

Lead Line

Official publication of District 28, United States Power Squadrons®

Spring 2009

District 28 Spring Conference filled with a fun agenda

D/28 Spring Conference hosted by Balboa Power Squadron

The 2009 District 28 Spring Conference will be in Irvine, California, across from John Wayne Airport. The conference will be highlighted by the district change of watch. Reservations are due by February 15. Complete information will be contained in the Lead Line, the official publication of the district.

The weekend will begin at 1500, Friday March 6, at the home of Joan Williams' home in Newport Harbor with Duffy electric boat rides in the harbor. At 1700, a pot luck dinner will be available. Although there is no cost, the host squadron asks for reservations for planning purposes.

While the business session is underway on Saturday, March 7, guests, spouses and others will be treated to the many fine shops and restaurants as well as boat rides in Newport Beach. Lunch will be no host, but the cost of transportation and other expenses will be \$25.

The conference concludes with a dinner-dance Saturday night. Entrées will include a choice of salmon or chicken, and the cost will be \$42 per person.

The spring conference is one of four annual meetings conducted by D/28, and in this instance will not involve other districts. The conference is open to all members of the six squadrons in the district, and squadron members are strongly urged to attend. It is an opportunity to

meet members of other squadrons in Arizona and California. Programs are provided that help members understand the organization and its goals and purposes.



Hilton/Irvine Hotel, site of the conference

National law officer to represent chief commander at Conference

R/C Noel McKeown will represent the chief



commander at the D/28 spring conference. A member of the Dayton Sail and Power Squadron, McKeown has served numerous bridge duties with D/24. His current boat is a 40-foot Tartan sailboat. He has practiced law in a small family firm for more than 25 years.

District Commander's Report

*By D/C Katharine Law, SN,
District 28*



In our classes, we learn ways to steer our boats from departure to destination without getting stuck in the kelp or going aground. Before embarking, we study the chart and plan to steer from Point A to Point Z, by way of Points B, C, and all the other waypoints along the

route. On the water, we remember to take the outside curve of the river's bend and the incoming or outgoing tide (whichever best suits our purpose). Sailors strive to achieve the most distance in the shortest time by choosing the proper spot to tack, in order not to overshoot the windward or leeward mark. And power boaters plot their engine speed graphs to find the most efficient use of fuel over long distances. We mark our courses in real time and adjust them to accommodate current and weather conditions, changing them as required. As in boating so in life, we start out toward our goals, always hoping for a safe, smooth and speedy passage. But snags appear; problems arise. And we learn over the years that our desires are often beyond our reach. With the patience that comes with experience, we shift focus and set out again toward our new ideals and hopes.

At the 2008 Spring Conference in Phoenix, we began this year's voyage which will end on March 7th when the 2009-10 District Bridge takes the helm. Much has been accomplished, but even more remains to be done. There have been diversions along the way, but it looks as if we will arrive safely at the end of our watch, with satisfaction for the goals accomplished and gratitude to the many wonderful members who have helped to further our purpose. We lost our District Treasurer, Dick Tripp, to his other obligations, but Cdr Bill Johnson, JN, stepped up to the wheel and

took over for the second half of the year. Thanks, Bill (and Connie).

We met the challenge of attending and contributing to the Fall Tri-District Conference in Reno, which was almost 700 miles away from most of our squadrons. Many thanks to all of you who made the trek. And despite the US Coast Guard's cessation of accepting geodetic-mark reports, we increased our Coop Charting reporting by 118 percent. Thanks to D/Lt Steven Bakalis, SN, for spearheading this effort and to the Balboa squadron, which did a wonderful job under the leadership of P/C Wolfgang Kutter, SN.

Remarkably, our district won 1st place—among all 33 USPS districts—in the National 2008 Bowsprit competition, with the award being accepted by P/D/C Chuck Peterson, SN, at the Detroit Fall Governing Board meeting. The real credit goes to those of you whose efforts achieved growth awards (particularly the San Luis Rey and San Diego squadrons), and to our hard-working Vessel Examiners who racked up more VSCs than many much larger districts [thanks, Wes and others!].

