

United States Power Squadrons®
Sail and Power Boating
District 9 Fall Conference Meeting Minutes
Westin Hotel, Southfield, Michigan – Saturday, 26 October 2006

Call to Order

D/C Samu called the 2006 Fall Conference to order at 1315.

D/C Denise Samu, AP

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance
SN

US & Canadian National Anthem

Welcome and Comments

D/C Samu thanked the members of the Detroit Power Squadron for hosting the conference. She requested that all cell phones and pagers be silenced so as to not interrupt the meeting.

Order of Business

The chair stated that unless there were objections, she would change the order of business as necessary in order to expedite the meeting. Seeing and hearing none it was so ordered.

Recognition of Departed Members

The following departed members were recognized and the District Bell was tolled for each:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| • Steven S. Daw | Dearborn |
| • P/C Len L. Bellamy, AP | Grand Rapids |
| • P/C Jeffery S. Lebutt, P | Irish Hills |
| • P/C Maynard Martin, SN | Kalamazoo |
| • Allyn H. Heath, AP | Kalamazoo |
| • Lt Richard D. Snyder, P | Kalamazoo |
| • P/Lt/C Earnest Mink, Jr, SN | Mt Clemens |
| • Allen B. Stevens, AP | Port Huron |
| • P/Lt/C Richard S. Smeltzer, AP | Port Huron |
| • Emily Maitrott | Port Huron |
| • Susan E. Mack, P | Port Huron |
| • Frank Bevier | Rogers City |
| • Lt Marilyn Winn, AP | Tip of the Mitt |

Prayer on behalf of Departed Members

Introduction of National Officers and P/D/Cs

D/Lt/C Stephan made the following introductions:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • P/D/C James R. Leonard, SN | • P/D/C James (Jack) Knaggs, SN |
| • P/D/C Edwin R. Schwenk, SN | • R/C Ronald C. LaPlante, SN |
| • P/D/C Gert Baldwin, JN | • P/R/C Patricia Johnston, SN |
| • P/D/C John Bennett, SN | • P/R/C John Alstetter, SN |
| • P/D/C Michael J. Rachuk, SN | • Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN |

- Stf/C Sally Lemus, JN
- Stf/C Marlys Vickers, SN

- P/D/Lt/C Thomas Hyatt, N

Introduction of USPS Guests

P/D/C James R. Leonard, SN

P/D/C Leonard made the following introduction:

- **Rear Commodore Llorens (Joe) Chenevert USCG Auxiliary 9th Central Region**

R/C Chenevert spoke briefly about the strong relationship between USPS and the USCGA. He thanked District 9 for inviting him to the conference.

Review of Voting and Floor Privileges

D/Lt Laddie Hudson, SN

D/Lt Hudson reviewed and explained voting privileges and procedures for the meeting, citing sections 3.1, 2.9, 2.9.1, 2.9.2, 2.9.3 and 5.11.

Determination of a Quorum

D/Lt/C James Draper, JN

D/Lt/C Draper reported that a quorum was present for the meeting.

Approval of Minutes – 2006 Spring Conference

D/C Denise Samu, AP

The minutes of the Spring Conference held on Saturday, 25 March 2006 at the Doubletree Hotel in Bay City, Michigan were available for review and on the D/9 website prior to the start of the meeting.

Motion: It was moved by P/D/C Schwenk and with support by P/D/C Bennett to approve the 2006 Spring Conference minutes. Motion passed.

