

026° TRUE

District 26

A UNIT OF UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

SAIL AND POWER BOATING

**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 47, NO. 1

February 2009



A MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT COMMANDER RONALD OSBURN, SN



How time flies! Your hard working bridge is already three months into the district year. Listed below are some of the programs which we are working on and some of the upcoming events.

District Bylaws

A lot of people have been hard at work on revising our bylaws to coincide with national's District Model Bylaws. We are using these as a guide line but will not necessarily follow them letter for letter. The revisions that we developed have been sent to the rules committee. The rules committee made some corrections and revisions, and the draft was emailed to members of the D/26 Council for their review and comment so that the draft can be approved for submittal to the D/26 Rules Committee at the 2009 Spring Council meeting.

Following the procedures outlined in the Operations Manual, members of the Rules Committee will assemble the necessary documentation and get preliminary approval from our national representative on rules. Next will be District Council approval, and then District Conference approval at the 2009 Fall Conference. After the document has been given the proper signatures and attachments we will then seek final approval by the National Committee on Rules.

District Planning Committee

The committee met at the flotilla in Columbia, SC on 5 January 2009. There are several items the committee has under consideration.

1. Meeting venue for District Spring and Fall Conferences
2. Work on a new five year plan; the old one expired in 2008
3. Look at cost reduction for our district meetings
4. Review the inland and coastal squadrons rotation schedule for the Cruise and Rendezvous
5. Develop a District Operations Manual

Boater Certification Program

The district has trained boater certification instructors that are ready to present the program to our squadrons. The final stages of the program are being worked out and the insurance issue has been resolved. We hope to be able to present this program sometime during the 2009 boating season.

Homeland Security

The District Homeland Security Liaison Chairman Mark McCain has been working on issues with the Department of Homeland Security and the United States Coast Guard. If your squadron has not filled its Homeland Security Liaison position, please do so as soon as you can.

(Continued on Page 5)



Executive Department D/Lt/C Betty Walton, AP



I would like to begin this article by wishing a "Happy New Year" to all of you. It is my intent to help make this a banner year for District 26. The committee chairmen under this umbrella are already off to a great start to meet this goal.

Please be sure and read the message on Page 6 about the Spring Conference written by one of our newest chairmen on the Executive Committee, Public Relations Officer, D/Lt Joan Miller McVey. She asks that all squadron Public Relations Officers make note that there are three Co-Op Advertising submission periods during each year: March 15, July 15 and October 15.

I'd like to advise you about the new United States Power Squadrons® (USPS) insurance policy. I have condensed the information received from National Headquarters as follows:

Effective 1 July 2008 USPS has a new insurance program, underwritten by the Chubb Group of Insurance Companies. It covers the national, district and squadron organizations, USPS members and volunteers. The new program adds several entirely new policies which improve protection for the entire organization. It is important to understand that our insurance program is designed to protect USPS and its members when they are serving the organization for educational and civic purposes. The complete package of the USPS insurance policies is about four inches thick. The liability policies that affect the entire organization are:

Marine General Liability (new)	Liquor Liability
Media Liability (new)	Directors and Officers Liability
Professional Liability (new)	Umbrella and bumbershoot policies
Hull/Protection and Indemnity (new)	General Liability
Marina Operators Legal Liability	

D/C Ron Osburn, SN, sent a descriptive paragraph regarding each of the above coverage categories to all district commanders, so for further information please ask your commander or contact your squadron or district law officer, the national law committee or our insurance broker, Gowrie Barden & Brett. These are your contacts: Mr. Steve Prime, CIC, VP; phone: (401) 846-5130; email: stevep@gowrie.com and Ms. Mary Diaz; phone: (800) 262-8911, email: maryd@gowrie.com.

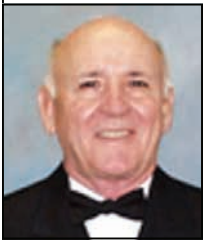
Last is a message from D/26 Cooperative Charting Chairman, D/Lt Don Funderburk, SN, inviting all District 26 members to participate in the Winter Cooperative Charting at Tybee Light.

As we have been doing once a quarter, and encourage others to consider, Tybee Light will hold a co-op charting training seminar on 31 January at the Bahia Bleu Marina which overlooks the Wilmington River on the Inter Coastal Waterway in Thunderbolt, GA. The marina provides free use of it's space, their wireless Wi-Fi and other services. Members can bring a laptop if they wish.

