District Commander 2013-14

D/C George J. Musco, AP  Peace River

gjmclm@comcast.net 941-629-1467

Since this is my last article as your District Commander, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my committee volunteers who have made 2013 such a successful year. Everyone appointed to the Commanders Department is there because they are fully committed to USPS, and I believe they deserve to be thanked in print. I want all of our district members to know who is a hard working volunteer, and who contributed so much of their time and energy to District 22.

During my term as D/C, I was very honored and privileged to work with the following members, who stepped forward to serve on these important district committees: Starting with the District Bridge: Executive Officer Margaret Barber, SN, Educational Officer Donald Cook, SN, Administrative Officer Myles Gee, SN, Treasurer Richard Clemm, AP, and my wife, Secretary Carol Musco, AP. The Assistant Bridge Officers: Assistant Educational Officer Jack Purse, N, Assistant Secretary Sandra Krupa, P, Assistant Treasurer Barbara Edge, P. My Aides: P/R/C Connie Beckman, N, P/R/C Gregory, T. Scotten, SN, and D/Lt Elliott M. Hartman, JN, who I relied on all year for their valuable advice, and especially Connie who also served as Parliamentarian who was most helpful before the conference meetings; Chaplain P/C Robert Barber, SN who provided beautiful invocations and benedictions; Flag Lieutenant Tom Krupa, AP who is also the Co-Conference Chairperson; D/Lt Susan Parrish who heads up the District’s Hospitality Committee and the Gifts & Bequests Committee; and D/Lt Nadene Cornell, S, our Merit Mark Chair, who gets us our reward for putting in so much time and effort making District 22 the best district in USPS. I also want to thank the following Executive and General Committee Members who volunteered so much during the past year: Law Officer Leigh Fisher; The Auditing
DISTRICT COMMANDER, Continued from Page 1

Committee – Chairman Herb Schneider, SN, Ken Morris, AP, and Gordon Bloom, SN. The Awards Committee – Chairman James Keil, AP, Wilhelm Andersen, AP, Donald Cook SN, Myles Gee, SN, Harold Howard, SN, Jack Purse, JN, and Mary Smelter, SN; The Budget & Finance Committee – Chairperson Andrea Battaglia, AP, Susan Lomastro, AP, Anna Morris, JN, Wayne Partie, SN, Louise Rea, SN, and Ron Terciak, JN; The Nominating Committee- Chairperson Mary Paige Abbott, SN, Bedford Dabney, P, Don Parrish, SN, Mary Smelter, SN, Dick Littrell, JN, and Carol Segundo, JN; The Planning Committee – Chair Greg Scotten, SN, Ed Cornell, P, Dick Littrell, JN, Bill Lucas, SN, Bill Neef, SN, and Laura Woodward, SN; The Rules Committee Chair Harold Howard, SN, Bill Lucas, SN, and Ron Terciak, JN. As you can see many of these very talented members served on more than one committee, District 22 is indeed very fortunate to have such talented volunteers among it’s ranks.

The Annual District Cruise & Rendezvous at Burnt Store Marina on 7-9 November was a success for the District. 22 Boats and 131 district members attended, the weather was perfect for the outdoor activities, and the Friday and Saturday night Dinners were very well attended. Our hosts, Peace River, Manatee, Lakeland, and Boca Ciega squadrons made it a weekend to remember. I want to thank my Bartenders - Myles Gee, Larry Beverage, Scott Morris, and the ladies who provided the food – Carol Musco, Linda Bick, Susan Parrish, Margaret Barber, Julie McGar, and Jeane Anderson, at my Commander’s Hospitality Party Saturday. Without your help, it would have been a disaster.

On Wednesday, 13 November, Carol and I attended the Marco Island Sail & Power Squadron’s 35th Anniversary Celebration at the beautiful Marco Island Yacht Club. Thank you Commander Ted Reiss, SN, and the squadron for your wonderful hospitality.

