

Spring District Conference Meeting  
20 March 2010  
Marriott Hotel-Southfield, Michigan

**Call to Order**

**Invocation**

**Color Guard**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**National Anthems**

**D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN**  
**D/Lt Douglas R. Rocho, P**  
**D/Lt Laddie L. Hudson, Jr., SN**  
**D/Lt Alice M. Whittemore, AP**  
**District 9 and Guests**

**Welcome Comments**

**Host Squadron**

**D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN**  
**Cdr Nancy E. Burkhardt, S**

**Order of Business**

There being no objection, the District Commander announced that the order of the meeting will be altered to expedite the meeting.

**D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN**

**Recognition of Departed Members**

Janice M. Siorek, JN  
Mary Jane Bauer-Wolf (6 MM)  
P/C Bernard J. Sweeney, AP  
P/C Robert C. Robison, SN (31 MM)  
P/R/C Herbert R. Davidson, SN (41 MM)

Detroit  
Detroit  
Grand Traverse Bay  
Grosse Point  
Lansing

**D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN**  
**D/Lt/C James D. Draper, JN**

**Prayer**

**D/Lt Douglas R. Rocho, P**

**Introduction of Guests**

CPS National Training Officer Joe Gatfield, AP  
P/D/C Joan Hicks, P  
P/D/C Larry Hicks, AP  
USPS Liaison Officer Nick Baretta  
USCG Aux Chief of Staff Joe Chenevert  
USCG Cdr Daniel Traverse  
USCG Capt Doug Mitchell

**P/D/C James R. Leonard, SN**

**Introduction of National Officers and P/D/Cs**

P/R/C Dick Jarmon, SN  
P/D/C James R. Leonard, SN  
P/Stf/C Edwin R. Schwenk, SN  
P/D/C Gert A. Baldwin, JN  
Stf/Cdr John C. Bennett, SN  
P/D/C Michael J. Rachuk, SN  
P/D/C James G. (Jack) Knaggs, SN  
Stf/C Denise C. Samu, AP  
Junior P/D/C Denise Brooks, AP  
P/C/C Theodore H. (Ted) Smith, SN  
P/R/C Ronald C. LaPlante, SN

**D/Lt/C James D. Draper, JN**

**Introduction of National Officers and P/D/Cs (Contd.)**

P/R/C & P/N/F/Lt Dick Jarmon, SN

P/Stf/C Diane M. Dawes, JN

P/Stf/C Sally C. Lemus, S

Stf/C John C. Bennett, SN

Stf/C Don C. Fiander, SN

P/Stf/C Linda J. LaLonde, P

**Review of Voting and Floor Privileges**

**D/Lt Laddie L. Hudson, Jr., SN**

**Determination of a Quorum**

**D/Lt/C Robyn D.M. Levene, AP**

The District Secretary reported that a quorum was present.

**Acceptance of Minutes of 2009 Fall Conference**

**D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN**

A copy of the minutes of the 2009 Fall Conference was previously distributed.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the 2009 Fall Conference be approved. The motion carried. The approved minutes are filed with the 2009 Fall Conference Report.

**Chief Commander's Message**

**V/C Robert Sweet, SN**

National Representative Robert Sweet, SN, delivered the Chief Commander's Message on behalf of the Chief Commander. A transcription of his remarks is included in the attachments to these minutes.

**Awards**

**D/Lt/C James D. Draper, JN**

**D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN**

**V/C Robert Sweet, SN**

**D/Lt Frank Muylaert, JN**

A listing of the awards presented is included in the attachments to these minutes.

**Committee Reports**

**Report of the Audit Committee**

**D/Lt Laddie L. Hudson, Jr., SN**

The Audit Committee examined the 25 Feb 2010 balance sheet, 2010 budget analysis for the 12 months ending 25 Feb. 2010 in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. The examination is substantially less than the scope of an audit in accordance with generally accepted audit standards and is not intended to be a complete representation of District 9's financial position as of 25 February, 2010. The Audit Committee is not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the balance sheet as of 25 February or to the budget analysis for the 12 months ending 25 February. The Treasurer and Secretary each have a copy of the report.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the report of the Audit Committee be accepted. The motion carried.

