



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
Sail and Power Boating
2005 Charlotte Governing Board Reports

BASIC PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

R/C David A. Daniels, SN

Stf/C Eugene E. Molteni, SN

Stf/C Robert J. Sweet, SN

WHAT'S NEW!

The Squadron Boating Course, 2004 Edition

- This year we're celebrating a major upgrade in **The Squadron Boating Course (Boating)** and squadrons are about to reap the benefits from the added material introducing Using Digital Charts. While other organizations lament competition from free or nearly free state-offered courses, the USPS flagship course offers extra information that boaters want – that's our edge. This course is truly the best public education course afloat!
- The student manuals come with a CD-ROM, which includes the Maptech Chart Navigator software, a sampling of digital charts and maps across the country, and digital versions of the Bowditch Bay and 1210Tr practice charts. Exercises can be completed by hand and compared with the digital charts to give boaters a chance to gain an introductory level of knowledge in electronic navigation. Now, Maptech has put local digital charts within the reach of almost every coastal boater by providing a chart CD with every chart book they sell. Since January, they've packaged over 100,000 units that are now reaching boaters. Where do they learn how to use them?
- That's where we come in. **The Squadron Boating Course** is the optimum course to instruct new boaters in both basic boating and piloting along with the digital charting. It is an excellent lead-in to the new **Piloting** course and will help in recruiting members and getting them into USPS' education program.
- If your squadron does not already offer a **Boating** course to the public, BPECom is launching an awareness campaign in order to capitalize on the newly available digital charts. We recommend that you offer at least one Boating session, yearly, along with your Boat Smart and ABC programs. Promote the modern content and digital chart training and they will come.

The Squadron Boating Course Spanish/English, 2004 Edition

- A revised Spanish/English examination for the 2004 edition of **The Squadron Boating Course Spanish/English (Boating S/E)** is available from USPS Headquarters. Like the **Boating 2004** exam, it has been revised to better address the NASBLA testing standards. Seventeen questions have been revised from the prior exam. See the 2004 Instructor Manual (English only) for a detailed description of the revised questions. Any copies of the prior Spanish/English exam should be discarded.

America's Boating Course

- A new 2005 edition of **America's Boating Course** student manual will be shipping soon. Several topics have expanded coverage, including homeland security, carbon monoxide, hypothermia, and aquatic nuisance species. An addendum is available for use with any remaining 2001 manuals and will be shipped to all squadrons. The addendum will also be available for download from the BPECom website.

WHAT'S UNDER DEVELOPMENT!

Boating '07

- The development of the next generation of public boating is advancing at a rapid pace based on your feedback. This new course will replace Boating in 2007, but the first part will be available next year to replace the current Boat Smart. We have decided to have this new two-part course provide the materials currently covered in Boat Smart, Boating, and Chart Smart. This allows us to focus all of our attention on developing and maintaining one high-quality course while saving inventory costs incurred with totally separate books.
- The material is largely based on the current Boating course, but trimmed and refined into a new more graphic format. The content will be modern and embrace all types of boaters from paddlers to sport fishermen and sailors, and the use of modern equipment. The presentation material will be top quality and incorporate animation and video segments to explain the more complex topics. It is our intent to keep our public courses a generation ahead of the others. We foresee even more free state boating courses in the future, and intend to have material that is cutting edge and relevant in our courses. In this way, we will attract those boaters who want more than the minimum, and this group represents our target market for membership as well.
- The first part of the new course will cover basic boating safety and other material required by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, and the second part will introduce students to piloting and navigation. A Spanish/English version will also be available. Part one, targeted for 2006, will have four sections, each designed to be taught in a two hour session, and will lead naturally into the new enhanced Seamanship course now under development.
- The second part of the new public boating course, targeted for 2007, will incorporate even more electronic navigation and include an upgraded Maptech CD-ROM with new software and additional digital charts.

Boating Skills CD-ROM - Power Point Presentations for The Squadron Boating Course (Boating)

- The Basic Boating Skills CD of PowerPoint presentations is being refreshed to support USPS's campaign with digital charting. Slides are being added to help introduce Maptech's Chart Navigator and to explain the details of various digital chart exercises. When completed, the new CD will be mailed to all DEOs with a request that they duplicate them for the SEOs. In the Boating section of the CD, a PowerPoint presentation on Using Digital Charts is included.