I want to thank Anna Maria Island Sail & Power Squadron’s Commander Janet Razze, AP, for the hospitality shown to Carol and I at their Friday, 6 December “Shipwrecked Holiday/Anniversary Party at their beautifully updated squadron building. We both really enjoyed the dinner and company, and are looking forward to their Change of Watch in March.

Carol and I also attended San Carlos Bay Sail & Power Squadron’s 45th Annual Charter Party on Sunday, 8 December. Thank you Commander Mary Smelter, SN, for the invite, we both had a great time. However, I will say, the special photo gift was totally unnecessary!

I want to thank all who attended the 14 December Officer Training Seminar. I know it was scheduled close to the holidays, but I hope those who did attend left with worthwhile information to help guide you through your bridge year.

In this Beacon, you will find important information about the upcoming Spring Conference and District Change of Watch scheduled for 3 – 6 April 2014. Please attend the roundtable seminars, the District Council and Conference meetings, and the Change of Watch Ceremony on Saturday night. I urge you to come and show your support for your district bridge, assistant bridge members, and the members from your squadrons who make up the many committees that keep District 22 a top district in the USPS organization.

The USPS Annual Meeting & Change of Watch in Jacksonville, along with the 100th Anniversary Gala Celebration was certainly a success. I understand it was a sold out event. Congratulations to our new Chief Commander Robert Baldrige and his new bridge, may you have a very productive watch year.

On Saturday, 22 March 2014, we will be having a DB2000 Class at the Sarasota Power & Sail Squadron Building. This class will cover a novice to an advanced user of DB2000. Please reserve to D/Lt/C Margaret Barber, SN, by 19 March.
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
D/Lt/C Myles Gee, SN
mkgee@msn.com

I would like to offer each of you a Happy New Year.

Well we’re off to a season of Changes of Watch, new Bridges, new Committee Chairs, new names including familiar faces that never say no. Thanks to all of you who volunteer all your many hours to make your Squadrons and District 22 the best.

The 7-10 November 2013 C & R hosted by Peace River, co-host Manatee with Boca Ciega and Lakeland as assists was a real hoot. There were over 80 members registered for the games and many more that came to the two dinners. There were many members dressed as their favorite Hollywood Stars including your own District Commander, Elvis style, we were ALL SHOOK UP. Of course Manatee showed up with a fleet of boats and won so many of the docking awards, go big “M”. Thank you to our four squadrons that put this event on.

As you are reading this many of our members have been or still at the 2014 Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, 26 January-2 February, I hope you were an attendee.

Everything you want to know about DB2000 will be held 22 March at the Sarasota Squadron building taught by P/R/C Connie Beckman, SN, thank you Connie.

I have started to work on the 2014 Spring Conference 3-6 April at the Sheraton Tampa Hotel. There is a lot of hard work by your Chairs P/R/C Chuck Troike, SN and P/D/C Tom Krupa, AP and their staff. I ask you to please put these dates on your calendar and please plan on attending. Reasons to attend, you may have fun, you may meet someone new, you may learn something new as there are great round tables, you may win an award or trophy, did I say you might have loads of fun? It’s also a time to thank your current District Commander for all his hard work along with all the bridge members. Oh, we will have fun.

Peace out.
For those of you that remember hurricane Sandy and the sinking of the HMS Bounty, that disaster was minimized by the captain and his crew by using Winlink 2000 to communicate with the Coast Guard after all other communication methods failed.

When a boater connects while at sea, they receive a message “Welcome to the Sarasota Power and Sail Squadron.” This is a great opportunity to promote SPSS as well as contribute to the safety of all boaters using this technology. Stay tuned for more information on classes on Winlink 2000, VHF, HF, DCS radios and other communication technologies.

For more information on Winlink 2000 check out www.Winlink.org. For SPSS Sysop information contact Gary Wells, 941-549-1596 or glwells@yahoo.com.

D-22 C&R 6-9 November 2014
The Marinas at Little Harbor
www.thelittleharbormarina.com
Harborside Suites
www.StayLittleHarborFlorida.com

Arrivals will be expected on 6 or 7 November. There are two docking areas, those nearest the activities will be fixed wooden docks in very good condition. For boaters preferring floating docks, they will be available a short distance away within walking distance.

