

Lead Line

Official publication of District 28, United States Power Squadrons®

Spring 2007

District 28 Spring Conference filled with a fun agenda

San Diego is the site for the 2007 District 28 Spring Conference, highlighted by the selection of the district bridge to lead for 2007-2008. D/C Bill Johnson and his bridge have created a fun agenda filled with the necessary business of the Arizona-Southern California district that is highlighted with truly special social activities. The conference builds on the highly successful triumph that was the Fall Tri-Conference in Phoenix.

It begins with a social Friday night at the home of Stf/C Chet White, 4715 Cobb Drive in San Diego. Maps are available online at the D/28 web site. The starting time is 1800.

Saturday, the venue shifts to the Holiday Inn, San Diego Bay-side, 4875 North Harbor Drive. Full information on reservations and the conference agenda is found on pages six and eight of this issue of the *Lead Line*.

Representing the Chief Commander will be R/C Allan, W. Lakin, SN, chairman of the Committee on Rules and a member of the Valley Ho



Power Squadron in D/13. He is a sustaining member with 15 merit marks, and he has served as both commander of his squadron and District

13. He has degrees in chemistry, polymer engineering and law.

The conference will kick off with the traditional Co-op Charting adventure beginning with the traditional breakfast meeting at Denny's at Pt. Loma. The Spring Conference is the event where the bridge for the following year is selected. The report of the Nominat-

ing Committee is found on page seven of this issue.

While some are working, others are given a rare opportunity to experience history. The Spousal activity will be aboard the USS Midway of World War II and later fame.

Saturday night, live music will be provided by the Chicago Three for dancing and listening. All this will be followed by the latest California-style raffle where outstanding prizes are awarded.

The District Conference is a mixture of fun, business, camaraderie, and occasionally a surprise or two.

The deadline for reservations is 26 Feb 2007.

District Commander's Report



By D/C Bill Johnson, AP,
District 28

Since this will be my last article as District 28 commander, I'd like to congratulate all the members and squadrons in District 28 on a fantastic year.

During the last year the district has increased in size and membership, held a council at a new squadron's location, hosted the first Tri-District Conference west of the Mississippi with the National Operating Committee (OCom) in attendance, and looking to finish the year with more achievements on the horizon.

Less than one year ago, Lake Mohave Power Squadron was given its Charter to become a squadron in USPS and District 28. It was an important event for both them and District 28. Important to Lake Mohave because all their members worked hard and furious to create a viable squadron from zero to 40+ members within nine months and still jumped through the hoops required to charter as a full squadron. Important for the District as it is a hopeful sign that the times are changing, and our district can grow to the great district it is! We need more squadrons for the area that we serve. If you have time, volunteer to go out and talk to boaters about the benefits of belonging to our organization.

As well as with the inclusion of the Lake Mohave squadron, the district membership has increased. Last year saw the San Diego, San Luis Rey and Balboa squadrons increase in number through the efforts of key members. This effort appears to be still on track for this membership year. Membership recruitment is an activity for everyone. If you enjoy your time with the squadrons, let others know how they too can join, have fun and learn.

The Summer Council of 2006 was held in Laughlin, NV to form long-term friendships with the new Lake Mohave squadron members. The turnout was great, the facilities were fantastic, and the new squadron participated in the meeting to the full extent. I was still hearing good comments from all over the district on the meeting.

The Fall Conference in Phoenix allowed our District (one of the smallest in the country) to

show the region and national how southwestern power squadron members can host a conference that rivals any other. This was the first multi-district conference hosted by District 28. It not only included District 13 (Southern California LA, Utah, Nevada, Hawaii, and Japan) and District 25 (Northern California), but the National USPS Operating Committee. (The second ever held in USPS). The planning, co-ordination and volunteerism was fantastic. A town hall meeting with Chief Commander Marshburn and the National Executive Officer Maynard was a highlight, but it was close to being overshadowed by the eight seminars that were held. Presentations were given by ANEO Bob Sweet (3 seminars), P/D/C Dave Uggen, V/C Frank Dvorak, P/R/C Darrell Allison, P/R/C Jean Hamilton, P/D/C Frank Fitzgerald. P/C Connie Johnson, the conference chairperson, put her all

into a very successful conference (She denies the continued accolades, but I know how much she put into the effort to make it a success. Thank you, Connie). It was carried out with a balanced budget despite being five times bigger than normal for



our district. The scope of the area covered by the conference attendees is shown in the logo for the event designed by a squadron high school family member, Amy Ashton.