Chief Commander's Message

R/C Darrell Allison, AP

R/C Allison started his talk off on the right note by wearing a Detroit Tigers ball cap (Tigers were playing in the World Series at the time). He thanked the D/9 squadrons for his enjoyable Friday evening hospitality rooms' tour. He then had the audience chant, "We're D/9 and we're really fine. We do our boating all the time." After this warm up session a summary of his message from C/C Marshburn was as follows:

1. At USPS HQ there will be an effort to listen more & talk less.
2. Efforts are underway to revitalize and consolidate USPS educational programs through our "USPS University" initiative.
3. Reduce organizational expenses, simplify bureaucracy, & increase the effectiveness of electronic communication.
4. Increasing opportunities to reach out and touch through innovative activities designed to promote membership participation, involvement, and organizational visibility through public outreach.
5. Summary message: Relevance—our organizational problem is that our programs and services that appeal to boaters are judged to be irrelevant.
6. National USPS now gets it and are doing something about it.
7. USPS has a long life ahead and a bright future.

A more detailed version is included in the Reports of the District Officers & Committee Chairs section.

Awards Ceremony

D/C Denise Samu, AP
R/C Darrell Allison, AP
D/Lt/C Jerry Stephan, AP
D/Lt Frank Muylaert, P

D/Lt/C Stephan announced the categories, awards, and the recipients. The awards were presented to the recipients by D/C Samu and R/C Allison with assistance by D/Lt Frank Muylaert, D/9 Trophies & Award Chairman. The awards and recipient' names were also displayed on screen as a PowerPoint presentation.

Fifty Year Membership in USPS (plaque and pin)

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| • Russell A. Jorgonson, SN | Grand Traverse Bay |
| • Edward M. Kalist, N | Mt Clemens |
| • Patrick A. Lally, AP | Mt Clemens |
| • Charles W. Lowe, SN | Mt Clemens |
| • Thomas R Neblett, N | Dearborn |
| • Richard S Smeltzer | Port Huron |

Membership Growth Award

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| • 3 rd Place | Grand Traverse Bay | 4.020% |
| • 2 nd Place | Tip of the Mitt | 7.895% |
| • 1 st Place | St Clair Shores | 8.696% |

Membership Involvement Award

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| • 3 rd Place | Muskegon | 96.721% |
| • 2 nd Place | Rogers City | 96.774% |
| • 1 st Place | Tip of the Mitt | 107.317% |

Sailor of the Year Award (traveling perpetual trophy)

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| • Daniel H. Pevos, SN | Birmingham |
|-----------------------|------------|

District Predicted Log Award

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| • Dave Charvat | Grosse Pointe | 1.00% error |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|

District 9 Novice Predicted Log Award

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| • Dakota Hewlett | Grand Rapids | 1.56% error |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|

East Side Predicted Log (open to non USPS organizations)

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| • Dave Charvat | Grosse Pointe | 1.00% error |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|

West Side Predicted Log Winner (open to non USPS organizations)

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| • Dakota Hewlett | Grand Rapids | 1.56% error |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|

R/C James E. Ryan, SN Advanced Grades Trophy

- 3rd Place Birmingham 19.72% increase
- 2nd Place Tip of the Mitt 21.43% increase
- 1st Place Muskegon 42.86% increase

R/C Glenn H. Howell, SN Elective Course Trophy

- 3rd Place Muskegon 12.50%
- 2nd Place Anchor Bay 18.52%
- 1st Place Tip of the Mitt 27.91%

P/R/C George (Bud) A. Richardson, SN Total Squadron Educational Performance Award

- 3rd Place Grand Rapids 22.68%
- 2nd Place Tip of the Mitt 48.84%
- 1st Place Muskegon 54.89%

Certificates of Educational Achievement (full certificate mounted on wooden plaque)

- William Stewart Dearborn
- Cheryl J. Cheger-Timm Saginaw Bay

Donald C. Beran, SN Squadron Educational Achievement Award

- 3rd Place Saginaw Bay 0.70%
- 2nd Place Dearborn 0.76%
- 1st Place Kalamazoo 1.03%

Boating Course Awards

- 2nd Place Rogers City 1.16%
- 1st Place St Clair Shores 2.56%

District Teacher of the Year Award (certificate)

- Lt/C Virginia Crooks, AP St Clair Shores

Prince Henry the Navigator Award (trophy)