A golf cart shuttle will also be available. Rates are being negotiated.

Room rates as low as $84.00 are available at The Inn. The best values will be found at the Harborside Suites with a 1 bedroom, partial kitchen suite for $112.00. A studio is available for $108.00 and a three bedroom for $272.00. Both are very near the activities.

Dining will be at the Sunset Grill with planned meals Friday and Saturday Night.
Menus and prices are not yet available. This venue has a panoramic view of Hillsborough Bay looking west to St. Petersburg.
EDUCATION OFFICER
D/Lt/C Donald Keith Cook, SN
don558@aol.com

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. Winter is the time for taking courses and I hope many of you are taking advantage of your opportunities.

Education is the point of emphasis for this issue. You hear from me every quarter. For a change of pace I have requested three of our SEOs to contribute, one from the north, south, and central areas of our district.

Below you will find contributions from:
L/C James Kelly, JN SEO Crystal River
L/C Howard Rothstein, SN SEO ST. Petersburg
D/1st Lt Jack Purse, N ADEO and SEO Sanibel Captiva

I hope you find their views informative. I hope to see all at the spring conference in Tampa.

The D22 Fall Cruise & Rendezvous Docking Contest was directed by Peace River Sail and Power Squadron

2014 Spring Quarter Bulletin.
D/1st/Lt Jack Purse, N Assistant District Educational Officer, District 22 Squadron Educational Officer, Sanibel Captiva Sail & Power Squadron

So what is it that motivates those among us to teach for the USPS and those who enjoy being a student of recreational boating skills and safety? For me, the answer lies in some combination of the following:

Self-preservation: Florida has more registered boats than any other state and Lee County is Ranked number 4 out of all Florida counties in terms of the number of registered boats. The majority of individuals who operate these vessels have limited experience and very limited, if any, training regarding basic seamanship, rules of the road and safety on the water. Our offshore and intracoastal waters near Fort Myers and our barrier islands are extremely congested with untrained operators. The greater number of area boaters that we can involve in the USPS basic boating courses, the better off and safer we’ll all be when on the water. Most of the students in my Seamanship course are motivated by a sincere desire for proficiency and keeping their families safe while on the water.

The subject matter: I remember that special birthday when I was 14 and my grandfather gave me a brand new copy of Chapman’s Piloting, Seamanship & Small Boat Handling. It was a big book, but notwithstanding its size I inhaled it over the next week or two. For almost 5 decades since that birthday, I’ve been a student of this body of knowledge. I hope my enthusiasm for the subject makes me a better teacher.

The adult learning process: I really enjoy participating in the field of adult education. The process of teaching practical and useful subjects that can help others become better at activities they enjoy with their friends and families is rewarding for me and also for the talented instructors on my squadron’s educational team. The courses and seminars offered by USPS are designed to be appealing to adult participants. They utilize contemporary teaching methods and employ well designed audio visual support - they’re a great fit for both our instructors and students alike.

So that’s why I like volunteering to teach for the USPS. If you feel you have a calling for this Important activity in your squadron - just raise your hand! You’ll find it rewarding in more ways
SQUADRON EDUCATION ACTIVITY IN CITRUS COUNTY
L/C James Kelly, JN, SEO Crystal River

This year like last year will be a challenge; not for the quality of the presentations in the classroom, but in attendance. Participation in boating classes has been disappointing. We are not unique in this arena; the local auxiliary units are facing the same challenges.

Why? Diminishing of entry level boaters: Recreational boating is a costly activity which precludes many from entering boating. Another issue: Severe competition, in our area; we compete with four Auxiliary units reaching out for the same people. Also the state is now offering a free of charge program for the boater’s card. It’s a painfully inadequate program, but it’s free. And lastly is competition from our own National Headquarters offering the same programs on line.