The Tri-District Conference was such a success that District 25 has volunteered (They wanted their chance to host as good an event.) for the fall of 2008 in Reno, NV. Now is the time to mark your calendars to attend. We have already talked to the National Operating Committee on attending *and* specifically Districts 6, 32, and 30 are invited with any other district wanting to attend being invited also.

The Winter Council demonstrated how the district can highlight a fun boating event with a presentation on boating on Lake Powell last fall, as well as a couple of sessions for prospective squadron officers on the duties and aids available to make their positions easier. I'd hope that this becomes an annual program to assist our members enjoy helping the individual squadrons by volunteering for working positions. If you, as members, think you have an idea on how the district can help you as a member enhance your boating or membership experience, please con-

tact the district.

I've left one of the highlights of the year for last. The coming Spring Conference hosted by San Diego Sail and Power Squadron will be a meeting to remember. The list of people working on putting it together doesn't leave room for anything but success. Everything else that has been mentioned in this article has already happened. The Spring Conference should be in your list of MUST attend. Make your reservation ASAP.

The awards the District received this year were awards from past efforts. The Bowsprit Award, Membership Growth Award, Third Place Selden Award for Membership Retention, Honor Roll for Coop Charting and many for each squadron. I'm proud to have been able to represent all of you.

Thank you for all the help throughout this year. I've never been in such a rewarding position in my life. Next time you are at a squadron, district, or national meeting, look around, everyone has the same idea. Safe boating with friends is the best hobby/occupation ever! I may not be District 28 Commander any longer, but I will always remember the efforts of everyone who made this a successful year.

Executive Officer's Report

By D/Lt/C Charles E. Peterson, SN

Regrettably I was sent out of the country three times this year for work, missing both D/28 council meetings. Since I haven't quite gotten enough together to retire yet, I have to go when Lockheed calls! But I promise there won't be any missed meetings next year. Speaking of next year, I'd like to hear your thoughts on any changes you'd like to see in how D/28 does business. I can't promise they'll be adopted, but I promise your bridge will look at every one!



Cooperative Charting – What's going on? I called Ed Summers, our national R/C for Cooperative Charting to get a current picture. He indicated the present geodetic portion would continue until 1 April when the reporting year ended and that awards would be presented as

usual; then the geodetic part ends.

What I was surprised to hear was that NOAA had been critical of what some of us had done! He indicated that surveyors were providing feedback on survey marks reported gone as still being there and vice versa. I told him my wife Jane and I had *found* five marks originally placed in the 1920's reported lost by NGS after "extensive search by the survey party," so the road goes both ways! NOAA had also been providing feedback on reports that indicated in some cases the reports needed improvement. This should be better than working open-loop, but it irked the people providing the input which reduced participation! Ed indicated that participation this year was down about 60% from the prior year.

With so much bad news, I asked Ed for some good news. He indicated we were forming partnerships with the Army Corps of Engineers for the rivers and MapTech for a country-wide effort. Details are still being worked out. All this will be announced at the USPS Annual Meeting.

Ed indicated that the major focus now will be on charts. In short, if information shown on a chart is wrong or has changed, that's what is of interest. Shore features such as docks, buildings, areas that have been filled, soundings, etc. are all of interest. And most of all, he emphasized we *do not* have to adopt a chart to provide input!

Cooperative Advertising – Although we didn't recruit a Public Relations Officer this year, P/D/C Lee Whitehead, SN, covered this part of the office, as a volunteer. He reports that we left only a few dollars on the table that we could have been reimbursed. Advertising brings students and students make members, how can we lose?

Vessel Safety Check – Everyone had another good year! We had 21 examiners perform a total of 331 checks. Keep up the good work.

