



026° TRUE

District 26

A UNIT OF UNITED STATES POWER SQUAD-

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

<http://www.usps.org/localusps/d26/>

VOLUME 46, NO. 1

April 2008



A MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT COMMANDER JOHN POWERS, SN



The year is moving on and we are beginning to see substantial progress in the goal areas the bridge established early on. A few of these are:

Bowsprit Program – As you may know the Bowsprit Award Program is one that measures squadron and district performance in the areas of membership, member retention, education course graduates, vessel safety checks (VSC) completed and Coop Charting. Our performance is what we do this year compared to what we did last year. I recently sent each squadron commander a letter with national's tally of our accomplishments in each categories. It appears we are doing pretty well in education, fair on membership (we won't know about member retention until July 1), and the VSC and Coop Charting should show better progress with the warm weather coming on. It is important that our accomplishments in these areas be reported to national. I feel that we have done much more in the VSC area than that with which we have been credited.

Protocol Manual – During the Spring Conference we were able to obtain photos of all the trophies that the district awards. It is our intention to include the photos in a Protocol Manual on our D26 Web Site. We have started evaluating the criteria for choosing each award recipient and will publish this information in the manual. We will also include information needed by squadrons which is not provided elsewhere — e.g. the protocol for hosting a national officer will be included. If you have subjects you would like us to review for inclusion, please send them to me.

Commanders Packet – We have started development of a Commanders Packet. It will include information needed by a new squadron commander which is missing from the Squadron Commanders Packet furnished by national. Some of this information is available on web sites but the address and/or location is not readily known or found. This is especially true of report forms. If you have items or issues that you think are candidates for this packet, please forward them to me.

Liaison Officers – It is the goal of the United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) to achieve and maintain good relations with public officials, regulatory and conservation agencies, safety and homeland security groups, and volunteer organizations concerned with recreational boating. Good communication between USPS and outside organizations promotes the development of operations and programs that are of mutual benefit. A sound liaison program enhances USPS within the boating community. To achieve this, USPS, at the national level, created the Government and Partner Relations Committee. This committee requests districts and squadrons to designate qualified members to serve as District and Squadron Liaison Officers

Continued on page 4



Executive Department D/Lt/C Ronald Osburn, SN

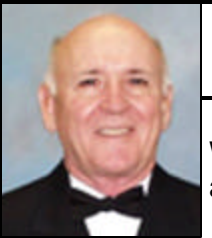
“BOATING IS FUN...WE’LL SHOW YOU HOW” was the theme for the national meeting in Dallas. We witnessed the installation of Chief Commander Creighton Maynard, SN and the National Bridge. On the social side we shared the hospitality suite with District 27. This saved both districts money and we made new friends and renewed old acquaintances with our neighboring district. Here are some of the highlights from the District Commanders and

Executive Officers meeting.

- ‡ Thirty-six squadrons in seventeen districts have failed over the past 10 years.
- ‡ At least one district may be dissolved in the next year.
- ‡ Seventeen districts do not have a District Squadron Development Committee.
- ‡ National Officers don’t have a clear picture of squadron health until it’s too late to help floundering squadrons recover.
- ‡ It is imperative that District and National Bridges become involved in saving troubled squadrons.
- ‡ National would like to standardize all squadron and district dues.
- ‡ National is proposing a one time membership card instead of new ones every year.

National Administrative Officer V/C Frank Dvorak, SN announced several membership proposals including: 1. a new approach to obtaining members via the internet – the “Y” generation, and 2. a test program involving several volunteer districts that will price the boating course to include one year membership in USPS.

Our spring conference was March 28-30. Golden Corner Lakes put in a lot of hard work preparing for the conference. Along with March Madness basketball contests there were some very informative seminars and, of course, good things to eat. After this conference, a lot of squadrons went home with awards that recognize their hard work throughout the past year. The District 26 Summer Council, Cruise and Rendezvous is May 2-4, 2008. North Strand Sail & Power Squadron will host this event. I know they will do a wonderful job and I look forward to it. Hope to see you there.



Educational Department D/Lt/C Eric Pearson, SN

With the arrival of spring we look forward to balmy days and many new boating adventures. We can also look forward to many new educational adventures with the arrival of some new and exciting course materials from USPS University.

The first to arrive is the completely revised Navigation Course. In D/26, 19 members have volunteered to test waters of this course. In addition to traditional celestial skills, the course includes complete computer applications for cruise planning and navigating offshore. Students will be taking the beta version of this course, helping USPS get it ready for final release early next year.