Yes, their intent is to reach out to the boaters who are not in commuting distance of a squadron, but their net falls over our prospects as well.

So much for entry level boaters; what about advanced courses, seminars? Limited interest in our area: Because of shallow water off the coast most local boaters are inland water, pontoon boat operators; little interest in advanced courses. Our own members: most have already taken the courses or have no intention of taking advanced courses.

Our plan to increase participation: person to person contact has been found to be the most effective tool to bring prospects to the class room. Our squadron has enjoyed a vigorous vessel safety examination program; this has brought students. We encourage all members to talk to friends about boating classes. One member has created a series of Power Squadron programs on a local television station. And of course announcements in the local press, and announcements in boat yards.

So, we will keep paddling furiously and see where we end.

D22 Spring Conference Seminar
P/C John Wuerz, SN-ACN will present a Roundtable Seminar at the D22 Spring Conference, Saturday, 5 April 2014, 0900 – 1145, about On-The-Water Instruction, BOC, and Insurance Coverage. John will discuss: (1) OTW Teaching Guides for ABC3, Seamanship, Piloting, Advanced Piloting, and Sail; (2) Boat Operator Certification for Inland, Coastal and Advanced Coastal Navigator levels, and (3) related insurance coverage, requirements, and issues.

EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE
Lt/C Howard Rothstein, SN, SEO ST. Petersburg

Education and knowledge, they go together like love and marriage.

As Education Officer for the St. Petersburg Sail and Power Squadron I am very honored to have been asked by the District Education officer, Don Cook, to write this article on Education.

I believe very strongly in safety through education and knowledge. My father instilled in me over 70 years ago to get as much knowledge as I could before I left the dock and that mindset has never left me all these years. Safety is everyone’s business.

Seamanship is the ability to anticipate and avoid trouble. Competent seaman (and ladies) should not fear emergencies on the water. They should plan to cope with them and take all possible precaution to ensure that they will never happen. Seamanship is a talent that cannot be purchased. It comes from a program of continually learning and developed by practice on a regular basis.

As a boater who has traveled from Key West to Maine and out to Bermuda and down to Trinidad, I learned that the tried and true motto of the Boy Scouts of “always be prepared” works very well.

We boaters are very lucky to have an organization like the United States Power Squadron that we can turn to for education and knowledge about all things nautical. I joined the Power Squadron after I had already boated forty years and I didn’t know what I “didn’t know”. The knowledge that I received through this organization has given me the confidence to go anywhere safely and return safely.

In addition to the knowledge I received I formed friendships that have now spanned thirty years with classmates of like minds.

As a long time, long range cruiser I have met many wonderful people living the wonderful life of cruising with boats. All this came through the exciting world of learning something new.

If you are new to boating, do it the right way. Build a repertoire of boating skills and become sea savvy. Your family deserves no less than to feel safe with you at the helm.

If you have been with the squadron for a long time and haven’t taken a class in quite a while, take a good look at all the new seminars that were not available when you became a “full certificate”.

Come to an “On Board Emergencies” seminar or any one of new seminars. You will be surprised at “goodies” you will encounter.

From one old salt to another, “Try it, you’ll be impressed.”
**2014 100th Anniversary Annual Meeting**

**D/C George Musco** accepts the 2013 Growth Award - D22 2nd in nation

**Crystal River Cdr Tom Rossini** accepts award for 1000 vessel safety checks in 2013

**D/C Musco** accepting Tampa Power Squadron’s award for 25 yrs of Co-op Charting submissions

**D/C Musco accepting the National Educational Fund Honor Roll Award presented to D22**

**P/Stf/C Robert Stein** receives his Life Membership from CC John Alter

**D22 members attending Annual Meeting**

**R/C Greg Scotten leading Ann Scotten, Don Parrish, Harold Anderson, & Sandy Krupa with flags**

**Boat US Civic Service Award presentations**

**USPS100 Anniversary Presentation of District Flags Ceremony**

**D22 Members Attend the Annual Meeting**

**P/D/C Kenneth Beckman, SN accepting the Charles F. Chapman Award for outstanding instructor of the year**

- St Petersburg, 3 place Crystal River, 2nd place Peace River
In accordance with the District 22 Bylaws section 2.9.1 the District 22 Nominations Committee submits its report of nominees for the district’s 2014-2015 Watch Year.

