

# Minutes of D4 Council Meeting, 2 May 2007

San Carlo, Lyndhurst, New Jersey

- 1830 D/C Kathleen Bisogno, JN convened the meeting.  
P/R/C Henry G. Griffin, SN led the Invocation.  
D/Lt Richard Swackhammer, AP led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 1835 Introductions
- 1840 Dinner Break
- 1930 The meeting was reconvened.

## Minutes Approval

- The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted.

## Treasurers Report

D/Lt/C Donald Kadlac, AP

- (Report Attached. Report 1)
- Spring Conference losses were \$1,670.93. P/D/C Harold Oslick, SN suggested an increased member's assessment to cover the Conference financial losses. D/C Bisogno noted that the Yearbook profits would cover these expenses.

## Standing Committees

- **Law Officer (NJ)** P/D/C David Meshulam, AP noted that the Certificate of Incorporation of District 4 has been approved by National, but that District 4 By-Laws must be updated allow incorporation.

## Ad Hoc Committees

- **Yearbook Committee** Chairman D/F/Lt Harry Wagner, JN reported that the 2007 Yearbook has raised \$2,985, with an additional \$550 to be collected.

## Executive Officers Committees

D/Lt/C Richard Zucchi, AP

- D/Lt/C Zucchi attended Lake Hopatcong's COW and thanks them for their hospitality.
- **Vessel Safety Check:** Inspectors may input data on line, but must also send the information to the VSC Chairman (D/Lt Charles Flum, AP). VSC information was included in the Squadron packets. Members interested in becoming VSC Inspectors should contact D/Lt Flum. Every 20 inspections will give the Inspector one chance for the trip on the *Eagle*.
- **NJ Legislative Officer** D/Lt Don Baker, JN notes that pending legislation will prohibit washing boats on land and in parking lots. Boats may still be washed in the water. USPS members who took the Boating Course before 19 Jan 1987 do not automatically qualify for the NJ Boat Operators License.
- **Radio Technical Committee** Chairman P/D/C Carlton Lee, SN will broadcast from the submarine *Razorback* in North Little Rock, Arkansas in June.
- **Marketing Committee** Chairman R/C Robert Green, N spoke of the ongoing work of the National and District Marketing Committees. D/Lt/C Zucchi encouraged more newspaper ads, making note of the ones he has seen in the Asbury Park Press.

## Educational Department

D/Lt/C Anne McQuade, N

- **Educational Cruise:** P/R/C Hank Griffin, SN noted that the Educational Cruise will take place on Sunday, 6 May. Volunteers, especially VSC personnel, are most welcome. 146 are expected so far. Instructors should attend with their students.
- **DEO** D/Lt/C Ann McQuade thanked all who attended the 4 Apr SEO Meeting. A Boating Course CD was included in the Cdrs' packet. May 19-25 is National Safe Boating Week. The Educational Meeting at the Fall Conference will be an open meeting. The SEO Meeting/Picnic will be at Shelter Cove, Toms River, on 14 July

## Administrative Officers Committees

D/Lt/C Richard Fiorentini, SN

- **Boating and Squadron Activities:** P/D/C Carlton Lee, SN encouraged Squadrons to list their activities on the Squadron Activities National Web Site. P/C Bob Phillips reported that the **Tri-District Rendezvous** is on track with 30 boats signed up and 47 people signed up for the cruise so far. D/F/Lt Wagner said that reservations were coming in for the 3-5 May **Atlantic City Rendezvous**. He also noted that there will be a Barnegat Bay Rendezvous and a Poker Run this summer.
- **Port Captain,** D/Lt Carolyn Markham, P commended the District Port Captains. A message for them was given to the Squadron Cdrs. Check with the National Web Site for the list of Port Captains and make any necessary corrections.

- **Meetings Committee Report** P/C Joel Jones, SN encouraged attendance at the conferences and read the report by Stf?C Vincene Aquilato, S. A copy is in the report section.
- **D4/D5 Conference:** P/D/C Harold Oslick, SN reported that D5 would like to hold a combined conference in Ocean City, Maryland. R/C Robert Green, N noted that Atlantic City is in the D5 area and might be a better location. P/D/C Oslick noted the large geographic area of D5 and the distances to Atlantic City. The ensuing discussion indicated a consensus that D4 would be in favor of a joint Conference in Atlantic City, but not in Ocean City.