Your hardworking Bridge Officers made visits to each D28 squadron, encouraging communication and answering questions about how National and District can assist members. Our educational program thrived under D/Lt/C Bill Bridge, SN, and his assistant, D/1st/L Cida Diehl, JN, facilitating courses and seminars which spread nautical knowledge and skills to all interested parties. Our "Exec", D/Lt/C Van Diehl, SN, shepherded the activities and services we offer to the public. DAO Connie Johnson, JN, arranged our meetings and provided liaison with the host squadrons—South Bay [Summer Council], Lake Mohave [Winter Council] and the upcoming conference in Irvine. And our Secretary, Doug Frazier, JN, faithfully generated minutes of all our proceedings. Thanks to one and all!

The individual squadron commanders—Wes

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Heusser [Balboa], Pat Bramble [Lake Mohave], Bill Johnson [Phoenix], Ed Mraz [San Diego], Larry Nelson [San Luis Rey] and Miguel Ramirez-Williams [South Bay]—scheduled and presided over meetings, raft-ups, barbecues, sail races and the many other activities enjoyed by our active members. Thanks to each of you for all your hard work.

With the 2009 Change of Watch events behind us, we welcome new leadership to our squadrons. I must express my personal thanks to each of you who extended hospitality to me at these affairs. The warmth of my reception and our fellowship reassures me that USPS is doing well in the American Southwest.

I encourage each of you to attend the USPS Annual Meeting in Anaheim on February 19-21. The details of this meeting are in the latest copy of *The Ensign* or on the national USPS website at: http://www.usps.org/php/reservations/meetinginfo.php?mtg_id=4

If you cannot come for the whole period, how about driving up for the Governing Board meeting on Saturday? Having a USPS meeting within driving distance is a rare occasion, and you should seize the opportunity to find out how our National organization operates. Be sure to stop by the District 28 hospitality suite on Friday night and all day Saturday.

Finally, your current Bridge will end our watch at the Spring Conference [March 6-7] at the Irvine Hilton/Orange County Airport. The Balboa squadron has been busy since last summer planning this event and a full schedule of enjoyable social occasions and district business is planned. We need you to help us end our year successfully and to see our DC designate, Van Diehl, and the incoming District Bridge embark upon Watch Year 2009-10. We wish them smooth sailing and a “Bon Voyage”!

Executive Officer's Report

By D/Lt/C Van Diehl, SN

SHOULD WE HAVE A STAR-LIKE PROGRAM FOR THE DISTRICT?



We have arrived at the end of another successful year, enjoying a very positive trend in the district membership and education achievements. For the 3rd consecutive year the District received the **Bowsprit Award, 1st place** in all USPS. We placed 3rd in 2006,

2nd in 2007, and 1st in **2008**. It's a "Goals" based program and each district only competes with **itself**, measuring performance from one program year to the next.

District 28 was a **Growth Award Winner**, with an increase of 6%. Two of the squadrons in our District, San Luis Rey and San Diego showed significant growth in membership. **San Luis Rey** received the **2008 Growth Award**. The squadron was among the 10 top squadrons in the nation, with a huge 38.81 % growth.

The District not only acquired many new members, but it also retained its members with exciting and varied opportunities for learning, fellowship, and giving back to the community. D/28 was the proud **1st place** winner of the **2008 William Selden Membership Involvement Retention Award**.

However, there are lots of things requiring attention. Here are some examples of what I mean:

- Has the squadron been able to fill each Bridge position without recycling?
- Are Bridge Officers adequately trained for leadership roles?
- Has each Bridge Officer completed Operations Training?

