

# Minutes of D4 Council Meeting, 27 August 2008

*San Carlo, Lyndhurst, New Jersey*

1830 D/C Richard Zucchi convened the meeting.  
D/F/Lt Tony Russo, AP, led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

1835 Introductions

1840 Dinner Break

1920 The meeting was reconvened.

**Quorum** Secretary, D/Lt/C Gregory F. Boyle, P, confirmed that a quorum was present.

**Minutes Approval** The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

## Executive Department

**D/C Richard Zucchi, AP**

**Commanders Report** :The District 4 Bridge a Council is going into the 6th month. I would like to summarize what has happened/is happening.

1. We began this year with the memorial service at St Albans Church in Staten Island. This is always a nice event and always well attended. There is no better way to start a year than by remembering those who have toughed our lives in some way. D4 should continue the service well into the future.
2. At the May council meeting I asked the planning committee and the marketing committee to prepare a 5 year strategic plan for D4. The D4 bridge met with the Marketing committee to talk about the plan and the planning committee has been working on the plan. My goal is to have a draft plan to review at the Fall conference.
3. All Squadron COW were attended by a D4 bridge officer. Jan and I attended 13 COW. Dick and Bernice attend Somerset's COW and Jr. PDC Kathy Bisogno attended Raritan Bay and Palisades.
4. Jan and I hosted a luncheon at our house to meet and welcome D4 squadron commanders. Jan and Tony and Irene Russo put together a great party on a beautiful summer afternoon at the Jersey shore.
5. The D4 rendezvous north was in Red Bank NJ. Thanks to Mike and Jeanne Sangiorgio for planning the event and Tony and Irene Russo and Jane and Carl Lee for putting together 3 parties during the weekend. The mayor of Red Bank attended the Saturday evening dock party and issued a proclamation declaring June 27/28 as safe boating weekend in honor of our visit. The mayor had a great time. I presented him with a D4 flag and a golf shirt. He came to the party in a jacket and left wearing a D4 shirt.
6. In June I began to feel like President Bush, when early in his 1<sup>st</sup> year the US was attacked by foreign terrorist. The Vessel Safety check program was in jeopardy because several squadrons never received decals or forms. The problem was due to National sending Decals to wrong people and or wrong addresses. Kathy had to use the D4 supply, intended for squadrons needing extra supplies, to give to squadrons who never received decals. Kathy and Dick Fiorentini and tiring to find out what went wrong and make changes to assure it won't happen next year.
7. Also in June the NJ State Police informed us that they would require all USPS instructors to be state certified. The certification will require an instructor to go to a state authorized facility, pay a \$60 fee, get finger printed, fill out an application, prepare a resume showing 10 years of boating experience and then meet with the State police in person to submit the material to be considered for state certification. The state police gave us 60 days notice to comply. Chris Winderler DEO, Dick Kyle NEO and Don Baker D4 rep. have been working overtime to resolve the many issue revolving around the requirement. In my opinion the Attorney general and the State police have acted irresponsibly in this matter and have caused several squadrons to cancel fall courses. As of this date no instructor in D4 is certified to teach the boating course. In spite of the huge efforts made by my Bridge and the National Bridge, little progress has been made over the past 30 days to resolve the issues. Chris is very much on top of this and can give you accurate answer to your questions.
8. Harry Wagner and the Poker Run committee worked very hard to put together this event. Our goal was to get 50 poker hands. Unfortunately we only received 10 applicants and decided to cancel the event. However the experience was not a total failure. In marketing the event, committee members contacted local business and marinas distributing flyers and posters seen by thousands. USPS and Ocean of Love was mentioned on the radio every day for about 6 weeks leading up to the July 19<sup>th</sup> event. We learned many things from our experience. I believe that the economy and the fuel prices were factors that limited participation. I hope we can try this again next year and profit from what we have learned.
9. Harry Wagner and Kathy Bisogno, Tony and Irene Russo, Carl and Jane Lee and all our aids should be congratulated for their hard work in putting together rendezvous South in Atlantic City. Power Squadron boats filled H dock on August 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>. The event was attended by D5 members including D5 XO Ralf Bernard and Coast Guard auxiliary members and Division Captain Doug Smith. There were also some people no one knew having fun at the dock party. The weather this year was perfect.
10. On Tuesday D4 leaves for Detroit on our next adventure. Please join Jan and I and Tony and Irene in the Commanders Suite for a 5 PM cocktail party on Friday evening.
11. So far the year has been an adventure and there is more to come. Join the adventure Get involve it's fun. Mostly.