**Report of the Budget Committee**

**D/Lt Chet Dunbar, Jr., AP**

A copy of the budget was included in the seat packet and is included in the attachments to the minutes.

**Report of the Budget Committee (Contd.)**

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the budget be approved as submitted. The motion carried.

**Report of the Planning Committee**

**D/Lt David Brooks, AP**

A copy of the Planning Committee Report was included in the seat packet and is included in the attachments to the minutes. There are two action items that have been referred to the Committee.

PlanCom Item 19: District Meeting Process. Should the district council meeting be convened on the Friday evening before Conference? The previous recommendation that the meeting begin at 1700 has been revised to a recommendation that the meeting begin at 1600. Rules Committee has completed the review and does not believe that either USPS or District bylaws need to be revised. The Conference Coordinator has reviewed the proposed changes and concurs with them. SOP 42 and SOP 7 will need to be revised. Planning Committee, Rules Committee, and Conference Coordinator jointly recommend approval of the new Council meeting timeframe, beginning with the Fall 2010 Conference.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the recommendation be adopted.

Motion to Refer Back to Committee: It was moved and seconded that the recommendation be referred back to Committee for further consideration. The motion to refer back to the Committee carried.

PlanCom Item 20: The Planning Committee was asked to review the Commander's Cup Award and Membership Acquisition Award in light of the change to HQ anniversary billing. It is the recommendation of the Planning Committee, after consulting with the Awards Committee, and Membership Committee that no changes should be made in the basis for awarding the Membership Acquisition Award, and that it should continue to be presented to the squadron with the highest percent of increase in membership numbers between spring conferences. The qualification for the Commander, Cup, however, would be more meaningful if the emphasis were on service, and therefore it should recognize merit marks awarded. The Committee recommends the following changes to SOP 17 [Awards]:

1. The Membership Year be changed to 1 January to 31 December.
2. The Commander's Cup Award be presented to the D/9 squadron with the highest percentage of merit marks awarded based on eligible squadron members as of 1 January.
3. That the Commander's Cup be presented at the Spring Conference.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that the recommendations be approved. The motion carried.

The Committee Chair announced that there remains one vacancy on the Planning Committee and requested that interested parties contact him.

**Report of the Rules Committee**

**D/Lt Keith Cadman, JN**

The Bylaws as approved at the Fall Conference had been submitted and accepted by the National Committee on Rules.

**Report of the Conference Coordinator**

**P/D/C Michael J. Rachuk, SN**

A copy of the Conference Coordinator was included in the seat packet and is included in the attachments to the minutes. The Fall Conference will be joint conference with District 29 at

**Report of the Conference Coordinator (Contd.)**

the Holiday Inn French Quarter in Perrysville, Ohio. The dates are 22-24 October. In the spring, Lansing will be host squadron, date and location to be announced. The only other conference presently confirmed is Spring Conference 2013, hosted by Birmingham. The committee is looking at other ways of doing things, and would like ideas from squadrons.

**D/9 Department Reports**

**Treasurer**

**D/Lt/C William A. Stano, JN**

A copy of the District Treasurer's Report was included in the seat packet and is included in the attachments to the minutes. We are in good shape financially. The conversion from Citizen's Bank to Chase Bank has been completed.

**Secretary**

**D/Lt/C Robyn D.M. Levene, AP**

A copy of the District Secretary's Report was included in the seat packet and is included in the attachments to the minutes. The Bylaws have been approved by National and are posted on the website. The *Interlaker* has been posted on the website. There are two versions, one for downloading and one for printing. Editor Vera Blake has done an excellent job. Chet Dunbar is updating the website. Please give him any suggestions. SailAngle continues to grow. It is only useful as a communications tool if members sign up. Commanders are encouraged to see that their members are signed up. Visitors to the USPS website can join the cyber squadron on line. National has added a monthly electronic broadcast to squadron and district officers. The ship's store can be an excellent marketing tool. Buy and wear USPS items. The District Secretary thanked her committee heads, Chet Dunbar, Vera Blake, Diane Dawes, and Joanne VanAmedyn.

