



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

Mark 4

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Issue 1

COMMANDERS' MESSAGE

I would like to thank each and every one of you for a wonderful and memorable year. Your support was recognized through your performance; you performed above and beyond all expectations and because of this my term served as District Commander was made a lot easier. We need to continue to work as a "team" for the betterment of each Squadron and for the success of District 4.

As members of U.S.P.S, we are committed to ourselves and to the boating world whether it be power or sail. We share a common goal, our commitment to "Safe Boating."

"Safe Boating Through Education" can happen through our Educational Programs; programs that we need to continue to advertise to the boating world and beyond.

It is through our Educational Programs that we share our knowledge and experience with each other; this enables us to have the Best Educational Programs along with the Best Instructors.

Our Educational Programs offer us the opportunity to recruit new members. Recruiting new members through the "Power of One", each Squadron Member recruits one person, has been successful for all Squadrons and for District 4.

Another avenue to recruit new members, and to encourage experience boaters to continue their education, is when we conduct our Vessel Safety Checks. A Vessel Safety Check, a service performed for the beginner and experienced boater, is a good marketing tool for "Safe Boating Through Education."

I will continue to do my best to promote our Educational Programs and to contribute to the "Power

of One." We have a long road ahead of us, together as a "Team" we can make it happen.

William Delahunty, JN
Commander, District 4

INCOMING DISTRICT COMMANDER

Thank you for selecting me to be District Commander. I hope to provide the leadership needed to enhance educational and social opportunities, accompanied by membership growth.

Our first emphasis is membership growth. Without growth it will be difficult to perform our primary mission of promoting safe boating through education.

Membership growth comes from three sources; public boating courses, the Vessel Safety Check Program, and through advertising and presence at boat shows.

USPS' public boating courses are second to none. Falling attendance, however, presents a challenge. To meet this challenge, I ask every squadron to actively advertise and teach at least one boating course during Safe Boating Week, and to teach another during the summer months.

Our Vessel Safety Check program gives us an opportunity to contact active boaters who already demonstrated their concern with and interest in Safe Boating. We need to take the opportunity to discuss the benefits of USPS membership with boat owners and then follow up to entice them to join. To accomplish this goal, I have asked our District VSC Chair, Harry Wagner, to set up a VE training program this spring, and to organize VSC days at large marinas with VE teams composed of VE's from several squadrons. This should begin during Safe Boating Week.

Enhanced public awareness of USPS among the boating public is critical. This can be accomplished through advertising and boat shows. Newspaper advertising is costly. A news release in local newspapers when a local resident attains an office in USPS will usually be picked up by the paper at no cost and an announcement of a local safe boating course can usually be buried in that release.

Except for the recent NY Boat Show, participation in boat shows has been lack-luster. District 4 has two Boat Show Chairmen, P/C Grant Hobson, N from North River and D/Lt Robert N. Damato, S of Raritan Bay. They recognized the need for a new D-4 display booth for boat shows, and initiated a fund raising campaign in the district to procure it. As of now we are within a few hundred dollars of our goal. If you have not done so, consider contributing to this effort individually, or collectively as a squadron. The enthusiasm of Grant and Bob is evident by our success at the New York Boat Show. 26 people from 12 squadrons volunteered to man the display, and more than 150 names of potential students were delivered to squadrons.

District 4 has a distinct advantage over many of the districts to the south and west of us. Geographically, our squadrons are located in close proximity to each other, and almost every one in the district can reach most locations in the district with just a short drive. This coming year we plan to take advantage of that closeness to promote several joint activities.

Our 25th Annual Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, March 12 at St Alban's church on Staten Island. Event Co-Chairs Ken and Trisha Bolt have planned an elegant service, which you don't want to miss.

Admin Officer Rich Zucchi and Boating Activities Chairman Harry Wagner have planned a district mini-cruise to Atlantic City July 14 – 17, and a district rendezvous and predicted log contest are scheduled for either the 9-10 or the 16-17 of September. Every one is invited to participate in these events.

