

**UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS
SAIL AND POWER BOATING
DISTRICT 26**

**MINUTES OF THE FALL CONFERENCE
15 OCTOBER 2005
COLUMBIA, SC**

The Fall Conference of District 26 of the United States Power Squadrons convened at the Columbiana Hotel and Conference Center, Columbia, SC on Saturday, 15 OCT 2005. The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM by D/C Bob Dorn.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by P/C Frank Puccini, S, after which P/D/C William Mullin, AP, gave the invocation and recognized those members who passed during the past year.

The P/D/Cs attending the conference were introduced by P/D/C Jim McVey, SN. They were Robert A. Peters, Robert G. Larsen, William F. Mullin, Edward C. Leibfarth, Edward A. Bush and Jim McVey. R/C Richard M. Peoples, visiting from D/23, was also introduced.

D/C Dorn introduced our special guest, V/C John Alter, Chief Commander's representative to the D/26 Conference.

Cdr Joe Warren, Tybee Light Squadron, gave an update on the health of Father Dumm. He will not be returning to the Savannah area.

Cdr Fanning explained the breakout sessions. D/C Dorn called a recess until 10:30 for the breakout sessions.

D/C Dorn reconvened the Conference at 10:30 AM. D/Lt/C John Powers acknowledged the presence of a quorum and explained the voting procedure for the Conference and the Council. He then made a motion that the minutes of the Spring Summer Conference be approved as distributed. A unanimous vote was given to accept the motion.

D/C Dorn called on V/C John Alter to discuss dues increase and Anniversary Billing (HQAB). The dues increase would amount to \$1.80 yearly for the next 5 years. This will have to be voted on each year. At present there are 226 squadrons out of the total 450 who are participating in HQAB. V/C Alter anticipates this number to increase as other squadrons are hearing positive comments for this type of dues collecting. It will be presented at the National Conference in January for a super-majority vote.

V/C Alter further discussed offering our elective courses to the general public. D/26 representatives to the conference indicated some negativism to this plan.

D/C Dorn thanked all for the cooperation during his year as Commander.

D/C Dorn re-introduced V/C John Alter by telling just a little about him and their relationship in the past.

V/C John Alter – Report from the Chief. (See Chief’s Report attached to this report) Highlights – Boys Scouts Jamboree

MOU’s

Virtual Book Store

Attendee’s in Boating Courses declining

Teaching Boating Courses is now declining.

Turnaround in Advanced Grades

Maptek improved CD’

Amateur Radio Guide

BellSouth Youth Fishing Trip in Jacksonville , FL

Leadership Training

Regional OC Meetings

NY Governing Board

Twek the Web Site

Harbor Watch – volunteers

Power-of-One—successful program for increasing membership

Nominating Committee

Annual Meeting in Orlando – JAN 4-7, 2006

D/C Dorn thanked V/C Alter for his report and a round of applause was given by the membership. (Excellent Speaker)

DISTRICT OFFICER’S REPORTS - D/C Dorn called for the District Officers Reports.

TREASURERS REPORT – The Treasurer’s report was approved as presented on a handout. (Included in packet for Fall Conference, 2005)

V/C Alter stated that the squadrons would benefit from members signing up for the Visa Card.

2006 Budget was presented by our District Treasurer, D/Lt/C Ron Osborne. It was approved as presented (see handout).

SECRETARY’S REPORT – D/Lt/C John Powers recognized P/D/C Bob Peters for his work on the Historian’s report. He emphasized the importance of getting the

Bridge Officers List from each squadron to Debra Allan so that she can get this into the roster as soon as possible. (See Attachment on file with minutes)

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – D/Lt/C Archie Trawick explained the use of Techsoup.Org software to nonprofit organizations .Order only one time per year for Microsoft. (See entire report)

Membership- There are 1411 active members in D/26. Lake Murray , Tybee Light, Golden Corners, North Strand and Long Bay received certificates for increased membership.. The winner for 2005 was Long Bay Power Squadron.