Legislative – Slowly, one by one, states across the country are passing legislation that requires recreational boat operators to pass a boating safety exam. The USPS position is that these exams should be proctored, but that has not been the case with all state regulations. California is considering the matter, Arizona can't seem to get it through committees, and in one case New Mexico was pushed into it by a tie to U.S. Coast Guard funding of state projects.

Radio Technical – Every year the fate of LO-RAN-C seems to hang in the balance. It happened in 2006 and now again in 2007. The Department of Homeland Security asks for public comment on why LORAN-C should be continued now that GPS has been de-facto adopted as the operational standard for navigation.

Amateur radio for the mariner has taken a giant step forward with the FCC announcing that Morse code will no longer be a requirement to obtaining a operators license, thus removing the stumbling block that may have caused many to bypass this form of communication. The demonstration of technical knowledge for the three main license classes, Technician, General, and Extra, will remain as before. It is expected that that their ruling will become effective February 23, 2007. The effective date may change a day one way or another depending on the exact date the notice of rule making appears in the Federal Register.

Administrative Officer's Report

By D/Lt/C Katharine Law, SN



Squadron activities are the glue that holds USPS members together in a cohesive whole. Yet most members would be surprised at all of the things our members do, as individuals or as a group, to keep our local squadron a vital and growing organization.

When you think of squadron activities, what are the first things that come to your mind? Yes, we teach classes to the boating public. But, how about standing watches at boat shows, passing out, posting and distributing fliers for our public safe boating classes, and interviewing Boating and Boat Smart graduates in order to sign them up as members? Do you greet these new members at meetings to make them feel welcome? If so, you are participating in one of the most important of squadron activities. Many new members are surprised when we stand and take the pledge of membership with them, renewing our own commitment to the ideals of USPS.

We also take classes to make ourselves more knowledgeable and better seamen. Some of us

even teach these courses, without which one of our squadron's principal activities would not survive. Of course, if you are taking courses, you are also getting to know other members of the class, who are your fellow squadron members. There is nothing like meeting on a weekly basis and sharing the stimulation of acquiring new knowledge and skills to form bonds among our members.

And, while we meet them in class, we can encourage them to come to membership meetings where they can meet other like-minded boaters and form new friendships. A simple, off-hand remark ["Are you coming to the meeting this month?"] may inspire someone to attend who has joined the squadron only for the educational opportunities!

Of course, we also enjoy using those newfound skills for on-the-water activities such as rendezvous, races and cruiser navigation contests. Some of our fondest memories are of those after-event cocktail hours and potluck suppers, where we ramble from boat to boat, meeting the families of members and sampling their formerly unappreciated culinary skills.

Not all of us can be Vessel Examiners or participate in Cooperative Charting activities, but there is a place for everybody in your local squadron. So get involved! Try out some activities that appeal to you, and help your squadron grow and prosper. And, if you think of some new activity that might be rewarding for a squadron group activity, tell a bridge officer and work to help start new areas of endeavor. USPS needs you, and you will find you enjoy your membership in a whole new way.

District 28 Calendar

- 20-25 Feb—USPS Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, FL
- 2-3 Mar—D/28 Spring Conference, San Diego, CA
- 6-8 Apr—Inland Rendezvous, Katherine Landing AZ
- 5 May—Tri-State Boating Safety Fair, Colorado River
- 19-25 May—National Safe Boating Week
- 2 Jun—D/28 Summer Council, San Diego, CA
- 7 Jul—San Luis Rey BBQ, Oceanside, CA
- 3-5 Aug—D/28 Coastal Rendezvous, San Diego, CA
- 4-9 Sep—Fall Governing Board, Norfolk, VA
- 12-13 Oct—D/28 Fall Conference, Oceanside, CA
- 1 Dec—D/28 Winter Council, San Diego, CA

2007 District 28 Spring Conference

Call to Meeting

To: **District 28 Bridge Officers**
Squadron Commanders
Squadron Delegates [see Section 4.02.1 of the D/28 Bylaws]
Past District Commanders

By order of the District Commander, notice is hereby given that the 2005 Fall Conference will be held.