This year District 4, along with Districts 2 and 3, will host the 2006 Governing Board Meeting, August 15 – 20, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City. Details will follow. Hope many of you join us.

And let us not forget the third side of the USPS triangle, the self education of our members. Participation in Advanced Grade and Elective Courses has been declining in recent years. We need to reverse

that trend. To help this effort, the District will help plan and coordinate courses convenient to multiple squadrons.

All this sounds like an ambitious program, and it no doubt is. But we have to set our sights high. We need programs like these to provide opportunities for member participation, for participation aids retention. It does us little good to bring in new members, if we are but a revolving door.

Together we can succeed. I ask your help to make this a most successful year for D-4 and for its constituent squadrons.

Harold Oslick, JN
Commander Elect, District 4

USPS IS COMING TO THE "BIG APPLE"

Hop on the District bandwagon and join in the fun!!! August 15-20, 2006 are the dates. The Grand Hyatt Hotel in NYC is the place. D/4 is hosting the USPS NYC Governing Board with some help from our friends in D/2 and D/3.

If you have never attended a National Meeting then now is the time. It will be right in your own back yard. Come for the week or come for the day, but be sure to put it on your "*place to be*" list this August. There are many exciting opportunities to experience the fun and camaraderie by joining one of the many committees that have been formed. Individuals can volunteer for as little or as much time as their schedules allow. We have several social activities scheduled, and if you plan on attending any of them, and would like to act as one of our hosts, please let us know.

Get together with your fellow squadron members and think of what your squadron can do to help. Perhaps you would like to donate a gift for the Hospitality Raffle. Are there any musicians in your squadron who would like to donate their time for one or more of our scheduled evening events? If so contact us by visiting our website (www.NYC2006GB.org) for a listing of the various Committee Chairs.

We look forward to hearing from you, and seeing you in August at the NYC GB.

Stf/C Vincene Aquilato, S
Chair - NYC 2006 GB



Come
Take a
Bite of the
Big Apple!

**NYC Governing Board
15—20 August 2006**

**THE GREAT STRENGTH OF USPS
IS IN ITS SQUADRONS.**

**OUR MEMBERS ARE THE MOST TALENTED AND
INTERESTING PEOPLE.**

USPS is launching a special program for the New York Governing Board that will have something for every USPS member. USPS members have unique interests and incredible talents.

A series of forums will be presented in the mezzanine area of the Grand Hyatt Hotel on 16, 17, & 18 August 2006. All sessions will conclude by 2 PM – you will have the rest of the afternoon and evening to explore New York City.

We are soliciting presenters for two types of presentations in New York. You can make a stand up 30 min. to 45 min. presentation as described below or you can present a single great idea that your squadron or district has developed to enhance USPS activities.

In the single presentation area you will be given an easel and have the opportunity to present your ideas to the members attending the NY Governing Board. You will be setting up a poster board or display of your choice and answer questions of passers by. This will allow your squadron or district to shine and pass on useful ideas to other members with minimum work. The other squadrons and districts will be grateful for those ideas.

The 30 – 45 minute presentations will be in a special room and are designed to enlighten the membership on various topics should be of general interest but not necessarily only on USPS topics but of general interest to all members. Some of the possible topics are listed below but this shouldn't limit your imagination or creativity.

The categories are:

Boating:

Such things as: Fiberglass Repair, Winterizing, Boat Doctor, Lights at Night, Fishing Tips & Techniques, Water Skiing, Wake Boarding, Trailering, etc.

Technology:

GPS, Electronic Charts, SSB & email, On-Board Office, Amateur Radio, Web-sites for the Mariner, Music CDs, Digital Photography, etc.

Potpourri

Cooking, Boating Fashion, New York in 3 Days, First Aid, CPR, Rendezvous Activities, Sea Songs, Sailboat Racing, Lighthouses, activities for USPS events, obtaining speakers, etc.