#### Secretary's Committees

D/Lt/C Gregory F. Boyle, P

- **District Secretary** D/Lt/C Gregory F. Boyle, P reports that an updated edition of the **District Directory** is on a disc in the Squadron Packet, along with a sheet listing changes from the printed directory. This work was done by P/Stf /C Flo Smith, SN, the Directory Chairman. Additional hard copies may be available soon.
- **Publications Committee** Chairman P/D.C David Meshulam, AP requested information for the next *Mark 4*. He would specially like Squadron Cruise and Educational information. He also urged Squadrons to distribute the *Mark 4*. The difficulty of downloading such a large file was raised. D/C Bisogno said there could be a link on the District web site. R/C Green knew of large bandwidth sites which were inexpensive and readily available. P/D/C Meshulam expressed his concern that many would not bother to go to the web site.

#### Treasurer's Committees

D/Lt/C Donald Kadlac, AP

- D/Lt/C Kadlac noted that P/C Richard L. Sendell, Jr., P has replaced Cdr Ted Wallace, P as Chairman of the **Member Benefits Committee**. He asked that anyone who had items belonging to the district should inform **Properties Committee** Chairman D/Lt Joseph Reid. He also commended D/Lt Mary Davis, AP for running a fine **Ships Store**.

**Unfinished Business:** none

#### New Business

- The **Russel Binns** suit in NJ attempts to prohibit USPS from giving free boating courses. The National Law Officer feels that we should not be concerned about it since it would not affect USPS courses.
- A new **Governance Policy** will be voted on in Norfolk this September. Information will be presented at the next District Council meeting.
- **The US Coast Guard District 1 Conference** was attended by P/D/C Harold Oslick, SN. It covered boating legal and environmental concerns. He was concerned that the VSC sticker "doesn't mean anything to us" statement by the USCG merited the long discussion that it generated. He felt that there will soon be National legislation mandating boating education for boat operators. There was also concern that the USPS Certification Program could be obtained with a "National" membership without a Squadron affiliation. R/C Green noted that the "National" membership would be much more expensive than Squadron membership and therefore not a problem for Squadron membership. R/C Green also suggested that the District provide a stipend for the D4 representative who attends the next USCG Conference. More details are in Report 2 on page 3.
- **Norfolk Governing Board Meeting:** D/C Bisogno suggested that anyone wishing to attend should make reservations as soon as possible. The D4 Hospitality Room will be shared with D33 (Puerto Rico), another district which has good parties. R/C Green informs us that the Expo at the meeting will be open to the public.
- The **Show Your Pride Contest** will have Squadrons compete for the best Power Point presentation. Details are on the flyer. Submission deadline is 1 Oct 07.

**Communications:** none

#### Commanders' Reports, Squadron Reports

- **Barnegat Bay:** Lakewood Blueclaws Baseball Game and Picnic, Mon 25 July, 7:05 PM. Information is on the flyer. Send \$25 to Kathy Kadlac, 249 Lake Shore Drive, Brick, NJ 08723 by 21 May. (See Raritan Bay also)
- **Shrewsbury:** John Gage will return from his 3 ½ year sail around the world on 12 May. USPS members will escort him in. Contact Cdr Joe Balbo, AP for information and P/R/C Pat Governale, SN or P/D/C Dave Meshulam if you want a ride.
- **Raritan Bay:** P/C Jo Miciak, AP presented Newark Homeland Security Commendations to D/Lt/C Richard Fiorentini, SN of Raritan Bay and D/Lt/C Richard Zucchi, AP of Barnegat Bay. P/C Miciak also noted that

the **Department Homeland Security** is accepting applications for 2 members of the National Boating Safety Advisory Council. Information is available at [www.uscgboating.org/nbsac/nbsac.htm](http://www.uscgboating.org/nbsac/nbsac.htm). The Coast Guard is also soliciting comments from the public re. HF Radio weather forecasts and warnings.

- **Somerset:** SEO Don Roske asked for 10 Boat Course books for his Squadron and received a positive response. He also plans to use the Seminars to bring back inactive members.
- **Staten Island:** A Javits Center Boat Show CD made by Staten Island Power Squadron was placed in the Cdrs' packets.

**Old or Other Business**

- D/C Kathleen Bisogno, JN thanked Palisades, City Island, Watchung, Staten Island, Oritani, Lackawanna and Liberty Harbor Squadrons for hosting her at their Change of Watch Ceremonies
- The **John Burns Safety Award** was presented to Northern New Jersey Sail and Power Squadron and the **George Ruckdeschel Award** was presented to Denise and Joel Jones.

