

**UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®**  
**EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT**  
**Minutes of the Open Educational Meeting**  
Saturday, 11 September 2004  
Jacksonville, Florida

1. R/C Dick Kyle, SN opened the meeting at 0730 with 129 attending. He stated to please read Currents and pass it along to your members. He introduced the NEO, V/C Spencer Anderson, SN.
2. V/C Spencer Anderson introduced P/V/C Robert P. David, SN. His opening remarks mentioned: 13 squadrons are beta testing the new AP Course; encouraged DEOs/SEOs to get the article on Radar in Boat US out to the squadrons; the new Piloting Course is on the shelf at Headquarters and is shipping; and the updated version of The Squadron Boating Course began shipping this month.
3. Robert Sweet reported the 1200 copies of Piloting were shipped last week. All materials for AP beta testing are out in the field. We are in the second round of beta testing for AP. The final course should be delivered after the Annual Meeting in January from the printer.
4. Dick urged all to download the new version of BCA, because it is needed to maintain a proper database. There have been 65 requests recently for proof of a person having taken the Boating Course. Any Public Boating class completed prior to 11 September 2004 cannot be transmitted to Headquarters via BCA.
5. Pat Governale discussed progress of the Instructor Development Committee.
  - The multi year grant for the free ID Course expires in November. The text will continue to be no charge except for shipping costs.
  - The new Teaching Aids Manual is on the website.
  - Instructor Manuals for all courses with lesson plans for each chapter are being completed. Hopefully these lesson plans will encourage members to teach courses.
  - Establish a Tech Mentor Program within each squadron – pair computer savvy members with instructors to help improve instruction.
  - Marketing ideas for both internal and external to the squadron are on the ID website. Please use them.
6. Dick mentioned that they are working with the CPS for cooperation and permission to use the Power Point program on CO2 Boating Disaster Type Topics. He introduced P/V/C Jim Roeber, SN.
7. Bob Sweet showed the PP program. It included:
  - Cold Water Immersion—Rapid loss of ability to swim; inhaling of cold water. Emphasize use of PFD, stay with boat
  - CO-2 Poisoning—505 deaths (believed to be more). Attacks red blood cells. Houseboats at greater risk.
8. Dick introduced Stf/C Walt Fields, SN who has been working a DSC simulator for radios with the Canadian Power Squadron. It includes selective calling. When completed the CD will be distributed for use with ME.
9. Dick stated that it is necessary to keep track of the MOU's for each state and make sure that the squadrons are following the requirements. There needs to be an ongoing awareness of MOU content.
10. Dick reminded everyone to not over order materials. After each new course becomes available, the old materials will not be allowed. He reminded all of the 90 day time limit to ship back unused materials.
11. P/V/C Jim Roeber stressed the importance of teaching and testing the state specific information. Dick added that this information is on the website.
12. Dick introduced the Committee Chairs to give their reports.
  - Basic Public Education—R/C Ed Mraz, SN – B2004 started shipping from Headquarters two weeks ago. It contains a Maptech CD with Digital Charting Program and Bowditch Bay Digital

Chart. New Electronic Charting material is contained in Appendix-A which allows flexibility for instructors to get up-to-speed in teaching digital charting. The Instructor Manual is completely new. The Examination is revised. DISCARD ALL EARLIER EDITIONS OF BOATING COURSE EXAMINATIONS. Formatting of the Spanish/English Boating Course 2004 should be completed next week. Boat Smart 2004 has been available from HQ for several months. Paddle Smart – the website is up, and the committee is revising the flyers to make them more attractive. There have been ABC Coordinator changes so send zip code changes to the BPE Com.

- Boat Handling—R/C Christine Rasmussen, SN—The Committee has started a new, stand alone Seamanship Course in conjunction with the Basic Boating Course. Redundancies will be eliminated and current, meaningful information on Rules of the Road. Deck Operations and Boat Handling will be updated.
  - Inland/Coastal Navigation—R/C Dick Pfenniger, SN
  - Offshore Navigation—R/C Ken Barbour, SN—New computer tool will be on the web page in the next two weeks. Site planner and screener. The built in Nautical Almanac is not exactly the same as the hard cover Almanac.
  - Electro-Mechanical Systems—R/C Steve Leishman, SN—Page 12 of the latest *Ensign* has an article on GMDSS. DSC is part of GMDSS. Call attention to the article.
  - Marine Environment—R/C Jean Hamilton, SN—117 new PP slides are on the web page for download, 30 of which are cloud slides. New Wx102 exams have been rechecked. The new text has the update sheet incorporated into it. CP has an update sheet on the web site. CP97 will no longer be graded. The Medical Mariners Learning Guide is being checked by the Law Com. Regional Weather Learning Guide is progressing.
  - Instructor Development—R/C Pat Governale, SN—Currently providing support for the new P.
  - Publication Support—R/C Peter Mitchelson, SN
  - Educational Department Operations, R/C Bill Witty, SN
  - Curriculum Development and Coordination—R/C Bob Potter, SN
13. Dick discussed the new P course exam which is unique since it will be only an open book exam. It will be shorter and will have only one week for completion. All work, chart, booklet and notes must be submitted because manual grading partial credit will be allowed for correct work, after the initial bubble sheet run through at HQ. Partial credit cannot be given without work supporting the answers.
14. Dick also said that Sanibel/Captiva can teach in schools as part of the daily curriculum. USPS will support that effort with materials. He encourages you to set up similar programs. Let him know ahead.
15. Spencer stated that there will be a monthly Educational Column in the *Ensign* with P/C Nancy Reeder, SN as the correspondent. He thanked the Educational Fund Trustees and urged 100% participation by all squadrons.
16. The meeting was adjourned at 9:13a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Christine J. Parkinson, JN*  
Christine J. Parkinson, JN  
EdDept Operations

Distribution:  
Ocom                                      Past DirEd & Past NEO's  
EdDept Staff                              Ed Dept Web Site  
Ed Dept Operations                      NEO & ANEO