Date: 2-3 March 2007

Place: Holiday Inn Bayside, 4875 N. Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA

Purpose: To hear and consider all matters pertaining to District 28, USPS; To elect a commander, district bridge officers and members of the general committees; To approve appointments to the Planning Committee; To consider and adopt a district budget; To consider 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.

Wanderly Diehl

D/Lt/C Wanderly Deihl, SN

Secretary

District 28

DISTRICT 28 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

FOR THE 2007-2008 BRIDGE

Commander—P/C Charles E Peterson, SN, Phoenix
 Executive Officer—P/C Katherine Law, SN, San Diego
 Educational Officer—P/D/C William Bridge, SN, San Diego
 Assistant Ed. Officer—Lt/C Maria (Cida) Diehl, AP, San Luis Rey
 Administrative Officer—P/C Wanderly Van Diehl, SN, San Luis Rey

Secretary—Phil (Doug) Frazier, AP, Phoenix

Assistant Secretary

Treasurer—P/C Connie Johnson, AP, Phoenix

Assistant Treasurer

Committees

Nominating—*One Year*

P/C Ronald Weiner, P, San Diego

Lt Nancy Lee Frazier, Phoenix

Two Years

Richard Tripp, Lake Mohave

P/C Wesley Heusser, AP, Balboa

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

Rules —*One Year*

P/D/C E. Brian Smith, SN, San Luis Rey

Two Years

P/C Jane Peterson, S, Phoenix

Three Years

P/D/C Duane Leathers, AP, San Diego

Audit —*One Year*

Stf/C Chester White, JN, San Diego

Two Years

P/C Daniel Rancourt, AP, San Luis Rey

Three Years

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

Respectfully Submitted:

P/D/C Elaine Keller, AP (Chairman)

P/D/C Robert Newsom, P

P/C E. Ronald Weiner, P

Lt. Nancy Lee Frazier

The Fate of LORAN-C is in question

By Stf/C Bob Schloeman, JN, Radio Technical Officer

From the January 8, 2007 Federal Register.

ACTION: Notice; request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Transportation in coordination with the Department of Homeland Security is considering the need to continue to operate or invest in the North American LORAN-C Radio navigation System beyond fiscal year 2007. Future investment decisions might include: Decommissioning the LORAN-C system, maintaining the LORAN-C system as currently configured, or developing a fully deployed Enhanced LO-

RAN (eLORAN) system.

Contributing factors to these decisions are:

(1) whether the Global Positioning System (GPS) and other available back-up systems are adequate for the public's navigation and timing needs, thus making the LORAN-C system redundant, and

(2) whether the eLORAN investments made to date provide enhancements that now merit consideration as a complementary capability to GPS, and not merely as a GPS back-up. The Department of Transportation and the Department of Homeland Security seek public input on the various decisions currently under consideration. For more information on LORAN, you may visit: <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov>.

DATES: Comments and related material must reach the Docket Management Facility on or before February 7, 2007.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Coast Guard docket number USCG-2006-24685 to the Docket Management Facility at the U.S. Department of Transportation. To avoid duplication, please use only one of the following methods:

(1) *Web Site:* <http://dms.dot.gov>.

(2) *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

CHANGES IN REPORTING GEODETIC MARKER RECOVERIES

On 1 April 2006 Geodetic Reporting on the CCWEB was discontinued. Now geodetic marker recovery is handled significantly differently from other reports in the sense that descriptions (i.e. directions required to find each station) are found at and reporting of recovery data is done entirely by computer at <http://ngs.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/datasheet.prl>. USPS Cooperative Charting credit for geodetic recoveries require another entry in the USPS/NGS site <http://ocsdata.ncd.noaa.gov/Powersquadron/>, which is different than CCWEB used for NOS reports. It

should be remembered that NGS no longer wants landmarks reported on and wants no marks recovered more frequently than once each year (i.e. the ONE YEAR RULE).

Note: All geodetics should have been reported to NGS first. You will know if it has been reported before by someone else. They will reject your report telling you that it has already been submitted. When you are downloading the data sheet from the NOAA web site check the last date it was reported.