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- Does the Bridge start the year setting goals for the squadron, goals that reflect the member's wishes and does it have the available volunteers for their implementation?
- Are projects assigned to Bridge Officers and Committee Chairs, completed?
- Does the squadron have regular Executive Committee meetings?
- Does the squadron have a General Membership Meeting location appropriate for presentations, business meetings, and fellowship?
- Do General Membership Meetings frequently have guest speakers or programs?
- Are General Membership Meetings well attended?
- Has the squadron conducted two or more Boating or Boat Smart Courses each year?
- Is the squadron teaching the new seminar series?

It will be rare that a squadron could answer all these questions in the affirmative. But that is OK. I am a firm believer that you do not have to have all functions of the Bridge Departments covered, if you do not have the needed staff. Better to do less and aim for excellence.

From the above list I am singling out:

"Does the Bridge start the year setting goals for the squadron: goals that reflect the member's wishes and does it have the available volunteers for their implementation?"

I believe this is one of the most important items. For that reason I strongly recommend that the squadron Bridge should, soon after the Change of Watch get together to brainstorm the squadron Goals for the year, along with the

plans to achieve them. As it is often said, if you do plan you might not do everything, but if you don't you are not likely to do any. The District STAR Goals program is a good starting point for the squadron goals. In addition to that a small number of squadron specific goals should be developed.

How can the District help the Squadron achieve its goals?

We cannot help the squadrons directly with the implementation of its programs, because District members are also squadron members that are also working hard in their own squadrons. The District is not just a bureaucratic layer between the squadron and national USPS either. I often hear comments about what does the District do to help the squadrons. Here are some of the District activities that may benefit the squadron:

1. The District is a channel for communication between national USPS Departments and Committees, and the Squadrons, to insure uniformity of actions. The District Bridge is responsible to inform the squadrons of National plans and programs; it gathers operational information at national meetings, through direct communication with the national officers and committees, and at the complex USPS national website.

2. The D/C conducts the installation of squadron commander and, on request, squadron officers. He or his/her representative will attend every squadron's change of watch.

3. Being the liaison between the Governing Board and national officers and the squadron of the district, the D/C is responsible to see that the national policies are carried out in the district.

4. The D/C or his/her representative, will be available to attend squadrons' Executive Committee meetings, whenever their council and expertise is requested. They will also be able to conduct squadron tailored Operations Training and moderate goal setting brainstorming meet-

(continued from preceding page) ings.

1. The District Executive Officer (D/ExO) is responsible for the general supervision of squadron commanders. He/she should hold periodic meetings with squadron commanders, advising them of items that should be on the agenda of General Membership or Executive Meetings. He/she is also responsible to review the minutes of squadron meetings and bring to the attention of district council issues that require district action.

2. The Executive Department has several Committees—Co-Op Charting, Vessel Safety Checks, Public Relations, Safety, Radio Technical, Legislative, etc – with the responsibility to coordinate the corresponding squadron activities. Often these committees are constituted by the respective squadron officers.

3. The District Administrative Department is also made of several committees—Membership, Member Involvement, Boating Activities, Leadership Development, Member Benefits, and District Conference Committees. They serve as liaison between the National Committees and squadron Administrative committees

The District Educational Department is responsible for coordinating the educational activities of the squadrons of the District and be their representative to the National Educational Department.. it should provide assistance, promotion, and encouragement to all squadron SEOs.

This is just a short summary of some of the district activities to help, advice, inform and foster fellowship to all squadrons. Much more is involved. Full descriptions of all District functions can be seen in the Operations Training manual and the ***District 28 Job Descriptions of Elected and Appointed Officers.***

Now I can address the title of this article “**SHOULD WE HAVE A STAR-LIKE PROGRAM FOR THE DISTRICT?**” As is the case with the squadrons, D/28 is not doing all the functions listed

in the Job Description manual, for the very same reason as the squadrons – *lack of resources*. And for the functions we are performing, we have no *measurement* of how they are being perceived as an “added-value” by the squadrons. I would like you to consider this issue and let me know your thoughts.