Membership Manual – Is available for the Bridge to download.

Power-of-One – The existing program to double your membership every year continues to be successful. 4 individuals have earned the hat which is awarded to those who get 5 new members in USPS.

Ambassadors' Program at District Level . Need someone to fill the chairmanship.

Member Benefits - Can go on line and apply for some of these.

New Public Boating Course will have What's In It for Me and a copy of the ENSIGN inserted in the manual.

Cookbooks are available.

National Safe Boating Week – 20-26 May 2006

District Boating Activities Program – Not off the ground yet. Get your chairman's name in to the District Chairman.

EDUCATIONAL REPORT – D/Lt/C Carol McVey stated that the Educational Program is going along nicely. Urges SEO's to give National plenty of time to get orders to you. There will be changes in the boating courses (Boat Smart and Chart Smart will be Part 1 and Part 2 of the squadron boating course). Information will be out very soon. Seamanship will be the perfect bridge to P and AP. JN and N will be only 1 module respectively.

Carol thanked all squadrons for their Teaching Aids (15 submitted)

Carol announced the two seminars to be held after the Council Meeting (Boat Trailing and Chart Plotting).

Chapman Award - D/Lt Eric Pearson presented awards to the 8 individuals from the 8 squadrons submitting a candidate for this prestigious award. The winner will be announced at the dinner on Saturday Evening. (Charlie Schuler was the winner.)

**Instructions were given for the Member's Lunch
Break until 1300**

CONFERENCE RECONVENED AT 1300

EXECUTIVE REPORT –DXO Dick Erler

CoOp Charting Report – P/C Horst Boettge gave out some materials prepared for each squadron.

DXO Erler gave a report for District CoOp Charting Chairman, Ed Zeaser. There were 155 squadron members in D/26 who contributed and the district ranks 5th in total squadrons in USPS. Those making the HONOR ROLL were Tybee Light, Savannah River, Charleston, Thurmond Lake, Golden Corners Lake, and Lake Hartford. Individual certificates were handed out by DXO Erler.

DXO Erler called on Debra Allen to discuss the Commanders and Executive Officers Meeting Presentation, the Bridge Training Program Lake Murray uses for new officers.

VSC Report – District Chairman, Pete Stevenson, took the podium to give the VSC report by squadrons followed by a discussion on RVBP (Recreational Boaters Visitation Program). He will be serving as District Chairman for this program and is gathering materials for each squadron to begin the program by the first of the new year. He stated that he felt that this is a public relations type of endeavor. For further information call or e-mail Pete. (864-855-0504 or pete @xtexinc.com).

Schedules – DXO Erler stated that he will e-mail the Squadron Commanders a copy of the schedule for 2006 and slate of Bridge Officer's visits to squadron COWs.

DEO Carol McVey awarded the following winners of the Teaching Aids Contest.

**Credit at National Certificate – 3rd place to Beaufort – Boating - \$20
2nd place to Charleston – Seamanship - \$30
1st place to Lake Murray– Engine
Maintenance- \$50**

OLD BUSINESS-

The ad hoc committee formed by District Council was given the assignment to design a district flag. Several versions were reviewed by the district bridge and the winning flag was presented to the Conference/Council membership for approval. In

the absence of P/D/C Rakes (flag ad hoc committee chairman) Cdr. Dorn presented the proposed flag to D/26 membership. He explained the significance of the design and called for a vote to accept the flag as presented. The district flag was unanimously accepted as presented. The flag will now be sent to the National Flag and Etiquette Committee. (a copy of the honorary is attached).

NEW BUSINESS-

The certificate signed by all Governors in the US and Processions will be framed and presented to our own SC governor at a specified ceremony.

The Bowsprit Award – Presented by D/C Dorn to the Following squadrons:

**Beaufort
Charleston
Golden Corner Lakes
Golden Isles
Hilton Head
Lake Hartwell
Lake Murray
Long Bay
North Strand
Savannah River
Swamp Fox
Thurmond Lake
Tybee Light**

D/26 received the Bowsprit award at National in Portland. It was presented to our Commander, Bob Dorn, by Secretary Powell.