**Administrative**

**D/Lt/C Mary Ann Jensen, JN**

A copy of the District Administrative Officer's Report was included in the seat packet and is included in the attachments to the minutes. There is one correction to the report. Our district's target for new members is 105. National has established a "Doing it Right" award with about 26 suggestions as to how squadron communication can be improved. The information was passed out at the Administrative Officers' meeting. Squadrons can qualify for 2010 by meeting 15 of the 26 requirements. The requirements will go up in later years. URLs are included in the DAO's report for unattached member information. The DAO expressed her appreciation to her staff.

**Educational**

**D/Lt/C Donald C. Fiander, SN**

A copy of the District Educational Officer's Report was included in the seat packet and is included in the attachments to the minutes. We have been fortunate that so many squadrons have been willing to help other squadrons, especially with JN and N. We are making inroads into teaching classes to outside groups. This week we made contact with the Great Lakes Cruising Club regarding classes. The DEO expressed his appreciation all of the members of his department, especially ADEO Duane Carlson.

**Executive**

**D/Lt/C James D. Draper, JN**

A copy of the District Executive Officer's Report was included in the seat packet and is included in the attachments to the minutes. The DXO thanked all of the members of his staff.

**Commander****D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN**

A copy of the Planning Committee Report was included in the seat packet and is included in the attachments to the minutes. P/R/C John D. Altstetter, SN, who has spent a lot of time reviewing documents related to D9's history, came across the original charter documents for Saginaw Bay and Grand Rapids. The original charter was presented to Saginaw Bay. Grand Rapids was not present, but will receive its documents at a later date. The District Commander recognized with his appreciation Sally Lemus, Al Lord, and Jerry LaLonde for their continuing work with the District hospitality room.

**Unfinished Business****D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN**

There was no unfinished business.

**Report of the Nominating Committee****P/D/C Denise Brooks, AP**

The Nominating Committee interviews a number of potential candidates for positions on the Bridge and general committees. Candidates are interviewed every year, and progression through the Bridge is not guaranteed. It is the job of the Nominating Committee to select the best candidate. The Chair expressed her thanks to each of the members of the Committee. The Committee submits the following nominations, all of whom are members in good standing of USPS and have expressed their willingness to serve.

District Commander	D/Lt/C James D. Draper, JN	Flint
District Executive Officer	D/Lt/C Mary Ann Jensen, JN	Lansing
District Educational Officer	D/Lt/C Donald C. Fiander, SN	Birmingham
District Administrative Officer	Stf/C Linda J. LaLonde, P	Dearborn
District Secretary	D/1/Lt H Jay Stevens, JN	South Bend
District Treasurer	D/Lt/C William A. Stano, JN	Grosse Point
Asst DEO	D/1/Lt Duane Carlson, SN	Mt. Clemens
Asst Secretary	Cdr Dawn L. Flynn, AP,	Lansing

**Audit Committee**

P/C Mike Zaborowski, JN	Wyandotte	(3 yr term)
P/C David L. Brinks, AP	Grand Rapids	(2 yr term)*
D/Lt John L. Strauss, P	Grand Rapids	(1 yr term)*

*\*Previously elected. Term continues.*

**Nominating Committee**

P/D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN	Detroit	(3 yr term)
P/C Timothy J. Matthews, AP	Wyandotte	(3 yr term)
P/D/C Denise Brooks, AP	Port Huron	(2 yr term)*
P/C David M. Rayburn, JN	Dearborn	(2 yr term)*
P/D/C Richard P. Gallop, SN	Mt. Clemens	(1 yr term)*
P/C Joe W. Brooks, JN	Detroit	(1 yr term)*

*\*Previously elected. Term continues.*

Rules Committee

D/Lt Laddie L. Hudson, Jr., SN Mt Clemens (3 yr term)  
P/C Joel Lockwood, AP Grand Traverse Bay (2 yr term)\*  
(Position Vacant) (1 yr term)\*

*\*Previously elected. Term continues.*

The District Commander inquired whether any petitions had been received. The District Secretary reported that a nomination petition had been received on behalf of D/Lt/C Robyn D.M. Levene, AP, Kalamazoo for the position of District Administrative Officer. The District Commander announced that there would be an election for the position of District Administrative Officer.