2048 Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by D/Lt/C Gregory F. Boyle, P, District 4 Secretary

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| <b>REPORTS</b> |
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**Report 1** ..... **Treasurer's Report**

02 May 2007

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| USPS Reserve     | \$ 20,000.00 |
| Money Market     | \$ 14,574.13 |
| Checking Account | \$ 5,751.34  |

1. All bills have been paid.
2. All deposits have been made.
3. The current Yearbook receipts received so far have been deposited.
4. There is a special memo on the Spring Conference that has been distributed to all Bridge members. The Spring Conference lost money. This loss, however, was partially offset by the Boating Course, which was held concurrent to the Conference.
5. I attended the District 3 Conference on Long Island and have made contact with their new Treasurer: Sally Coulouris.
6. The signature cards have been recorded at the Bank of America with the following: D/C Kathleen Bisogno, JN, D/Lt/C Richard Zucchi, AP and D/Lt/C Don Kadlac, P

Respectfully Submitted, D/4 Treasurer Don Kadlac, P

**Report 2** ..... **Boating Law Administrators Workshop**

P/D/C Harold Oslick, SN, attended the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Boating Law Administrators Workshop sponsored by the First Coast Guard District. The event was held 11 – 12 April 2007 at the Sheraton Colonial Hotel and Golf Club in Wakefield, Massachusetts.

The purpose of the workshop is to review and discuss recent developments in laws and environmental concerns effecting boaters in the First Coast Guard District. The First Coast Guard District encompasses all of the New England States, New York, and New Jersey down to and including the Shrewsbury River.

Attendees included BLA's or their representatives from all involved states, except New Jersey, representatives of law enforcement agencies, some university representatives, Coast Guard Auxiliary, some environmental organizations and USPS. Included with the USPS representatives were Districts 4, 18 and 19, and ANEO Bob Sweet. US Coast Guard coordinator for the event was Alfred Johnson, First Coast Guard District, Recreational Boating Safety.

Presentations included trends in Boating safety statistics (almost no change in annual fatality rates in District 1 since 1998), types of vessels most likely involved in accidents (open motor boats, pwc's leading the list), leading causes of death (capsizing and falls overboard). Alcohol use continues to be a contributing factor in about 25% of boating fatalities.

The number of fatalities in District 1 involving non-motorized boats continues to increase. 35% of the fatalities in D-1 in 2006 involved falling from or capsizing in paddle boats, kayaks, etc. Sudden immersion in cold water is a major contributing factor. There is, as of now, no effective means of registering such craft or of mandating safe boating education for operators of such craft.

Other presentations touched on other topics of concern to boaters, such as:

1. There are organizations in various states promoting environmentally sound boating practices;
2. Some areas (Suffolk County, NY) has launched a major campaign to discourage BUI through stops on the water. The program appears to be combined with boarding to inspect for required safety quipment, with no

recognition given to a current VSC decal. The program described sounds close to being harassment of boaters;

3. USPS presented the proposed Boater Certification program through USPS University. A major after meeting discussion took place among USPS representatives in response to the announcement of criteria for eligibility in the program. Membership in USPS National would be required, but affiliation with a local squadron would not;
4. USCG announced the intent to issue National legislation mandating safe boating education as a model for states, similar to the approach taken with pfd use.

Future action:

It is recommended that D-4 continue annual participation in this event. This would normally be a function of the District Liaison Officer.

It is further recommended that New Jersey be encouraged to send either a BLA or State Police representative to future workshops. All of Raritan Bay, the Sandy Hook area and the Shrewsbury are within Coast Guard District 1.

Submitted, P/D/C Harold Oslick, SN

### Report 3 ..... D/4 Meetings Committee Report

The Spring Conference at the Westin Governor Morris was fairly well attended. The cost of having a meeting is significant, given that we are not using too many sleeping rooms, which affect the prices of both the workshop rooms as well as meals. The boating course which was held at the hotel, the same weekend as the conference, helped defray some of the costs; but the District had to subsidize the conference.

The D/4 Bridge along with the Meetings Committee always strive to introduce new and innovative ideas for both workshops and social activities at our conferences in order to encourage increased attendance. We need your help in making a concerted effort to persuade your members to attend future conferences. Perhaps you could assign specific people to cover a specific workshops and report back to your squadron. Perhaps someone in your squadron has a particular expertise which might be beneficial in either a workshop setting or as part of an expo. Your suggestions for both workshops and expos, as well as activities for social events are always welcome.