Golden Isles Squadron – Cdr Audie Holmes gave a report on the status of Golden Isles Squadron. They are still on Provisional Status but expect to be awarded Full Squadron Membership in Orlando, Winter Conference. Presently there are 35 members, an increase by 5 since being granted Provisional Status.

Order of the Mariners – Presented by P/D/C Robert Larsen

New members for 2005 are as follow:

Beaufort – Waldo A. Phinney, Jr.

Golden Corners – Robert G. Kunkel

**Hilton Head – Richard J. Grellner
Robert A. Loper
George E. Reilly**

Long Bay – Kathryn M. Byrd

Lake Murray – Leroy M. Barber, Jr.

Savannah River – Edward C. Leibfarth

Tybee Light – Charles L. Hohenstein, Jr.

P/D/C Larsen was recognized by D/C Dorn for outstanding service to The Order of the Mariners with a plaque and a pin.

DISMISSAL OF THE 2004-2005 BRIDGE – D/C Dorn dismissed his Bridge and in turn V/C Alter dismissed D/C Dorn. V/C Alter called for P/D/C Jim McVey, chairman of the nominating committee, to present the slate of officers. They are as follows:

Commander	Richard Erler
Executive Officer	Archie Trawick
Administrative Officer	John Powers
Educational Officer	Carol McVey
Secretary	Betty Walton
Treasurer	Ron Osburn
Asst. Educational Officer	Eric Pearson

**Nominating Committee – Marjorie Schulte (1 Yr)
Jim McVey (2 Yrs)
Bob Dorn (3Yrs)**

**Rules Committee - Aubrey Vaughan
Frank Clayton
Joe Warren**

**Auditing Committee – Cindy Kridler
Billy Owens
Don Redford**

**Planning Committee – Annette Dumais
Bob Peters
Lloyd Pitts
Don Daly
Ed Kridler
Jim Olin**

V/C Alter called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none the slate was elected unanimously.

Commander Erler returned to the podium and asked his newly elected bridge to join him.

At this point D/C Erler adjourned Conference.

5 MINUTE BREAK

D/C Erler convened Council.

D/Lt/C Betty Walton, Secretary, reported that there was a quorum present and she explained the voting procedure for Council.

OLD BUSINESS –P/D/C Ed Leibfarth presented the Savannah River Squadron’s 50th Anniversary Burgee. It was approved by Council and will now go to National Flag and Etiquette committee for approval.

NEW BUSINESS - D/C Erler gave a report on the District Strategic Plan. He called on Jim Olin to tell how North Strand has developed their Squadron Strategic Plan. Jim brought out many exciting things that his squadron plans to do in the coming 5 years.

Steve Pietrowicz discussed paper work required by squadron officers. His suggestion was to look into possibilities to cut down on the excessive amount of forms, etc. A committee consisting of Steve Pietrowicz, Joe Warren, and Chris Rose was appointed to review the paper-work required at present and present their recommendations to the Planning Committee who in turn will submit to the Council at the February meeting

Summer Cruise Program - There was a discussion of the Summer Cruise Program—Inland vs. Coastal. Due to the absence of key members of this group, we can expect a specific recommendation on this matter at the Winter Council. Both the issues of Scheduling of Council Meetings and Summer Cruise Program will go back to the Planning Committee . This committee will review the 2007 schedule to match changes National has made.

Nominating Committee Proposal Change – P/R/C Lew Ward made a proposal to change the nominating committee from 3 members (the three most recent District Commanders) to 6 or more to eliminate problems that have occurred in the past. This was moved to submit this to the Planning and then to the Rules Committee. A report should be given at the next council meeting.

There being no further business to come before Council D/C Erler adjourned the Council Meeting.

Respectively submitted by:

Betty Walton, SEC D/26