredging), and District 2 (D2 News).
 - D/Lt/C Karl M. Wagner asked a question about delegates, which was briefly discussed.
 - No Educational Awards were presented.
 - Membership Growth Awards:
 - Richard Moore Operations Training: Honorable Mention was noted for Greenwich and Norwalk.
 - Vessel Safety Check Examiners – presented by D/Lt/C Robert J. Terry. In all, 28 certified examiners performed 267 vessel exams:
 - 1st place – Lake Candlewood: 115 safety exams.
 - 2nd place – Sacandaga: 32 safety exams.
 - 3rd place – Mid-Hudson: 29 safety exams.
 - Individual Awards:
 - 1st place – Lake Candlewood: 109 safety exams by Brian Barnier
 - 2nd place – Sacandaga: 22 safety exams by Philip Roeber
 - 3rd place – Mid-Hudson: 15 safety exams by Donald Peterson
 - Educational Fund Honor Roll – reported by P/D/Lt/C Edward V. Weber, SN
 - Congratulations were offered to Berkshire, Penfield, Lake Candlewood, Westchester, and Stamford.

District Commander's Final Remarks:

- D/C Susan L. Darcy presented gifts and whale pins to the District Bridge as an expression of her thanks and concluded with a hearty "Thank you so much. I'm done!"

All appointed officers, with the exception of the Secretary, were dismissed. P/D/C Denise A. Filos, AP, presented the Nominating Committee's report. Virginia Schmidt-Gedney made a

motion that the Secretary cast one vote for the proposed slate. Second by P/D/C Denise Filios. Motion carried and the slate of officers were successfully elected and installed. District Commander Andy Papademetriou, N, thanked P/D/C Susan Darcy, District Educational Officer Karl Wagner, and V/C Craig D. Fraser for their efforts on behalf of District 2 and USPS. P/D/C Susan Darcy presented gifts to DC Andy Papademetriou to welcome him to the office of D2 Commander.

New Business: Commander Papademetriou did not have anything specific to discuss.

Announcements: The host squadron, Westchester, announced that the cocktail hour for their Change of Watch would begin this evening at 1800 (6 p.m.), following which the meeting was adjourned and a benediction was offered by P/D/Lt/C Melvin Goldstein, AP.

Respectfully Submitted

D/Lt/C David J. Wilkinson

District Secretary

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