BPE Com Website

- The committee website has been significantly refreshed. Please check it frequently for tips and late breaking news for the public courses, including PowerPoint slide updates

BOAT HANDLING COMMITTEE

R/C Wilber G. Hugli, SN

Stf/C Florence E. Smith, SN

The committee is moving on the rewrite of the Learning Guides and the revision of the Seamanship Manual. A number of changes have been made in the committee. A concept for an online course has been developed.

Latest course material/supplies:

- SA-SM 101 (02), SA-SM 102 (02), (Black & White reprint ordered)
- SA-IM (02)
- S-101 SM (02), S-102 SM (02),
- S-IM 101/102 (02)

Learning Guides:

- Intro to Sailing
- Skipper Saver Manual
- Knots, Bends and Hitches
- Water Sports

Web pages:

- Source of downloadable Sail 101/102 module graphics
- New Combined Boat Handling site for Sail, Seamanship and Learning Guides
- Source of downloadable Seamanship 101/102 module power point/OHT

Random Exams

- No additional changes have been made.

EXAM STATS FOR 2004

Exams to date	Graded	Passed	Rate
S101 1/29/05 – 4/27/05	545	501	91.9 %
S102 1/29/05 – 4/27/05	494	462	93.5 %
SA 101 1/29/05 – 4/27/05	158	145	91.8 %
SA 102 1/29/05 – 4/27/05	116	105	90.5 %

- A total of 110 students passed with a 100% score through April of this year. Congratulatory letters to the students were sent to the SEOs involved with copies e-mailed to the DEOs.

Work in progress:

- Work is continuing on the Learning Guides “Knots, Bends and Hitches” and “How to buy a Boat,” Several computer automated knot tying graphics have been located and considered for inclusion in the LG. The LGs should be out in 2005.
- The committee made up a strategic plan for the next three years. There is a lot to be done! All help from the USPS membership will be appreciated.

New committee members

- A number of new committee members and other member volunteers have offered to help in the rewrite of the Seamanship manual and course materials. Thanks.

Future Plans:

- Continue to revise Seamanship manual and LGs as rapidly as possible with a target beta test this fall.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

R/C William F. Witty, SN

Stf/C Stanley Warner, SN

Committee Overview:

- ED-79's were processed in a timely manner. EDM III has been revised and printing is on hold.
- All Educational Dept. Meeting minutes were recorded by EDO Com members.
- Tom Brincka along with Pat Governale continues doing a great job in maintaining the Education Dept. website and it is updated as needed.

INLAND COSTAL NAVIGATION COMMITTEE

R/C Richard C Pfenniger, SN

Stf/C Kenneth L. Griffing, SN

Stf/C James W. Spencer, SN

Work completed and in progress since last report:

Piloting:

- Exam performance for the new course is very good with an overall pass rate of 93.8% and an average passing score of 90.04%. As of April 1, 188 exams have been completed for the new course. We have had 4 100% scores. Several clarifications to the EE have been provided by e-mail as well as individual consultations regarding specific individual issues. The exam grading process has been modified whereby the EE's will have the bubble sheets available for evaluation process. This has eliminated much uncertainty on the part of the EE's.
- The primary exam has been recently updated to resolve a couple of problem areas and question references for the second exam will be submitted for inclusion in the exam before the end of April. This will complete all materials for both exams. Due to the high number of exams that are continuing to be received (147 in March) we are using all available personnel as Exam Evaluators (EE) and have temporarily recessed efforts to develop an additional exam and more homework questions. There were 8 of our 14 potential P EE's active evaluating exams, 5 of which evaluated 30 or more exams in Feb and 2 in March. We continue to seek new EE's.
- Please visit our Web Site for all updated and changes.