The training portion of the seminar will be taught by D/Lt Don Funderburk, SN. Members will be able to access the CCWeb site, ask questions and input the data from several small craft facility surveys currently in process as well as provide COAST PILOT updates for facilities that do not fully qualify. In addition to the training seminar, we plan to discuss our involvement in the "Adopt-A-Chart" (AAC) program and the development of a guide to marine facilities in our area.

One option includes AAC Chart of 11507, which would be ideal for several squadrons to adopt as a "team", as well as support the "Adopt-A-Buddy" program presented at last year's Coop Charting District Meeting.

All are welcome to join Tybee Light for an afternoon of "Fun-In-The-Sun" Savannah Winter Style! Contact either Lt Scott Kavanaugh, AP, Tybee Light Cooperative Charting Chairman, at 912-965-3058 or D/Lt Don Funderburk, SN, D/26 Cooperative Charting Chairman, at 912-598-1733 to sign-up.



Administrative Department

D/Lt/C Eric Pearson, SN



While the weather has been cold in our area this winter, we can all look forward to the D/26 Spring Conference in Florence 20-22 March. In addition to the activities planned by host squadron Swamp Fox, the Saturday morning conference session will offer two excellent programs as well as a variety of learning opportunities via our seminars.

We will kick things off with a sea going program by Stf/C Horst Boettge, SN. He will tell us how a 50 year fascination with the US Coast Guard tall ship **The Eagle** was consummated with a voyage on the famous sailing ship.

We will also have a presentation by Ronnie Babin of OceanGrafix, a leading supplier of up-to-date nautical charts on-demand. Ronnie will talk about the importance of having current backup charts in the age of electronic navigation. Plus, he will give each squadron a chart of their choice!

Headlining the seminars will be a two-hour session on web pages for squadron webmasters and anyone else who is just interested in the web. We will also have seminars for commanders, executive officers, education officers, administrative officers and membership chairs. There will also be symposium for Navigation instructors.

Don't forget that Saturday night is Awards Night. I look forward to seeing everyone in Florence.

Looking further ahead to warmer days, mark your calendar now and plan to attend the D/26 Summer Council, Cruise and Rendezvous, 12-14 June, in Savannah, GA. Tybee Light Squadron is planning a fun-filled weekend in that wonderfully historic area.



Secretary's Department

D/Lt/C Edwin Kridler, SN



I'm not sure where 2008 went but here we are in 2009, looking forward to the Spring Conference. I hope everyone had a happy holiday season. I'm looking forward to seeing many of our members in Florence in March.

Congratulations to the Lake Hartwell Squadron as its members celebrate the squadron's 50th anniversary.

Thank you to the members working in this department this year. P/C Paula LeMond, P, is again editing our newsletter with Lt Alice Powers, S, assisting Paula. Lt/C Robert Gulbrandsen, S, is our District Historian. Lt Cynthia Kridler, AP, is our correspondent for **THE ENSIGN** and is also working with publications. P/D/C Archie Trawick, SN, and P/C Debra Allen, P, are helping with the D/26 Directory. D/1st/Lt William Woodward, SN, is our Assistant Secretary.

The 2009 District Directory has been updated and is posted on the district website. Please remember that the information in the directory is taken from the DB2000 data on file with USPS headquarters. The information is only as accurate as the data in DB2000. Please keep your squadron's information as up to date as possible. The district directory will be updated during the year, so we need you to keep your squadron information current. The directory is password protected. Please contact your squadron commander for the password if you need to access the directory.

Our District Historian's Report has been filed with national as have been many of the squadron histories. If your squadron report has not been filed, you will receive a plea to submitted the information from Lt/C Bob Gulbrandsen.

I hope each member has a very happy and active year in 2009.



Educational Department D/Lt/C Joe Warren, JN



During the past year I took both the new Junior Navigation (JN) and Navigation (N) courses and have mixed feelings about both. First I am very glad to have completed the requirements and look forward to finishing my electives to have a full certificate. From what I understand from members who completed the "OLD" JN and N courses, I have been cheated. I have been given a comfortable ride to the top in place of having to work my way through the maze. As District Education Officer, I am very interested in your opinion of these and any other of the "NEW COURSES" now offered by USPS versus the "OLD". Contact me at luknqd@aol.com with your comments. Please use USPS in the email subject line so I will not delete your email as spam.