Lt/C Terry Gray of the Phoenix Sail and Power Squadron recovers a geodetic survey marker during a recent Cooperative Charting adventure in the Phoenix area.

District 28 Spring Conference Agenda
3 March 2007

Uniform: Saturday Meeting: Uniform G or squadron golf shirt
Saturday Night: Uniform A or suitable formal attire

0630 Co-op Charting Adventure (Meet at Denny's, Point Loma)

0900 Call to Order the District 28 2007 Spring Conference

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

- Introductions
- Announcements:
- Breakout meeting room assignments
- Lunch time and place.

0915 Morning Program - How to maneuver around the DB2000 & BCA databases R/C Bob Schloeman, Squadron Activities Committee and brief program by Stf/C Dana McRae, National Membership Committee

1015 - 1030 Break

1030 Breakout meetings

1145 Recess for Lunch

1300 Call the meeting back to Order

- Determination of a quorum.
- Announce the members eligible to vote.
- Approval of the minutes of the 2006 Fall Conference and Winter Council
- Recognition of National Committee members present by Chief's Rep
- Chief Commander's message, reported by ChRules R/C Allan Lakin, SN
- Reports of Bridge Officers (and department committee chairmen)
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Elections / NomCom Report

1600 Recess

1730 Hospitality

1900 Dinner

2030 Return to Order

- Comments from R/C Allan Lakin, SN
D/28 Awards Program
- Installation of officers

2100 Benediction

- District 28 2007 Spring Conference is adjourned.
- Conference raffle winning Begins

Now for something less serious....

By D/C Bill Johnson, AP

In the years going up the bridge I've been able to do a lot of things and claim I was doing it for the organization.

- During the six years, not in calendar order, I have:
- Met fantastic people from all over the United States and other countries as well.
- Driven to Orlando, across Louisiana (very rough interstate highway) and nearly froze in the showers in Orlando.
- Lost my wallet at Cape Canaveral and had it returned with everything, including cash and credit cards a day later.
- Watched a Squadron Executive Officer's wife sing about a trolley, out the window of a car, while driving down a street, in a distant city and had a wonderful time.
- Learned that the members of our district have a lot going to brag about on boating, teaching or giving.
- Straight through driving to Little Rock is not for someone of my age any longer.
- Construction seems to be a contagious disease that is prevalent all over the USA
- Driving a large dinner boat in New York Harbor in the dark, is a very, very difficult job and everyone should be happy they survived my try at it. (I enjoyed it though)
- Various members of our district have had to restrain themselves from being impatient with my detours while driving during Coop Charting.
- Coop Charting can lead you into the most interesting areas of the backwoods or desert.
- Who knew that Coop Charting could get you into trouble with the Homeland Security in the Salton Sea Area?
- Somewhere in Borrego Spring 1930's development area is a bright yellow GPS that was work-

ing fine.

- Getting lost in Cleveland can lead into very interesting neighborhoods and sometime the police look at you strange for being there Coop Charting.
- I learned that sailors judge your ability to navigate by what your trail looks like behind the boat.
- I enjoyed watching a play about the "Wicked" witch
- Mickey Mouse headed east and struck it rich in Florida around Orlando.
- Over 5 hours in a seat without spandex is supposed to aid in the formation of blood clots! I'm in trouble.
- Sometimes, I talk before I think.
- I still like driving across country
- National meeting are informative and like having mini parties on Friday and Saturday nights.
- National and other USPS officers are fantastic giving people that enjoy boating like us.
- Redeye flights do describe the passengers.
- Small model race cars can make international cruises if given to the correct person for delivery.
- Learned that just because older members don't agree with you, doesn't mean they don't support you.
- A lot of history (WORK BY **VOLUNTEER MEMBERS**) went into making our organization.
- The National Officers and committee people are a lot of fun to associate with.

Even in a big city, watch who sees you with another woman or man, it will be reported whether authorized or not. That story will never end without a large amount of laughter.

I would do it again, even knowing what amount of effort is required. The rewards are worth it!

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Sail and Power Boating



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