Advanced Piloting

- At present there are over 1,500 student guides for the new AP course in circulation. Several questions on clarification have come in and been addressed. Overall the comments have been very happy with the direction of the new course.
- An errata list is being compiled based on input from the committee members, questions coming from the phone calls and e-mail.
- It is too early to have a data report on the performance of the exam for the new course. I hope to have a data report for the Spring G/B.
- It was discovered that a few bad questions were in the exam and these have been corrected. A second exam is in progress. The EEs have been made aware of the problems. Your students will not fail because of the bad questions. I have asked Art Mollica to head up this area. Also a couple of errors have been found in the Power Point Slides and Art will be correcting them. As soon as there are ready, they will be posted on our web site.

Learning Guides

- The first draft of the Piloting and Labeling guide has been completed. It was written by Linda & David Leggs. It will be sent to the Educational Department for comments before we start to get the outside groups support and agreement on this guide.
- The first draft of the Predicted Log LG has been completed. This has been written by P/D/Lt/C Carl Johnson and P/D/C Art Mollica. It is in the process of review.

ELECTRO MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

R/C Walter C.Fields, SN

Stf/C Harl Porter, SN
Stf/C Edwin G. Kriedler, SN

Work Completed or In Progress since Last Report

Current Courses Exams

Engine Maintenance:

- This course became available in January 2003, and to date has 1,360 course completions. The number of exams taken is up slightly from last year with the average score and average passing score remaining about the same, both within the high 90s. This course has a high number of perfect scores with 110 last year and 107 so far this year

Marine Electronics:

- Marine Electronics became available in January 2003 in three modules, ME101, Boat Electric Systems; ME102, Marine Communications; and ME103, Electronics for Navigation. The number of exams taken is up by 70 percent over last year, but the average score and average passing score is down slightly. Since the course became available to date there have been 1,474 course completions.

Course Development:

Engine Maintenance:

- The storyboard for the rewrite of the Engine Maintenance student manual has been finalized, and progress is underway in developing the course material. Plans call for putting the course back into one book with ten chapters. All obsolete material is being discarded and replaced with up-to-date technology. Emphasis will be placed on how to properly maintain the modern marine engine, gasoline and diesel as well as inboards and outboards. Along with the new course material there will be an instructor's power point presentation that can be used to teach the course.

Marine Electronics:

- It is quite evident that we now live in an electronic/digital world that is growing with new technology almost daily. It is also quite evident that a course in marine electronics must also grow with this new technology. To do this, we plan to put this course back into one book with three sections. The first two sections would principally be as they are in ME101 and ME102, but the third section that deals with electronic navigation would be in a student guide format similar to the methodology used in the new Piloting and Advanced Piloting Student Guides. This would allow updates as needed to keep up with new technology in the field of electronic navigation

Learning Guides & Projects

Amateur Radio Learning Guide:

- This will be the first USPS publication that will be published by McGraw-Hill Marine International, and will have wide spread distribution in commercial book stores. It is a completely rewritten text that deals with every aspect of ham radio aboard a boat, from how to get a license to how to install and operate an amateur radio to how to access the internet on HF ham radio. Expect publication by McGraw-Hill in June 2005.

The Boat Owner's Guide to GMDSS and Marine Radio:

- This will be the second USPS publication to be published by McGraw-Hill with wide-spread distribution. This book was well over a year in research and has the endorsement of the Chairman of the GMDSS Task Force and the United States Coast Guard. It will include an interactive CD of a simulated DSC-VHF radio that can be used to practice every function of a Class-D DSC-VHF marine radio. This CD contains a program that was a joint project between EMSCoM of USPS and the Electronic Committee of the Canadian Sail and Power Squadrons.

Radar Learning Guide:

- This Learning Guide has been completely rewritten to include the latest technology available for the recreational boater. It has many photographs of actual applications of the use of radar both for navigation and collision avoidance. It will be offered to McGraw-Hill for publication

EMSCom Newsletter

- Realizing that the technologies of both marine electronics and marine engines are constantly undergoing improvements and new developments, EMSCom wanted to find a way to keep our members up-to-date on these changes and developments. The result is a quarterly newsletter which is sent electronically to District Radio Technical Officers (RTOs) or to District Executive Officers for those Districts that do not have a RTO. District Officers are asked to further distribute to their squadron counterparts. The first newsletter was published in January 2005, and the second issue was published in March. The next newsletter will be sent in June. If you would like to receive a copy electronically, please send an e-mail to EMSCom@usps.org.