The first of three revised and updated Marine Electronics courses will be available this spring. Instead of one ME course, USPS University is developing three: Boat Electrical Systems, Marine Communications Systems and Marine Electronic Navigation Systems. Boat Electrical Systems covers all the electrical power and wiring systems normally found on boats. The course concludes with troubleshooting boat electrical problems, including detailed instructions on how to use a multimeter as well as how to read wiring diagrams. Boat Electrical Systems should be on the shelves at headquarters in April. Marine Communications will arrive this fall and Marine Electronics Navigation is expected early next year.

The new public boating course, America’s Boating Course, Third Edition, should be available this fall. This replaces Squadron Boating Course, Boat Smart and Chart Smart. The material is divided into two parts, but it is all in one book. Part one can be taught in four two-hour sessions like Boat Smart, and part two in three sessions similar to Chart Smart. Students will also receive a DVD offering animated courseware for home study and digital charting software and charts.

New this summer will be the first mini-course, Power Boat Handling. Mini-courses can be completed in six hours and will cover a variety of boating topics. New seminars available by summer and fall will be Paddle Smart, Marine Knots, Anchoring, Marine Radar, Hurricanes and Trailering. Other seminars in the works include Emergencies on Board, Heavy Weather Sailing and Diesel Engine Care and Repair.

By now I think you have gotten the idea – USPS University offers a variety of exciting and convenient courses and seminars to enhance your boating skills. So choose one that you like. And why not ask a friend to join the fun and take the course with you.



Administrative Department D/Lt/C Betty Walton, AP

The Administrative Department Committee Chairmen have been busy during the past three months. Let me bring you up to date on some of their work.

District Boating Activities Chairman P/C Charles Borrmann from Beaufort is working diligently to update the Boating Activities Award Program. Since our squadrons vary so greatly in membership, he will attempt to equalize the total scores. A normalizing factor will be applied to the final point score by the Chairman. Some of the categories to be tallied in the Point System include: ↴ D/26 Cruise and Rendezvous; ↴ D/26 Predicted Log Contest; ↴ Other D/26 sponsored boating events; ↴ One day scheduled boating events; ↴ Extended Cruises beyond one day sponsored by the squadron; ↴ Co-op Charting/Predicted Log Events; ↴ Squadron Boating Activities: 1) Sponsored by squadron; 2) Sponsored by another squadron; and 3) Other boating as approved by local squadron commander; and ↴ Attendance at D/26 Spring Council Meeting by the Squadron Boating Activities Chairman.

I hope that each squadron will take an active part in boating activities at both the district and squadron level. Administrative Officers, be sure to get those reports in to P/C Borrmann and be a candidate to take the trophy home next year.

P/C J.B. Thorton has been in contact with district squadron commanders and national headquarters to obtain as much information as he can find concerning our Member Benefits Program. We will hear more from J.B. as he "learns more".

D/Lt Barbara Pearson reported that she is now serving on the National Publications Committee. The committee is rewriting the Editor's Guide, the manual for Squadron Publication Editors. Barbara also serves as National Hospitality Chairman for D/26. She reported that the Hospitality Joint Venture with D/27 at the Annual Meeting in Dallas was truly a success. The venture was just one more opportunity to prove that the camaraderie in USPS is the greatest.

P/R/C Lew Ward, SN, has challenged each squadron to hold an Operations Training (OT) class. Training will help all officers and chairmen of committees to become aware of their duties and obligations to the squadron.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Cruise and Rendezvous in May.



Secretary's Department D/Lt/C Edwin Kridler, SN

As this issue of our district publication goes to press, we are looking forward to the D/26 Cruise, Rendezvous and Summer Council. The event gives us the opportunity of seeing old friends, and making new friends from around our district. We encourage as many of our members as possible to attend a fun and informative weekend.

With the help of District Historian, Lt/C Robert Gulbrandsen, our District Historian's Report for 2007 has been filed with national. All squadrons have filed their 2007 Historian's Report. All of these reports were sent to national prior to this year's Spring Conference. Thanks for all your work, Bob. An additional thank you goes to all of our squadron historians for completing your reports. However, please don't rest on your laurels; now's the time to begin gathering the information needed for completing the 2008 reports.

I ask the squadron secretaries to please keep your squadron's DB2000 database up to date. These data are used by most, if not all, of your district officers. Your commander has the appropriate passwords to allow you to access and update the database.