**Treasurer's Report****D/Lt/C Harry G. Wagner, JN**

As of 27 August 2008

Investment Fund	\$20,000.00	Total Deposits	\$10,217.06	Pending Deposits	None
Checking Account	\$ 4,970.25	Total Expenses	\$ 4,433.79	Pending Expenses	None

- **The Yearbook** brings in \$3,000. An e-mail about Yearbook Ads will be sent out soon.

**Secretary's Committees****D/Lt/C Gregory F. Boyle, P**

- No Committee reports

**Executive Officers Committees****D/Lt/C Richard Fiorentini, SN****Meeting and Squadron Activities**

- Cdr Jim DiMeo encouraged everyone to attend the Staten Island Crab-a-Que on 20 September. He also mentioned an article in the Staten Island Advance which was favorable to USPS.
- Cdr Ray Nylander, AP noted that the Lackawanna 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration will be 18 October 2008
- The National Fall Governing Board will be in Detroit. D/F/Lt Russo suggested going by car with an overnight in Youngstown, Ohio as he is planning to do. He had an information sheet for those interested.

**Marketing Committee**

- R/C Robert Green, N noted that his committee has launched "Pro Log" on the National USPS web site (USPS.org) It contains a great deal of useful public relations and marketing information.

**Safety Committee**

- D/Lt Bernice Fiorentini, AP requested that the Squadrons' Safety Forms be returned to her by 18 September.

**Educational Department****D/Lt/C Chris Windeler, SN**

- D/Lt/C Windeler reported that there were 5 Chapman Award nominations.
- Teaching Aid examples are requested for display at the Fall Conference.
- D1 has been successful with the Paddling Safety Course. Information has been sent to the Squadrons. Cdr Roseke reported that he is working on it with the USCGA.
- Windeler noted a number of changes coming: BOC should be off and running, new Beta courses are being tested, Weather course and Marine Electronics are doing well.
- A discussion of the implications and difficulties with the NJ Laws regarding boating courses and certification ensued: qualifications, fingerprinting, cost (\$60.25), notarized resumes, lack of clear information, and many other problems. There were many concerns and calls for clarifications.
- Don Young has scheduled an informational meeting with NJ officials in Winfield on 15 September.
- P/C Bob Phillips noted the significant drop in student numbers for the USPS Boating Course in his Squadron. He said that his Squadron has cancelled its Fall Boating Course. DEO Windeler said that a number of Squadrons had also done so.
- USPS courses have been certified up to December, and most likely will be recertified beyond that time. The ABC course should be certified by NASBLA by 1 November. Most Squadrons charge \$60-65 for the course
- Instructor Certifications will be good for 3 years. Application forms and further information are available from DEO Windeler. Or Assistant DEO Young.
- A number of members related their tribulations with the certification process.

**Administrative Officers Committees****D/Lt/C Richard Swackhamer SN**

- D/Lt/C Swackhamer read the report from Co-Chairs Michael and Jeannie Sangiorgio on the successful Rendezvous at Red Bank.
- P/C Joel Jones, SN reported for Stf/C Vincene Aquilato. The Fall Conference will be at the Westin Governor Morris Hotel, Morristown, on Fri, 31 Oct and Saturday, 1 Nov. Rooms are \$89.00. There will be a Dinner and Costume Party on Friday night. Details will follow in the Call to Meeting which will be mailed out in September.
- P/C Jones also noted that the cost of the meal for the next D4 Council meeting will be \$25.00.
- **Membership** must be a main priority. D4 is down by 131 members. We must get new members and retain the current members. If a member is not paid up he will be on the non-renewal list from D/Lt/C Swackhamer expressed his concern. He encouraged Squadrons to make membership recruitment and retention a priority. He referred to the National Membership Report for information. The report is available on line and he will send a copy to anyone who requests it. He also encouraged Squadrons to invite new members to the Fall Conference.