Materials Inventory

No actions required.

INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

R/C S. Patricia Governale, SN

Stf/C J. Christopher Brown, JN

Stf/C Archie W. Tarwick, Jr., SN

Instructor Development Course Material

- Inventory of the 2005 revision of the Student and Instructor Manuals has been received at headquarters and will start shipping as soon as current inventory is depleted.
- The Instructor Recertification Seminar material is undergoing review and updating to be ready for the expected activity after the deadline of 1 January 2006. Layouts for tracking reports to the DEOs have been submitted to headquarters for programming and we are working on ideas to assist the DEOs in monitoring and promoting the seminar.
- This year the committee focus is on the benefits of ID to develop skills for presentations beyond the classroom; i.e., in leadership roles, conference workshops and squadron meeting presentations. All ideas and suggestions you can provide are welcome as always.
- All text material for the ID course and Certification Seminar continues to be free with the exception of shipping. There is a nominal fee of \$12 for the CD to accompany the ID Course.

Teaching Aids

- The new Teaching Aids manual will be ready for distribution to the DEOs at the Spring Governing Board in Charlotte. It will be posted in .PDF format to the IDCom web site and announced to the SEOs via the EdDept email lists.
- Photographs of all of the aids displayed at the annual exhibit including descriptions and contact information has been compiled into a bookmarked Acrobat (.PDF) file and posted to the IDCom web site. As it contains email addresses of the contacts, it is protected and requires a certificate number and zip code to access.

- Plans are being developed for innovative ways to encourage and promote the benefits of sharing teaching aids; encouraging the use of new light weight inexpensive materials of simple construction, better ways to promote participation in the Electronic Teaching Aid Award and a revision of the judging criteria. Watch for upcoming articles in the Ensign.

Chapman Award

- To encourage SEOs to submit instructors for recognition for the Chapman Award, the committee prepared a white paper of suggestions to assist them. Adjustments, clarifications, dates, word and typographical corrections were made to the forms and rules of the Chapman Award. All were included in the packets mailed to the SEOs and DEOs this March and have been posted to the IDCom web site.
- It has been suggested that the sextant awarded to the squadrons on behalf of the recipient be changed to some other type of equipment that is more useful to the squadrons. The primary item being considered is an LCD/DLP projector. The condition of the change depends on keeping the cost to USPS the same by obtaining a discount and/or sponsorship. This suggestion will be presented to the DEOs at the Spring Gov Bd for their comments and/or approval.
- A request was made to include associate members for nomination for the Chapman Award by a squadron. It required modifications to the award policy and SEO instructions. Paragraph 1 of the General Rules was modified to include associate members. This modification was too late for the SEO packet mailing, but was posted to the IDCom web site and via the EdDept mailing lists.

Operations and Support Activities

- In conjunction with Bob Green and the marketing committee, Bob Sweet and members of the ID committee are developing a 10 min. PowerPoint show and brochure of safety tips to distribute to fishermen during the fishing seminars run by Boater's World.
- Work has been started on the formatting of the Instructor Manuals for the new Boating and Seamanship courses.
- We are continuing to look for ways to promote USPS education in an effort to get recognition from the public as well as entice members to further their boating education, thus covering multiple goals, USPS name recognition, increased membership, member retention and member participation.

Personnel

- It is my sad duty to report the sudden death of Walter Bernady, a long standing member of the teaching aid exhibits group. Walt and Linda have been strong supporters of teaching aids for many years and their presence at the exhibits will be greatly missed. Linda remains in our thoughts and prayers.
- Stf/C Florence Smith has transferred to the Boat Handling committee to fill the Stf/C vacancy created by the unfortunate resignation of their R/C.
- P/D/C Bruce Albertson, SN, Oklahoma City PS, has joined the ID committee and will be welcomed and indoctrinated at this Governing Board.

