



D/2 NEWS



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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN

Okay, we're on the countdown to the District's Change of Watch – you know, out with the "OLD" and in with the "NEW". So this is the time I'm supposed to say my farewells! How can I say enough Thank Yous to the District 2 Bridge? Or enough Thank Yous to all the District Committees who have made this past watch year so easy for me.

Another extra large round of applause goes to Squadron Commanders and Squadron Educational Officers who have been so supportive of their Squadron but also the District. To the Squadrons members a super big Thank You for not only taking classes but assisting your Squadron officers in their duties. Remember, it ain't an easy job and even though they may make it look like it's a walk in the park or that the waters are calm, they're working their butts off!

A million Thank Yous to all who have not only been there but really helped to do it all. You're terrific and you deserve all the accolades for your support and enthusiasm. I can only say I am so grateful for everything you've done for me during the past year -- I cannot take credit for your hard work and since I seem to be running on and on, come to the Spring Conference, April 5 and April 6 and bask in your praise. **You Done Yourself Proud!**

THANK YOU ALL – you all epitomize the theme of this past year – "Be Your Best and Having Whales of Fun in USPS". You are the best and I hope you had Whales of Fun this past year!!

THANK YOU ALL!!

Executive Officer: D/Lt/C Andy Papademetriou, N

The most revealing change at the USPS 2019 Annual Meeting was that this meeting did not take place! Instead, America's Boating Club took over the venue in Orlando and was having what I think was its first Annual Meeting.

Our organization is changing outwardly, and hopefully inwardly, to become a more welcoming, fun promoting, educational organization. In this short article I would like to point out the few things that are moving us forward.

First, USPS will stop being used in all communications with the public after December 31, 2019. America's Boating Club will be the only public brand. USPS will be retained as a legal name by both National and Squadrons for expedience; dissolving the old organization and replacing it with a new entity is very costly and time consuming.

Second, the new copyrighted and trademarked logos have been finalized and are finding their way into apparel, gifts, Insignia and flags. New, modern looking name tags have been designed and are becoming available. A few of District 3 Squadrons have moved to the new apparel, and nametags already.

Third, the America's Boating Club publication "Marketing Guidebook" has been updated to Version 2.0, February 2019, and it provides the roadmap and what Headquarters, District, and Squadron levels needs to know to affect and implement these life giving changes.

More to come.





SAILING SEASON TO START SOON.

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.

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D/2 VSC Report to the D/2 News & the D/2 Winter Council March 2019

The 2018 Final VSC Report is dated January 2, 2019. I have found the following information for 2018. The highest number of reported VSC examinations for all D/2 Squadrons, is Lake Candlewood SPS with 115 VSC examinations. In 2nd place is Sacandaga PS with 32 VSC examinations. In 3rd place this year is Mid-Hudson SPS with 29 examinations. Also based on information from this report for highest D/2 individual number of VSC exams completed in first place is Lt Brian Barnier of Lake Candlewood SPS with 109 examinations. In 2nd place is Lt/C Philip Roeber from Sacandaga PS with 22 examinations. In 3rd place is Cdr. Donald Peterson of Penfield SPS with 15 examinations.

Our District with 28 certified examiners for 2018 has recorded a total of 267 VSC examinations. In 2017 D/2 had 29 examiners who recorded a total of 318 VSC examinations. In 2016 D/2 had 25 certified examiners who completed a total of 330 VSC examinations. Thanks go out to the newer certified VSC examiners of Greenwich SPS, Norwalk SPS and Penfield SPS for their 2nd year participation in the 2018 VSC program. Congratulations go out to Cdr. Don Peterson on completing 15 VSC examinations. He has only been a certified examiner for 2 years and has received 3rd place in the individual category for 2018. 2018 D/2 VSC awards will be distributed at the Spring Conference in April.

2019 D/2 currently has only 19 qualified examiners according to USPS computer records. That means our District has 9 VSC examiners to be re-certified in 2019 to get back to that level of examiners we had in 2018. Remember, if it has been less than 5 years since being certified, that examiner only needs only 2 supervised examinations to become recertified.

With USPS HQ trying to cut costs of printing the VSC decals, remember to return your unused (current year) decals to USPS HQ when you are finished examining boats in your area for the boating season. In NYS we do not have the advantage of being able to boat all year long like they do in the Southern US. Returned decals can be redistributed to those southern Squadrons and save printing costs.

Last summer we had bad weather to deal with and what I heard was a lack of boater interest in having VSC examinations completed on many boats in our area. Scheduling a VSC examination day at a yacht club, having many examiners available, may be a good idea. Schedule a cookout (picnic) at the same time. Make the information known to the club a couple weeks in advance of your event. Make sure you contact newer boaters to let them know what you are covering on the inspection by distributing VSC fliers. Remember to distribute a flier about your Squadron and what you can offer the boaters, courses, activities, etc. Maybe you can pick up some new membership at the same time by involving non-examiners at the event to serve food and talk to the boaters about USPS, and your Squadron.

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

D/2 NEWS

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Address Correction Requested



D/2 Planning CALENDAR

2019

10 March Daylight Savings Time Begins.
6 March, Ash Wednesday.
15 March, St. Patrick's Day.
14 April, Palm Sunday.
21 April, Easter Sunday.
20-27 April, Passover.*
12 May, Mother's Day.
27 May, Memorial Day.
9-10 June, Shavuot.*
14 June, Flag Day.
16 June, Father's Day.
4 July, Independence 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 OF THE D/2 NEWS.)