- 2nd Place Birmingham 0.46%
- 1st Place Dearborn 0.79%

District Cooperative Charting Award (squadron)

- 3rd Place Port Huron
- 2nd Place Sable Point
- 1st Place Dearborn

District Cooperative Charting Award (individual)

- 3rd Place
 - 2nd Place
 - 1st Place
- Dave Brooks**
Dave Rayburn
Howard Deal

Co-op Charting Honor Roll

- Anchor Bay
- Dearborn
- Detroit
- Flint
- Grand Rapids
- Grand Traverse Bay
- Grosse Ile
- Kalamazoo
- Port Huron
- Sable Point
- Saginaw Bay
- St Clair Shores

Report of the Planning Committee

D/Lt David Brooks, AP

D/Lt Brooks reported that the Planning Committee had two items under review. These are PlanCom Item 11 which is an ongoing process to reduce the length of District 9 conferences and PlanCom Item 13 which is the development of an SOP for a Squadron Ambassador. P/D/C Rachuk, who is D/9's current Squadron Ambassador, is developing this SOP. Written PlanCom report is included in the Reports of the District Officers & Committee Chairs section.

Report of the Rules Committee

Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN

Stf./C Landeros thanked his associates for their help in updating the bylaws to USPS national standards.

Motion: It was moved by P/D/C John Bennett with support by D/Lt Chet Dunbar and P/D/C Edwin Schwenk to accept the revised bylaws as presented by Stf/C Landeros. Motion passed. (Secretary's note: the revised bylaws are posted on the D/9 website. Per a letter from P/R/C Lowell Ward, SN, USPS Committee on Rules, these bylaws are effective as of 30 October 2006).

Report of the Nominating Committee

P/D/C Jack Knaggs, SN

P/D/C Knaggs reported that the 2007-8 ballot is complete and ready for presentation at the Spring Conference. Nominee's biographies have been printed in the *Interlaker*.

Report of the Conference Coordinator

P/D/C Mike Rachuk, SN

P/D/C Rachuk's written report is included in the Reports of the District Officers & Committee Chairs section. D/9 is hosting the 2008 USPS National Governing Board Meeting. There are host squadrons for district conferences through the spring of 2009. Squadrons interested in hosting a conference may contact P/D/C Rachuk or the district commander.

D/9 DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Treasurer's Department

D/Lt/C Bryan Bartlett, AP

D/Lt/C Bartlett noted that all receipts have been deposited and bills paid. The written Treasurer's Report is included in the Reports of the District Officers & Committee Chairs section.

Secretary's Department**D/Lt/C James Draper, JN**

D/Lt/C Draper stated that his report was on the table for review at the Conference's convenience. D/Lt Dunbar, Secretary's Department Computer Systems & Web Master, took the floor for a brief overview of the DB2000 data base form and to encourage everyone to fill it out which will assist us in updating our DB2000 data base. D/Lt/C Draper advised the conference that forms are on the table and (1) copy of the complete current D/9 roster is at each table enabling the conference participants to check on the correctness of their current data. In addition the D/9 roster, valid as of September 19th, 2006 has been posted on the D/9 web site and is available to all members of District 9 to review on line or download if they wish. The written Secretary's Report is included in the Reports of the District Officers & Committee Chairs section.

Administrative Department**D/Lt/C Denise Brooks, AP**

D/Lt/C Brooks stated that her report was on the table for review at the Conference's convenience.

She thanked the members of the District Administrative Department for all they do. The highlights of her report cover Operations Training, Membership, and Boating Activities. The written Administrative Officer's Report is included in the Reports of the District Officers & Committee Chairs section.