The Fall 2007 Conference will be held at the Hyatt Morristown, and the Spring 2008 Conference will be held at the Park Ridge Marriott.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Meetings Committee for all their hard work, and a very special thanks to Harry Wagner for all his work collecting photos, and assembling and printing the booklet for our Mystery Baby Photo Contest at the Spring Conference.

Respectfully submitted, Stf/C Vincene Aquilato, S. Chair – D/4 Meetings Committee

### Distributed Materials

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| 1. <i>Show Your Pride</i> Power Point Contest flyer | 6. Updates for <i>District 4 Directory</i> |
| 2. Vessel Safety Check application                  | 7. Disc with D4 Directory (to Cdrs)        |
| 3. Vessel Safety Check packets                      | 8. Squadron Boating Course CD (to Cdrs)    |
| 4. <i>Lakewood Blueclaws Game and Picnic</i> flyer  | 9. Javits Center Boat Show CD (to Cdrs)    |
| 5. <i>Berth on the Eagle</i> flyer                  | 10. Atlantic City Rendezvous flyer         |

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| <b>ATTENDANCE</b> |
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| <p><b>Barnegat Bay</b><br/>Cdr Janice Zucchi,<br/>D/Lt/C Donald Kadlac, P<br/>P/D/C Carlton E. Lee, AP<br/>P/C Tony Russo, AP<br/>D/Lt/C Richard Zucchi, AP</p> <p><b>Bronx</b><br/>Cdr Frank Hoppe, SN<br/>P/D/C William Delahunty, JN</p> <p><b>City Island</b><br/>Cdr Peg Morton, JN<br/>Lt/C Sal Cottie, JN<br/>P/C Michael Fabrizi, SN</p> <p><b>Lackawana</b><br/>Cdr Arthur Epstein, P<br/>P/C/C Ray Finley, SN<br/>P/C Carrie Markham, P<br/>Lt Peg Finley Paton, AP</p> | <p><b>Lake Hopatcong</b><br/>Cdr R.L.Tonczos Sr. S<br/>P/C W. Hunt Weaver, <u>AP</u></p> <p><b>Liberty Harbor</b><br/>Cdr Thomas Delaney, AP<br/>D/Lt/C Gregory Boyle, P<br/>D/Lt Mary E. Davis, AP<br/>P/Lt/C Denise Jones, AP<br/>P/C Joel Jones, SN<br/>P/C J. Arlene Maresca AP</p> <p><b>New York</b><br/>Cdr Darwin Richmond, P<br/>P/R/C Jean Ruckdeschel, AP</p> <p><b>Northern New Jersey</b><br/>Cdr. Ed Nugent, N<br/>Lt/C Bryan Babitz, AP<br/>P/C Ruth L. Barnes, P<br/>P/C Les Elinger, AP</p> | <p>R/C Robert Green, N<br/>P/D/C Davis Meshulam, N<br/>P/C Joan Mullin, SN<br/>P/C Robert Peirone, AP<br/>P/C Ronnie Phillips, SN<br/>P/C S. Robert Phillips, SN</p> <p><b>North River</b><br/>P/C Grant Hobson, N</p> <p><b>Oritani</b><br/>Cdr Thomas M. Smith, AP<br/>P/C Eugene S. Darwin, JN<br/>D/Lt Michael Ganci, Jr., AP<br/>D/Lt Barbara A. Ritomsky, JN</p> <p><b>Palisades</b><br/>Cdr. Burt Glaubinger, S<br/>P/R/C Frank McHugh, AP</p> | <p><b>Rariatn Bay</b><br/>Cdr Manny Alvarez, JN<br/>D/C Kathleen Bisogno, JN<br/>D/Lt/C Richard Fiorentini, SN<br/>P/C Joe Miciak, AP<br/>D/F/Lt Harry Wagner, JN</p> <p><b>Shrewsbury</b></p> <p><b>Somerset</b><br/>Lt/C Don Roeske</p> <p><b>Staten Island</b><br/>Cdr. Joe David, <u>AP</u><br/>R/C Henry G. Griffin, SN<br/>P/C Jim DiMeo, <u>AP</u><br/>D/Lt James Ulrich, SN</p> <p><b>Watchung</b><br/>Cdr Ted Wallace, P<br/>D/Lt Rich Swackhammer, AP</p> |
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