DISTRICT 28 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2009-2010

In accordance with Section 2.9.1 of the District 28 By-laws, the District Nominating Committee hereby submits the proposed slate of Elective Officers for the 2008-2009 bridge year:

Commander: Wanderley (Van) Diehl
Executive Officer: Connie J. Johnson
Administrative Officer: Mark Keltner
Educational Officer: William D. Bridge
Ass't Education Officer: Maria (Cida) Diehl
Secretary: Shawn McArdle
Treasurer: Lou Loth

Committees

Nominating—One Year

P/D/C Adriaan Veldhuisen, SN, San Luis Rey

Two Years

P/D/Lt Richard Tripp, Lake Mohave

P/C Wesley Heusser, AP, Balboa

Three Years

Open

Rules —One Year

P/D/C Robert Schloeman, JN, Phoenix

Two Years

P/D/C Thomas Swift, AP, San Diego

Three Years

Open

Audit —One Year

P/C Daniel Rancourt, AP, San Luis Rey

Two Years

P/D/C William Bridge, SN, San Diego

Three Years

R/C Chester White, JN, San Diego

Respectfully Submitted:

P/D/C Adriaan Veldhuisen, SN (Chair)

P/D/Lt. Richard Tripp

P/C Wes Heusser, AP

2009 District 28 Spring Conference

Call to Meeting

To District 28 Bridge Officers
Past District Commanders
Chairmen, General Committees
Chairman, Planning Committee
Squadron Commanders
All Other Interested Parties

By order of the District Commander, notice is hereby given that the Spring Conference will be held at the following time and place.

Date: Friday-Saturday, 6-7 March 2009

Place: Hilton Irvine/Orange County Airport
18800 MacArthur Blvd., Irvine, CA 92612

Purpose: To hear and consider all matters pertaining to District 28, USPS;
To elect a Commander, District Bridge Officers and members of
General Committees;
To approve appointments to the Planning Committee,
To consider and adopt a District budget;
To receive and act upon all reports of District Officers and
District Committees, and
To conduct all other business of the District which may properly
come before the Conference.

Doug Frazier

D/Lt/C Doug Frazier, JN

Secretary

District 28

Special Notice: Copies of the Proposed Bylaws to be considered at the meeting are available on the District website at:

<http://www.usps.org/localusps/d28/member/2008D28BylawsMarkupRev9-22-08.pdf>

A written copy of these Bylaws is available upon request from the District Secretary [home 602 789-0373, work 602 769-8734, RRNhardy@yahoo.com].

2009 Spring Conference Agenda

Hosted by the Balboa Squadron

Friday, 6 March 2009, 1500-1900: Pre-conference boat rides and potluck, hosted by the Balboa Power Squadron at the home of Joan P. Williams, 812 Harbor Island Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660. RSVP by Wednesday, 4 March 2009, to P/D/C Lou Loth, 949-823-9743, louloth@cox.net. [Dress: casual attire]

Saturday, 2009 Spring Conference Agenda

Hosted by the Balboa Squadron

Friday, 6 March 2009, 1500-1900: Pre-conference boat rides and potluck, hosted by the Balboa Power Squadron at the home of Joan P. Williams, 812 Harbor Island Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660. RSVP by Wednesday, 4 March 2009, to P/D/C Lou Loth, 949-823-9743, louloth@cox.net. [Dress: casual attire]

Saturday, 7 March 2009, 0900-1600

[Dress: Uniform G or squadron shirt and khaki slacks or suitable attire]