Education Department**D/Lt/C William Stewart, SN**

D/Lt/C Stewart advised that attendance at the public boating courses is in decline. National is considering a 3-year membership waiver so people may join the squadron without passing a NASBLA approved examination. He expects that this controversial topic will be of great interest and much discourse at the USPS Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, Florida in February 2007. Nationally USPS taught 5000 less people over the last two years. When your business plan is not working it becomes necessary to develop a new one and National USPS believes that recruiting from seminars will work. He encouraged all to read the NEO and ANEO white paper on the subject and to let their squadron commanders know how they feel since this will be voted upon at the USPS Annual meeting. He expressed disappointment that D/9 did not have many submissions for the Chapman Award. The written Education Officer's Report is included in the Reports of the District Officers & Committee Chairs section.

Executive Department**D/Lt/C Jerry Stephan, AP**

D/Lt/C Stephan thanked D/Lt Diane Dawes for her dedication to USPS and District 9. D/Lt Dawes as editor of the District Directory this year (see website to download) completed her tasks even after the sudden death of her husband, D/Lt Terry Dawes. D/Lt/C Stephan emphasized that by having the directory on line we would be able to keep it current. In the past it was usually out of date by the time it was received from the printer. D/Lt/C Stephan touched briefly on Public Relations, District Directory Advertising, Co-op Advertising/PRO Committee, and the success of the Vessel Safety Check program which had a record year. He urged everyone to try to attend the Coast Guard Parade in Grand Haven next year. It is a great event and our participation shows the USCG our gratitude to them for all they do keep our waters safe for boaters. The written Executive Officer's Report is included in the Reports of the District Officers and Committee Chairs section.

District Commander's Report

D/C Denise Samu, AP

D/C Samu commented that this conference marked (7) months into her year as District Commander and how much pleasure she'd had working with the squadron commanders and the various departments communicating and sharing information about the activities and events within D/9 and National USPS. She gave a brief synopsis of the USPS Governing Board meeting that took place in New York City in August. D/C Samu thanked the Detroit Power Squadron again for hosting the fall conference and congratulated them on their 90th anniversary in USPS. R/C Darrell Allison presented Cdr Joe Brooks with a letter of recognition from Chief Commander Ernie Marshburn congratulating the Detroit Power Squadron at reaching this milestone 90th year in USPS. R/C Allison read the letter to the membership after which, D/C Samu ordered a 15 minute recess for celebratory cake & ice cream. D/C Samu's full report is included in the Reports of the District Officers & Committee Chairs section.

Unfinished Business

D/C Denise Samu, AP

Cdr Bob Cox thanked the individuals who brought the (5) teaching aids to the conference.

New Business and Resolutions

D/C Denise Samu, AP

There was no new business or resolutions.

Educational Fund Report

D/Lt Roxanne Harold, P

D/Lt Harold's reported that in the spring every squadron made the honor roll and certificates were distributed at the seminar. For the fall (7) squadron's contributions had not been received as of 10/20/06. She had mailed reminder letters with instructions to the (7) squadron treasurer's of record with copies to the squadron and D/C Samu. The written report is included in the Reports of the District Officers & Committee Chairs section.

For the Good of the District

2007 Spring Conference

Cdr Dave Thompson, AP

Cdr Thompson highlighted the activities that Lansing Power Squadron has planned for the 2007 Spring Conference 30 Mar-1Apr and urged all to attend.

2007 Fall Conference

Cdr Al Tondreau, AP

Cdr Tondreau spoke of the activities Dearborn Power Squadron is planning for the 2007 Fall Conference at the Double Tree Hotel in Bay City on 26-28 Oct.

2008 Spring Conference

D/Lt Chet Dunbar, AP

D/Lt Dunbar encouraged all to plan to attend the 2008 Spring Conference hosted by the Grosse Pointe Power Squadron. It will be held at the Marriott Hotel in Troy 4-6Apr.

Benediction

D/Lt Doug Rocho, P

Adjournment

D/C Denise Samu, AP

D/C Samu adjourned the meeting at 1406. (1 hr 51 minutes)

Respectfully submitted,



D/Lt/C James D. Draper, JN
District 9 Secretary