



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
SAIL AND POWER BOATING



District 2 Bridge

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Minutes of the District 2 Fall Conference 5 November 2022

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1030 by D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN. Attendees included, but were not limited to: Vincent Evans (Storm King); Martin Feldberg (Storm King); Jeffrey Gerwig (Darien); Alvin Hebert (Stamford); Frank Kemp (Darien); Joseph Lynch (Lake Candlewood); John Pedersen (Darien); Anne Peskin (Stamford); Donald Peterson (Penfield); Susan Ryan (Greenwich); Howard Sklar (Greenwich); Kathryn Somogyi (Mid-Hudson); Robert Terry (Mohawk-Hudson); Harrison Valante (Saugatuck River); Diane Valante (Saugatuck River); Karl Wagner (Norwalk); Alexandra Digilio-Feldberg (Harris Chain Sail & Power Squadron); and D/Lt/C David Wilkinson, S. It was determined that a quorum was, regretfully, *not* present following the roll call conducted by D/Lt/C David Wilkinson, S, Secretary. A moment of silence was observed for George Hallenbeck and for all others who are ill.

Pledge of Allegiance: Staff Commander Alexandra Digilio-Feldberg, P led the Pledge of Allegiance, following which P/D/C Harrison R. Valante, SN led the National Anthem.

Introduction of Guests: D/C Susan Darcy made the introductions of guests and other visitors in attendance, notably Alexandra Digilio-Feldberg. Governing Board Emeritus members present were P/D/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig; and Donald Gladstone. Past District Commanders present included Harrison Valante; Susan Darcy; Martin Feldberg; Jeffrey Gerwig; Susan Ryan; and Howard Sklar. Past District Educational Officers present were Karl Wagner; Anne Peskin, SN; and Joseph Lynch, JN.

Introduction of the National Representatives: P/D/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig, AP introduced Representative C/C Craig Fraiser, who introduced the Commander's Message. The message was presented electronically and is also available on line. The Commander talked about how "membership is job one," as well as reorganization, education updates, bylaws simplification, and the opportunity to "seize the day" with event scheduling. Also noted were the upcoming National Meeting in Orlando from 2/19-2/26/23.

Educational Update: D/Lt/C Joseph Lynch presented the Educational Update and led a discussion concerning in-person versus online courses. Joseph also presented a list of District Instructors that need to be re-certified and noted that D2 offers a re-certification program. Instructors must be certified to teach the Public Boating Course. Joseph also reminded squadrons to submit the I990-N (tax-exempt form) and talked about contributions to the Education Fund Honor Roll.

Report from the Law Committee: We are pleased to report that the pending lawsuit relative to a student who suffered a twisted ankle while taking a course has been settled and is no longer an issue.

Report from the Rules Committee: As reported by P/D/C Howard Sklar, based on the efforts of National, we will need to redo our bylaws. A discussion followed as to whether or not past district commanders should be considered *voting* members of the conference.

Workshop Roundtable: Following lunch, D/C Susan Darcy, presented a workshop to solicit ideas on what's wrong with the District and what's right with the District. A summary of this workshop is attached.

Other Committee Reports as needed: None.

Bridge Reports:

Treasurer – to be discussed	Executive Officer – No report
Secretary – No report	Commander – No report.
Administrative Officer – No report	
Education Officer – No report	

Financial Report: D/Lt/C John P. Pedersen, SN presented his Financial Report and the proposed 2023-2024 Budget. These items were discussed but, due to lack of a quorum, could not be acted on at this meeting.