OFF SHORE NAVIGATION COMMITTEE

R/C M. Ann Fields, SN

Stf/C Merrill F. Sproul, SN

Course Development

Junior Navigation and Navigation:

- A revised outline is being developed for both the JN and Navigation courses, with the objective of making them as practical as possible. A major emphasis will be to incorporate extensive use of electronic navigation into the offshore navigation courses, using celestial and other traditional offshore tools as the backup method. We are working with the Electro-Mechanical Systems Committee to develop the list of electronic navigation tools to be included in the offshore navigation courses.

Current Courses Exams & Sight Folders

Junior Navigation:

- The number of Closed Book and Open Book exams is down slightly from the same period last year (1 July thru 30 Apr), with the Percentage Passing and the Average Passing Score remaining about the same. The number of Sight Folders submitted is up approximately 50% from the same period last year (75 last year; 115 this year); however, the Percentage Passing for Sight Folders is down significantly (80% last year; 60% this year). Please stress the importance of the Squadron Sight Checker to your members; Sight Folders need to be carefully checked at the Squadron, with the student making all necessary corrections before it is signed out and sent to Hq. for grading. There is no reason for any student to have his/her Sight Folder fail when graded by ONCom members, since working with the Squadron instructor/checker is not only encouraged, but required.

Navigation:

- The number of Closed Book and Open Book exams is down slightly from the same period last year (1 July thru 30 Apr), with the Percentage Passing and the Average Passing Score remaining about the same. The number of Sight Folders submitted, as well as the Percentage Passing, is approximately the same as for the same period last year.

Learning Guides

Calculators for Navigators:

- An outline of the LG has been developed, and work continues to refine this outline into a storyboard.

Navigational Astronomy:

- The formatted Learning Guide was sent to McGraw Hill, for their evaluation of whether they'd be interested in publishing the guide. We are awaiting their response. If no interest from McGraw Hill, we will look into having new graphics developed, and re-formatting the document, as needed.

Materials Inventory

- JN Student and Instructor Manuals, and Nav. Student and Instructor Manuals are currently adequate.
- Supplies of Learning Guides and other items, except the Calculators for Navigators Learning Guide, are currently adequate.

Web Page

- The ONCom Web page has lots of information for your JN and N students and instructors. A new program called "Celestial Tools" for planning and rough checking sights without the need to look up values in the Nautical Almanac was added to the website in December 2004. The printed almanac must still be used for sight folders. Check it out and visit the page often.

MARINE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

R/C Robert E. Brandenstein, SN

Stf/C Gary S. Schroeder, SN

Work Completed & In Progress since Last Report

Weather

YEAR	COMPLETIONS
2002	260
2003	8
2004	4

*results of 01 Jul 04 through 30 April

Basic Weather	PERCENT PASSING	EXAMS TAKEN	AVERAGE SCORE	AVERAGE PASSING SCORE	PERFECT SCORES
2002	96%	535	92.5	93.7	63
2003	94%	917	92.9	94.5	158
2004	94%*	565*	93.2*	94.8*	89*

Advanced Weather	PERCENT PASSING	EXAMS TAKEN	AVERAGE SCORE	AVERAGE PASSING SCORE	PERFECT SCORES
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				SCORE	
2002	97%	344	95.6	96.7	106
2003	97%	883	95.6	96.5	236
2004	92%*	465*	89.3*	90.9*	23*

- As of 30 April 05, 565 exams have been administered for Basic Weather 101 with a 94% passing rate and an average score of 93%; a total of 465 exams have been completed for Advanced Weather 102 with a 92% passing rate and an average score of 89%; there have been 435 Weather completions.
- In addition to the CDRom, 117 additional PowerPoint slides are available for download on the MEnvCom web page as follows:
 - Clouds – 33
 - Floods – 17
 - Lightning – 7
 - Misc – 5 (dust storm, fog, rainbows)
 - Thunderstorms & Tornadoes – 27
 - Wx Instrumentation – 21
- Also, as a reminder, a 34-slide PowerPoint presentation on Clouds is available for download. If you have any difficulty with the downloads, please contact the MEnvCom Chair for a CD.