**Secretary's Committees****D/Lt/C Gregory F. Boyle, P**

- D/Lt/C Boyle reminded everyone to sign in. He mentioned the Memorial for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Newark Bay Draw Bridge Accident in which USCG and USPS members assisted in the rescue and recovery. There were no Committee reports.
- Mention was made of a Boy Scout Dinner honoring Boyle, and the fact that there is a Sea Scout Medal called the Finley Award, named after our own P/C/C Raymond A. Finley, Jr., SN.

**Treasurer's Committees:**

**D/Lt/C Harry F. Wagner, SN**

- No Committee reports

**Unfinished Business, New Business, Other Business:**

- The **Fishing Trip** on the *Bandit* had to be cancelled due to mechanical difficulties.
- Commanders who are not attending the Detroit Conference were reminded to give D/C Zucchi their proxy vote form. If they do not have the yellow form, they can e-mail or fax the authorization of the proxy vote to D/C Zucchi.
- **Golf:** D/Lt/C Fiorentini suggested a Golf Outing. Cdr DiMeo suggested a "Wack-a-Track" (Golf and Race Track)
- 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt John Hitchcock, AP, suggested marketing USPS at County Fairs.
- The Shrewsbury Clam Bake is not scheduled this year due to the increase in cost (over \$60).

**Communications:**

- No communications

**Meeting Adjourned** at 2030 Motion: Cdr James DiMeo, AP, Second: Cdr Burt Glaubinger, S

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

**DISTRIBUTED MATERIALS**

1. Lackawanna 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Flyer, Sat 18 Oct 2008
2. Newark Bay Bridge Train Wreck Memorial Program, Bayonne
3. Staten Island Power Squadron Crab-E-Que, 20 September 2008
4. USPS Recreational Boating Safety Committee Squadron Safety Officer's Report Form

**ATTENDANCE**

<p><b>Barnegat Bay</b> P/D/C Carlton E. Lee, AP D/F/Lt Tony Russo, AP D/Lt/C Harry Wagner, JN D/Lt/C Richard Zucchi, AP</p> <p><b>Bronx</b> P/D/C William Delahunty, JN</p> <p><b>City Island</b> P/D/C Anthony Aquilato, AP</p> <p><b>Lackawanna</b> Cdr Raymond Nylander, AP P/C/C Raymond Finley, Jr., SN D/Lt Carolyn C. Markham, P Lt Peg Finley Paton, AP D/Lt/C Chris Windeler, SN</p> <p><b>Lake Hopatcong</b> Cdr R.L. Tonzos Sr. S</p>	<p><b>Liberty Harbor</b> D/Lt/C Gregory Boyle, P D/Lt Mary E. Davis, AP P/Lt/C Denise Jones, AP P/C Joel Jones, SN P/C J. Arlene Maresca, AP</p> <p><b>New York</b> Cdr Darwin Richmond, P P/R/C Jean Ruckdeschel, AP P/C Ernest Wasserman, SN</p> <p><b>North River</b> Cdr Kim O. Connell, AP</p> <p><b>Northern New Jersey</b> Cdr Bob Rosselot, JN P/C Les Eslinger, AP R/C Robert Green, N P/C Ed Nugent, N</p>	<p>P/C Robert Peirone, AP P/C Bob Phillips, SN P/C Ronnie Phillips, SN</p> <p><b>Oritani</b> Cdr J. H. Smith, AP D/Lt Michael Ganci, Jr., AP Lt/C Barbara Ritomsky, JN</p> <p><b>Palisades</b> Cdr Burt Glaubinger, S</p> <p><b>Raritan Bay</b> D/Lt Don Baker, JN P/D/C Kathleen Bisogno, JN P/D/C David Drummond, SN D/Lt/C Richard Fiorentini, SN P/R/C Pat Governale, SN</p>	<p><b>Shrewsbury</b> P/C Bonnie Gringas, AP P/Stf/C Lucille Horowitz, SN R/C Michael Horowitz, JN</p> <p><b>Somerset</b> Lt/C Don Roeske, SN (1stLt John Hitchcock, AP)</p> <p><b>Staten Island</b> Cdr Jim DiMeo, <u>AP</u> D/Lt Trisha Bolt, <u>AP</u> P/Stf/C Florence Smith, SN P/C James Ulrich, SN</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Watchung</p> <p>Cdr Ted Wallace, P D/Lt/C Rich Swackhamer, AP</p>
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