- 0900 Call to Order, Invocation, and Pledge of Allegiance
to the Flag of the United States of America.
Introductions, Announcements
- 0915 Morning Program
- 1015-1145 Breakout meetings: Squadron Officers [*open*]; Education [*open*]; Planning [*closed*], Nominations [*closed*]. Audit [*closed*].
- 1145 Recess for lunch. [Lunch on your own.]
- 1300 Return to Order
Recognition of National Committee members present
Reports of Bridge Officers and Committee Chairmen
Unfinished business
New Business
- 1500 Nominations' Committee report/Election
- 1600 Recess
- 1730 Hospitality in District Commander's suite
- 1830 Change of Watch Dinner [Dress: Uniform A or suitable formal attire]
- 2000 Return to Order
Comments by R/C Noel K, McKeown, C/C's Representative
District 28 Awards
Installation of District Commander and Bridge Officers by R/C McKeown
- 2100 Benediction and Adjournment of Spring Conference
Balboa Raffle

District Administrative Officer's Report

*By D/Lt/C Connie Johnson, JN
District 28*

DO IT NOW!

As my year of District Administrative Officer is



almost over, I need to offer my thanks to all the people who made my job a whole lot easier this year.

The year began for me in my own back yard at the Spring Conference. Diane Ashton, Jeannine Quagliara, the Ashton

girls and of course Art Ashton did a wonderful job of making all the arrangements for lodging, food, meeting rooms, and all the spouse activities and decorations. It was a wonderful conference. Well attended, and a great start for a new bridge.

We continued into the year with a new location for the Summer Council meeting. Living in Arizona, this event would not have been the success it was without the help of Sharon Johnson and her crew of helpers from the South Bay area. What a great job they did with the location, the food, the lodging and all the small details that they worked out for us. It went off without a hitch! Reports back to me were all positive. Thank you Sharon and crew.

Since District 25 was hosting the Joint Fall conference in Reno this year, all we had to do was attend! Thank you to District 25!

The Winter council meeting was also in a new location this year. The hard worker for this event was Sharon Dack of the Lake Mohave Power Squadron. She found the location, checked out hotels, and meal venues. The Lake Mohave

squadron members were there to assist setting up and tearing down. Thanks for all the great work you did to make that another successful event.

The final event for me will be the Spring Conference in Irvine. I know Lou Loth and helpers have this event well under control. I am thanking them in advance, as I know it will be another great event.

Other helpers I have had this year are Cida Diehl who was a great Member/Member Involvement chairperson. She does a great job of transferring information of use to us all in our squadrons from the National Membership committee of which she is also a member. Thanks for a great job Cida.

Art Ashton kept up with the current member benefits this year. Thanks Art.

Bill Johnson was boating activities chairperson. Planning an event in San Diego from a Phoenix base is quite a feat as Bill quickly learned. The event ended up being canceled, but Bill did a great job of trying to fulfill the obligation. Thanks Bill for all you do.

Elaine Keller is a dear to work with. She had her Leadership Development reports ready way in advance of each meeting. She also is great at transferring the information from her National committee for use at the district and local squadrons. Thanks for all you do Elaine.

Our Education Fund assistant was Duane Leathers. He learned about the Fund right along with me. Thanks for helping out Duane.

This has been a wonderful experience being the D28 Administrative Officer. Thank you to anyone whom I may have missed who helped me out over the year. I look forward to seeing you all in Irvine. I have my reservation in - Do You? The chairpersons of the conferences can rest a lot easier if reservations come in early. If you haven't reserved already

Editor's note: At the D/28 Council meeting, in response to D/C Katie Law's earlier request, a proposal was adopted, offered by P/D/C Frank Fitzgerald for a distinctive flag for the District. The proposed design is below with this description provided by P/D/C Fitzgerald.

USPS D-28 FLAG GENESIS & DESCRIPTION:

DISTRICT 28 of USPS is made up of squadrons from Arizona and California. The D/28 flag design is based on combining elements and symbolism from the state flags of these two states.

The white background on the top half of the D/28 flag with the five-pointed red star on the top left area comes directly from the California state flag, having the same proportion and placement. (Historically, the Lone Star Flag of California contained a single red star on a white background.)

