



UNITED STATES POWER SQUADRONS®

SAIL AND POWER BOATING

Environmental Committee

Governing Board Report – August 2006 – New York City

Since the 2006 Annual Meeting in Orlando:

Highlights

- Environmental seminars/presentations were held at the D/13, D/15, and Tri-District 2006 Spring Conferences.
- Submitted \$42,444 grant request to National Association of Counties/National Fish & Wildlife Foundation/NOAA Community Based Restoration grant program for funding of USPS Unsplash that Trash Campaign and *USPS Environmental Best Practices for Boaters* brochure.
- Submitted \$16,651 grant request to USPS Educational Fund for *USPS Environmental Best Practices for Boaters* brochure printing.
- EnvCom will present “How to Start an Environmental Project in your Squadron” at the VIP in NYC seminars at the NYC 2006 Governing Board. A brochure will be posted on the committee web page with this information.

Lowlights

- NOAA Marine Debris Grant application submitted 5 December, 05, for \$36,774 to fund the USPS Unsplash that Trash Campaign and *USPS Environmental Best Practices for Boaters* brochure was not funded. All applications submitted for this RFP (48 proposals) totaled over \$5 million, available funds were only \$1 million. Five reviewers recommended and ranked the proposals. NOAA states many proposals were of high quality and deserving of support and were not recommended simply due to a lack of funds available. We were encouraged to apply in the next solicitation (see below In Progress).
- NAC/NFWF/NOAA grant application for \$42,444 described in highlights was not funded. The letter from NFWF stated “in our first pilot year of Coastal Counties Restoration Initiative they received an unexpectedly high level of interest.” Only 5 grants were awarded of 48 proposals. They anticipate growing the program in the future and requested we consider applying again in the future.

Things You Should (already) Know!

- A USPS Environmental Poster is available for your use at boat shows, classes, and other events. It can be downloaded (pdf file) from the EnvCom web page and printed in any size. Can't access a color printer? Contact the EnvCom chair via the link on the web page for copies.
- The USPS poster referenced above has been customized (squadron name & burgee) for all squadrons in D/7, D/8, D/11, D/13, D/15, D/16, D/17, D/21, D/25, D/27, D/29, and D/31. D/5 is in progress. All squadrons were provided with hard copies, and CD's containing the original Adobe Illustrator file, a pdf file, and a jpeg file. Can't access a color printer? Is your squadron CD lost? Contact the EnvCom chair via the link on the web page for copies.
- Customized posters for the above districts total 157 of 451 squadrons, or 35%, and 36% of the districts. We are working on the remaining 294 (65%) squadrons. What's the best way to get your

squadron moved up the list? Invite the EnvCom to give a presentation at your meeting or conference!

- The *USPS Environmental Best Practices for Boaters* brochure has been completed. As detailed above, we are diligently seeking funds for mass printing. Until these funds are available, a relatively good resolution pdf file can be downloaded from the EnvCom web page for printing. There is space on the brochure for your local squadron information. High resolution files for local publishing can be requested from the EnvCom chair. Often it is easier to get funds for local projects – check out the EnvCom grants information posted on the committee web page for more information on funding sources.
- Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! (partnership with USPS) information available on committee web page. Link provides information, resources, downloads (CD with campaign material also available from EnvCom chair).
- EnvCom *needs to know* what squadrons are already involved with environmental projects & what the projects entail! This information facilitates funding requests and provides ideas for other squadrons! We will be featuring individual squadron projects at the 2007 EXPO in Jacksonville. Watch for the great spoil bank projects from Vero Beach, Sebastian Inlet, and Lower Rio Grande Valley! See how Southport utilized their BoatU.S. Foundation grant! Learn about Grand Lake's terrific partnering effort with the GRDA Styrofoam clean up and aquatic planting! We want to know what *you* are doing...send description & pictures to the EnvCom chair.

Other Completed Tasks

- Environmental material provided for the D/17 & D/21 2006 Spring Conferences.
- OT Manual updated to include USPS Environmental Committee.
- Digital & hard copy versions of material & posters presented at 2006 EXPO and requested by members was provided to 8 squadrons and/or districts.
- Six environmental articles published in *The Ensign*: “On the water...on the shore”
 - Dec/Jan 06 - Don't be a drip; follow these water-saving tips.
 - Feb 06 – Think green to keep our waters blue.
 - Mar 06 – Stem the junk tide.
 - Apr 06 – Aquatic hitchhikers get thumbs down.
 - May/Jun 06 – Don't trash the environment.
 - Jul/Aug 06 – Detox that tackle box
- EnvCom web page updated with federal & state marine & aquatic laws and statutes information/links; grant information & links; environmental information & resources links.

In Progress

- Collaboration with MEnvCom on the Mariner's Environment Guide.
- Collaboration with the EdDept on an Environmental Quick Guide.
- Preparing grant application for Community-based marine Debris Prevention & Removal Project AFP (NOAA Fisheries Service); due 30 October, 2006.