At the Spring Conference we will hold seminars on two subjects. The first will cover the new "N" course for current and future instructors. The second will provide updates from the USPS Annual Meeting and comments from any of the squadrons that have used the ABC 3rd Edition. I hope the basic boating chairman and SEO from each squadron will be available to attend these sessions.

Keep warm. See you in Florence.



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



The holidays have come and gone and another year is upon us. Tax time isn't too far away, so it's time to at least begin thinking about filing. For most, filing the e-Postcard or Form 990-N should meet all your requirements. For more information Go to the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=169250,00.html>. I will be providing more information to all of you as the time approaches. Key to remember is that **filing is required not later than the 15th day of the 5th month following the close of your tax year**. That suggests the drop dead dates may be different for different organizations. After you have filed your return for your squadron, you are required to file a Form TR-1 with USPS which certifies that you have complied with IRS requirements.

Almost all D/26 squadrons are on what is known as the HQAB or Headquarters Annual Billing System. It's a great way to keep track of revenue and it certainly makes my job easier with electronic access to all squadrons' membership and dues status. I am happy to report that as of 1 June 2009, District 26 will have 100% participation in HQAB. Treasurers who have questions can drop me a line any time.

There are always questions regarding the cost of district dues. The good news is that yet again, D/26 dues for active and additional active members is a bargain at \$7.50.

Questions about treasurer stuff? Check out national's website for treasurers at <http://www.usps.org/national/treasurer/> and you will find a host of information including a Treasurer's Manual and a list of contacts.

Speaking of budgets and such, I'd like to welcome John Warren from North Strand as the newest member of the D/26 Budget and Finance Committee. John will be part of the group that develops next year's operating budget to support district needs. Welcome aboard John!

Take time to enjoy your friends and your families every moment that you are able. They are what make life so enjoyable! That said, it's February, and I'd like to wish you all a Happy Valentine's Day.

Commander's Message*(Continued from Page 1)***Bowsprit Award**

District Administrative Officer Eric Pearson, SN, continues to monitor the scores of the Bowsprit Award. Periodic announcements will be made during the year about our successes and about the areas where we need to improve.

Meetings

Many important issues are coming up this year at both the national and district level. I recently received an email from the Chief Commander announcing that national had a very large drop in income last year. At the National Governing Board Meeting in Detroit last September we were presented with some pretty drastic measures which will be voted on at the National Annual Meeting this month.

Like most other companies and organizations USPS is looking for ways to cut costs and save money. If you have suggestions, please consider attending meetings so that your opinions can be heard. National meeting dates include the 2009 National Annual Meeting, 17-22 February in Anaheim, CA; National Governing Board Meeting, 8-13 September in Kansas City, MO and the 2010 National Annual Meeting, 1-6 February in Disney World, FL. The District Meetings this year include the Spring Conference hosted by Swamp Fox Squadron, Florence, SC, the Summer Council, Cruise and Rendezvous hosted by Tybee Light Squadron, Savannah, GA and our Fall Conference and Change of Watch hosted by the Charleston Squadron, Charleston, SC. Check the District Web site or the back page of this **026° True** for dates.

D/C Ron Osburn, SN**CALL FOR DISTRICT 26 SPRING CONFERENCE****21 March 2009**

To: All Members of USPS District 26

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

Subject: 2009 Spring Conference

When: Saturday, 21 March 2009

Where: Hilton Garden Inn, Florence, SC

**Time: 0830-0900 Registration
0900 Call to Order**

Agenda: To be announced

Uniform:
Conference: Blazer with Polo Shirt or Open Neck Dress Shirt
Banquet: Uniform A with Bow Tie or Other Appropriate Attire

026° True**Official Publication of District 26
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®**

Printed 2 times a year: February and August
On-Line Publication 2 times a year: May and November

Editor: P/C Paula LeMond, P Email: courneya@wctel.net
205 Rosewood Lane, McCormick, SC 29835

Editorial Deadline: 15th of the month prior to publication

D/26 Spring Conference

20 - 22 March 2009

Florence, SC

Hosted by Swamp Fox Power Squadron

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER & ENTERTAINMENT

"ARABIAN NIGHTS"



Catered BBQ Dinner
And Belly Dancing



- Demonstration -
- Lessons -
- Contest -
- Trophies -

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn
2671 Hospitality Boulevard
Florence, SC 29501

Tel: 843-432-3001

Fax: 843-432-3003

Rooms held for
Swamp Fox Spring Conference
or book online at
www.usps.org/swampfox

- Registration Desk
- Hospitality Suite
- Conference Meetings
- Raffle
- Lunch
- Guest/Spouse Event
- Spring Conference Banquet



SATURDAY'S GUEST / SPOUSES' ACTIVITY

"DIAMONDS ARE A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND"

Luncheon
plus presentation by a local diamond
expert who will talk about diamonds
and the care and maintenance of fine
jewelry and family heirlooms.



