

**UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®**  
**EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT**

**Minutes of the Open Educational Department Meeting**

Thursday, 6 September 2007  
Norfolk, VA

R/C Robert J. Sweet, SN, Assistant National Educational Officer, opened the meeting at 1400 with 103 persons attending. A complete list of those in attendance is on file. He indicated that he would be presiding over the meeting while V/C Richard E. Kyle, SN, National Educational Officer, was meeting with the Educational Fund Trustees.

R/C Sweet discussed the seminars that were being presented at the Governing Board and then gave an overview of what was planned for the Open Ed meeting.

The first topic was a summary of the 2006-07 educational year, which included discussion of the drop in boating courses; the success experienced with existing seminars and updated courses; the status of seminars and courses in progress; the Boat Operator Certification (BOC) program; and where we go from here.

The committee chairs were introduced and those who had short reports gave them. Highlights appear below:

- R/C Dave Daniels, SN – Basic Public Education – targeting April 2008 for new boating course – if you have Boat Smart, continue to use it until the end of 2008 – paperless reporting for courses – information for members will be tracked at HQ (name and last four digits of social security number) – the Boat Smart wallet card and completion certificate will be used for the boating course taught in an 8-hour format
- R/C Wil Hugli, JN – Boat Handling – a total of 15 seminars are or will be ready soon – some free; new Sail course by the Fall – Seamanship is now a new traditional course, plus an online version through the University of West Florida continuing education department
- R/C Ken Griffing, SN – Inland/Coastal Navigation – charting problems are where points are often lost on exams – plotting and labeling standards are in the course manuals, also the standards guide is being updated – mariner's compass and predicted log learning guides are being updated
- R/C Ann Fields, SN – Offshore Navigation – JN beta testing is completed – first printing of course in April and second printing in August – exams are pulled 18 months after new course material is released; therefore 31 October 2008 is latest exam date for the old JN course – N 08 is companion to JN 07, with a March/April 2008 timeframe for beta testing
- R/C Walt Fields, SN – Electro-Mechanical Systems – EM101 and EM102 courses are out-of-date; however, exams will be honored until February 2008 – Marine Electronics will be split into three separate courses, two of which must be successfully completed for the grade
- R/C Bob Brandenstein, SN – Marine Environment – Weather beta testing in the Fall – Cruise Planning to be rewritten in 2008
- R/C Chris Brown, SN – Instructor Development – Revising ID course – Recertification program is being updated, too – Teaching Aids judging will occur at the annual meeting in Dallas; please include construction plans
- R/C Dick Pfenniger, SN – Publication Support – Solicited help for graphic artists and editors
- R/C Nancy Reeder, SN – Educational Department Operations – Solicited help for recorders

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- R/C Bob Potter, SN – Curriculum Development/Coordination – R/C Potter was unable to attend; Stf/C Jack Fletcher, SN, discussed BOC in R/C Potter's absence – Solicited help for local certifiers – referred people to USPS website for details on BOC program

R/C Sweet mentioned the Expo to be held Friday, 7 September. He also discussed the *Boating Guide to America*, which is a Wikipedia-type database of boating destination information. The seeded info came from MapTech and is East coast based, but it is up to USPS to add more information.

R/C Sweet recognized Jean and Louis Maassel and P/V/C Robert P. David, SN, Past Director of Education and Past National Educational Officer.

R/C Sweet made closing remarks and thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting was adjourned at 1605.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nancy M. Reeder*

R/C Nancy M. Reeder, SN  
Educational Department Operations Committee