Awards:

2021 Vessel Safety Check Awards were presented as follows:

Squadron Awards:

1st place - Lake Candlewood Power Squadron – 34 exams
2nd place – Greenwich Sail & Power Squadron – 31 exams
3rd place – Mid-Hudson Power Squadron – 28 exams

Individual Awards:

1st place – Brian Barnier – Lake Candlewood – 34 exams
2nd place – Susan Ryan – Greenwich – 32 exams
3rd place – Armand Canestraro – Lake George- 25 exams
4th place – Philip H. Roeber – Sacandaga – 17 exams
5th place – Wesley Wood Oliver – Darien – 13 exams
6th place – Bruce M. LoPresti – Mid-Hudson – 12 exams

Honorable Mention:

Donald Peterson – Penfield – 9 exams
David G. Martin – Norwalk – 8 exams
Mark Crowley – Storm King – 8 exams
Andy Papademetriou – Westchester – 6 exams
John H. Walsh – Darien – 6 exams
Janice A. Bell – Mohawk-Hudson – 6 exams
Katherine Somogyi – Mid-Hudson – 6 exams
Robert Terry – Mohawk-Hudson – 6 exams
Abel H. Ferreira – Mid-Hudson – 5 exams
John B. Hess, Jr. – Darien – 5 exams
Karl M. Wagner – Norwalk – 5 exams
Kathleen P. Ferreira – Mid-Hudson – 5 exams
William S. Greenwald – Mohawk-Hudson – 3 exams.

Shipping over awards for membership retention were presented as follows:

- 1st place (tie) – Greenwich Sail and Power Squadron (114.05 percent)
- 1st place (tie) – Storm King Sail and Power Squadron (103.13)
- 2nd place – Lake Candlewood (93.42)
- 3rd place – Berkshire (93.10)
- 4th place – Penfield (91.67)
- 5th place – Darien Sail and Power Squadron (89.02)

Squadron members celebrating 50 years of membership were recognized as follows:

- Leo Cirino, N – Penfield
- Don E. Getner, S – Norwalk
- John P. Luscombe, S – Saugatuck River
- Peter J. Sebastian, S – Stamford
- Gary L. Swenson, N – Greenwich

Mel Ochs – Children Safe Boating Award – Not presented

Education Awards were presented as follows:

P/R/C Frank Gratz Memorial Award – for the greatest number of members passing an elective course during the year – presented to **Norwalk Sail and Power Squadron**.

Stanley Stevens Award – for the largest percentage of eligible members who have completed Piloting or Advanced Piloting – presented to **Norwalk Sail and Power Squadron**.

Other awards:

- Carl L. Plock Memorial Award – not presented
- Greenwich Piloting Award – not presented
- D2 Past District Educational Officer Award – not presented
- Prince Henry Award – not presented
- Stamford-Doolittle Award – not presented
- Lake George Power Squadron was recognized for celebrating their 75-year anniversary, having been chartered on June 2, 1947.

New Business: We will be setting up an on-line meeting, via Zoom, to act on the budget and the minutes.

Benediction: P/D/C Jeffrey C. Gerwig, AP, offered a benediction to close the meeting.

Adjournment: D/C Susan L. Darcy, JN made a motion to adjourn, which passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1451 (2:51 p.m.)

Respectfully Submitted
D/Lt/C David J. Wilkinson
District Secretary

Notes from the November 5, 2022 Fall Conference Workshop:

What's wrong with the District?

1. Squadrons don't participate in District meetings.
2. Not enough training.
3. Not enough (pro-active) assistance to squadrons from District.
4. Not enough younger members.
5. Bring back the Councils and Conferences Committee.
6. Lack of social opportunities.
7. Not fulfilling the mission to help the squadrons.
8. District has no value to the component squadrons.
9. Need more variety of meeting locations.
10. Lack of leadership/interest in leadership positions.
11. Challenges for geography and distance.
12. Lack of interest in District meetings/Meetings are not interesting.
13. No definition of district or succession planning.
14. Organization problem(s).
15. No social / rendezvous events.

What's *right* with the District?

1. An excellent way to get information.
2. Good opportunities for fellowship.
3. Good way to meet and exchange ideas.
4. Get information about what's happening at the National level.
5. Good opportunity for involvement and to advance knowledge
6. Learn from a variety of shared experience
7. Good training ground for National level positions
8. Susan Darcy
9. Great resource for ideas / new ways of doing things.
10. Good opportunities for friendship.
11. Meet experienced people.

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