Commander: D/Lt/C Myles Gee, SN
Education Officer: D/Lt/C Don Cook, SN 2nd of 3 yr term
Executive Officer: P/C N. Vic Stewart, JN
Administrative Officer: P/C Warren Maciag, JN
Secretary: D/1st/Lt Sandra Krupa, P 1st of 3 yr term
Treasurer: D/Lt/C Richard Clemm, AP 3rd of 3 yr term
Assistant Education Officer: D/1st/Lt Jack Purse, N 2nd of 3 yr term
Assistant Secretary: Lt/C Carol Einhart, AP 1st of 3 yr term
Assistant Treasurer: D/1st/Lt Barbara Edge, P 1st of 1 yr term

Respectfully submitted,

D22 Nominating Committee: R/C Mary Paige Abbott, SN-IN -Chair
And the following members of the committee: P/C Carol Segundo, JN; P/C Mary Smelter, SN;
P/C BL Dabney, P; P/D/C W. Richard Littrell, JN; P/D/C Don Parrish, SN
DB2000 Training Seminar

For all interested USPS Members

Presented by District 22

Saturday, 22 March 2014

At the Sarasota Power & Sail Squadron Building
2814 Hyde Park Street, Sarasota, FL 34239-3227

Program is 1000 - 1500
Gathering and Registration 0930

Cost: $10.00 – for Coffee, Danish, Lunch

Registration deadline is Wednesday, 19 March 2014. Checks should be made to: “Margaret Barber” and sent to: Margaret Barber, 4844 Wood Pointe Way, Sarasota, FL 34233-3526.

Name_________________________________________ Cert#____________

Name_________________________________________ Cert#____________

Squadron________________________________________

Phone:____________________ e-mail:________________________

Please rate your experience with DB2000: What is DB2000? _____

It’s on my computer but I can’t get a roster _____

It’s on my computer and I can get around it _____

Questions about this Class? Please call District Secretary Carol Musco, AP, at 941-629-1467

Please arrive at 0900 for help loading DB2000 on your Laptop.
The BEACON 22 the Newsletter of the United States Power Squadron’s District 22 on Florida’s West Coast

DISTRICT 22
2014 SPRING CONFERENCE & CHANGE OF WATCH
Sheraton Tampa East, 10221 Princess Palm Ave., Tampa, FL 33610

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY 4 APRIL 2014
0900 – 1500  Registration Desk Open Locations TBA
1000 – 1200  Squadron Commanders’ Meeting
1200 – 1400  Lunch on your own
1400 – 1600  District Council Meeting
1700 – 1815  Squadron Hospitality
1830 – 2130  Theme Dinner - “South Pacific”

SATURDAY 5 APRIL 2014
0830 – 0930  Morning Coffee & Pastry
0900 – 1200  Registration Desk Open Locations TBA
0900 – 1400  Display Tables Open
0900 - 1145  Round Table / Seminars
1200 - 1330  Awards Luncheon
1345 - 1400  Registration Desk Open
1400 - 1700  District Conference
1730 - 1815  District Commander’s Reception
1845 - Until  Change of Watch Dinner & Program

SUNDAY 6 April 2014 0930--1030  Post Conference Review

ROUNDTABLE SEMINARS * NOTE:  Two Double Sessions:

* 0900 - 1145  Education Re-Certification  P/R/C Ann Scotten, SN
* 0900 - 1145  On the Water Instruction & BOC  P/C John Wuerz, SN - ACN