Hi! My name is Joan Miller McVey, the District Public Relations Chairman. I'd like to advise you about some of the events that will take place at the Spring Conference. The Friday night mixer theme is **Arabian Knights**. There will be a real belly dancer and a **Belly Dancing Contest** between the squadrons. Hopefully the district bridge members will be the judges. Prizes will be awarded. Jack Wilson has agreed to defend his current championship status.

The Saturday women's luncheon features a presentation called **Diamonds are a Girls Best Friend**. The presenter is a highly qualified and experienced jeweler.

So, pick the best male and female belly dancers from your squadron. Plan to attend to cheer them on. Don't miss the Spring Conference in Florence -- you'll have a whole lot of fun!

Thanks, Joan

For more information contact Joan Miller McVey, the District Public Relations Chairman at jfmiller@bellsouth.net or Swamp Fox Cdr Steve Snipes, S, at 843-669-1920 or email steve.snipes@northstarcop.com

026°True

Official Publication of District 26
UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS

Published 4 times a year
Editor: D/Lt Paula LeMond, P
205 Rosewood Lane
McCormick, SC 29835
Email: courneya@wctel.net



**Coming Events
2009**

2009

- 17-22 Feb USPS Annual Meeting
Anaheim, CA
- 20-22 Mar D/26 Spring Conference
Host: Swamp Power Squadron,
Florence, SC
- 12-14 Jun D/26 Summer Council,
Cruise & Rendezvous
Host: Tybee Light Power Squadron,
Savannah, GA
- 8-13 Sep USPS Fall Governing Board
Kansas City, MO
- 2- 4 Oct D/26 Fall Conference and Change of Watch
Host: Charleston Sail & Power Squadron,
Charleston, SC
- 6 Nov Change of Watch,
Lake Murray Sail & Power Squadron

District Bridge

- Commander**
D/C Ronald Osburn, SN
Email: ozbrn@bellsouth.net
Golden Corner Lakes
Phone: 864-972-2434
- Executive Officer**
D/Lt/C Betty Walton, AP
Email: bettywalton31@gmail.com
Hilton Head
Phone: 843-686-6794
- Educational Officer**
D/Lt/C Joe Warren, JN
Email: lukngd@aol.com
Tybee Light
Phone: 912-786-9605
- Administrative Officer**
D/Lt/C Eric Pearson, SN
Email: ericwpearson@ss.rr.com
Lake Murray
Phone: 803-256-0490
- Secretary**
D/Lt/C Edwin Kridler, SN
Email: ekridler@bellsouth.net
Charleston
Phone: 843-762-3986
- Treasurer**
D/Lt/C Bob Boal, JN
Email: nssps@atmc.net
North Strand
Phone: 910-575-6958
- Assistant Educational Officer**
D/1st/Lt Tim Tate, AP
Email: islandboy1220@bellsouth.net
Savannah River
Phone: 803-643-1853
- Assistant Secretary**
D/1st/Lt William Woodward, SN
Email: olddrifter@msn.com
Beaufort
Phone: 843-838-7501

Squadron	Commander	Educational Officer
Beaufort	Ken Wright, AP	John Satterfield, AP
Charleston	Richard Howells, JN	Chet Rogers, P
Golden Corner	Kathy Redford, AP	Ed Lashley, JN
Golden Isles	Charles Wilsdorf, SN	Audie Holmes, JN
Hilton Head	Cecil (Sonny) Viverette, P	Helen Kola, P
Lake Hartwell	Mary Orem, S	Chris Rose, SN
Lake Murray	Jeff Langlois, P	Lee Ayers, AP
Long Bay	Robert Roseman, S	Paul Soucy, AP
North Strand	Jim Tucker, AP	Charlie Schuler, SN
Savannah River	DeMetrice Allen, P	Paulette Harris-Holmes, JN
Swamp Fox	Stephen Snipes, S	Gordon Cole, S
Thurmond Lake	Mickey Basch, S	Bill O'Neill, SN
Tybee Light	Doug Andrews, AP	TBE