The next printing of the Weather course will reorder the sections as follows:

Basic Weather

Effects of Heat and Cold
 Wind and pressure
 Atmosphere and Clouds
 Rain, Humidity, and Fog
 Storms and Fronts

Advanced Weather

Thunderstorms and Tornadoes
 Tropical Weather
 Forecasting
 Floods, Droughts, & Winter Precip
 Climate

- The next rewrite will be built around presentation of the material as a 10-12 week single course. Most squadrons have been teaching both modules back-to-back, and some members thought that the modular format was awkward, requiring the ordering of exams twice. MEnvCom members are currently reviewing the content in these sections for consistency and clarity.
- Discussion continues with NOAA regarding purchasing or re-printing the Sea State, Wind, and Clouds guide to use as a supplemental teaching tool for the course.

SKYWARN

- Member interest continues in the NWS SKYWARN program. We are attempting to coordinate with the Cooperative Charting Committee for USPS participation.

- (SKYWARN is the name given to an alerting program sponsored by the US National Weather Service. The program is made up of thousands of volunteers who attend regular training and then spend hours scanning the skies of their communities looking for signs of meteorological mayhem. These volunteers, usually organized under the SKYWARN banner in the USA or CANWARN in Canada, are trained by weather service forecasters to be the eyes and ears (and skin) of the warning forecasters. SKYWARN observers are asked to notify the National Weather Service of any adverse conditions as they occur. NOAA's training consists of a four hour rapid fire presentation focusing on severe weather. Attendees are designated as certified SKYWARN observers and reporters for a five-year period.

- Most volunteers are regular folks, some with an avid interest in the weather and many without. Some are law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMS or Emergency Management personnel. All share a sense of responsibility to their neighbors. But USPS members who have completed our Weather course are far better versed in weather patterns and sky conditions than are the average people on the street. NOAA especially needs observers who live away from major metropolitan areas.

Cruise Planning

CP 2003 YEAR	PERCENT PASSING	EXAMS TAKEN	AVERAGE SCORE	AVERAGE PASSING SCORE	PERFECT SCORES
2004-5	98.4%*	359*	92.6*	92.8*	4

- In the first complete year of Cruise Planning 2003, 359 exams have been administered through 30 April 05. PowerPoint slides supporting this material are available for download from the website.

- An update sheet addressing some homework questions and various edits is on the MEnvCom webpage for download. Please make sure instructors and students have this update sheet for material in squadron inventory shipped prior to including the update sheet.

CP 97 YEAR	PERCENT PASSING	EXAMS TAKEN	AVERAGE SCORE	AVERAGE PASSING SCORE	PERFECT SCORES
2004	94.0%	135	90.4	91.5	1
2003	96.15%	467	91.79	92.50	9
2002	97%	681	92.20	92.83	10
2001	94%	546	90.89	92.19	14
2000	94%	536	91.00		

- There were 135 completions through 30 November 04 in CP 97 with a 94% passing rate and an average score of 90%. This course is now out of print and is no longer being shipped. The CP 97 exam question bank has been removed from the server and will no longer be shipped.

Learning Guides

Mariner’s Environment

- A major revision of the course outline continues. The MEnvCom continues to work with the new ad hoc USPS Environmental Committee to complete this project within the 2005 calendar year.

Regional Weather Learning Guides

- The Committee continues to solicit USPS members who are willing to write up Weather conditions which prevail in their region. As write-ups are received they will be made available on the weather website.

Cruise Planning

CP 2003 YEAR	PERCENT PASSING	EXAMS TAKEN	AVERAGE SCORE	AVERAGE PASSING SCORE	PERFECT SCORES
2004	98.6%	363	92.6	92.8	4

- The 2003 edition of the Cruise Planning course has been shipping since December, 270 exams have been administered through 31 July. PowerPoint slides supporting this material are available for download from the website.
- An update sheet addressing some homework questions and various edits has been placed on the MEnvCom webpage for download. Please make sure instructors and students have this update sheet for material in squadron inventory shipped prior to including the update sheet

CP 97 YEAR	PERCENT PASSING	EXAMS TAKEN	AVERAGE SCORE	AVERAGE PASSING SCORE	PERFECT SCORES
2004	94.0%	135	90.4	91.5	1
2003	96.15%	467	91.79	92.50	9
2002	97%	681	92.20	92.83	10
2001	94%	546	90.89	92.19	14
2000	94%	536	91.00		

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Learning Guides

Mariner’s Environment

- A major revision of the course outline continues. The MEnvCom will work with the new ad hoc USPS Environmental Committee to complete this project within the 2005 calendar year.