0930 -- 1030  LOCATIONS - TBA  1045 -- 1145

Using the HQ800 System
ADEO Jack Purse, SN & R/C Steven Abbott, SN
Treasurers Duties
D/Lt/C Richard Clemm, AP & D/1st/Lt Barb Edge, AP
Secretaries Duties
D/Lt/C Carol Musco, AP & D/1st/Lt Sandra Krupa, P
Hurricane Preparedness for Boats
R/C Gregory Scotten, SN
Lt/C Bob Kelly, N, & 1st/Lt Bill Spencer, SN
Membership
P/R/C Connie Beckman, SN
Vessel Safety Checks
D/Lt Richard Quodomine, SN

Dress Code  Friday Day -- Team Casual  *  Evening -- Costume if preferred
Saturday Day: Uniform G (white short sleeve shirt, black slacks/skirt)
Saturday Evening: Uniform A with bow tie, (black slacks/skirt) or as always-appropriate attire.

Special D22 Hotel Rate: $120 per night plus tax Rooms available Thursday at D22 Rate.
C*U*T – O*F*F*  D*A*T* 21 MARCH 2014.  ANY ROOMS NOT BOOKED BY THIS DATE WILL BE CHARGED AT THE HIGHER NORMAL HOTEL RATE.

For Reservations:  call toll free: 888-627-8169 or go on line at:
https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/USPSD22 (Ctrl + click on link)
**DISTRICT 22**

**SPRING 2014 CONFERENCE MEALS**

*(Please complete this form and send with your check)*

**FRIDAY 4 APRIL 2014 - THEME DINNER – “South Pacific”**

1. Pan Seared Tuscan Chicken Breast with a Sun Dried Tomato Pesto, Artichokes, Roasted Peppers and Spanish Olives.
2. Pecan Crusted Tilapia with a Lemon Beurre Blanc
   - Both served with Wild Rice Pilaf and Roasted Vegetable Medley
   - Classic Salad. Dessert: Carrot Cake. Bread/Butter, Coffee, Hot Tea & Iced Tea

- Chicken Selection $28.00 No _______  
- Tilapia Selection $28.00 No _______  
Amount $ __________

**SATURDAY 5 APRIL 2014 - AWARDS LUNCHEON BUFFET**

- Roasted Red Bliss Potato Salad, Mixed Baby Field Greens, Sliced Cucumbers, home-style Croutons, Tomatoes – Served with Creamy Ranch & Balsamic Vinaigrette Dressing.
- Sliced Deli Meats & Cheese, Roasted Turkey Breast, Sliced Roast Beef, Shaved Ham, Genoa Salami
- Sharp Cheddar, Big Eye Swiss & American Cheeses. Relish Tray, Lettuce, Onions, Tomatoes, and Pickles
- Assorted Breads & Rolls, Assorted Cookies, Coffee, Hot Tea & Iced Tea

- Luncheon Buffet $20.00 No._______  
Amount $ _________

**SATURDAY 5 APRIL 2014 – CHANGE OF WATCH DINNER**

1. Sliced Pepper Crusted Sirloin with a Port Wine Demi Sauce
2. Grilled Mahi Mahi with a Key Lime Butter Sauce
   - Both served with Herbed Roasted Potatoes and a Vegetable Medley

- Sirloin Selection $38.00 No _______  
- Mahi Mahi Selection $38.00 No _______  
Amount $ __________

Total Amount Enclosed $ __________

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**NO RESERVATIONS OR CANCELLATIONS AFTER 24 MARCH 2014**

Please send this Form and Check payable to “D22 Conference Fund”.

TO:  D/Lt Jeane Anderson, AP  
7524 Carambola  
Punta Gorda, FL 33955

Email: hjanderson@embarqmail.com  
Cell Phone: (941) 661-1831

RANK ______ NAME: __________________________________________ GRADE _______

Is this your first time attending a District Conference?  Yes / No

Any Special Dietary Restrictions or Requests? __________________________________________

RANK ______ NAME: __________________________________________ GRADE _______

Is this your first time attending a District Conference?  Yes / No

Any Special Dietary Restrictions or Requests? __________________________________________

SQUADRON: __________________________ PHONE: __________________________