**Election of Officers**

**D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN**

**Review of Election Procedures**

**D/Lt Laddie L. Hudson, Jr., SN**

The District Commander appointed V/C Robert Sweet, SN as Judge of Elections, and Laddie L. Hudson, Jr., Keith Cadman, and P/DEO Bill Stewart as Tellers.

Following collection and counting of the ballots, the District Commander announced the election results:

District Administrative Officer Stf/C Linda J. LaLonde, P, Dearborn

Motion to Cast Unanimous Ballot: It was moved and seconded that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for all those running uncontested, and that the ballots from the special election be destroyed. The motion carried.

**Change of Watch Program**

The Change of Watch Program is attached to these minutes.

**New Business, Resolution & Referrals from Seminars**

**D/C James D. Draper, SN**

There was no new business or referrals from seminars.

**For the Good of the District**

**D/C James D. Draper, SN**

**DB 2000**

DB2000 D/Lt Chester Dunbar, AP, offered to come to any squadron who wants training on DB 2000. Training will require at least two hours.

**Cooperative Advertising Forms**

Stf/C Denise C. Samu, AP, advised that the first submissions for cooperative advertising reimbursement are due by April 1<sup>st</sup> for reimbursement for this quarter.

**Benediction**

**D/Lt Douglas R. Rocho, P**

**Adjournment**

The 2010 Spring Conference was adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

## Change of Watch Program

Thank & Relieve Appt'd Officers & All Committee Members	D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN
Thank & Relieve Elected Assistants	D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN
Asst. Sec	D/1/Lt H. Jay Stevens, JN
Asst. DEO	D/1/Lt Duane Carlson, SN
Thank & Relieve Bridge Officers	D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN
Treasurer	D/Lt/C William A. Stano, IN
Secretary	D/Lt/C Robyn D.M. Levene, AP
Administrative	D/Lt/C Mary Ann Jensen, JN
Educational	D/Lt/C Donald C. Fiander, SN
Executive	D/Lt/C James D. Draper, JN
D/C Farewell Address	D/C Bryan L. Bartlett, SN
D/C Elect is escorted to Front of Stage	D/Lt Alice M. Whittemore, AP
<b>D/C Elect &amp; Spouse - Pledge of Office</b>	<b>V/C Robert Sweet, SN</b>
Retiring D/C asks Permission to Leave the Bridge	Junior Bryan L. Bartlett, SN
Retiring D/C escorted to P/D/Cs table	D/Lt Alice M. Whittemore, AP
New Junior welcomed to P/D/Cs	
Call Up New D/9 Bridge	D/C James D. Draper, JN
Asst Secretary	D/1/Lt Dawn L. Flynn, AP
Asst. DEO	D/1/Lt Duane Carlson, SN
Treasurer	D/Lt/C William A. Stano, JN
Secretary	D/Lt/C H. Jay Stevens, JN
Administrative	D/Lt/C Linda J. LaLonde, P
Educational	D/Lt/C Donald C. Fiander, SN
Executive	D/Lt/C Mary Ann Jensen, JN
<b>New Bridge - Pledge of Office</b>	<b>V/C Robert Sweet, SN</b>
Introduction of New General Committee Members	D/C James D. Draper, JN
<i>(A list of the members of the General Committees is included in the attachment to these minutes.)</i>	
Audit Committee	
Nomination Committee	
Rules Committee	
Introduction of Appointed Officers & Committees	D/C James D. Draper, JN

*(A list of members of the appointed officers and committees is included in the attachment to these minutes.)*

Commander's Department	D/C James D. Draper, JN
Executive Department	D/Lt/C Mary Ann Jensen, JN
Introduction of Appointed Officers & Committees (Contd.)	
Educational Department	D/Lt/C Donald C. Fiander, SN
Administrative Department	D/Lt/C Linda J. LaLonde, P
Secretary's Department	D/Lt/C H. Jay Stevens, JN
Treasurer's Department	DLt/C William A. Stano, JN

**New Committees & Appointed Staff - Pledge of Office** **V/C Robert Sweet, SN**

**D/C Inaugural Address**

**D/C James D. Draper, SN**

The incoming District Commander's Address is included in the attachments to these minutes.