Regional Weather Learning Guides

- Discussion with Environment Canada and NOAA are in progress to collaborate on this project, and evaluation of possible formats with International Marine publishing has started.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION

R/C Robert L. Potter, SN

Stf/C Marlys H. Vickers, SN

Work Completed Since Last Report

Curriculum Development

The committee is working with the BH Com and BPE Com on course content for the planned revisions

- Steve Leishman is refining his matrices summarizing the Captain's License material. We will use these to track where material will be covered in USPS courses.
- Greg Scotten is continuing to refine the USPS Curriculum Development and Assessment Model proposal. He has been discussing this with Dick Kyle.
- Dick Seibert, Marlys Vickers and Bob Potter reviewed the new S content, comparing it with the current plan for the new Boating Course. We particularly looked for areas of overlap.
- Steve Leishman wrote a chapter on steering systems for the new EM course.
- Hal Willard reviewed a chapter of the new EM course.
- Marlys Vickers reviewed BPE outlines, investigated possibilities for a Trailer Boating LG, and presented a seminar on plans for new courses at the D/9 Spring Conference.

Other committee activities are as follows:

- Marlys Vickers revised the draft Ed Dept Strategic Plan and sent it to the CDC Com for comments. It will be sent to the Leadership Team next.
- Mike Scallen is revising a set of course evaluation forms, incorporating comments received.

Exams

Nancy Reeder worked on exams for the AP course and updated the exams for the new P course. Specifically, she:

- encoded the AP02C exam, tested it, and sent it to HQ for production.
- revised AP02C so ExamGen would generate the Bowditch Bay Tide and Current table, 3 copies of the tide form, and one copy of the current form at the end of the exam.
- revised wording for PI03C and PI04C based on changes requested by Ken G. Tested the exams and sent them to HQ for reloading.
- corrected information in Bowditch Bay table from AP02C; tested the exam and sent it to HQ for reloading.
- Revised exam instructions and one question stem for PI04C; tested the exam and sent it to HQ for reloading.
- revised question stems and Bowditch Bay table for DST and traded out the tide and current forms at the end of the exams for different versions;
- tested the exam and sent it back to HQ for reloading.

Exam Priorities:

- Finalize the computer graded AP exam and encode a second AP exam.
- Evaluate how the computer graded P exam is working.
- Add non-homework questions to the WE 101 exam.
- Support development of exams for the new S course, the new B course and the new JN and N material.

- Updated documentation is needed for ExamGen. A Users Guide is needed for: those running the program to check input; those running the program to process exams; course committee members preparing input (question files, graphics and templates).

Currents

- Dick Seibert is working on the Spring Governing Board Meeting issue of Currents.

Marketing

- Greg Scotten, the liaison between the marketing committee and the education department, has been communicating with Dick Kyle and Spencer Anderson regarding this role. Greg also worked with Stf/C Robert Green and R/C Darrell Allison, to develop a proposal for a national USPS award, "The Ship's Bell Award", to recognize individuals who make extraordinary contributions to community outreach, on a regional or national level, in promoting participation in USPS safe boating educational programs.

Special Projects

- Glossary updates – Dick Seibert is working with various Ed Dept committee representatives on an updated Glossary.

Ensign Correspondent

- Nancy Reeder is the Ed Dept Ensign Correspondent. She wrote two articles for The Ensign during this period. The subjects were: The New Boating Course and Digital Charting.
- Steve Leishman wrote an article on tides in the Bay of Fundy. He included a discussion of the rule of 12ths and encouragement to take the new AP course) and is drafting a follow up article.

PLANS

- The committee will be considering ways to incorporate the methodology of curriculum development into our processes.
- We will be preparing updates to the OM and EDM to reflect the latest exam procedures. Copies of the source files have been obtained.
- Support for the new S and Boating courses is the number one priority.

Correspondence

- A response was provided to an e-mail message on course equivalency between USCGA and USPS.

PERSONNEL

- No Changes