



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®
EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Open Educational Department Meeting

Thursday, 19 February 2009
Anaheim, CA

Stf/C R. Herman Green, AP, incoming Assistant National Educational Officer, opened the meeting at 1407 with 92 persons in attendance. A complete list of those in attendance is on file.

Stf/C Green introduced the following honored individuals and guests: P/V/C Robert P. David, SN, Past Director of Education and Past National Educational Officer; V/C Joe Gatfield, AP, National Training Officer, Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons (CPS); P/C/C Serge St. Martin, JN, CPS; and V/C Karen Conner, AP, National Treasurer, CPS.

Stf/C Green then turned the meeting over to R/C Robert J. Sweet, SN, incoming National Educational Officer. R/C Sweet mentioned that V/C Richard E. Kyle, SN, National Educational Officer could not be in attendance. R/C Sweet further discussed the new role that V/C Kyle would be undertaking, which is a non-officer position, Director of Educational Business, with responsibilities for overseeing material printing, storing, and shipping, among other things. R/C Sweet then gave some overall comments regarding the work that the Educational Department has done.

The committee chairs gave short reports. Highlights appear below:

- R/C Eugene E. Molteni, SN – Basic Public Education – discussed ABC3. There have been problems with the student CD; it doesn't run with Firefox. There will be no Internet testing; all testing will be done by squadrons. Wallet cards have been changed. The certificates are the same as were used for ABC. A Spanish version is being worked on for ABC3.
- R/C Kenneth L. Griffing, SN – Inland/Coastal Navigation – mentioned that the Piloting and Advanced Piloting CDs have been redone; the current CD is version 6. The Instructor Manuals have also been revised. The Predicted Log and Marine Compass guides have been recently completed.
- R/C J. Christopher Brown, SN – Instructor Development – indicated that the Chapman Award forms will be coming out soon. The ID course has been rewritten in committee and should be available through HQ in a few months. Recertification issues were discussed wherein forms were being submitted for recertification for members who had not been originally certified. Teaching aids are being reinvented. A manual, *The Little Teaching Aid Book*, will be available at Expo and also online.
- R/C Kenneth N. Beckman, SN – Offshore Navigation – mentioned that Navigation '09 will be at HQ next week. He asked to please include an ED33 when sending sight folders to HQ. He also explained that the 18-month clock starts now for the old Navigation course.
- R/C Gene A. Danko, SN – Electro-Mechanical Systems – discussed the three new ME standalone courses, as well as seminars and retail products. He also mentioned that the MMSI Web site can be navigated to through the USPS Web site.
- R/C John W. Fletcher, SN, - Curriculum Development and Coordination – gave an update on the Boat Operator Certification (BOC) program.
- R/C Wilbur G. Hugli, JN – Boat Handling – mentioned that Seamanship 2009 is a revised version of Seamanship 2007. Sail 2009 will be available soon. It is one course and has been beta tested by CPS. It is jointly branded – USPS and CPS. He stressed to read Instructor Manuals before making seminar presentations. R/C Hugli also discussed the Seamanship course and seminars that are online with the University of West Florida.

- R/C Nancy M. Reeder, SN – Educational Department Operations – explained the responsibilities of her committee and asked for help, particularly for individuals to function as recorders for certain national meetings.

Stf/C Green indicated that R/C Robert E. Brandenstein, SN, MEnvCom, and R/C Richard C. Pfenniger, SN, PSCom, were not present at this meeting but had been extremely busy with their committees.

Stf/C Green then asked R/C Sweet to discuss his experiences at TrawlerFest. R/C Sweet explained what TrawlerFest is and the success of our seminars there. He also fielded questions from the audience regarding seminars.

R/C Sweet asked John Ted Sensenbrenner from the BoatUS Foundation to say a few words. Mr. Sensenbrenner mentioned that BoatUS supports the work that USPS does.

General discussion followed on several topics, including:

- the pricing of seminars and courses.
- concern regarding SEO kits no longer being sent out. In an effort to go paperless, more information is being stored and sent electronically. Unfortunately, it does not always get received; discussion ensued as to trying to better communicate changes.
- DNR in the State of Georgia does not know that USPS exists. Although USPS communicates with each Boating Law Administrator, there are instances where information does not get properly communicated. R/C Sweet indicated that he could make a personal call to get it resolved.
- state by state issues regarding how boating exams are handled.
- posting of information on the Web site when notes are sent to District Educational Officers.
- a request was made to be able to fill out forms online for ordering exams instead of having to fax or mail the forms.

With no further items needing discussion, R/C Sweet thanked those in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 1645.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy M. Reeder

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