Application forms are available from the USPS web site or by mail at the addresses below. Proposals are due by 15 January 2006. Please send them to:

Stf/C Donald R. Stark, JN	P/D/C Dave Drummond, SN
65 Stark Spur	1 Crane Court
Eighty Four, PA 15330	Manalapan, NJ 07726
724-263-4062	732-446-4198
stark84@nb.net	ddrummon@optonline.net

WE KNOW YOU'VE GOT THE TALENT.

BECOME A VIP IN NYC!

VERY IMPORTANT PRESENTER

**NEW LEGISLATION FOR THOSE WHO
OPERATE A BOAT IN NEW JERSEY**

Legislation was passed on January 9, 2006 and signed by Governor Cody that requires all boaters to pass a boating safety course. It phases in by age through June 1 of 2009. The legislation requires a minimum of 8 hours of instruction with 6 hours of classroom study and a proctored examination. Those successfully completing the course will receive a New Jersey Marine Police certificate that must be in the operator's possession when on the waters of the State. Failure of the person to exhibit the certificate is presumptive evidence that the person has not completed an approved boating safety course and is subject to a fine. This certificate should not be confused with the license required for boating on lakes.

Before operating a power vessel, including a personal watercraft (PWC), on the waterways of this State, the mandatory boating safety course required shall be successfully completed as follows:

- a) currently by persons born after December 31, 1978.
- b) before June 1, 2006 by persons born after December 31, 1968 and on or before December 31, 1978.
- c) before June 1, 2007 by persons born after December 31, 1958 and on or before December 31, 1968.
- d) before June 1, 2008 by persons born after December 31, 1948 and on or before December 31, 1958.
- e) before June 1, 2009 by all other persons.

NJ STATE BOATING CERTIFICATE

How do I obtain a New Jersey State Boating Safety Certificate if I have a Boating Course Certificate of Completion or I have lost my NJ State Boating Safety Certificate? How do I obtain a replacement?

Send a letter to the Marine Services unit of the NJ State Police and include the following information in the letter. If you are requesting a replacement, state this in your letter.

- a. full legal name
- b. current address (indicate that this is your current address)
- c. former address (your address at the time the NJ certificate was issued if different from your current address)
- d. hair color, eye color, date of birth
- e. photocopy of the front and back of your drivers license
- f. photocopy of your birth certificate if you do not have a drivers license
- g. your telephone number with area code
- h. photocopy of the "pink" copy of the NJ certificate application if you have it. Make sure it legible by tracing over the information that may be too light to copy well. This is the copy of the application you received when completing the USPS course.
- i. photocopy of the USPS Certificate of Accomplishment that you received when completing the course.

— MARK FOUR STAFF —

Editors:
P/D/C David Meshulam, AP 973-377-8807
P/C Robert Rosselot, AP 973-228-5329

- j. Self addressed envelope with stamp

Mailing Address:
New Jersey State Police
Marine Service Unit
Attn: Boating Safety Certificate
PO Box 7068
West Trenton, NJ 08828-0068

Fax: 1-609-882-8110 – Be sure to include your daytime telephone number on the fax. If you have additional questions, call the NJ state Police Marine Services Unit at: 1-609-882-2000: extension 6181

If you are unable to locate your certificate of completion, contact your Squadron. To help a non member locate their certificate and Squadron, go to www.usps.org and click on *Boating Course Schedule*. Then type in District 4. If they do not recall the Squadron or their record can't be located, contact USPS Headquarters at 1-888-367-8777 for help.

FUTURE ISSUES OF MARK 4

Look to the D/4 web site for future issues of this newsletter. If you wish to be included on the District email list, email P/D/C David Meshulam at DJMGEM@aol.com.

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY'S
FIRST ANNUAL RUMMAGE &
MARINE SALE FUNDRAISER

Saturday, 25 March
9am to 2pm
Headquarters: St. Agnes Church
65 Union Avenue,
Little Falls, NJ

EVERYONE IS INVITED!!!

New and old household and marine items of all descriptions will be on sale. Take this opportunity to pick up a few bargains, enjoy some refreshments, meet some of your fellow members and take a chance on our 50/50.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!