The D/26 Directory has been posted on our district website. This will be revised and expanded soon to include all members of the district. This directory is available for the use of all members of the district. Your squadron commander has the password for accessing the directory.

Hope to see you all at Myrtle Beach.



Treasurer's Department D/Lt/C Bob Boal, AP

From the District Treasurer's Desk

- Be certain to file your squadron's IRS Form 990-N if you haven't already done so.
 - Deadline for filing is the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of your squadron's tax year.
- ?? Refer to my Power Point presentation from the D26 Spring Conference for more information. The presentation is on the D26 website under **Member Info**.

A Message from the Editor

In keeping with the national theme, I'd love to hear from every squadron about what your squadron does just for fun. Write an article telling about a unique or really fun thing that your squadron's does that other squadrons might want to try.

Since we are now able to include photos in our district newsletter, if you have some particularly good shots of your squadron activity email it to me as well - courneya@wctel.net. (Don't worry about size, we have a DSL line. If you don't, snail mail will do.)

All submissions will either be included in the publication or sent to the district website for inclusion there.

Commander's Message

Continued from page 1

The responsibilities of the Squadron Liaison Officer include:

1. Developing and maintaining contacts on an individual basis with key people in groups concerned with recreational boating.
2. Advising their squadron commander and appropriate committees of planned actions affecting recreational boating and sport fishing.
3. Preparing for the squadron commander a list of individuals who might be invited to a squadron function, either as an honored guest or speaker, advising the commander on any matters of protocol, and acting as host to the guests.

The USPS Government and Partner Relations Committee also has the role of contributing to homeland security with government and other organizations. One example of this would be cooperating with the Coast Guard's program called [America's Waterway Watch](#).

In summary, these two new USPS efforts are intended to enable squadrons (1) to provide a structured means of communicating and cooperating with governmental organizations at all levels, and with non-governmental groups as appropriate; and (2) to provide a structure for squadron members to contribute to the security of our homeland.

Our District Liaison Officer is Louis Hohenstein, who some of you may have met at our recent Fall Conference at Hilton Head. Over the last several months Louis asked our squadron commanders to appoint Squadron Liaison Officers. I am pleased to tell you we now have S/L/O's in most District 26 Squadrons. These Squadron Liaison Officers will comprise the District 26 Liaison Committee. We plan to have our first District Liaison Committee meeting at our Summer Council on 2-4 May, hosted by the North Strand Power Squadron. I encourage all Squadron Liaison Officers to attend.

Conclusion – Your D/26 Officers are pleased to work with our members to resolve or correct any area of concern to you.

John Powers

CALL FOR DISTRICT 26 SUMMER COUNCIL 3 May 2008

To: All Members of USPS District 26

From: D/Lt/C Ed Kridler, SN
District Secretary

Subject: 2008 Summer Council

When: Saturday 3 May 2008

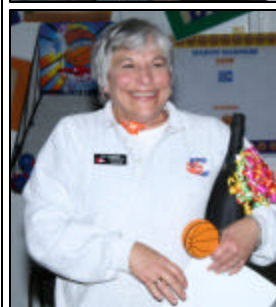
Where: Premier Resorts at Barefoot Resorts
Myrtle Beach, SC

Time: 0830-0900 Registration
0900 Call to Order

Uniform: None; Casual and Comfortable

Agenda: To be announced

Photos by Steven Zahn
Spring Conference
Friday Night March Madness





Ladies Luncheon
Saturday
29 March 2008



Cheerleader Extraordinaire!



Photo Above by Jerry Basch



The Thurmond Lake Traveling Burgee

In 2000, when the squadron formed, Thurmond Lake's Commander Frank Clayton and Carl Dearmin instituted a "Traveling Burgee" program. A large, sturdy burgee was purchased, and a Log Sheet and Certificate of Appreciation were created. The log sheet is used to document the flying of the burgee and the certificate used as an award and thank you to the captain of the ship which flew the burgee. Since inception, the Traveling Burgee has been to China, the U.S. and British Virgin Islands, Australia, New Zealand, Holland, Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, Cypress, Peru, Brazil, Ecuador, and Galapagos. In the United states, it has flown in Alaska and on Lake Erie.

Requests have usually been well received by ship captains, although there are limitations as to when and where some ships can hoist the burgee. Many times the squadron members making the request have been invited on to the upper deck or bridge of the ship - a real treat! One Chinese ship captain even wrote a poem in the log - in Mandarin!