The copper star on the top right area comes from the center of the Arizona state flag, but reduced in size to match the red star and is placed symmetrically to the red star. (The copper star of the flag identifies Arizona as the largest copper producing state in the union.)

The red horizontal stripe at the bottom is taken directly from the California flag. It is placed on the blue horizontal stripe taken from the Arizona flag. The blue and red stripes on the bottom are separated by a white line, symbolizing the Colorado River between the two states.

COLORS: From the Textile Color Card Association of the United States, Inc., New York.

Red—of the red stripe and the left star is Old Glory, cable number 70180, the same as in the United States' Flag. Pantone system: Red PMS 193

White--of the white background is white, cable number 70001.

Blue- the same Liberty Blue found in the United States' Flag. Pantone system: Blue PMS 282

Copper- fabric copper color. Pantone system: PMS 876C

DIMENSIONS: The hoist or flag width is two-thirds of the fly or flag length; The diameter of an imaginary circle passing through the points of the star is one-tenth of the fly length; the distance of the star center from the hoist end is one-sixth of the fly length and the distance from the star center to the top of the flag is four-fifths of the star-center distance from the hoist end. The copper star on the right uses the same proportions but measured from the leech of the flag. The top of the blue stripe is one half of the hoist width. The top of the red stripe is one-sixth of the hoist width. The white line between the red & blue stripes is one-seventh of the red stripe width.



District 28 Calendar

2009

February

17-22 USPS annual meeting—Hyatt Regency Orange County, California

March

6-7 D/28 Spring Conference—Hilton/Irvine, Orange County Airport, Irvine, CA. Hosted by Balboa Power Squadron

April

3-4 D/28 Inland Rendezvous—Katherine Landing, AZ Hosted by the Lake Mohave and Phoenix squadrons

May

2 Tri-State Boating Safety Fair—Lake Havasu State Park, Lake Havasu, AZ
3
16-22 National Safe Boating Week

June

6 D/28 Summer Council—Chula Vista Yacht Club, Chula Vista, CA. Hosted by South Bay Provisional Power Squadron

July

11 San Luis Rey Power Squadron BBQ—Oceanside, CA

August

1 D/28 Coastal Rendezvous

September

8-13 USPS Fall Governing Board—Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City, MO
25-26 D/28 Fall Conference—TBD, San Diego CA Hosted by San Diego Sail and Power Squadron

December

5 D/28 Winter Council—SWYC, San Diego Hosted by San Diego Sail and Power Squadron

2010

February

1-6 USPS Annual Meeting—Disney Coronado Spring Resort, Disneyworld, Orlando FL

March

5-6 D/28 Spring Conference—TBD, Phoenix, AZ Hosted by Phoenix Sail and Power Squadron

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE D-28 BYLAWS ON BEHALF OF THE RULES COMMITTEE.

THIS IS NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE D-28 BYLAWS TO BE CONDUCTED DURING THE D-28 2009 SPRING CONFERENCE. THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS ARE POSTED ON THE D-28 WEBSITE, LOCATED AT: <http://www.usps.org/d28/> SCROLL DOWN NEAR THE BOTTOM TO: Links to what we do and how we do it.

CLICK IN THE TOP RIGHT HAND BOX ON:

District Documents

THAT WILL TAKE YOU TO:

District 28 Operating Documents

SCROLL DOWN TO: **District Operations**

CLICK ON TOP LEFT HAND BOX:

District Bylaws

CLICK ON: **2008 Proposed Bylaw Amendments**

PLEASE NOTE:

(Red strike through are deleted words, red underlined are added words)

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET AND WISH A HARD COPY OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS, PLEASE REQUEST YOUR COPY FROM THE D-28 SECRETARY, D/LT/C DOUG FRAZIER.

D-28 RULES COMMITTEE:

R/C ROBERT SCHLOEMAN, JN

P/D/C THOMAS SWIFT, AP

P/D/C FRANK FITZGERALD. AP, CHAIRMAN