The Charleston 2007 Holiday Parade of Boats

The Charleston Power Squadron got in the spirit of the season 1 December 2007 when they held the annual Holiday Parade of Boats. This gala event was co-hosted by the Charleston squadron and the City of Charleston's Office of Cultural Affairs.

Squadron Commander Art Clark served as the host for the evening. Thirty-four beautifully decorated boats, both sail and power, along with kayaks, rowboats and dragon boats toured the Charleston harbor to the delight of the crowd packed along Patriots Point and the Battery. Adding to the highlights of the event this year was a dynamic and explosive fire works display. The Charleston Police marine boats, Coast Guard, County Police, squadron's marker boats and pivot boats were anchored at various points along the parade route to ensure the evening was both safe and enjoyable.

The ***Spirit of South Carolina*** served as the judge's boat this year. The *Spirit of South Carolina* is a pilot schooner reminiscent of the *Frances Elizabeth*, a vessel that was originally built in 1879 by the Samuel J. Pregnall and Brothers Shipyard in Charleston. The judge's boat provided an excellent viewing platform for guests from the media and the seven judges. We were very pleased to have 1st Congressional District Representative Henry E. Brown, Jr. serve as the Honorary Commodore along with six other judges.

On Sunday evening a Captains Awards ceremony was held to recognize the best boats in each class. A trophy was also given to the best-decorated boat. The Best Power Boat and Best in Show award was the Bulldog Express owned by Mike Groshon. This wonderful event reflects how a local squadron can interact with the community in a positive fashion to promote safe boating. See you on the water soon!

Submitted by BJ Smith, Lt/C, Administrative Officer, Charleston Power Squadron



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UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS

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*Coming Events
2008-2009*

2 - 4	May	D/26 Summer Council, Cruise & Rendezvous Host: North Strand
2 - 7	Sep	USPS Fall Governing Board, Detroit, MI
10-12	Oct	D/26 Fall Conference & COW Host: Lake Murray
7	Nov	Change Of Watch: Golden Corner Lakes
7	Nov	Change Of Watch: Lake Murray
8	Nov	Change Of Watch: Charleston
14	Nov	Change Of Watch: Savannah River
15	Nov	Change Of Watch: Thurmond Lake
15	Nov	Change Of Watch: Hilton Head
21	Nov	Change Of Watch: Lake Hartwell
22	Nov	Change Of Watch: Beaufort
28	Nov	Change Of Watch: North Strand
29	Nov	Change Of Watch: Long Bay
28	Nov	Change Of Watch: Tybee Light
29	Nov	Change Of Watch: Golden Isles
2009		
10	Jan	Change Of Watch: Swamp Fox

District Bridge

Commander D/C John Powers, SN Email: jrpowers@wctel.net	Thurmond Lake Phone: 864-391-2648
Executive Officer D/Lt/C Ronald Osburn, SN Email: ozbrn@bellsouth.net	Golden Corner Lakes Phone: 864-972-2434
Educational Officer D/Lt/C Eric Pearson, SN Email: ericwp@bellsouth.net	Lake Murray Phone: 803-256-0490
Administrative Officer D/Lt/C Betty Walton, AP Email bettywalton31@gmail.com	Hilton Head Phone: 843-686-6794
Secretary D/Lt/C Edwin Kridler, SN Email: ekridler@bellsouth.net	Charleston Phone: 843-762-3986
Treasurer D/Lt/C Bob Boal, AP Email: nssps@atmc.net	North Strand Phone: 910-575-6958
Assistant Educational Officer D/1st/Lt Joe Warren, JN Email: lukngd@aol.com	Tybee Light Phone: 912-786-9605

Squadron	Commander	Educational Officer
Beaufort	Kay Summers, AP	John Satterfield, AP
Charleston	Arthur Clark, P	Chet Rogers, P
Golden Corner	A.G. Caldwell, P	Marlyn Stroven, AP
Golden Isles	Charles Wilsdorf, SN	Audie Holmes, JN
Hilton Head	Atlee (Sonny) Compher, P	Helen Kola, P
Lake Hartwell	Ken Kuszmaul, P	Chris Rose, SN
Lake Murray	Elaine Price, AP	Andy Hyman, AP
Long Bay	Robert Roseman, S	P/C Paul Soucy, AP
North Strand	Bob Candiano, P	Charlie Schuler, SN
Savannah River	DeMetrice Allen, P	Paulette Harris-Holmes, JN
Swamp Fox	Bobby Heneger, JN	Gordon Cole, S
Thurmond Lake	Dick Pugh, AP	Bill O'Neill, SN